



GPSA Elections Code

NOTE: The GPSA Elections Code is comprised solely of Title 3 of the GPSA Bylaws

TITLE 3

ELECTIONS

3.1 Elections Procedures and Deadlines

- 3.1.1 Elections for the following year shall be held by the GPSA Elections Commission during the Spring semester of the current academic year.
- 3.1.2 The Assembly President shall confirm Assembly seat allocations with the GPSA Elections Commissioner by the end of the nomination period.
- 3.1.3 Information Sessions
 - 3.1.3.1 The GPSA Elections Commissioner shall distribute information about GPSA elections during the nomination period in the spring, including a list of rules to follow during the election, responsibilities and benefits of being an Assembly Member, and the elections timeline.
 - 3.1.3.2 The Deputy Elections Commissioner for GPSA must schedule an information session, working with GPSA's Communications team and GPSA Assembly Members, for potential candidates at least one (1) week before the application deadline.
 - 3.1.3.3 The Deputy Elections Commissioner for GPSA must provide materials to educate candidates on the election rules as listed in the GPSA bylaws. Candidates will be required to sign, either digitally or in person, to signify their comprehension and compliance with said rules.
 - 3.1.3.4 At least one (1) of these information sessions must be offered with a virtual attendance option for those unable to attend in-person
 - 3.1.3.4.1 Virtual attendance opportunities are encouraged for all information sessions
- 3.1.4 Nominations Procedure
 - 3.1.4.1 Potential Assembly Members and Executive Officers shall be nominated during a Nominations Period.
 - 3.1.4.2 Candidates must be members of GPSA at the time of the election and must continue to be members for the duration of the positions term.
 - 3.1.4.2.1 Candidates for GPSA Executive positions may not serve concurrently as an ASASU staff member after the election if the candidate is awarded an executive position.
 - 3.1.4.2.2 Candidates for GPSA Assembly positions must have completed one semester of enrollment at the graduate or professional level prior to the close of nominations.
 - 3.1.4.3 Potential candidates must submit their self-nomination in writing via online form to the GPSA Elections Commissioner.

- 3.1.4.4 Individuals must complete the appropriate forms from the Office of the GPSA Elections Commissioner, any other forms required by the ASASU Elections Department, and submit their curriculum vitae or resume to the GPSA Elections Commissioner by the end of the Nomination Period.
- 3.1.4.5 Candidates shall have their names recorded by the GPSA Elections Commissioner to be placed on the Ballot, pursuant to confirmation by the ASASU Elections Department that conditions for eligibility are met, as outlined in the GPSA Constitution.
- 3.1.4.6 The Nominations Period shall last no less than two full calendar weeks and conclude before the end of February.
- 3.1.4.7 The Candidate Application form shall be made available no later than the first Monday in February.
- 3.1.5 In the event of unforeseen or extenuating circumstances, GPSA elections procedures may be modified at any time, provided such changes do not conflict with the ASASU Constitution, by the Assembly Operations Committee or a unanimous vote by the Office of the Assembly President, which is composed of the Assembly President, Assembly President Pro Tempore, and the Assembly Parliamentarian, referred to as the Office of the Assembly President, on behalf of the Assembly.
 - 3.1.5.1 These modifications must be presented in writing to the ASASU Elections Department and the GPSA Elections Commissioner by the Assembly President must be signed or otherwise verifiably endorsed by the Assembly President, the Assembly President pro tempore, and the Assembly Parliamentarian.
 - 3.1.5.2 These modifications must be presented to the full Assembly for ratification at the next regularly scheduled Assembly meeting. If the modifications fail the ratification process, they shall be considered null and void from that point onward, and the Office of the Assembly President shall not re-present the modification in question to the ASASU Elections Department or GPSA Elections Commissioner without Assembly consent.
- 3.1.6 Campaign Spending Limitations
 - 3.1.6.1 Campaign costs for any candidate running for any GPSA position may not exceed three-hundred (300) dollars.
 - 3.1.6.2 Receipts must be kept by the candidate and are subject to weekly review by the GPSA Elections Commissioner or their deputies. The comprehensive Final Expense Form must be submitted, with all receipts, no later than 5:00 pm on the day after the election.
 - 3.1.6.3 University policies and regulations as well as the laws, regulations, and policies of the cities where ASU campuses are based and the laws of

the State of Arizona concerning posters and signage are enforceable for the purpose of these elections.

