

Constitution

of the

Association of Graduate Economics Students

at the

University of Connecticut

Approved October 10, 2003

Article I. Name

The name of the organization shall be the Association of Graduate Economics Students, hereafter referred to as "AGES".

Article II. Purpose

- Section 1. To represent the graduate students of the Department of Economics within the Department and the University as a whole.
- Section 2. To provide a structure wherein information concerning the graduate program and graduate life can be centrally collected and disseminated.
- Section 3. To provide an organized mechanism whereby suggestions for the improvement of the graduate program can be offered, analyzed and transmitted to the Department.
- Section 4. To provide a collective source from which the faculty can obtain student opinions on questions of mutual interest.
- Section 5. To serve as a liaison between the graduate students, the Department and the University as a whole.
- Section 6. To enhance and encourage cooperation and association between the graduate students within the Department.

Article III. Membership

- Section 1. Eligibility
 - A. Any person currently enrolled in a M.A. or Ph.D. program in the Department of Economics at the University of Connecticut shall be considered a current member of AGES.

- B. Any person who has graduated from the Department of Economics at the University of Connecticut with either a M.A. or Ph.D. degree shall be considered an alumni member of AGES.

Article IV. Voting Privileges

Section 1. All current members of AGES, as established in Article III, shall have complete voting privileges.

Section 2. All alumni members of AGES, as established in Article III, shall have limited voting privileges, restricted to those issues that directly pertain to alumni members. In any case of ambiguity, a three-fifths majority of the Officers of AGES shall have the authority to determine the voting eligibility of alumni.

Article V. Officers

Section 1. Eligibility

- A. Any current member of AGES who is enrolled in a M.A. or Ph.D. program in the Department of Economics at the University of Connecticut, who can serve the full term, shall be eligible to run for any office, with the exception of the First Year Representative.
- B. Any current member of AGES who is enrolled in the first year of their M.A. or Ph.D. program in the Department of Economics at the University of Connecticut, shall be eligible to run for the office of First Year Representative

Section 2. Terms of Office

- A. All terms of office, with the exception of the First Year Representative, shall begin at the last meeting of the academic year and last until the last meeting of the next academic year.
- B. The term of the First Year Representative shall begin immediately after the election as outlined in Section 4 and shall last until the election of a new First Year Representative.

Section 3. Titles and Duties

- A. President
 - i. The President shall be the Chief Executive Officer of AGES.

- ii. The President shall represent AGES and its interests to the Department, other University organizations, and non-University organizations.
 - iii. The President shall oversee all activities of AGES.
 - iv. The President shall chair meetings of the Officers.
 - v. The President shall insure that proper registration of AGES is performed with the Department of Campus Activities immediately upon taking office.
- B. Vice-President
- i. The Vice-President shall perform the functions of the President during the absence or incapacity of the President or when delegated by the President to do so.
 - ii. The Vice-President shall assume the office of President automatically upon a vacancy in that office.
 - iii. The Vice-President shall chair general meetings of AGES.
- C. Secretary
- i. The Secretary shall be the recording officer of AGES and shall supervise the maintenance of all AGES records.
 - ii. The Secretary shall be responsible for recording minutes of all announced meetings of AGES Officers and Members.
- D. Treasurer
- i. The Treasurer shall be the Chief Financial Officer of AGES.
 - ii. The Treasurer shall prepare all financial statements necessary to comply with University, State, and Federal regulations.
 - iii. The Treasurer shall work with the Senator to obtain funding and reimbursement from the Graduate Student Senate of the University of Connecticut.
 - iv. The Treasurer shall determine means of fund raising and shall have the duties to supervise any fund raising events.
- E. Faculty Liaison

- i. The Faculty Liaison shall be the primary contact between the faculty and AGES.
- ii. The Faculty Liaison shall represent AGES at faculty meetings and on faculty committees.
- iii. The Faculty Liaison shall report back to the Officers and Members of AGES, in a timely and appropriate manner, any information obtained from meetings with faculty.

F. Senator

- i. The Senator shall attend all meetings of the Graduate Student Senate.
- ii. The Senator shall report back to the Officers and Members of AGES, in a timely and appropriate manner, any issues that pertain to graduate life and graduate education within the University.
- iii. The Senator shall be the primary contact regarding issues pertaining to graduate students at the University level.
- iv. The Senator shall work with the Treasurer to obtain funding and reimbursement from the Graduate Student Senate of the University of Connecticut.
- v. In the event that the Department is entitled to more than one Senate seat of the Graduate Student Senate, the other seat(s) shall be filled by appointment of a three-fifths majority vote of the Officers.

G. Activities Coordinator

- i. The Activities Coordinator shall organize the social events of AGES.

H. First Year Representative

- i. The First Year Representative shall be the advocate to AGES Officers for issues relating to first year students.

Section 4. Elections

- A. Elections shall be performed by secret ballot.

- B. Elections for all Officers, except the First Year Representative, shall take place every academic year for two days during the final full week of the month of April.
- C. Election for the First Year Representative shall take place every academic year for two days during the first full week of the month of October. Only First Year Students may vote for the First Year Representative.
- D. Whenever possible, elections shall be overseen by the Graduate Program Coordinator.

Section 5. Vacancies

- A. If any vacancies of an Officer position shall exist, with the exception of President, a three-fifths majority vote of the existing Officers shall appoint a replacement for that position.
- B. If a vacancy exists as a result of a Recall, a new election shall take place within ten days of the recall election. This election shall follow the procedures outlined in Section 4 of this Article.

Section 6. Recall

- A. Recall shall be for failure to perform one's duties, violation of the Constitution, or a violation of the Student Conduct Code of the University. All such decisions are at the discretion of the members of AGES.
- B. A recall election may be initiated by a three-fifths majority vote of the Officers of AGES.
- C. A recall election may be initiated by a collection of valid signatures of one-quarter the total graduate student population in the Department of Economics.
- D. If a recall election has been called, a two-thirds closed ballot majority vote of the members of AGES shall be required for impeachment.

Article VI. Faculty Advisor

- Section 1. A faculty advisor shall be chosen by a three-fifths majority vote of the AGES Officers, using the guidelines established by the Department of Campus Activities.

Section 2. At no time shall the faculty advisor be the Department Head or the Director of Graduate Studies.

Section 3. In the event that the faculty advisor becomes the Department Head or the Director of Graduate Studies, a new faculty advisor should be chosen no later than the following academic year.

Article VII. Meetings

Section 1. A scheduled meeting of AGES Officers shall take place at least once per month during each of the fall and spring semesters.

Section 2. A scheduled meeting of AGES members shall take place at least twice per semester during each of the fall and spring semesters, with the final meeting of the spring semester occurring after elections are held.

Article VIII. Storage of Records

AGES records shall be stored in the designated location within the office of the Graduate Program Coordinator.

Article IX. Amendments

Section 1. Amendments to the Constitution must be proposed to the members of AGES at least one week prior to any voting action.

Section 2. Amendments shall be ratified by a two-thirds majority of present voting members of AGES.

Article X. Enabling Clause

This constitution shall take effect with the approval of two-thirds of the present voting members.

Article XI. Dissolution of Association

In the event that AGES should dissolve, all of the funds should go to the Graduate Program of the Department of Economics.