Resolution: G.B. 14 (F) 7
Sponsor(s): The Rules and Administration Committee

Approval of Changes to the Internal Rules of Procedure of the Graduate Student Assembly

Summary: A bill approving the changes to the Internal Rules of Procedure of the Graduate Student Assembly

WHEREAS The Committee on Constitutional Clarity and Reform was tasked with correcting the governing documents of the Graduate Student Assembly to make them consistent and enforceable; and,

WHEREAS The Internal Rules of Procedure were not consistent with other governing documents and needed to be rewritten to facilitate the efficient operation of the Graduate Student Assembly; and,

WHEREAS The Constitutional Reform Committee has Dutifully reviewed and updated the Internal Rules of Procedure to meet the above stated goals; then,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT The phrase “Vice President for Internal Affairs” become “Vice President” throughout the Internal Rules of Procedure; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT The Internal Rules of Procedure uniformly refer to “unfinished business” as “old business”; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Art I, Sec 1 read “Chair shall refer to the Vice President unless otherwise specified. In the absence of the Vice President, a Chair shall be chosen upon the recommendation of the President and the approval of the assembly. The Chair shall preside over the Assembly but may not vote unless the Assembly is equally divided.”; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Art I, Sec 3 read “Agenda. The agenda shall be set seventy-two (72) hours before each meeting and must
include a call to order, roll call, opportunities to report from both regular and ex-officio officers as well as representatives and committees, consideration of old and new business, open forum, announcements, and any other business deemed necessary by the Assembly, its officers, or Sponsors. The order of business shall reflect the best use of the time of its members and may be amended by a regular motion and majority vote.”; and,

22. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT**

Art I, Sec 7B be deleted; and

24. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT**

Art II, Sec 1 read “All legislation shall be filed with the Administrative Director via email by seventy-two (72) hours prior to introduction at an Assembly meeting.”; and,

27. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT**

Art II, Sec 1A be rewritten to read “Each resolution or bill shall…”; and,

29. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT**

Art II, Sec 1B include “this shall take the form of a resolution immediately considered old business.”; and,

31. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT**

Art II, Sec 1C be deleted; and,

33. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT**

Art II, Sec 3 be re-written to indicate that the agenda shall be prepared and released seventy-two (72) hours prior to Assembly meetings; and,

35. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT**

Art II, Sec 7 be struck from the Internal Rules of Procedure; and,

37. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT**

Art II, Sec 8 be rewritten as follows “A. Each member is permitted to speak three times on one topic for three (3) minutes each time.

   B. Each member is permitted to speak twice on any single amendment for one (1) minute each
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT time.

C. Debate shall not exceed fifteen (15) minutes for a question and ten (10) minutes for an amendment.

D. Debate shall alternate between the Yea side and the Nay side. Debate must be equal in time and number of speakers. If one side possesses more speakers than the other, that side shall be recognized in the order in which they rise to peak until the opposing side has exhausted their last speaker, then debate shall conclude.

E. Members may yield either all or none of their speaking time to members and non-members alike during debate. Once the person to whom the floor was yielded finishes speaking, the original member may use any unfinished time.

F. Debate may be extended or limited with a two-thirds (⅔) affirmative rising vote. The motion to extend or limit debate requires a second and must include the amount of time the debate shall be extended or limited.”; and,

Art II, Secs 9A and 9C reflect that a Hand, Ballot, or Roll Call vote are acceptable forms of voting on final forms of bills, resolutions, or appointments; and,

Art II, Sec 9B be deleted; and,

Art III be deleted; and,

“Section 2. Suspension. At a regular or special meeting, the Assembly may suspend any individual rule from the Rules of Order or Special Rules of Order as found in this document for the duration of the meeting by an affirmative two-thirds (⅔) vote of the voting members present.” be added to Art V of the Internal Rules of Procedure; and,

All articles and section of the Internal Rules of Procedure be renumbered consistent with the changes
63 BE IT FURTHER
64 RESOLVED THAT

made in this bill; and,

This legislation be filed with the Office of the Dean of
Students; and,

The relevant departments across the University of
Texas at Austin be notified of these changes.