

Article I: Name

The name of this organization shall be the Chemical Engineering Graduate Student Organization. The organization may be referred to as “ChE GSO” or “GSO” where appropriate.

Article II: Mission and Objectives

The organization shall work with university officials, administration, faculty, and chemical engineering students in order to:

1. provide a link between students and faculty;
2. aid the professional growth of graduate students;
3. foster a sense of community in the Davidson School of Chemical Engineering; and
4. provide further networking and other opportunities for graduate students.

Article III: Membership

The Chemical Engineering Graduate Student Organization shall be composed of all students enrolled in the doctoral program in the Davidson School of Chemical Engineering. Membership shall be granted to all who enroll in the doctoral program, and it shall terminate upon a student’s exit from the doctoral program. No fees or dues shall be assessed during a student’s membership in the Chemical Engineering Graduate Student Organization.

Membership and participation are free from discrimination on the basis of race, religion, color, sex, age, national origin or ancestry, genetic information, marital status, parental status, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, disability, or status as a veteran.

Article IV: Executive Committee

Section 1: Membership

The members of the Chemical Engineering Graduate Student Organization shall elect their officers, the Executive Committee of GSO, as delineated in Article V: Section 3 of this Constitution. No member may run for election to the Executive Committee unless they shall contemporaneously be in good academic standing under Purdue University and Davidson School of Chemical Engineering classification.

Section 2: Meetings

The Executive Committee shall meet a minimum of once every month and shall oversee and conduct all events and activities of the Graduate Student Organization. Such meetings shall be open to the public but can be closed by a simple majority vote of the Executive Committee.

Section 3: Attendance

All members of the Executive Committee shall be required to attend all meetings unless they have submitted an excuse to and received approval for absence from the President. If an officer misses more than two meetings in a semester without such accommodations, the President shall

provide a warning to the requisite officer that their attendance is required at meetings. In case of any additional unexcused absences, the Executive Committee shall have the authority, if it so chooses, to order that the requisite office be vacated.

Article V: Procedures

Section 1: Adoption of the Constitution

Upon the adoption of this Constitution (“the 2020 Constitution”), the Purdue University Chemical Engineering Graduate Student Organization Constitution of 2007 (“the 2007 Constitution”) hereby stands abrogated and replaced by this Constitution.

Section 2: Continuance

The current officers and members of the Chemical Engineering Graduate Student Organization shall continue in their positions *nunc pro tunc* until the next election.

Section 3: Elections

Elections for all Executive Committee officers shall be held at least one week prior to the start of the annual Summer Term and after the Chemical Engineering Professional Graduate Student Organization’s elections. Upon election, the Executive Committee shall maintain their offices beginning May 15th of the contemporaneous year and terminate on May 14th of the following calendar year. Elections shall be supervised and certified by the contemporaneous President and shall be conducted by the method of Instantaneous Runoff Voting. If the contemporaneous President is a candidate for office, elections shall be supervised and certified by the Faculty Advisor who may delegate that responsibility with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee.

Section 4: Quorum and Rules

Half of all members of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum to conduct business. For the first meeting upon adoption of this Constitution, Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern as the rules of procedure. Afterwards, the Executive Committee shall make the rules for its own procedures and conduct its proceedings accordingly. All points to be considered in the Executive Committee shall be posed only as either Yea or Nay options with a majority required for the Yeas to carry the vote.

When elections or votes are to be cast by the full membership of GSO, unreturned ballots shall be considered to be abstentions. This provision shall be communicated to the full membership when elections and otherwise full membership votes occur.

Section 5: Meetings

Meetings of the Executive Committee shall be presided over by the President. If the President is absent, the presiding officer shall be the Vice President. If both the President and Vice President are absent, the Executive Committee shall select its temporary presiding officer.

Section 6: Academic Standing

All members of the Executive Committee must maintain good academic standing with Purdue University and the Davidson School of Chemical Engineering in order to hold their offices. If a member's academic standing shall decrease below this threshold, they shall inform the Faculty Advisor and the President, which event shall automatically vacate their office.

