Tufts English Graduate Organization Constitution

Article I:
Name

Section 1.
The name of this organization shall be the Tufts English Graduate Organization (TEGO).

Article II:
Purpose

Section 1.
TEGO shall function in order to represent formally the body of graduate students in English to
the English Department and to Tufts University at large, and also to organize and support the
English graduate students' interests, concerns, and projects during the academic year. TEGO
shall serve primarily as an academic organization, concerning itself with issues such as
curriculum changes, Oral exams, graduate student stipends and fellowships, the annual Tufts
Graduate Humanities Conference, faculty hiring committees, departmental colloquia, etc. TEGO
shall also organize and fund several social events each year at its discretion.

Article III:
Membership

Section 1.
Membership in TEGO shall be automatically granted to any current graduate student in the Tufts
University English Department. There shall be no registration or membership process by which
TEGO recognizes which English graduate students are members and which are not. All general
meetings and activities related to TEGO are open to all English graduate students.

Section 2.
All members of TEGO are granted equal voting rights to be exercised in elections or for
proposals requiring member votes.

Section 3.
All members of TEGO are eligible to run for and hold an officer position within the
organization.

Article IV.
Meetings

Section 1.
General meetings shall be held once per month during the academic year at the discretion of the
co-presidents. The schedule shall be decided by the co-presidents based on the graduate seminar
course schedule and the availability of the officers. Meetings shall be scheduled and advertised
to all TEGO members no less than one week prior to the meeting date.
Section 2.
An emergency meeting may be held in addition to monthly general meeting at the discretion of the co-presidents. Emergency meetings must be advertised to all TEGO members no fewer than 48 hours prior to the meeting’s stated time.

Article V:
Officers and Elections

Section 1.
The officers of the organization shall be made up of current members and include two co-presidents, a GSC representative, two first-year writing liaisons, an outreach coordinator, and two graduate students to represent TEGO on the faculty committee.

Section 2.
Elections for officer positions shall take place between the March and April general meetings each year. The co-presidents will circulate a nomination ballot for no less than one week, followed by a ballot for the general election for no less than one week.

Section 2a.
In order for a member’s name to appear on the general election ballot, that member must have been nominated for a given position by no fewer than two members, been the only member nominated for a given position, or be one of several members to have received only one nomination for a position with no members having received at least two nominations for that position.

Section 3.
No member may run for nor hold more than one officer position at one time.

Section 4.
If a member must abdicate an officer position or is successfully impeached by the other members, an emergency election shall be held at the discretion of the co-presidents for that position for the remainder of the previous officer’s term.

Section 4a.
If an abdication is necessitated by the results of a general election (e.g. an officer holding a two-year position is elected to another position and abdicated the former position), only those previously nominated for the open position in the general election shall be eligible for the emergency election.

Section 4b.
If the abdication is not related to election results, or if there are no standing nominees from the election, a new nominating ballot shall be circulated ahead of the emergency election ballot at the discretion of the co-presidents. The nomination and election window shall not surpass ten days total.
Section 5.
A member elected to an officer position may choose to accept or decline the position. If the member declines, an emergency election between any remaining nominees will be held for that position.

Section 6.
The TEGO officer position descriptions (including term length and duties) may be found in the TEGO Handbook, which is publicly available.

Article VI:
Amendments

Section 1.
Any member of TEGO may propose an amendment to the TEGO Constitution by making a motion during a general meeting and submitting the proposed amendment in writing to the co-presidents. The proposed amendment shall be read aloud and discussed openly in the meeting.

Section 2.
After discussion at the meeting, the proposer of the amendment shall revise the proposal to reflect the consensus of those in attendance and submit the revised proposal to the co-presidents. The proposal must then be circulated to all TEGO members for one week, after which all members will be invited to vote to either accept or decline it with a simple majority of votes cast.

Section 2a.
If an amendment is accepted, the co-presidents must amend the TEGO Constitution within two weeks of the voting period, and the revised Constitution must be circulated to all members.

Article VII:
Impeachment

Section 1.
If any member of TEGO feels that one of the elected officers has failed to do the duties of their position satisfactorily, that member may make a motion to impeach that officer. In that motion, the member must express a clear reason for impeachment including any evidence or examples of ways in which the officer has failed to fulfill the duties of the position. Additionally, the member must be willing to submit a written request of impeachment to the co-presidents.

Section 2.
If the above requirements are met such that impeachment proceedings move forward, one member shall volunteer to be a non-voting party. That member will then circulate both the written statement submitted by the member calling for impeachment as well as a written rebuttal submitted by the officer. Voting shall take place within one week of the meeting.