



Constitution of Brooklyn College Graduate Student Organization (GSO) (City University of New York)

The Graduate Student Organization of Brooklyn College, dedicated to serving and representing the graduate community, shall be governed by the Constitution set forth below.

ARTICLE I | NAME

The name of the organization shall be the Brooklyn College Graduate Student Organization, henceforth referred to as G.S.O.

ARTICLE II | AUTHORITY

Article II.1 Source of Authority

The Graduate Student Organization derives its authority from the Bylaws of the City University of New York, including Article XV governing student organizations and student governments, and shall operate in accordance with applicable policies, rules, and regulations of the City University of New York, Brooklyn College, and the Brooklyn College Association.

Article II.2 Representative Authority

The Graduate Student Organization shall serve as the official representative government of graduate students enrolled at Brooklyn College and shall exercise the rights, privileges, and responsibilities afforded to recognized student governments.

Article II.3 Organizational Authority

The Graduate Student Organization shall possess all powers reasonably necessary to carry out its purposes and responsibilities, provided such actions are not inconsistent with this Constitution, applicable College policies, City University of New York policies, or applicable law.

ARTICLE III | PURPOSES

The purposes of the Graduate Student Organization shall be:

1. To create and maintain a graduate student community to further the quality of education of graduate students.

2. To further the cause of academic freedom and formulate College-wide and University-wide policy relating to the academic freedoms of graduate students, and to promote communication between students, faculty, staff, and the administration of Brooklyn College and the City University of New York.
3. To serve as the sole granting and allocating body for all graduate student funds derived from graduate student fees and the Brooklyn College Association, and to undertake additional fiduciary responsibilities for campus organizations upon agreement with the appropriate College authorities.
4. To organize and sponsor colloquia, seminars, workshops, conferences, and other functions on subjects of professional, academic, cultural, and social interest to graduate students.
5. To gather and represent the opinions, interests, and concerns of graduate students and to make such views known to the appropriate constituencies.
6. To appoint, recommend, or approve graduate student representatives to Joint Student-Faculty Committees, College-wide Committees, University-wide Committees, and other bodies as appropriate.
7. To speak and act publicly on behalf of the graduate student body on issues affecting graduate students and matters of interest to the graduate student community.
8. To establish bylaws, rules, procedures, and governance structures necessary for its administration, internal operations, and continued existence as the official representative government of graduate students.
9. To exercise the rights, privileges, and responsibilities accorded to recognized student governments by the City University of New York and Brooklyn College.
10. To make appropriate procedural recommendations and adjustments affecting graduate students in the governance of Brooklyn College and the City University of New York.
11. To maintain a viable, effective, and representative organization capable of serving the interests of graduate students and supporting active graduate student clubs.

ARTICLE IV | MEMBERSHIP

Article IV.1 Membership

All graduate students enrolled at Brooklyn College who have paid the applicable student activity fee, or who are otherwise recognized as eligible under applicable College and University policies, shall be members of the Graduate Student Organization.

Article IV.2 Eligibility for Office

- a. Only matriculated graduate students enrolled in a degree-granting program at Brooklyn College and maintaining a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0 shall be eligible to seek election or appointment to office within the Graduate Student Organization.
- b. Candidates for Executive Board office shall reasonably expect to remain enrolled and eligible to serve throughout both the Fall and Spring semesters of the term for which they are elected.

- c. Any candidate who is aware of circumstances that may prevent completion of service during both semesters shall disclose such circumstances prior to election. Exceptions to this requirement may be permitted only in extraordinary circumstances when necessary to preserve the continuity and effective operation of the Graduate Student Organization.

Article IV.3 Certification and Eligibility

The Graduate Student Organization may verify the eligibility of candidates, nominees, and officeholders through the appropriate College office responsible for student organization oversight.

Article IV.4 Term of Service

Any individual elected or appointed to office within the Graduate Student Organization shall serve for the duration of their term, provided that they continue to satisfy the eligibility requirements established by this Constitution and applicable College and University policies.

Article IV.5 Conflicts of Interest

The Executive Board shall determine matters relating to conflicts of interest, eligibility, and qualifications for office, subject to applicable College and University policies.

