GSA Bylaws

Fiscal Year Definition
The Fiscal Year shall be defined from November 1st to October 31st. This will allow for the planning of events falling shortly after officer elections and the Executive Committee turn-over to occur during the previous year and have funds appropriately allocated.

Elections
Voting shall be completed through Blackboard. The Dean of Graduate Studies for Arts, Sciences, and Engineering will be the one to receive and announce the results of elections.

- Election Forum
Nominations will begin two weeks before the Election Forum meeting date. This Forum will be the last opportunity to make nominations. The names of nominated candidates shall be added to the GSA website as they are proposed during this time period. The Election Forum shall be moderated by the President, Communications Officer, or another GSA officer, if needed. It shall not be moderated by any candidates running in the current election. If all members of the Executive Committee are running in the current election, the Executive Committee will elect a GSA member to moderate the election. At the Election Forum, nominees will have the opportunity to make a brief speech. GSA members in attendance will have an opportunity to ask each nominee questions. Time limits for the speech and question period shall be outlined in the Bylaws. They shall be strictly enforced to protect fairness and the time of GSA members. During the Election Forum, nominees may make a brief speech that will be limited to two minutes. This time limit will be announced beforehand so candidates may prepare accordingly. In response to a candidates’ speech, a question period may not exceed five minutes.

- Election Turnover
The new term shall begin June 1. New officers may attend the last meeting of the previous year's Executive Committee, and old officers may attend the first Executive Committee meeting in the new term to provide a smooth transition of leadership and information. If an existing officer is elected as President for the following term, they shall continue their original elected position through the end of their term.
Compensation
- Officer Compensation
Officers will be compensated $125 for each six-month period served, in December and June. Officers who do not wish to receive compensation may submit written notice to the Treasurer and GSA advisor in advance of the two pay periods.
In cases where an officer is not fulfilling the responsibilities of their role, the officer may be prevented from receiving Officer Compensation by the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the remaining Executive Committee at any meeting.

- Member Compensation
The only allowed case of compensation of GOG members who are not Executive Committee members shall be conference travel award application reviewers.

Other Committees
Committees shall be created and dissolved as needed to support the positions of Social Planning (Community Development), Academic Affairs, and Advocacy. They shall be chaired by their respective executive committee officers. Members of these committees will be appointed by the Executive Committee from any interested volunteers in the general GOG membership.