3.1.6.4 The GPSA Elections Commissioner may request a candidate's updated Expense Form with itemized receipts at any time during a campaign. The updated Expense Form with itemized receipts shall be submitted to the GPSA Elections Commissioner or their deputies within forty-eight (48) hours of the request.

3.1.7 Campaign Complaints and Resolution Procedures

3.1.7.1 Any GPSA member, including but not limited to, nominees, potential candidates, candidates, Assembly Members, and Executive Officers or the GPSA Elections Commissioner, may file a written complaint for violations of these procedures.

3.1.7.2 All campaign complaints must be submitted in writing to the Assembly, the Executive Committee, and the Elections Director within three (3) calendar days of the violation of these procedures and up to three (3) calendar days after close of voting for violations that occur on the day of the GPSA or ASASU election.

3.1.7.3 Actions taken by the GPSA Elections Commission or the ASASU Elections Department that do not comply with these Bylaws shall be subject to review by the GPSA Supreme Court, and the Assembly shall have authority to take action on items resulting from such actions.

3.1.7.4 In the event of a complaint brought against a candidate for a GPSA election, the GPSA Elections Commissioner shall review the complaint for its veracity, credibility, and severity.

3.1.7.4.1 In the event that the GPSA Elections Commissioner finds that the complaint is indeed credible, the GPSA Elections Commissioner shall enforce the penalty mechanism described in 3.1.11.

3.1.7.4.2 In the event that a complaint is brought forth regarding an alleged violation of these procedures by the GPSA Elections Commissioner or candidates running for the position of GPSA Elections Commissioner, the GPSA Elections Commissioner shall not review the complaint but shall instead bring the complaint to the GPSA Supreme Court, which shall review the complaint about its veracity, credibility, and severity.

3.1.7.4.2.1 If the complaint is found to be credible, the GPSA Supreme Court shall notify the Office of the Assembly President, the GPSA Advisor, and the ASASU Elections Department, and shall enforce the penalty mechanism described in 3.1.11.

- 3.1.7.5 Candidates have one (1) business day following issuance of an ASASU Elections Department or GPSA Elections Commissioner decision to appeal to the GPSA Supreme Court.
- 3.1.7.6 Should a complaint be ruled upon by the GPSA Supreme Court, that ruling shall be final and binding.
- 3.1.8 Campaign Communication Limitations
 - 3.1.8.1 Candidates, supporters, and any person affiliated with the candidate(s) campaign, may not disseminate information about their campaign through any university maintained listserv.
 - 3.1.8.1.1 This is inclusive of compiled lists that are kept by any entity associated with Arizona State University, including, but not limited to, lists compiled by the University, Colleges, Schools, Departments, Clubs, Organizations, etc.
 - 3.1.8.2 Campaigning and advertising GPSA elections in classrooms that are in session is prohibited during the voting cycle.
 - 3.1.8.3 Candidates, programs, services, or departments may not use GPSA resources for the purpose of any campaign. This includes, but is not limited to, the use of computers, printers, paper, phones, or copy machines.
 - 3.1.8.4 Campaigning and the presence of campaign materials within GPSA offices is forbidden.
- 3.1.9 The criteria by which an election is won will be the candidate(s) with the most votes. In the case of a tie, a runoff election will be held if necessary, before the end of the semester.
- 3.1.10 Elections Dates
 - 3.1.10.1 The Elections Department shall schedule campaigning for the general election to begin on the first Tuesday after the conclusion of spring break.
 - 3.1.10.2 The general election shall begin two (2) weeks from the first Tuesday after the conclusion of spring break.
 - 3.1.10.3 If these dates conflict with any religious holidays, the Elections Department will decide on a suitable date for the general election.
 - 3.1.10.4 Campaigning cannot begin before the dates set by the Elections Department.
- 3.1.11 Penalty Mechanism for Violations of the GPSA Elections Code.
 - 3.1.11.1 All candidates running for elected positions in GPSA shall be subject to this penalty mechanism, which shall be evaluated on a point-based system.

