**GSPS**

**CONSTITUTION**

**Article I. Name of Organization**

The name of this organization is ‘The Graduate Student Philosophy Society’ and will be abbreviated as ‘GSPS.’

**ARTICLE II. ORGANIZATION AFFILIATION**

As outlined in the RSO Classification Policy, GSPS is considered a University Sponsored Student Organization. As a USSO, this organization is considered an extension of the university unit philosophy department and operates within the scope and function of it. As such, GSPS is governed by and under the jurisdiction of internal University policies, standards, and business practices as well as gains access to exclusive university resources through our sponsoring University unit. University-sponsored student organizations are not eligible for Student Government funding.

**Article III. Purpose Statement**

The purpose of GSPS is twofold: (1) to create and foster a philosophical community among the graduate students at UF and (2) to provide the necessary resources, within reason, to do some good in the UF community, especially in regards (but not limited) to the undergraduate student body interested in philosophy. Each member of GSPS serves as an ambassador to philosophy and represents these purposes.

**Article IV. Compliance Statement & University Regulations**

Upon approval by the Department of Student Engagement, GSPS shall be a registered student organization at the University of Florida. GSPS shall comply with all local, state and federal laws, as well as all University of Florida regulations, policies, and procedures. Such compliance includes but is not limited to the University’s regulations related to Non-Discrimination, Sexual Harassment (including sexual misconduct, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking), Hazing, Commercial Activity, and Student Leader Eligibility.

Section A. Non-Discrimination

GSPS agrees that it will not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, religion, age, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, marital status, national origin, political opinions or affiliations, genetic information and veteran status as protected under the Vietnam Era Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act. Discrimination on the basis of the protected classes described in University of Florida Regulation 1.006 (Non-Discrimination/Harassment/Invasion of Privacy Policies) is prohibited.

Section B. Sexual Harassment

GSPS agrees that it will not engage in any activity that is unwelcome conduct of sexual nature that creates a hostile environment. Behaviors that could create a hostile environment include sexual harassment (which could include inappropriate sexual comments), sexual misconduct, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking and repeated instances of cyber abuse. Sexual harassment as described in University of Florida Regulation 1.006 (Non-Discrimination/Harassment/Invasion of Privacy Policy) is prohibited.

Section C. Hazing

GSPS agrees that it will not initiate, support, or encourage any events or situations that recklessly, by design, or intentionally endanger the mental or physical health or safety of a student for any purpose including but not limited to initiation or admission into or affiliation with any student group or organization. Hazing as defined in the University of Florida Regulation 1.0081 (Prohibition of Hazing; Procedures and Penalties) and 4.040 (Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code) is prohibited. If found responsible for hazing, sanctions may be imposed against the organization, its leaders and/or members.

Section D. Responsibility to Report

The University of Florida identifies Responsible Employees and Campus Security Authorities to support the health, safety, and wellbeing of campus. If GSPS becomes aware of any such conduct described in this article, they are encouraged to report it immediately to staff in Student Engagement, the Director of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution, the University’s Title IX Coordinator, or to their Student Organization Advisor, who are identified as mandated reporters.

Section E. Officer Eligibility

GSPS understands, acknowledges, and agrees to uphold and abide by the specific minimal requirements regarding officer eligibility as defined in the Registered Student Organization Classification and Officer Eligibility Policy.

**Article V. Membership**

Membership in this organization is open to all enrolled students at the University of Florida. Non-enrolled students, spouses, faculty, and staff are prohibited from holding membership, office or voting powers. All members are free to leave and disassociate without fear of retribution, retaliation, or harassment.

**Article VI. Bylaws for GSPS**

GSPS may elect to maintain separate bylaws document to outline the day-to-day operations of the organization and to clarify policies and procedures otherwise not included in the previous articles. Bylaws and/or other guiding documents may not take precedence over the requirements sent forth by local, state, and federal laws, the university of Florida’s regulations, policies, and procedures, and the Student Engagement constitution requirements. Amendments and changes may be made to the bylaws and shall be consistent with the Student Engagement approved constitution on file and student engagement’s constitution requirements. Should the organization transition leadership, all bylaws and guiding documents will be transitioned to new student organization leaders and/or advisor(s). GSPS agrees to provide all unaltered by laws and guiding documents and/or clarify its procedures in writing to any University of Florida student, faculty, or staff upon request.

**Article VII. Student Organization Advisor**

Each registered student organization must have an eligible student organization advisor. The student organization advisor must be a full-time, salaried faculty or staff member not on extended leave for 4 consecutive weeks or longer during their advisor term. The advisor and philosophy department holds the responsibility to oversee the day-to-day functions and operations of GSPS, including the management of its finances, the selection of its members, and ensuring the organization adheres to University and department policies.

