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G.B. # 344
A Bill to Update the Rules of Order to Reflect New Government Structure

Whereas, the Senate has resolved to reorganize student government into one branch to enhance effectiveness, collaboration, and the development of solutions,

Whereas, the Rules of Order provide a roadmap to help Senate leadership and members use Senate and Senate committee meetings effectively,

Whereas, the Rules of Order need to reflect the new organization of the Senate and Graduate Student government;

Therefore, be it enacted by the Clemson University Graduate Student Senate assembled,

That the following sections be renumbered per Table 1.¹

Table 1

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¹ All section numbers in this document will be based on the updated section numbers and not the existing ones.
That “Section 3.1 President Pro-Tempore” be removed;

That Section 3.3 President Pro-Tempore be added:
   “3.3 President Pro-Tempore:

   3.3.1 Report on the business of the Internal Committees, when called upon by the President or Vice President.

   3.3.2 The President Pro-Tempore shall assume the position of presiding officer at the request of President or Vice President.

   3.3.3 The President Pro-Tempore shall preside over any impeachment trial of the President.

   3.3.4 The President Pro-Tempore shall manage the execution of the subpoena process including maintaining a record of filed and issued subpoenas.

       3.3.4.1 The President Pro-Tempore will work with the Secretary to make sure a copy of each subpoena is maintained.

   3.3.5 The President Pro-Tempore shall perform other duties assigned by the Vice President.

   3.3.6 The President Pro-Tempore shall be responsible for setting up the Senate meeting location and cleaning up after the Senate meeting is over.”

That “Section 3.2 Clerk” be removed in its entirety.

That “Section 3.4 Sergeant-at-Arms” be removed in its entirety.

That Section 3.5 Secretary be amended:
   3.3.1 The Secretary shall receive approved legislation and amendments introduced by members of the Senate.

   3.3.2 The Secretary shall keep and maintain the Senate roll.
3.3.3 The Secretary shall record the minutes of each Senate meeting.

3.3.4 The Secretary maintains all subpoenas.

3.3.5 The Secretary will prepare the Senate Chamber in advance of the meeting by setting up presentations, projectors, and laptops.

3.3.6 The Secretary will keep a record of all bills (PDF and word), resolutions (PDF and Word), and presentations.

3.3.7 The Secretary will update the Rules of Order and the Constitution to reflect passed legislation.

3.3.8 The Secretary shall perform other duties pertaining to the records of the Senate as assigned by the presiding officer.

That Section 3.6 Chief of Staff be added:
   3.6.1 Report on the business of the External Committees, when called upon by the President.

That Sections 4.2.5, 4.2.7, 4.2.8 be removed in their entirety.

That Section 4.2 – Regular Senate Meeting be amended:
   4.2.1 The roll shall be taken.

   4.2.2 The Senate shall amend and approve the minutes from the previous meeting.

   4.2.3 Guest speakers shall present and answer questions from attendees.

   4.2.4 The President of the Graduate Student Body shall present a report to the Senate.

       4.2.4.1 The Chief of Staff or External Committee Chairs may be asked by the President to give reports as needed.

   4.2.5 The Vice President shall present a report to the Senate.

       4.2.6 The President Pro-Tempore or Internal Committee Chairs may be asked by the Vice President to give reports as needed.
4.2.6 The Senate shall consider all unfinished business and Special Orders.

4.2.7 The Senate shall consider all new business and General Orders.

4.2.8 Attendees shall provide announcements of interest.

4.2.9 The Senate shall be provided an “for the good of the senate” to allow discussion on any topic without an accompanying motion.

That Section 5.1.5 be added to “Section 5 Participation and Proceedings” as followed:

“5.1 Time Limits

5.1.5 Debate on the floor of each item of old or new business is limited to ten (10) minutes unless extended by the Senate or the presiding officer. “

That “Section 5.2 Debate” be revised in content and numbering as followed:

“5.2 Debate

5.2.1 A Senator may be granted the floor by the presiding officer in two ways:

5.2.1.1 By having business such as Bill or Resolution on the agenda for the meeting;

5.2.1.2 By raising his/her hand/placard when the floor is open and being recognized by the Presiding Officer.

5.2.2 A Senator may be recognized for five (5) minutes no more than twice for debate on any single motion or item of legislation.

5.2.3 A Senator recognized to speak during debate must directly address the presiding officer and confine all remarks to speaking clearly in favor of or in opposition to the pending legislation or motion. A Senator wishing to ask a question may do so by raising a Request for Information or Parliamentary Inquiry.”

That “Section 6 Committees” be removed in its entirety.

That “Section 6 Committees” be added:

“6.1 Internal Committees
6.1.1 Internal committees are standing committees of the Senate, and perform all internal operations required for the Graduate Student Senate to function properly.

6.1.2 The following committees shall be recognized as standing Internal Committees:

6.1.2.1 Rules & Procedures Committee: The mandate of the Rules & Procedures Committee is to review and refine legislation, procedures, and rules of orders of the Graduate Student Senate, and to train senators on proper protocols in official Graduate Student Senate meetings.

6.1.2.2 Finance Committee: The mandate of the Finance Committee is to oversee all Graduate Student Senate funding and spending, to review graduate student organization funding requests and appropriations legislation prior to consideration by the Senate, and to improve the financial processes of the Graduate Student Senate.

6.1.2.3 Graduate Travel Grant (GTG) Committee: The mandate of the GTG Committee is to solicit and review travel grants, distribute and award funds across periods to qualifying applicants, and to plan workshops, offer support, and educate reviewers and applicants about the GTG process.