Article IV.6 Responsibilities of Office

Any individual elected or appointed to a position within the Graduate Student Organization shall uphold this Constitution, the Bylaws of the Graduate Student Organization, and all applicable College and University policies.

ARTICLE V | ELECTIONS

Article V.1 Election of Officers

Pursuant to University Bylaws, elections shall be held during the Spring semester of each academic year.

- a. The Election Commissioner may recommend an election timeline to the College-Wide Election Review Committee (CWERC). The final election timeline, including nomination periods, voting dates, and certification deadlines, shall be established by CWERC in accordance with applicable College policies and the academic calendar.
- b. The elected officers of the Graduate Student Organization shall be President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer/Business Manager. These officers shall be known as the Executive Board of the Graduate Student Organization

Article V.2 Candidate Eligibility

Candidates for Executive Board office shall satisfy the eligibility requirements established in Article IV of this Constitution.

No individual may simultaneously serve as a member of the Executive Board and as an officer of an Active Graduate Student Club.

Article V.3 Ballot Access

- a. Any eligible graduate student seeking election to the Executive Board shall declare their candidacy and be nominated by at least two (2) graduate students to be eligible to be on the ballot.
- b. The Election Commissioner shall administer the nomination process in accordance with the election timeline established by CWERC. Adequate time shall be provided for candidate declarations, nominations, certification, and voter participation.
- c. The Division of Student Affairs shall certify candidate eligibility in accordance with this Constitution and applicable College policies.
- d. Upon certification, the Election Commissioner shall notify candidates of their placement on the ballot. Candidates shall submit a candidate statement by the deadline established by the Election Commissioner.

Article V.4 Voting

Voting shall be conducted electronically through Bulldog Connection or any successor platform approved by Brooklyn College and the Office of Student Activities and Involvement Leadership (SAIL).

Article V.5 Election Commissioner

- a. The Executive Board shall appoint an Election Commissioner prior to the commencement of the election process. The Election Commissioner shall be a currently enrolled graduate student in good standing and shall not be a candidate in the election being administered.
- b. The Election Commissioner shall oversee the election process from the opening of nominations through the submission of election results to CWERC for review and certification.
- c. The Election Commissioner shall administer elections in a fair, impartial, and transparent manner and shall ensure compliance with this Constitution, the Bylaws of the Graduate Student Organization, and applicable College policies.
- d. The Election Commissioner may work with the College-Wide Election Review Committee (CWERC) or other appropriate College bodies to review election procedures, address election concerns, and ensure the integrity of the election process.

Article V.6 Certification of Results

Election results shall be reviewed by the Recording Secretary of the College-Wide Election Review Committee (CWERC), who shall provide preliminary election results. Final certification of election results shall be made by CWERC in accordance with applicable College policies and procedures. No candidate for office shall participate in the review or certification of election results for an election in which they are a candidate.

Article V.7 Appeals

Any student who believes they have been adversely affected by a decision relating to the election process may appeal such decision through the procedures established by Brooklyn College.

Article V.8 Special Elections

The Executive Board shall determine the procedures for any special election authorized under this Constitution, subject to applicable College policies and oversight by the Election Commissioner.

Article V.9 Uncontested Special Elections

If only one eligible candidate has been nominated for a position in a special election, that candidate may be declared elected without the necessity of conducting a contested election.

The Recording Secretary of CWERC shall provide preliminary election results, and final certification shall be made by CWERC in accordance with applicable College policies and procedures.

Article V.10 Other Elected Representatives

University Student Senate Delegates and Alternates, Graduate Student Disciplinary Committee representatives, and any other elected representatives required by Brooklyn College or the City University of New York shall be elected in accordance with the procedures established by this Constitution and any applicable College or University policies. Such representatives shall serve terms and fulfill responsibilities as prescribed by the applicable governing body.

In the event of a vacancy, resignation, graduation, loss of eligibility, or inability to serve, the Executive Board may appoint an eligible graduate student to serve the remainder of the term or may authorize a special election, as appropriate. Representatives shall maintain any eligibility requirements established by Brooklyn College, the City University of New York, or the applicable governing body.

ARTICLE VI | EXECUTIVE BOARD

Article VI.1 Composition

The Executive Board shall consist of the President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer/Business Manager of the Graduate Student Organization.

