



Council Resolution 08 (CR08) Proposed Changes to Student Organization Membership Policies



1. **WHEREAS**, the UC San Diego Student Conduct Standards (SCS) is reviewed periodically and updated based upon suggestions from various constituencies;
2. **WHEREAS**, the Center for Student Involvement (CSI), has proposed changes to “SCS Registered Student Organizations” (referenced as SCS-RSO_p, for the proposed document, SCS-RSO for the current document), Section II, regarding the registration and membership of student organizations (Appendix I);
3. **WHEREAS**, the proposed changes greatly restrict the ability of non-students (student, hereby defined as a registered UC San Diego student) to participate in an organizational, administrative, or otherwise instrumental roles in student organizations;
4. **WHEREAS**, the proposed SCS-RSO_p.II.B.1 and SCS-RSO_p.II.B.2, restricting officer positions and voting for officers, is already contained in current SCS-RSO.II.B (Appendix II);
5. **WHEREAS**, the existing sections above guarantee that students retain sufficient control over the direction of their organization, without over-proscribing how their internal structure or business is conducted;
6. **WHEREAS**, the proposed SCS-RSO_p.II.B.8, excluding non-students from conducting business with the University on behalf of the Student Organization, is reminiscent of the existing section SCS-RSO.II.C, restricting such business to principal members, and redundant with the proposed changes to SCS-RSO_p.II.D(1), which has introduced the change that all principal members must be students;
7. **WHEREAS**, the CSI mission statement is “Through engagement in student organizations, events, Greek Life, communication and leadership programs, resources for military affiliated students, and community service initiatives, students will find a place of belonging and personal growth, and will become experienced citizens and leaders” and the campus vision is “We will align our efforts to be a student-centered, research-focused, service-oriented public university.”;



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8. **WHEREAS**, allowing non-students, along with students, to participate in leadership and/or instrumental roles in their organizations, pragmatically allows student organizations to function more efficiently, consistently, and effectively, while developing “experienced citizens and leaders” by connecting students with the greater UCSD community and working with individuals of diverse social standing based on common interest;
 9. **WHEREAS**, many graduate student organizations have non-student members integral to their function;
 10. **WHEREAS**, a key component of “student centered” is giving students the opportunity and support to develop their own social structure and culture;
 11. **WHEREAS**, students being part of and engaging closely with the greater UCSD and San Diego communities, is important to development of both individual students and the UCSD community relationship.
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1. **BE IT RESOLVED**, the Graduate Student Association of UC San Diego (GSAUCSD), unequivocally believes that students have the right to determine how they develop their social and cultural framework and how their organizations operate with minimal interference;
 2. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, supporting such self-determination is instrumental to student development and the vision of UC San Diego;
 3. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, GSAUCSD firmly opposes changes to University policies, *including the proposed changes to the Student Conduct Standards*, which unduly interfere with the ability of students to exercise this right;
 4. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that GSAUCSD recognizes the practical need to manage University resources and non-student participation, but believes that this should be done by the volition of students, rather than at the level of University policy;



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5. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that in support of this practicality, students, via their student governments and entities to which these governments have delegated fiscal responsibility, may develop their own criteria for restricting financial support to events or organizations, based upon what they feel serves students best;
6. **BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, GSAUCSD recognizes that to pragmatically ensure students can maintain control over the direction of their organizations, while minimally interfering with the way they function or delegate responsibilities, the GSAUCSD does not oppose the current policy of restricting constitutionally defined officer positions or votes to select these officers to solely student membership (SCS-RSO.II.B) or a policy similar to the newly proposed changes (SCS-RSOp.II.D) to require a majority of principal members be students or provide a mechanism for principal members to recognize others to conduct business on with the University on their behalf.

**Voted and Passed in GSA Council Meeting #10: 3/7/16 (Y/N/A - 36/1/3)
Certified: Lindsay M. Freeman, 3/9/16**

Appendix I: Proposed language of SCS-RSOp.II (only sections which contain changes)

[A registered student organization is an organization whose membership is limited to UC San Diego students and](#) attains recognition through the Center for Student Involvement by complying with this policy and related procedures. Registered student organizations are considered independent entities and are not official units of UC San Diego. As such, UC San Diego is not responsible for the acts or omissions of registered student organizations and/or any members/persons acting on behalf of those student organizations.

