TITLE: Restructuring GPSS Executive Board Positions

WHEREAS: The Graduate and Professional Student Senate (GPSS) is experiencing a budget deficit, and

WHEREAS: It is possible to reduce expenses by combining executive duties, be it therefore

ENACTED: That the office of Parliamentarian be eliminated at the end of the Spring Semester 2005, and be it further

ENACTED: That the duties currently performed by the Parliamentarian be distributed between the Vice President and Communications Chair, as listed in the appended Constitution.

SPONSORS: Etzel, Meyer, Smith

APPENDIX: Amended GPSS Constitution

Michelle Bohan, President

Joset Etzel, Parliamentarian
The Graduate and Professional Student Senate of Iowa State University is an elected body through which graduate and professional students express their concern for the welfare of graduate and professional students at the University, develop and disseminate ideas for the improvement of graduate and professional education, and contribute to the formation of relevant University policy.

The Graduate and Professional Student Senate (GPSS) is the representative, deliberative, and administrative organization of the graduate and professional student body of Iowa State University, and is a duly constituted independent collegiate organization within the University.

**ARTICLE I. THE GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL STUDENT SENATE**

1. Representation. Each graduate department, interdepartmental, and professional program may elect one Senator for each fraction of fifty graduate or professional students enrolled, to a maximum of five Senators from each department or program. 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 of the GPSS and the Government of the Student Body (GSB) Senators representing the Graduate College and the College of Veterinary Medicine.

2. Definition of constituency and voting rights.

   i. Senators. A Senator is an elected departmental representative registered in good standing with the Graduate College or any of the professional colleges. Each Senator will have one vote in the Senate.

   ii. Senator-at-large (President). The President shall represent the Senate as a whole and shall carry the status of Senator-at-large. The President shall have one vote whenever that one vote would make a difference in the resolution of the issue at hand. This includes a tie vote, or the case where the chair's vote would create a tie. All tie votes are lost. The chair will also vote during all written ballots. This status shall not count against his or her departmental quota (ARTICLE I, section 1, representation) and is not subject to departmental election procedures as otherwise defined by the By-laws or Standing Rules.

   iii. Senators-at-large (Graduate and Veterinary Medicine GSB Senators). They shall be granted voting rights in GPSS as Senators-at-large and shall represent the graduate or professional student body as a whole. They shall also act as a liaison between GSB and GPSS to facilitate efficient and productive legislation by the two bodies and to strengthen representation of student concerns to administration. This status shall not count against their departmental quota (ARTICLE I, section 1, representation) and is not subject to departmental election procedures as other wise defined by the By-laws or Standing Rules. GSB Senators-at-large shall carry one vote. GSB Senators who represent the Graduate College shall be elected to GSB by the graduate student body or, in the case of a vacancy or special circumstances, appointed to GSB by GPSS as defined in the GSB Constitution and By-laws.

3. Terms. Members of the Senate are elected by the graduate or professional students, as the case may be, in their departments for one-year terms that begin in April and may be re-elected for as long as they continue to be in good standing with the Graduate College or College of Veterinary Medicine. Newly elected Senators will attend the regular March meeting to become familiar with the operations of the Senate and will assume office in the regular April meeting.

4. Officers. The officers of the Senate are the President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Henceforth, this order shall be known as the order of seniority. The duties and responsibilities of the officers shall be defined and be limited to:

   i. President:
      a. Preside over general meetings of the Senate or designate the chair with the approval of the Senate.
      b. Preside over any general meetings of the graduate and/or professional student body.
2. Terms. The term of office for Executive Council members shall be one year.

3. Eligibility. The Executive Council members are elected by and from the Senate. Senators running for a Senate officer position, as defined in Article I, section 4, must have served one term as a Senator to be eligible. All members of the current Senate who anticipate enrollment until the end of the next Senate term (through Spring Semester of the following year) will be eligible for election to other positions in the Executive Council. The Senate may recall, if necessary, the members of the Executive Council.

4. Meetings. The President shall call meetings of the Executive Council at the request of any member of the Council or as is necessary. Executive sessions, limited to persons invited by the Council, may be held by a majority vote of the Council. Otherwise, meetings will be open to all persons. Reports of all executive sessions and council meetings must be made at the next meeting of the Senate. Each member of the Executive Council shall have one vote.

5. Powers and Duties.
   i. The Executive Council represents the Senate while the Senate is not in session.
   ii. The Executive Council is responsible directly to the Senate for all its activities and decisions.
   iii. The Executive Council may only act on issues requiring action prior to the next Senate session.
   iv. The Executive Council must report all its activities, actions and decisions to the Senate at the next Senate session.

ARTICLE III. COMMITTEES

1. Permanent Standing Committees.
   i. Finance Committee. The Finance Committee prepares the budget and makes recommendations for allocations of the funds of the Graduate and Professional Student Senate. The Treasurer acts as Chair for the Finance Committee.
   ii. Rules Committee. The Rule Committee prescribes all general and special rules of procedure necessary for the orderly consideration of Senate business. All questions of a procedural or legal nature are directed to the Rules Committee. The Chair of the Communications Committee also serves as Chair for the Rules Committee.
   iii. Elections Committee. The Elections Committee is responsible for ensuring that all Senate positions are filled. All questions regarding GPSS membership are directed to the Elections Committee. The Secretary is the Chair of the Elections Committee, which
      a. Supervises elections of Senators and Executive Council members.
      b. Supervises special elections needed to fill vacancies.
      c. Maintains a record of attendance at all Senate meetings and notifies Senators as well as their departments or professional programs of their nonattendance.
   iv. Communications Committee. The Communications Committee supervises the dissemination of information concerning graduate and professional student activities, maintains the GPSS web page and mailing lists, maintains a current record of all rules, and ensures that bills and resolutions are properly prepared.
   v. Professional Advancement Grant Committee. A Professional Advancement Grant Committee works with the Graduate College and College of Veterinary Medicine to allocate funds for graduate and professional student travel to professional meetings and graduate and professional student non-thesis or non-dissertation research.