Article VI.2 Voting

All decisions of the Executive Board shall be determined by a majority vote of the members present and voting, unless otherwise provided by this Constitution. Each Executive Board member shall have one vote.

Article VI.3 Authority

The Executive Board shall serve as the executive and administrative body of the Graduate Student Organization and shall be responsible for implementing this Constitution, administering the affairs of the Organization, and carrying out actions authorized by the Graduate Student Organization.

Article VI.4 Financial Authority

- a. The Executive Board shall review, approve, and oversee the operating budget of the Graduate Student Organization.

- b. The Executive Board shall have the authority to approve budget allocations, disbursements, transfers, modifications, and other financial actions consistent with approved budgets and applicable College policies.
- c. The Executive Board shall review and approve funding requests submitted by active Graduate Student clubs.

Article VI.5 Organizational Oversight

- a. The Executive Board shall have the authority to recognize active Graduate Student clubs in accordance with this Constitution, the Bylaws, and applicable College policies.
- b. The Executive Board may take appropriate administrative action to address violations of this Constitution, the Bylaws, or applicable College policies, subject to any procedures established by the Graduate Student Organization and Brooklyn College.

Article VI.6 Personnel

The Executive Board shall have the authority to hire, supervise, and establish operational guidelines for personnel employed by or serving the Graduate Student Organization, consistent with applicable College policies and budgetary limitations.

Article VI.7 Elastic Clause

- a. The Executive Board shall have the authority to interpret this Constitution, the Bylaws of the Graduate Student Organization, and the governing documents of active Graduate Student clubs when questions of interpretation arise.
- b. The Executive Board shall have the authority to take actions necessary for the effective administration, continuity, and operation of the Graduate Student Organization, provided such actions are consistent with this Constitution and applicable College and University policies.
- c. This clause shall be construed to provide reasonable flexibility in the administration and interpretation of this Constitution while preserving its intent and purpose.

Article VI.8 Bylaws

The Executive Board may adopt, amend, suspend, or repeal Bylaws consistent with this Constitution and applicable College and University policies. No Bylaw shall conflict with or supersede any provision of this Constitution.

Article VI.9 Parliamentary Authority

Meetings and voting of the Executive Board and Executive Council shall be conducted in accordance with the most current edition of Robert's Rules of Order, except where such rules conflict with this Constitution, the Bylaws of the Graduate Student Organization, or applicable College or University policies.

ARTICLE VII | DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Article VII.1 General Duties

All elected officers are charged with representing the Graduate Student Organization at its public functions and promoting its purposes.

The President shall:

- a. Perform all administrative duties usually associated with an efficient office and maintain public contact.
- b. Supervise the Graduate Student Organization Executive Office and ensure its proper functioning.
- c. Preside at meetings of the Executive Board and Executive Council.
- d. Serve as the official spokesperson and representative of the Graduate Student Organization.
- e. Serve as the primary liaison between the Graduate Student Organization and Brooklyn College administration.
- f. Prepare agendas for Executive Board and Executive Council meetings with the assistance of the other officers and participants.
- g. Enforce this Constitution, the Bylaws, and policies, procedures, and mandates established by the Executive Board and Executive Council.
- h. Call special meetings of the Executive Council when circumstances warrant or when requested in accordance with this Constitution or the Bylaws.
- i. Appoint committee members for University-wide, divisional, and College-wide committees.
- j. Co-sign financial documents for processing along with the Treasurer/Business Manager as required by College policy.
- k. Recommend, appoint, reappoint, and hire positions in accordance with applicable College policies and with the approval of the Executive Board.
- l. Shall have the tie-breaking vote at meetings over which the President presides.
- m. Perform such other duties as may be assigned by this Constitution, the Bylaws, or the Executive Board.

Article VII.3 Vice President

The Vice President shall:

- a. Assist the President in the performance of their duties.
- b. Perform the duties of the President in the President's absence.
- c. Assume any additional duties assigned by the President or the Executive Board.
- d. Assist with the oversight of active Graduate Student clubs.
- e. Serve as a member of committees established by the Executive Board or Executive Council unless otherwise provided.
- f. Assist with the appointment and coordination of graduate student representatives to College-wide, University-wide, and other committees.

