Section 0 – Definitions and Acronyms

Graduate Student Council (GSC)
External Affairs Board (EAB)
National Association of Graduate-Professional Students (NAGPS)
Ivy Plus Graduate Student Government Group (Ivy+; consists of the 8 Ivy League schools and MIT)

Section 1 – Subcommittees Purposes and Rules

Section 1.1 – Federal Affairs Subcommittee

1.1.1 Name
a. The full name of the Subcommittee shall be:

Graduate Student Council External Affairs Board
Subcommittee on Federal Affairs

b. The short name “GSC EAB Federal Affairs” shall be suitable for general use with any audience so long as the acronyms “GSC” and “EAB” are either defined or well understood in context. The shorter name “Federal Affairs” shall be suitable for correspondence internal to MIT GSC.

1.1.2. Leadership
a. The Subcommittee shall be led and managed by two Chairs.
b. The title “Chair of the Graduate Student Council External Affairs Board Subcommittee on Federal Affairs” shall be suitable for use by each Chair of the Subcommittee. The short title “GSC Federal Affairs Chair” shall be suitable for general use by each Chair with any audience so long as the acronym “GSC” is either defined or well understood in context.
c. The election of the Chairs shall be carried out by members of the Subcommittee. There is no limit on how many times a graduate student can be re-elected as Chair. As required by the GSC Bylaws, the Chairs shall be presented to the External Affairs Board after the election of the Vice-Chair and shall have a term ending at the same time the term of the GSC Executive Officers ends.
1.1.3 Responsibilities

a. The Subcommittee shall be responsible for all communications and collaboration, including advocacy on behalf of MIT graduate students and the GSC, with the federal government of the United States.
b. The Subcommittee shall be responsible for maintaining suitable awareness and understanding of legislation, regulation, administrative actions, and all other activities of the federal government of the United States that may be relevant to the positions of the GSC on any issue or may be relevant to the welfare of MIT graduate students.
c. The Subcommittee shall be responsible for providing information on activities of the federal government of the United States to the members of the Board, to the Chairs of other Subcommittees of the Board, and to the members of the GSC General Council when requested by the External Affairs Chair or External Affairs Vice-Chair.
d. The Subcommittee shall be responsible for carrying out any activities or advocacy relating to the activities of the federal government of the United States that are specified by the External Affairs Board. The Board may charge the Subcommittee with additional tasks to be carried out, specify the duration of the task, additional authorities of the Subcommittee to act on behalf of the Board, and set a budget for any expenses related to new tasks.
e. The Chairs of the Subcommittee shall be responsible for reporting all funds expended in the course of activities of the Subcommittee to the External Affairs Chair or their designee.
f. The Chairs of the Subcommittee shall be responsible for informing the External Affairs Chair, External Affairs Vice-Chair, and President in a timely manner of all advocacy activities being carried out by the Subcommittee.

1.1.4. Authorities

a. The Subcommittee shall have the authority to advocate for the position of the GSC on any issue relevant to the federal government of the United States enumerated on a GSC Platform Document or a Resolution of the External Affairs Board.
b. The Subcommittee Chair, and any other member of the Subcommittee, have no authority to act on behalf of the External Affairs Board unless they have been charged to do so by a vote of the External Affairs Board or the GSC General Council.

1.1.5. Membership

a. Any member of the graduate student body is encouraged to join the Subcommittee and may carry out work on behalf of it. There is no limitation on how many members may join the Subcommittee. Any active member of the Subcommittee shall be reported to the External Affairs Board.
1.1.6. Timeline
a. The Subcommittee shall remain active indefinitely or until the Board decides to dissolve it.

Section 1.2 – State and Local Affairs Subcommittee

1.2.1. Name
a. The full name of the Subcommittee shall be:

Graduate Student Council External Affairs Board
Subcommittee on State and Local Affairs

b. The short name “GSC EAB State and Local Affairs" shall be suitable for general use with any audience so long as the acronyms “GSC" and “EAB" are either defined or well understood in context. The shorter name “State and Local Affairs" shall be suitable for correspondence internal to MIT GSC.

1.2.2. Leadership
a. The Subcommittee shall be led and managed by two Chairs.
b. The title “Chair of the Graduate Student Council External Affairs Board Subcommittee on State and Local Affairs” shall be suitable for use by each Chair of the Subcommittee. The short titles “GSC State Affairs Chair” and “GSC Local Affairs Chair” shall be suitable for general use by each Chair with contextually appropriate audiences so long as the acronym “GSC” is either defined or well understood in context.
c. The election of the Chairs shall be carried out by members of the Subcommittee. There is no limit on how many times a graduate student can be re-elected as Chair. As required by the GSC Bylaws, the Chairs shall be presented to the External Affairs Board after the election of the Vice-Chair and shall have a term ending at the same time the term of the GSC Executive Officers ends.