Section 7: Vacancies

Upon the vacancy of an office, the President shall decide, with the Executive Committee's advice and consent, how to fill the vacancy. The President may call a special election to fill the remainder of the office's contemporaneous term with the Executive Committee's advice and consent, or the president may appoint with the Executive Committee's advice and consent a member to fill the remainder of the office's contemporaneous term.

Section 8: Presiding Officer

In any case where the President cannot or will not fulfill their duties, the Vice President shall act as the President until such a time where the President can and will resume their duties. If the President shall vacate their office, the Vice President shall become the President, and the provisions of Article V: Section 7 shall be used to fill the Vice Presidency's vacancy.

Article VI: Officers

The Executive Committee shall be composed of the following offices with their duties appended.

Section 1: President

The President shall be:

1. the presiding officer at all meetings of the Executive Committee;
2. chief executive of the Chemical Engineering Graduate Student Organization;
3. required to oversee and certify all election results as outlined in Article V: Section 3;
4. oversee the planning and execution of the annual Chemical Engineering Graduate Student Symposium as outlined in Article VII; and
5. liaise with the Davidson School of Chemical Engineering and Purdue University administration on behalf of students in the doctoral studies program.

Any candidate for the Presidency must have served on the Executive Committee for at least one full academic year prior to assuming the office.

The President shall not simultaneously hold another office in the Executive Committee.

Section 2: Vice President

The Vice President shall:

1. be the Treasurer of the Chemical Engineering Graduate Students Organization;
2. keep accounts, deposit the organization's funds, and make expenditures in a manner approved by the Business Office for Student Organizations
3. fulfill the President's duties when required; and

4. oversee all operations of GSO.

The Vice President shall not simultaneously hold another office in the Executive Committee.

Section 3: Co-Curricular Director

The Co-Curricular Director shall oversee and organize, on behalf of GSO, all initiatives involving administration or faculty.

Section 4: Outreach Director

The Outreach Director shall oversee and organize, on behalf of GSO, all initiatives involving current GSO members to engage with the community through activities including engagement with local elementary and secondary schools. The Outreach Director may work with the Sustainability Director for large outreach efforts.

Section 5: Sustainability Director

The Sustainability Director shall oversee and organize, on behalf of GSO, all initiatives concerning sustainability including recycling, clothing drives, food drives, and other such outreach events. The Sustainability Director may work with the Outreach Director for large outreach efforts.

Section 6: Social Director

The Social Director shall oversee and organize, on behalf of GSO, all extracurricular initiatives not otherwise assigned within this Constitution.

Section 7: Student Advocacy Officer

The Student Advocacy Officer shall:

1. be the first point of contact for all students in the Davidson School of Chemical Engineering on behalf of GSO;
2. liaise with the School and University on behalf of GSO and the School's graduate students;
3. maintain the anonymous feedback tool for GSO;
4. serve as the representative of GSO and graduate students on the School's Graduate Committee; and
5. have the sole privilege of casting votes on behalf of GSO and graduate students at the Graduate Committee.

Notwithstanding the provisions of Clause 5 of this Section, if the Graduate Committee provides additional voting positions to members of GSO, the President may appoint with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee those who shall exercise this privilege.

Section 8: First-Year Representatives

There shall be two First-Year Representatives who shall:

1. provide a smooth transition for incoming students into the doctoral program;
2. establish a connection with the first-year students in the doctoral program and the student body writ large; and
3. maintain communication and represent the interests of the first-year body at the Executive Committee and the Davidson School of Chemical Engineering.

The first-year representatives shall be elected from the contemporaneous class of first-year students; in the event that no contemporaneous first-year students wish to occupy these offices, this requirement shall be suspended for that particular academic year and shall resume the following academic year.

Section 9: Safety Director

The Safety Director shall:

1. be the chair of the Chemical Engineers for Safety Seminar (“ChESS”);
2. work to expand awareness of safety protocol within the Davidson School of Chemical Engineering; and
3. liaise with students at large on matters of safety.

