

THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT ASSOCIATION

GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE
SENATE SESSION GS09

SENATE BILL NO. GS09-11

AS INTRODUCED

A resolution adopting a statement of purpose for the graduate student senate of the university of Oklahoma.

WHEREAS The graduate student senate currently posses standing rules of order, by laws, and a graduate students bill of rights. However, we lack a self-descriptive statement that explains or defines our purpose for the benefit of interested parties. This document aims to provide a portion of this purpose.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE:

SECTION 1. This resolution shall be known as the “A statement of purpose for the graduate student senate of the University of Oklahoma adopted spring 2009”.

SECTION 2. The following shall be adopted:

The Graduate Student Senate (GSS) is the upper house⁽¹⁾ of the legislative branch of the University of Oklahoma Student Association (UOSA). We are a body that consists of representatives from the law school and graduate departments⁽²⁾. We recognize that our constituents are a unique group with multiple roles as students, teaching assistants, research assistants, and staff; that being the case, their needs overlap but at the same time are distinctly different from any of the aforementioned groups. We, the GSS, are their face and voice.

We are a body of deliberation; as such our contribution to student government is one of thoughtful, farsighted and healthy debate. Our role is to bring a sagacious deliberate approach to student government. However, we are a non-professional legislative body⁽³⁾ and our forum instead acts by bringing together the experiences of our disparate disciplines to enact laws and perform our functions. We do this for the benefit of the graduate and law students in particular, and the student body as a whole.

Our first responsibility is to our constituents whose needs we regularly evaluate and strive to meet. On their behalf, we work in collaboration with our various departments, UOSA, graduate

college, university administration, board of regents, and other organizations to enhance both the scholastic and personal experiences of all graduate and law students while at the University of Oklahoma.

- 1) UOSA constitution article: 3 section: 1
- 2) UOSA constitution article: 3 section: 3, 1
- 3) Superior court opinion Harrison vs. GSS section IV

SECTION 3. This resolution shall be formally adopted upon passage.

SECTION 4. Copies of this resolution shall be made available on the GSS website and sent to
The Oklahoma daily
UOSA Student president and Congress
The dean of the Graduate College
President David Boren

Author: Michael Ukpong
Co-author: Internal affairs committee GSS

Submitted on a motion by: motion to consent senator 22, seconded senator 83

Action taken by Senate: passed by consent 2/22/2009

Verified by Chair of Senate: _____ Date: _____