- 3.1.11.1.1 Violations committed by members of the campaign team or who are associated with the candidate's campaign shall also result in violation points being assigned to the candidate.
- 3.1.11.2 Candidates who accrue nine or more points shall be disqualified from the election.
- 3.1.11.3 The GPSA Elections Commissioner or the GPSA Supreme Court, pursuant to 3.1.7.4.2 of these Bylaws, shall assign points within the ranges specified in these Bylaws.
- 3.1.11.4 The use of any GPSA funds, particularly those administered by current GPSA Executive Officers, directors, or Assembly Members, for one's own election campaign, shall be considered a 'level 4' violation and shall result in the candidate receiving nine (9) violation points, the candidate's immediate disqualification from the election, notification of the violation to the GPSA Assembly President, the GPSA President, GPSA Supreme Court, the GPSA Advisor, the immediate and irrevocable removal from any current office within GPSA by the violator, prohibition of the candidate from running for any elected office within GPSA and from being eligible to work in any leadership position or compensated position within GPSA in perpetuity.
- 3.1.11.5 The following shall be considered 'level 3' violations, and shall result in the candidate being assigned a minimum of nine (9) points and the candidate's subsequent disqualification from the election:
 - 3.1.11.5.1 Promising to anyone any paid or leadership positions within GPSA that would otherwise be filled after an interview process open to all graduate and professional students at Arizona State University.
 - 3.1.11.5.2 Abusing the complaint mechanism to harass opponents by sending numerous unsubstantiated or non-credible complaints to the GPSA Elections Commissioner.
 - 3.1.11.5.3 Intentionally violating Bylaws section 3.1.8 regarding campaign communication limitations.
 - 3.1.11.5.3.1 Exceptions to this rule include university-sponsored Town Halls, Open Doors, Debates, and other university-sanctioned or university-endorsed forums with the express purpose of educating voters on the candidates running for office.
 - 3.1.11.5.4 Exceeding the campaign spending limits described in 3.1.6.
 - 3.1.11.5.5.1 The GPSA Elections Commissioner or GPSA Supreme Court may, at their discretion, choose to lower the number of points assigned to this violation if the violation is due to exceeding the violation by no more than 10% of the maximum campaign contribution and that it is clear that the violation was unintentional

- 3.1.11.5.5.2. The GPSA Elections Commissioner or GPSA Supreme Court may not assign fewer than six (6) points for this violation.
- 3.1.11.5.6 The use or appropriation of any code or campaign materials from any current candidates' campaigns without those candidates' written approval
- 3.1.11.6 The following shall be considered 'level 2' violations and shall result in the candidate being assigned a minimum of three (3) violation points and a maximum of six (6) violation points:
 - 3.1.11.6.1 Violating Bylaws section 3.1.8 regarding campaign communication limitations unintentionally.
- 3.1.11.7 The following shall be considered 'level 1' violations and shall result in the candidate being assigned a minimum of one (1) violation point and a maximum of three (3) violation points:
 - 3.1.11.7.1 Violating 3.1.6.3 regarding the placement of campaign signs.
 - 3.1.11.7.2 Electioneering or campaigning within fifty (50) feet of an official, in-person GPSA polling place.
- 3.1.11.8 The GPSA Supreme Court may consult a representative from the Office of Student Engagement to solicit any necessary guidance for the successful and fair resolution of any disputes arising from the GPSA Elections Code.
- 3.1.11.9 Violations that also constitute a violation of the Student Code of Conduct may, in addition to being subject to the assignment of violation points by the GPSA Elections Commissioner, also be referred to the GPSA Advisor.
- 3.1.12 Announcement and Certification of Final Election Results
 - 3.1.12.1 In order to ensure that all violations and complaints have been properly tabulated and recorded and that all candidates are eligible for election by virtue of satisfying all eligibility criteria and having not earned nine (9) or more violation points during their campaigns, the final results of GPSA elections shall not be announced or certified until five (5) business days after the election has concluded.
 - 3.1.12.1.1 The GPSA Elections Commissioner or GPSA Supreme Court may extend this deadline by five (5) business days if they believe that it is necessary to resolve any lingering complaints regarding the election that may materially impact the results of the election.
 - 3.1.12.1.2 In the event that the announcement deadline is extended by five (5) business days by the GPSA Elections Commissioner, the GPSA Elections Commissioner may still announce the results of individual elections after the five (5) business day limit described in 3.1.12.1 of these Bylaws if any complaints regarding those elections have been