Article VII.4 Treasurer/Business Manager

The Treasurer/Business Manager shall:

- a. Be responsible for co-signing expenditures, financial documents, and financial commitments of the Graduate Student Organization as required by College policy.

- b. Submit a proposed budget after consultation with the Executive Board and in accordance with applicable College procedures.
- c. Maintain records of all receipts, expenditures, and financial transactions during their term of office.
- d. Collect and present budget requests submitted by active Graduate Student clubs in accordance with established procedures.
- e. Review funding requests and provide recommendations to the Executive Board.
- f. Submit financial records and documentation when required by Central Depository or other appropriate College offices.
- g. Be responsible for financial matters relating to contracts, purchases, equipment, guarantees, and other responsibilities consistent with the duties of a business manager.
- h. Present financial reports to the Executive Board, Executive Council, and appropriate College offices as required.
- i. Ensure compliance with applicable financial policies, procedures, and regulations.
- j. Perform such other duties as may be assigned by this Constitution, the Bylaws, or the Executive Board.

Article VII.5 Secretary

The Secretary shall:

- a. Be responsible for maintaining all records, files, correspondence, and reports of the Graduate Student Organization.
- b. Maintain records of Executive Council representatives, committee appointments, and officers of active Graduate Student clubs.
- c. Take, organize, maintain, and distribute the minutes of meetings of the Executive Board and Executive Council.
- d. Prepare and distribute notices, agendas, and official communications as required.
- e. Maintain attendance records and official organizational files.
- f. Certify official records and actions of the Graduate Student Organization when required.
- g. Assist in the day-to-day administration and operation of the Executive Office.
- h. Perform such other duties as may be assigned by this Constitution, the Bylaws, or the Executive Board.

Article VII.6 General Responsibilities

In addition to the prescribed duties detailed above, all officers shall be familiar with procedures relating to the disbursement of funds, payment for services rendered on behalf of the Graduate Student Organization, and the purchase of goods or equipment. During the temporary absence or unavailability of the President or Treasurer/Business Manager, another Executive Board officer may assist in initiating or processing approved financial transactions through Central Depository, provided that all required approvals have been obtained, all necessary documentation has been completed, and the expenditure has been authorized by the Executive Board in accordance with applicable College policies and procedures.

ARTICLE VIII | GRADUATE STUDENT CLUBS

Article VIII.1 Recognition

Graduate Student Clubs shall be recognized in accordance with the policies and procedures established by Brooklyn College and the Office of Student Activities, Involvement, and Leadership (SAIL).

Graduate Student Clubs seeking funding, representation, or participation in the Graduate Student Organization shall also be recognized by the Executive Board in accordance with this Constitution, the Bylaws, and applicable College policies. Recognition by the Graduate Student Organization shall not supersede or replace recognition requirements established by Brooklyn College or SAIL.

Article VIII.2 Governing Documents

Each Graduate Student Club shall maintain governing documents consistent with this Constitution and applicable College and University policies.

Article VIII.3 Club Responsibilities

- a. Graduate Student Clubs shall maintain their own records and financial documentation and shall comply with all applicable College, University, SAIL, Central Depository, and Graduate Student Organization policies and procedures.
- b. Graduate Student Clubs receiving funding from the Graduate Student Organization shall comply with all applicable budgetary, reporting, training, and financial requirements established by the Graduate Student Organization, SAIL, Central Depository, and Brooklyn College
- c. A constitution, indicating the specific mission of the group, its constituency, the rules and regulations set forth by the elected officers must be submitted to GSO for approval, then filed with the appropriate office along with other necessary documents.
- d. Failure to comply with applicable policies, misuse of funds, failure to satisfy reporting requirements, misrepresentation of expenditures, financial mismanagement, or other acts of misconduct may result in corrective action by the Executive Board. No corrective action shall be imposed without reasonable notice and an opportunity for the affected Graduate Student Club to respond.
- e. Responsible for promoting their events to as broad an audience as possible

Article VIII.4 Club Officers and Elections

Officers of Graduate Student Clubs shall be elected in accordance with their governing documents and applicable College policies. Election results and officer information shall be provided to appropriate offices as required.