6.1.2.4 Research Committee. The mandate of the Research Committee is to promote research among graduate students and to organize research events for graduate students such as Three Minute Thesis (3MT) and Graduate Research And Discovery Symposium (GRADS).

6.1.2.5 Activities & Outreach Committee. The mandate of the Activities Committee is to plan and organize social and cultural events of interest to graduate students, and to coordinate community outreach events and initiatives among the graduate student body.

6.1.2.6 Communications Committee: The mandate of the Communications Committee is to handle all internal communications of the Graduate Student Senate, including the Graduate Student Government website, official emails, and social media accounts, and to aid the President and Vice-President with official Graduate Student Government external communications.

6.1.3 All standing Internal Committees shall submit a verbal and/or written report of committee business at each regular Senate meeting.
6.2 External Committees

6.2.1 External Committees are standing committees of the Senate, and facilitate the representation of the Graduate Student Body within Clemson University. Members of each committee shall serve as a representative on a University-wide committee pertaining to that specific External Committee.

6.2.2 The following committees shall be recognized as standing External Committees:

6.2.2.1 Graduate Academic Affairs Committee: The mandate of this committee is to represent the Graduate Student Body on issues of academic integrity and grievance and to contribute input to policies on graduate student academics, including curriculum for graduate programs, certificates, and courses within Clemson University.

6.2.2.2 Diversity & Inclusion Committee: The mandate of this committee is to promote diversity, inclusion, equity, awareness and unity among the Graduate Student Body and to report issues against these ideals to Clemson University.

6.2.2.3 Health Service Committee: The mandate of this committee is to promote all matters regarding health, wellness, and nutrition of the Graduate Student Body and to contribute input to policies regarding graduate student health services.

6.2.2.4 Transportation & Facilities Committee: The mandate of this committee is to promote all matters regarding parking, mass transportation, and safety of the Graduate Student Body and to contribute input to policies regarding parking, transportation, facilities, and Clemson University’s sustainability efforts.

6.2.2.5 University Services Committee: The mandate of this committee is to promote all matters regarding campus technology, libraries, and other University services among graduate students and to advocate for improved technological services to benefit the Graduate Student Body.

6.2.2.6 Graduate Campus Life Committee: The mandate of this committee is to handle all other aspects of graduate student life on campus not overseen by other External Committees, including issues on University
tuition and fees, University athletics and ticketing, and non-academic discipline and integrity. This committee will contain the following subcommittees:

6.2.2.6.1 Discipline & Integrity Subcommittee: This subcommittee shall represent the Graduate Student Body in matters of non-academic conduct and behavior.

6.2.2.6.2 Athletics & Ticketing Subcommittee: This subcommittee shall represent the Graduate Student Body in matters of intercollegiate and intramural athletics and recreation.

6.2.3 The Senate may create additional External Committees by resolution, but only if such a committee can prove its ability to liaison with a counterpart university-wide committee.

6.3 Functions and Composition

6.3.1 If not otherwise specified in the Committee’s Rules of Order, the President of the Senate shall appoint the Chairs of Committees and members of all committees pursuant to these Rules and any adopted resolutions. The President of the Senate may ask for the members of a Committee to recommend the Chair for that committee.

6.3.2 Only members of the Senate may serve as members of Senate committees. However, committee chairs may enlist non-voting associates from the Graduate Student Body to assist with official duties.

6.3.3 The President of the Senate shall be an ex officio member of External committees but shall not be counted in determining the number required for a quorum or in determining whether a quorum is present.

6.3.4 All committee meetings shall be held in open session. A committee may vote to enter executive session only for the purpose of confidential discussion. No votes or actions shall be taken in executive session, other than to adjourn or resume open session.

6.3.5 The Vice President of the Senate is to assist the President in similar duties as stated in 6.1.1 through 6.1.4 but for the Internal Committees.”

That “Section 8.1 “Introduction” be removed in its entirety.
That Section 8.1 “Introduction be added:

“8.1 Introduction

8.1.1 Any member may introduce an item of legislation for consideration by the Senate by submitting a bill to the Rules and Procedures Committee for review. All bills can be sent to gsgrules@clemson.edu.

8.1.2 The member who introduces the legislation shall be the Sponsor. Additional members may add their names to the legislation as co-sponsors.

8.1.3 The Rules and Procedures Committee shall perform an initial check to determine if the bill proposal is to move forward to gather Senators’ comments or to return to the sponsors for edits.

8.1.4 After receiving Senators’ comments, the sponsors may make further edits before re-submitting to the Rules and Procedures Committee for a final review. Upon final approval, the proposed bill will then be passed on to the cabinet to be presented for final discussion and voting on the Senate floor.

8.1.5 On the floor of the Senate, the sponsors shall provide their reasoning and summary for the proposed bill. The introduction shall be followed by a 10-minute discussion. Finally, the bill shall be voted on by the Senate.

8.1.6 The Secretary or President may, with approval of the Rules and Procedure Committee and the Sponsor, alter the language of introduced legislation to remove ambiguity and apply stylistic consistency with prior legislation.”

8.1.7 The Chair of the Rules and Procedures Committee, with the consent of a majority of the committee, can expedite legislation through the review process.

That Section 8.3 “Titles” be amended:

8.3.4 The Chair of Rules and Procedures committee will coordinate with the Secretary to assign a number to all bills, resolutions, or concurrent resolutions.

That Section 10.1.1.1 be added:

“10.1 Senate Meetings

10.1.1.1 The Webmaster shall ensure that public records related to Senate businesses are available to the public online on the GSG website.”