resolved while leaving the results of those races that are still contested unannounced.

3.2 Assembly Seat Allocation

3.2.1 The number of Assembly Members for each graduate or professional program shall be no less than one (1). Assembly Members from a given graduate or professional program, school, or college may hold no more than twenty (20) percent of the total number of seats in the Assembly at any given point in time; if this number is not a whole number, the maximum number of seats allowed shall be rounded down to the nearest whole number. The number of Assembly Members representing each graduate program shall be determined by the number of graduate students enrolled in that graduate program, based upon the annual fall enrollment report from the Office of Institutional Analysis.

3.2.1.1 200 or fewer graduate students: One (1) Assembly Member

3.2.1.2 201 – 550 graduate students: Two (2) Assembly Members

3.2.1.3 551 – 950 graduate students: Three (3) Assembly Members

3.2.1.4 951 – 1300 graduate students: Four (4) Assembly Members

3.2.1.5 1301 – 1650 graduate students: Five (5) Assembly Members

3.2.1.6 1650 – 1950 graduate students: Six (6) Assembly Members

3.2.1.7 1951 – 2350 graduate students: Seven (7) Assembly Members

3.2.1.8 2351 to 3000 graduate students: Eight (8) Assembly Members

3.2.1.9 3001 or more graduate students: Nine (9) Assembly Members

3.2.2 In addition to Assembly Members representing each graduate program, there shall be five (5) seats elected by and to represent all Graduate and Professional Students-at-large and one (1) seat appointed by the Assembly and to represent Graduate and Professional Students enrolled in Online Programs at-large.

3.2.2.1 Graduate and Professional Students enrolled in Online Programs are eligible to apply for seats that remain vacant after the general election within their department and for both at-large Assembly seats and at-large Assembly Seats reserved for online students.

3.2.2.2 Only online Graduate or Professional students shall be eligible for the seat(s) Online at-large detailed in 3.2.2. If the Online at-large seat remains vacant after the December monthly GPSA Assembly Meeting, the seat will become an at-large seat pursuant to 3.2.5 below.

3.2.2.2.1 if the online graduate and professional students of Arizona State University form an official, university-recognized student government and the student government's joining of ASASU, or an equivalent body as determined by the university and a two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) vote of the GPSA Advisor, the GPSA President, and the GPSA Assembly President, is imminent, or if online graduate and professional students are represented by a general, official, and university-recognized online student government, the Online at-large seat shall be converted to a non-voting

position reserved for a liaison from the aforementioned student government to the GPSA Assembly. The Online Graduate and Professional Student Government Liaison to GPSA shall provide a report on the activities of the aforementioned student government during the 'External Reports' section of the agenda at each Assembly meeting.

3.2.2.2.1.1 If the Online Graduate and Professional Student Government Liaison to GPSA position becomes open during the legislative session, the Assembly President shall appoint a member of the aforementioned student government to the position.