Article VIII.5 Active Status

For purposes of this Constitution, an Active Graduate Student Club shall be a club that maintains recognition and good standing with Brooklyn College, SAIL, and the Graduate Student Organization.

Article VIII.6 Representation

Active Graduate Student Clubs shall be eligible for representation in the Executive Council and such other rights and privileges as may be provided by this Constitution, the Bylaws, and applicable College policies.

ARTICLE IX | EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Article IX.1 Composition

The Executive Council shall consist of the members of the Executive Board and Active Graduate Student Clubs. The President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer of each Active Graduate Student Club shall be members of the Executive Council and shall be informed of Executive Council business and activities. Each Active Graduate Student Club shall be entitled to one vote in the Executive Council. The club shall determine which of its officers may represent the club and cast its vote. Each member of the Executive Board shall be entitled to one vote.

Article IX.2 Purpose

The Executive Council shall serve as a representative body of the graduate student community and provide a forum for communication, consultation, and collaboration between the Executive Board and Active Graduate Student Clubs.

Article IX.3 Authority

The Executive Council shall have the authority to consider and vote upon matters specifically assigned to it by this Constitution and such other matters as may be referred to it by the Executive Board.

Article IX.4 Meetings

The Executive Council shall meet on an as-needed basis and may be convened by the GSO President, the Executive Board, or as otherwise provided by this Constitution. Meetings may be conducted in person, virtually, or through other methods consistent with applicable College policies.

Article IX.5 Voting

- a. Unless otherwise provided by this Constitution, each member of the Executive Board shall be entitled to one vote.
- b. Each Active Graduate Student Club shall be entitled to one vote.
- c. Votes of the Executive Council may be through a method authorized by the Executive Board that allows Executive Council members to participate and cast their votes.
- d. Matters specifically assigned to the Executive Council under this Constitution shall be decided in accordance with the voting requirements established for those matters.

Article IX.6 Procedures

The Executive Council may establish procedures governing its meetings and operations, provided such procedures are consistent with this Constitution, the Bylaws, and applicable College and University policies.

Article IX.7 Quorum

A quorum for an Executive Council meeting shall consist of at least two members of the Executive Board and one representative from each of at least three Active Graduate Student Clubs. No official business shall be introduced, considered, or acted upon in the absence of a quorum, except for adjournment or scheduling of a future meeting.

ARTICLE X | VACANCIES, SUCCESSION, AND APPOINTMENTS

Article X.1 Vacancies

A vacancy shall exist whenever a position is unfilled or an elected officer resigns, graduates, becomes ineligible to serve, is removed from office, declines to serve, or is otherwise unable to complete their term.

Article X.2 Presidential Succession

In the event of a vacancy in the office of President, the following officers shall succeed to the office of President, in the order listed below, and serve for the remainder of the unexpired term:

1. Vice President
2. Treasurer/Business Manager
3. Secretary

Article X.3 Vacancies in Other Offices

In the event of a vacancy in the office of Vice President, Secretary, or Treasurer/Business Manager, the Executive Board may appoint an eligible graduate student to serve for the remainder of the unexpired term. Appointments shall require the affirmative vote of a majority of the filled Executive Board positions and shall be subject to any eligibility requirements established by this Constitution.

Article X.4 Special Elections

The Executive Board may, when deemed necessary and in the best interests of the Graduate Student Organization, authorize a special election to fill a vacant office.

Article X.5 Continuity of Operations

No vacancy shall prevent the Executive Board from carrying out its duties and responsibilities, provided that at least two officers remain in office.

ARTICLE XI | BUDGET AND FINANCE

Article XI.1 Fiscal Responsibility

The Graduate Student Organization shall manage and administer its funds in accordance with this Constitution, the Bylaws, and all applicable policies and procedures of Brooklyn College, the City University of New York, SAIL, Central Depository, and any other applicable governing authority.

Article XI.2 Annual Budget

The Executive Board shall prepare, review, and approve the annual operating budget of the Graduate Student Organization. The annual budget shall be administered in a fiscally responsible manner and in accordance with applicable College and University policies.