The faculty advisor shall serve as a resource person and provide advisory support for the officers and members of the organization. It is primarily the duty of the officers to communicate to the advisor what support GSPS needs, although members and associate members may also do so.

Selection method and margin of selection: The faculty advisor shall be nominated by the officers and confirmed by a majority vote of the members.

Term: One year with opportunity to be reappointed

Process of replacing the organization’s student organization advisor: In the event that the faculty advisor is unable to continue in their position, officers may nominate a replacement at any time, to be confirmed by a majority vote of the members.

**Article VIII. Officers**

Registered student organizations are required to have a minimum of a President, Treasurer, and Vice President as elected officers. These officers must abide by the Registered Student Organization Classification and Officer Eligibility Policy.

The elected officers of GSPS shall be President, Vice-President, and Treasurer. At no time should one person hold more than one of these positions.

Section A: The elected officers of the GSPS shall be President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. The term of each office is one academic year. Their duties/responsibilities are as follows:

Part 1: The President shall arrange and notify GSPS members of GSPS meetings, take care of the club’s registration at the beginning of each fall, and appoint GSPS members (this will be followed by a vote determined by majority) to committees and organize those committees. The president will also lead the organization of the Southeastern Graduate Philosophy Conference.

Part 2: The Vice-President shall assist the president, maintain relations with FSU’s graduate student philosophy group, and organize the Southeastern graduate philosophy conference.

Part 3: The Secretary shall attend the monthly graduate student council meetings, take minutes of each meeting, and keep a file of minutes. They will assist in organizing the SEGPC.

Part 4: The Treasurer shall manage the GSPS budget, prepare a new budget proposal for each academic year, and serve on the SEGPC committee.

Section B: What to do in cases of vacancies or impeachment, is as follows:

Part 2: Should the president resign/become ineligible for the position, then the vice president will become president. Should any other officer resign/ineligible for the position, then members should nominate and vote for a new officer. Should the officers

find that another officer has violated the official rules, regulations, policies or procedures

of the organization, the offending officer shall be eligible for impeachment. In this case,

the other officers will vote to impeach the officer, and the officer will be impeached with

a 2/3 vote.

**Article IX. Elections**

Criteria for officer eligibility is in accordance with university policy.

Nomination procedures: all members of GSPS are eligible to nominate one candidate for each officer position.

Election timeline: Nominations shall take place before the start of the new academic year. Shortly after nominations conclude, if more than one candidate was nominated for an officer position, then there will be an election. The election should take place at least 2 weeks before the club registration deadline, during a GSPS meeting to which all members are invited. The winners of the election are determined by the former president, or in their absence, the former vice president, or in both their absence, the former treasurer, or in all their absence, the former secretary. The winners of the election are announced before the meeting concludes. In the event of a tie, there will be a run-off election between the candidates that tied before the meeting concludes. Majority wins the run-off election.

In the absence of clear direction on election, amendment, and /or voting procedures, GSPS agrees to follow the guidance and instruction of Robert's Rules of Order for the election or amendment process.

**Article X. Finance**

As a University Sponsored Student Organization, GSPS does not receive any funding or resources from Student Government, rather, this organization is eligible to be funded by the philosophy department and/or fundraising.

· Intended use of money raised: GSPS fall social, Southeastern Graduate Philosophy Conference.

· Who is expected to participate in the fund-raising activities: members

As a USSO, GSPS will comply with UF Finance and Accounting policies on purchasing, funding and fundraising.

**Article XI. Dissolution of organization**

Upon dissolution, student organizations are prohibited from leaving their organizational assets to any individual or any other student organization. Rather, student organizations may designate a specific charity that will receive such organizational assets. At the time of dissolution, after all outstanding debts are paid, GSPS will leave any assets and outstanding funds to the Undergraduate Philosophy Society (PhilSoc).

**Article XII. Amendments to constitution**

Student Engagement has established a process through which constitutions may be amended, reviewed, and approved. Student organizations wishing to amend their constitutions must utilize their constitution on file listed on GatorConnect to make amendments and submit those changes to Student Engagement.

· Who and to whom can propose amendments: Any members can propose amendments to the officers.

· Necessary vote to approve the change(s): 2/3 majority. If no decision is reached, then the constitution should remain the same. The member should suggest the amendment again at the next meeting. If GSPS members reach a two/thirds vote in opposition to the amendment, then the amendment should not be suggested again until that next academic semester.

All amended constitutions must be submitted directly to Student Engagement for review and approval.