TITLE: Altering the Senator Seating Policy

WHEREAS: The Graduate & Professional Student Senate (GPSS) Seating policy in Article 1 of the GPSS Constitution stipulates that each department and interdepartmental program is permitted 1 Senator for each fraction of 50 enrolled students, up to a maximum of 5 senators total, and

WHEREAS: The current policy allows for greater than 130 total GPSS Senators, and

WHEREAS: Approximately 62% of those seats are currently filled, and

WHEREAS: A small percentage of Senators regularly attend meetings, and

WHEREAS: All Senators from a given department or program represent the same group of constituents and many share common perspectives on issues, and

WHEREAS: In order for the Senate to fulfill its charter, it is desirable to ensure that all constituents are fairly represented, that a large number of Senators are active in the Senate, and that those Senators are fostering communication with their constituents, be it therefore

ENACTED: That the Graduate and Professional Student Senate Constitution be amended to read as follows:

Article I, Section 1 (f,1)

“Representation. Each graduate department, interdisciplinary program, and professional program may elect one Senator for each fraction of one-hundred (100) graduate or professional students represented, with a maximum of three (3) Senators. Interdepartmental majors will be counted as members of their major rather than their home departments. Additionally, the special status of Senator-at-large shall be granted to the President and Vice-President of the GPSS and the Government of the Student Body (GSB) Senators representing the Graduate College.”

Sponsors: Marsh, W; Bohner, R; Bodnar, A

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Aaron D. Gross, President                  Greg Peiffer, Chair of the Senate