3.2.3 If the enrollment of The College causes an allocation of three (3) or fewer seats in the Assembly President's reallocation report pursuant to this article, then the Assembly Members for The College shall be elected by and to represent the graduate students of The College at-large. If the enrollment of The College causes an allocation of four (4) or more seats in the Assembly President's reallocation report pursuant to this article, then there shall be one (1) Assembly Member for each sub-college with the remaining seats representing and being elected by the students of The College at-large.

3.2.3.1 The following sub-colleges of The College are recognized for the purpose of applying this article: Humanities, Life Sciences, Natural Sciences, and Social Sciences.

3.2.4 If the enrollment of the Fulton Schools of Engineering causes an allocation of five (5) or fewer seats in the Assembly President's reallocation report pursuant to this article, then the Assembly Members for the Fulton Schools of Engineering shall be elected by and to represent the graduate students of the Fulton Schools of Engineering at-large. If the enrollment of the Fulton Schools of Engineering causes an allocation of six (6) or more seats in the Assembly President's reallocation report pursuant to this article, then there shall be one (1) Assembly Member for each sub-school within the Fulton Schools of Engineering with the remaining seats representing and being elected by the students of the Fulton Schools of Engineering at-large.

3.2.4.1 The following sub-schools of the Fulton Schools of Engineering are recognized for the purpose of applying this article: (1) School of Biological and Health Systems Engineering; (2) School of Computing, Informatics, and Decision Systems Engineering; (3) School of Electrical, Computer and Energy Engineering; (4) School for Engineering of Matter, Transport and Energy; (5) School of Sustainable Engineering and the Built Environment; and (6) The Polytechnic School.

3.2.4 Seat allocation and eligibility will be determined as follows:

3.2.4.1 Assembly Members may only serve for a graduate program in which they are enrolled in or for an at-large seat.

- 3.2.4.2 The reallocation report shall include Assembly seat allocation totals for all graduate programs across the University.
- 3.2.4.3 The Assembly must ratify the reallocation report specifically indicating the number of seat assignments for each graduate program with a two-thirds (2/3) vote of present and voting Assembly Members.
- 3.2.4.4 If the Assembly fails to ratify the reallocation report, the previous year's seat assignments will remain active for the following year.
- 3.2.5 If any Assembly Member seats remain vacant by the December monthly GPSA Assembly Meeting, those vacant seats will become at-large seats for the remainder of the academic year to be filled at the January monthly meeting. These at-large seats augment the four (4) allocated in 3.2.2. These at-large seats are specifically tasked with outreach to the graduate college whose vacant seat they are filling as well as the duties of an at-large member. Reallocation should comply with 3.2.2 regarding the 20% rule.
- 3.2.6 If the enrollment of the College of Global Futures causes an allocation of one (1) seat in the Assembly pursuant to this article, then the Assembly Member for the College of Global Futures shall be elected by and to represent the graduate and professional students of the College of Global Futures at-large. If the enrollment of the College of Global Futures causes an allocation of two (2) or more seats in the Assembly pursuant to this article, then there shall be one (1) Assembly Member for the School of Sustainability, one (1) Assembly Member for the School for the Future of Innovation and Society, and the remaining seats representing and being elected by the students of the College of Global Futures at-large
- 3.2.7 If the enrollment of the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law causes an allocation of two (2) or fewer seats in the Assembly pursuant to this article, then the Assembly Member(s) for the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law shall be elected by and to represent the graduate and professional students of the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law at-large. If the enrollment of the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law causes an allocation of two (2) or more seats in the Assembly pursuant to this article, then there shall be one (1) Assembly Member elected by those in their first year of study (1L) to represent those entering their second year of study (2L), one (1) Assembly Member elected by those in their second year of study (2L) and to represent those in their third year of study (3L), and the remaining seats representing and being elected by the students of the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law. Should either the 2L or 3L seat be unfilled after the GPSA election during the Spring semester, the unfilled seat(s) shall become Law At-Large seats open to any graduate or professional student in the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law and subject to the regular appointment

procedures to unfilled seats as described by these Bylaws and the GPSA Constitution.