Article XI.3 Graduate Student Club Funding

Active Graduate Student Clubs may request funding from the Graduate Student Organization in accordance with procedures established by the Executive Board. Funding requests shall be reviewed and considered based upon available resources, fiscal responsibility, organizational needs, and the anticipated benefit to the graduate student community. The Executive Board shall have the authority to approve, deny, modify, suspend, or revoke funding allocations in accordance with this Constitution, the Bylaws, and applicable College policies.

Article XI.4 Reserve Funds

Reserve funds shall be maintained for emergencies, extraordinary circumstances, major strategic initiatives, and unforeseen expenditures that cannot reasonably be funded through the annual operating budget.

- a. Any proposed withdrawal, transfer, or expenditure from reserve funds shall include a written justification detailing the purpose, amount requested, and anticipated benefit to the graduate student community.
- b. Any withdrawal, transfer, or expenditure from reserve funds shall require a recorded roll-call vote of the Executive Board.
- c. The vote of each Executive Board member shall be documented by name and maintained as part of the permanent records of the Graduate Student Organization.
- d. Approval of a reserve fund withdrawal shall require the affirmative vote of all filled Executive Board positions.
- e. The President's tie-breaking authority shall not apply to reserve fund withdrawals.
- f. Documentation supporting the reserve fund request, including the vote tally and justification for the withdrawal, shall be maintained as part of the official records of the Graduate Student Organization.

Article XI.5 Financial Records and Reporting

The Treasurer/Business Manager shall maintain accurate financial records of all receipts, expenditures, allocations, transfers, and other financial transactions of the Graduate Student Organization. Financial records shall be maintained in accordance with applicable College and University policies and shall be made available to appropriate College officials upon request.

Article XI.6 Compliance

Failure by a Graduate Student Club or officer to comply with applicable financial policies, reporting requirements, or procedures may result in corrective action, including suspension of funding, freezing of allocated funds, reduction of future funding, referral to appropriate College offices, or other actions authorized by this Constitution, the Bylaws, and applicable College policies.

ARTICLE XII | SUSPENSION AND REMOVAL

Article XII.1 Initiation of Proceedings

Any Executive Board officer, Active Graduate Student Club, or appropriate College official may submit a written complaint alleging that an Executive Board officer has violated this Constitution, the Bylaws, applicable College policies, or has otherwise engaged in misconduct. Such complaints shall be submitted to the Executive Board and

may be reviewed in consultation with the Division of Student Affairs, SAIL, or other appropriate College officials.

Article XII.2 Grounds for Suspension or Removal

An Executive Board officer may be suspended or removed for:

- a. Violation of this Constitution or the Bylaws;
- b. Misuse of Graduate Student Organization funds or resources;
- c. Conduct resulting in disciplinary action by Brooklyn College or the City University of New York, where such disciplinary action materially affects the officer's ability to fulfill the duties of office, violates applicable College or University policies governing student leadership, or otherwise warrants removal following the procedures established in this Article. Such disciplinary action shall not, by itself, automatically disqualify an otherwise eligible student from seeking or holding office unless required by applicable College or University policy.
- d. Neglect of duties, misconduct, or actions contrary to the interests of the Graduate Student Organization.

Article XII.3 Review Process

Prior to any suspension or removal vote, the officer shall receive reasonable notice of the allegations and an opportunity to respond. The Executive Board may consult with the Division of Student Affairs, SAIL, or other appropriate College officials during its review.

Article XII.4 Removal of Executive Board Officers

Following review under this Article, an Executive Board officer may be removed from office upon the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the Executive Council members participating in a duly noticed vote. The officer subject to removal shall not vote on matters relating to their removal.

Article XII.5 Temporary Suspension

When circumstances warrant immediate action, the Executive Board may temporarily suspend an officer pending review and final action under this Article.

Article XII.6 Failure to Perform Duties

An Executive Board officer who repeatedly fails to perform the duties of their office, attend meetings, respond to official communications, or otherwise fulfill the responsibilities of their position may be subject to review by the Executive Board.

- a. The concerns giving rise to the review shall be documented in writing and provided to the officer prior to any action being taken.
- b. The Division of Student Affairs and/or designee shall be notified of the review and provided with relevant documentation.