A. An organization must register electronically with the Center for Student Involvement to become a UC San Diego registered student organization. Prospective and current registered student organizations must complete the registration process and include a copy of its constitution and/or governing documents along with other required



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documents. The registration process can be found at <https://students.ucsd.edu/student-life/involvement/organizations/register/index.html>. Changes to the information required for registration must be updated in the Student Organization Registration System within 15 business days of the date that the change occurred.

B. The organization, at its discretion, may permit faculty, staff, and community members to attend its events and participate in its activities and meetings. Non-students cannot:

1. Hold office in the organization.
2. Preside, officiate, vote, and/or make or second motions at any meeting of the organization.
3. Table or distribute materials on the campus grounds for the sole purpose of promoting the organization, with the exception that others may assist student members in working at tables or distributing materials on the campus grounds in a location where a student member is at all times present and responsible for tabling or distribution.
4. With the student organization permission, faculty and staff from a university department related to the student organization may distribute information and materials about the organization including while the department is tabling or distributing materials on campus.
5. Be in charge of planning and/or the on-site management of any event of the organization;
6. Solicit funds on behalf of the organization without the written approval of the organization;
7. Serve as the spokesperson or representative for the organization;
8. Conduct business with UCSD or University, (e.g. calendar events, reserve facilities, access budget numbers or spend student organization funds).

C. Members of citywide chapters of student organizations with a recognized national affiliation may hold office, preside, officiate, vote, and/or or make or second motions at organization meetings. Citywide chapters must be in good standing with the national organization and UC San Diego.

D. All principal members of a registered student organization at UC San Diego must be registered UC San Diego students. Only principal members of registered student organizations that are currently registered and in good standing with the Center for Student Involvement are authorized to officially conduct business with the University (e.g., hosting events, reserving facilities, managing and spending organizational funds). Good standing means that the registered student organization has completed all



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registration requirements, is not under a current student conduct suspension, and/or has not been deregistered due to previous student conduct matters.

Appendix II: Current language of SCS-RSO.II

A registered student organization is an organization whose membership is predominantly comprised of UC San Diego students, faculty, and staff and attains recognition through the Center for Student Involvement by complying with this policy and related procedures. Registered student organizations are considered independent entities and are not official units of UC San Diego. As such, UC San Diego is not responsible for the acts or omissions of registered student organizations and/or any members/persons acting on behalf of those student organizations.

A. An organization must register electronically with the Center for Student Involvement to become a UC San Diego registered student organization. Prospective and current registered student organizations must complete the registration process and include a copy of its constitution and/or governing documents along with other required documents. The registration process can be found at <https://students.ucsd.edu/student-life/involvement/organizations/register/index.html>. Changes to the information required for registration must be updated in the Student Organization Registration System within 15 business days of the date that the change occurred.

B. Only registered UC San Diego students may hold office in a registered student organization and vote in elections for the selection of the organization's officers.

C. Only principal members of registered student organizations that are currently registered and in good standing with the Center for Student Involvement are authorized to officially conduct business with the University (e.g., hosting events, reserving facilities, managing and spending organizational funds). Good standing means that the registered student organization has completed all registration requirements, is not under a current student conduct suspension, and/or has not been deregistered due to previous student conduct matters.

D. By signing the Principal Member Agreement, principal members of a registered student organization agree to be personally responsible for the organization's debts and all other financial liabilities. If a principal member chooses not to accept this responsibility, he/she must request to be deleted as a principal member.

E. To maintain status as a registered student organization, the organization is required to meet at least once each academic year.

F. A registered student organization lending its name, membership, property, or financial support to an activity will be responsible for the conduct of all members and



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guests attending that activity. The organization's officers or representatives listed on the event registration form are responsible for the planning and organization of all activities sponsored or co-sponsored by their organization. At least one Principal Member must be in attendance at all activities sponsored or co-sponsored by their organizations.