

Constitution of the History Graduate Student Association of Virginia Tech

Article I: Name and Purpose

The name of this organization shall be the History Graduate Student Association of Virginia Tech, or HGSA.

The purpose of the HGSA is to enhance the academic, professional, and social well being of the history graduate students. The HGSA shall act as liaison between history graduate students and the university and graduate school, and shall act on behalf of student needs and interests.

Article II: Membership

Any graduate student enrolled in graduate level courses at Virginia Tech may become a member of the HGSA, and in turn shall be eligible to vote in all elections, attend and participate in general meetings and attend all sponsored HGSA sponsored functions and benefits thereof.

Article III: Officers

The officers of the Association shall be the President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Section 1. Duties of Officers

President: Call and preside over the general meetings, represent the HGSA to the university, the history department administrations, and to all non-university parties. The President will appoint any additional committees necessary to achieve the purpose of the HGSA, except for committees created to work on the Conference.

Vice-President: Assume role as Conference Chair for the Brian Bertoti Innovative Perspectives in History Conference. As Conference Chair, the Vice-President shall appoint and supervise over all committees that deal with duties concerning the conference, and shall conduct conference meetings. The role of Conference Chair may be delegated to another party upon the approval of that party, the Vice-President and the HGSA advisor. Additionally, the Vice-President shall assume all duties of the President in his/her absence, or when delegated by the President to do so.

Treasurer: Keep all expense records and balance the budget for the HGSA and for the Brian Bertoti Innovative Perspectives in History Conference. In conjunction with the President, the treasurer will sign all checks form the HGSA. Shall act as representative to the GSA Budget Board on behalf of the HGSA as necessary, and as an officer shall serve on the executive committee.

Secretary: Take minutes of all meetings, produce any correspondence that may be required, and as an officer shall serve on the executive committee.

Section 2: Election of Officers

Nominations: Any member may run for office of President, Vice-President, and Secretary. The position of Treasurer should be held open for a first year history graduate student. The incoming treasurer should be selected at the beginning of the fall semester of the new academic year.

Though not mandatory, it is encouraged that the position of Secretary also be reserved for a first year student. Any member interested in running for office must contact the President by email no later than one month before the last day of classes. The President will then notify the HGSA of the candidates.

Elections: All active members are eligible to vote. Members shall vote privately via email to the President, who will keep all votes until the end of the semester, and who will abstain from voting unless there is a tie. Only final numbers shall be made public, and only by request and approval of all candidates.

Succession to Office: New officers will assume responsibility on the last day of classes of the academic year in which they were selected.

Article IV: Conduct of Business

Any meeting, event, or function in association with the HGSA shall be held in a professional manner and shall be in accordance with the HGSA constitution.

Article V: Amendments

Any article of the constitution or any section thereof may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the membership.