Section 10: Sports Director

The Sports Director shall organize and oversee, on behalf of GSO, all intramural and sports-related initiatives of GSO.

Section 11: Communications Director

The Communications Director shall:

1. oversee all public-facing avenues of GSO;
2. make readily available copies of this Constitution;
3. take and maintain accurate minutes of all meetings of the Executive Committee;
4. provide for the public all meeting minutes of the Executive Committee; and
5. manage GSO’s social and all other media accounts.

Section 12: PGSG Representative

The PGSG Representative shall:

1. represent the School’s doctoral studies body on the Purdue Graduate Student Government (“PGSG”);
2. advocate on behalf of the School’s students to the university administration; and
3. report to GSO the proceedings of PGSG.

Section 13: Faculty Advisor

The Faculty Advisor of GSO shall be appointed by the School and shall be considered a member of the Executive Committee. However, they shall be excluded from the quorum. Advisors may not vote or hold additional office in the organization.

Section 14: Staff Advisor

The Staff Advisor of GSO shall be appointed by the School and shall be considered a member of the Executive Committee. However, they shall be excluded from the quorum. Advisors may not vote or hold additional office in the organization.

Section 15: Other Officers

The President and Vice President may, with the Executive Committee's advice and consent, appoint additional officers to the Executive Committee within their discretion. The temporary office(s) shall cease to exist upon the proceeding election.

Article VII: Graduate Research Symposium

GSO shall organize and carry out an annual research symposium to facilitate industrial recruitment, provide professional opportunities for the full membership, and serve as a method of advertising the department's research efforts to the incoming first year class. A committee shall be formed by the Executive Committee to plan the event in May. The committee shall consist of at least one of each of the following positions:

1. committee head;
2. publications coordinator;
3. scheduling coordinator;
4. poster session coordinator;
5. judging coordinator;
6. refreshment coordinator;
7. general planning coordinator;
8. industrial packet coordinator; and
9. industrial liaison.

Article VIII: Amendments

Any member of the Chemical Engineering Graduate Student Organization may propose amendments to this Constitution. Such proposals must be submitted to the President or the Vice President in writing and distributed amongst the officers for review. No more than two months may pass before a ratification vote on said amendment is held within the Executive Committee. Amendments may be ratified either by a two-thirds vote of the Executive Committee or a 60% vote of the full membership of the Chemical Engineering Graduate Student Organization. Upon ratification, amendments to this Constitution become fully integrated within its framework. All amendments to the constitution are subject to the approval of the Office of Student Activities and Organizations. They may not take effect until they have been approved.

Article IX: Impeachment and Removal

Section 1: Process

An officer of GSO may be impeached for misdemeanors by a petition of at least 25% of the full membership of GSO submitted to the President or Faculty Advisor, or an officer may be impeached for misdemeanors by a simple majority vote of the Executive Committee with the accused and the accuser, where appropriate, recused. Upon receipt of an impeachment petition, it shall be immediately transmitted to the Executive Committee and take precedence over all other business at meetings. The trial shall be conducted no more two weeks after the next scheduled meeting after the Executive Committee's receipt of this petition.

Section 2: Trial

For the trial, the Court of Impeachment shall comprise the Executive Committee, with the accused and the accuser, when appropriate, recused. In all cases, the accused and the accuser shall be provided ample time to make their respective cases before the Court of Impeachment in a public setting.

Section 3: Verdict

Conviction shall require two-thirds of the Court of Impeachment. If the impeachment is due to a member's petition, the verdict of the Court of Impeachment may be appealed to the full membership for a final verdict by either the accused or the accuser. In such a case, the President shall hold an election within two weeks where a 60% vote of the full membership, minus abstentions, shall be required to overturn the verdict of the Court of Impeachment. In the case of conviction, the accused's office shall be immediately vacated, and they shall be disqualified from holding an office on the Executive Committee for the remainder of the academic year.