- c. Following reasonable notice and an opportunity to respond, the remaining members of the Executive Board may, by majority vote, declare the office vacant if they determine that the officer is unwilling or unable to effectively perform the duties of the position.
- d. The vote and basis for the determination shall be recorded in the official records of the Graduate Student Organization.
- e. Any vacancy created under this section shall be filled in accordance with Article X of this Constitution.

Article XII.7 Loss of Eligibility

An Executive Board officer who no longer satisfies the eligibility requirements established by this Constitution, Brooklyn College, or the City University of New York shall automatically vacate their office upon verification of such ineligibility. The Executive Board and the Division of Student Affairs and/or designee shall be notified of the vacancy. Any vacancy created under this section shall be filled in accordance with this Article.

ARTICLE XIII | REFERENDA

Article XIII.1 Authorization

The Executive Board, with 2/3 approval of the Executive Council, may authorize a referendum to be placed on the ballot.

Article XIII.2 Voting

Referenda shall be submitted to the graduate student body through a duly conducted election or vote.

Article XIII.3 Approval

A referendum shall be approved by a majority of the votes cast, provided that participation equals or exceeds ten percent (10%) of the graduate student body.

Article XIII.4 Administration

Referenda shall be conducted in accordance with applicable College policies and election procedures established by the Election Commissioner.

ARTICLE XIV | SPECIAL POWERS

Article XIV.1 Emergency Authority

In times of crisis, emergency, organizational incapacity, or other extraordinary circumstances that threaten the ability of the Graduate Student Organization to effectively conduct its business and fulfill its responsibilities, the Executive Board may take such actions as are reasonably necessary to ensure the continued operation of the Graduate Student Organization. Such actions may include conducting business, making necessary decisions, administering elections, approving budget modifications, and taking other actions otherwise required for the continuity of operations.

Article XIV.2 Consultation and Oversight

Whenever practicable, the Executive Board shall consult with the Executive Council, if constituted, and appropriate College officials prior to exercising emergency authority under this Article. Actions taken under this Article shall be reported to the Executive Council at the earliest reasonable opportunity following its constitution or reactivation.

ARTICLE XV | AMENDMENTS

Article XV.1 Proposal of Amendments

Amendments to this Constitution may be proposed by the Executive Board, any member of the Executive Council, or an Active Graduate Student Club. Proposed amendments shall be submitted in writing to the Executive Board and distributed to the Executive Council.

Article XV.2 Notice

The Executive Council shall be provided reasonable notice of any proposed constitutional amendment prior to a vote. No amendment shall be voted upon at the same meeting or proceeding at which it is first introduced.

Article XV.3 Approval

Amendments to this Constitution shall require the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the Executive Council members participating in a duly noticed vote.

Article XV.4 Effective Date

Unless otherwise specified within the amendment, an approved amendment shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

ARTICLE XVI | RATIFICATION

Article XVI.1 Adoption

This Constitution shall become effective upon its adoption by the Executive Board and any required approval by Brooklyn College, the City University of New York, or other applicable authorities.

Article XVI.2 Supersession

Upon its effective date, this Constitution shall supersede and replace all prior Constitutions, amendments, and inconsistent governing documents of the Graduate Student Organization.

Article XVI.3 Continuity

All actions, appointments, elections, recognitions, policies, funding allocations, and decisions made under prior governing documents shall remain valid unless modified, repealed, or otherwise affected by this Constitution.

Article XVI.4 Transitional Authority

Consistent with the Special Powers and authorities existing at the time of adoption, the Executive Board may take such actions as are reasonably necessary to implement this Constitution, resolve inconsistencies, establish procedures, and ensure continuity of operations during the transition to the governance structure established herein.

CERTIFICATION OF ADOPTION

We, the undersigned officers of the Graduate Student Organization of Brooklyn College, hereby certify that this Constitution was duly adopted on the 5th day of June, **2026** and shall take effect in accordance with Article XVI of this Constitution.

Luis Lucero Tacuri

Luis Lucero Tacuri
GSO President 2025–2026

Sydney Capobianco

Sydney Capobianco
GSO Vice President, 2025–2026

Gabriela Rodriguez

Gabriela Rodriguez
GSO Treasurer, 2025-2026

Adriana Rodriguez

Adriana Rodriguez
GSO Secretary, 2025-2026

Acknowledged by:

Date: