

UNIVERSITY of  
**HOUSTON**

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

**Label:** SGAR-61003

**Date introduced:** April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024

**Author(s):** Sen. Nieto

**Sponsor(s):** Sen. Haseeb, Sen. Khan, Sen. Mussie, Sen. Omenge, Sen. Zeidat, GPSA  
President Donald Rabin

**Committee:** Graduate & Professional Students

**Draft:** Vote

**Expansion of Graduate & Professional Student Association Funding**

**Whereas**, the University of Houston Graduate & Professional Student Association (GPSA) was established in the year of 2013;

**Whereas**, the Graduate & Professional Student Association's mission is to develop, sustain, and expand a member network that connects graduate and professional students across the University of Houston to facilitate the sharing of information, resources, and best practices. To also empower members to successfully serve their constituents, and amplify graduate students' voices;

**Whereas**, the Graduate & Professional Student Association's purpose is to serve as a channel for domestic and international graduate and professional students to voice concerns, resolve difficulties, and provide feedback on issues that directly affect graduate student life at the University of Houston;

**Whereas**, the GPSA promotes social, diplomatic, and cultural activities for graduate and professional students to facilitate and foster a sense of community among graduate students;

**Whereas**, financial barriers have prevented the Graduate & Professional Student Association's programming that enhances the voice of graduate and professional students at the University of Houston which simultaneously effects the mission and purpose;

**Whereas,** University of Houston full-time students who are enrolled at the institution pay a student service fee, that totals to \$260 per semester, including those who identify as Graduate & Professional Students;

**Whereas,** the Student Fees Advisory Committee (SFAC), a nine-member board that is mandated by the state legislature, allocates student service fees from every eligible enrolled student, including those who identify as Graduate & Professional Students at the University of Houston;

**Whereas,** all University Sponsored Organizations (USO's) at the University of Houston are service fee funded units;

**Whereas,** the University of Houston Graduate & Professional Student Association is not recognized to be one of the student fee funded units at the University of Houston;

**Therefore, be it resolved by the Student Government Association of the University of Houston:**

Supports the Graduate & Professional Student Association in its efforts to receive more funding to improve its purpose of providing social and/or networking opportunities to its constituents, provide Graduate & Professional Student unity, and foster excellence;


**Be it further resolved,** the UH SGA will support and enable the continuation of the Graduate & Professional Student Association;

**Be it further resolved,** the UH SGA recognizes that the Graduate & Professional Student Association has inadequate resources due to the association not receiving funding from the student service fees;

**Be it further resolved,** the UH SGA will stand with the Graduate & Professional Student Association in its efforts to receive more funding by taking necessary steps towards becoming a fee funded unit through the Student Fees Advisory Committee;

**Be it further resolved,** the University of Houston Student Government Association calls on the Student Fees Advisory Committee to take action and allow the Graduate & Professional Student Association to become a fee funded unit;

**LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT,** the 61<sup>st</sup> Student Government Association supports the Graduate & Professional Student Association, at the University of Houston, and its efforts in becoming a recognized student fee funded unit.



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Sebastian Ballesteros  
Speaker of the Senate

Date of Senate Approval: 04-22-2024