1.2.3. Responsibilities
a. The Subcommittee shall be responsible for all communications and collaboration, including advocacy on behalf of MIT graduate students and the GSC, with relevant state and local governments. This includes, but is not limited to, the municipal governments of Boston, Cambridge, and Somerville, and the government of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.
b. The Subcommittee shall be responsible for maintaining suitable awareness and understanding of legislation, regulation, administrative actions, and all other activities of state and local governments that may be relevant to the positions of the GSC on any issue or may be relevant to the welfare of MIT graduate students.
c. The Subcommittee shall be responsible for providing information on activities of the relevant state and local governments to the members of the Board, to the Chairs of other Subcommittees of the Board, and to the members of the GSC General Council when requested by the External Affairs Chair or External Affairs Vice-Chair.

d. The Subcommittee shall be responsible for carrying out any activities or advocacy relating to the activities of the relevant state and local governments that are specified by the External Affairs Board. The Board may charge the Subcommittee with additional tasks to be carried out, specify the duration of the task, additional authorities of the Subcommittee to act on behalf of the Board, and set a budget for any expenses related to new tasks.

e. The Chairs of the Subcommittee shall be responsible for reporting all funds expended in the course of activities of the Subcommittee to the External Affairs Chair or their designee.

f. The Chairs of the Subcommittee shall be responsible for informing the External Affairs Chair, External Affairs Vice-Chair, and President in a timely manner of all advocacy activities being carried out by the Subcommittee.

1.2.4. Authorities

a. The Subcommittee shall have the authority to advocate for the position of the GSC on any issue relevant to the state and local governments enumerated on a GSC Platform Document or a Resolution of the External Affairs Board.

b. The Subcommittee Chair, and any other member of the Subcommittee, have no authority to act on behalf of the External Affairs Board, unless they have been charged to do so by a vote of the External Affairs Board or the GSC General Council.

1.2.5. Membership

a. Any member of the graduate student body is encouraged to join the Subcommittee and may carry out work on behalf of it. There is no limitation on how many members may join the Subcommittee. Any active member of the Subcommittee shall be reported to the External Affairs Board.

1.2.6. Timeline

a. The Subcommittee shall remain active indefinitely or until the Board decides to dissolve it.
Section 1.3 – University Liaison Subcommittee

1.3.1. Name

a. The full name of the Subcommittee shall be:

Graduate Student Council External Affairs Board
Subcommittee of the University Liaison

b. The short name “GSC University Liaison Subcommittee” shall be suitable for general use with any audience so long as the acronym “GSC” is either defined or well understood in context. The shorter name “University Liaison” shall be suitable for correspondence internal to MIT GSC.

1.3.2. Leadership

a. The Subcommittee shall be led and managed by one Chair.

b. The title “Graduate Student Council University Liaison” shall be suitable for use by the Chair of the Subcommittee. The short title and “GSC University Liaison” shall be suitable for general use by the Chair with any audience so long as the acronym “GSC” is either defined or well understood in context. In addition, the short titles “GSC NAGPS Liaison” and “GSC Ivy+ Liaison,” or any combination of short titles (such as “GSC University/NAGPS Liaison”) may be used when explicitly interfacing with members of the relevant association.

c. The election of the Chair shall be carried out by members of the Subcommittee. There is no limit on how many times a graduate student can be re-elected as Chair. As required by the GSC Bylaws, the Chair shall be presented to the External Affairs Board after the election of the Vice-Chair and shall have a term ending at the same time the term of the GSC Executive Officers ends.

1.3.3. Responsibilities

a. The Subcommittee shall be responsible for all communications and collaboration, including actions on behalf of MIT graduate students and the GSC, with other graduate student governments or larger associations of graduate student governments (including but not limited to NAGPS and Ivy+).

b. The Subcommittee shall be responsible for maintaining suitable awareness and understanding of all activities of NAGPS and Ivy+, and shall investigate any activities that may be relevant to the positions of the GSC on any issue or may be relevant to the welfare of MIT graduate students.
c. The Subcommittee shall be responsible for providing information on activities of NAGPS, Ivy+, and other graduate student governments to the members of the Board, to the Chairs of other Subcommittees of the Board, to the members of the GSC General Council, and to the GSC Officer Team when requested by the External Affairs Chair or External Affairs Vice-Chair.

d. The Subcommittee shall be responsible for carrying out logistics and coordination relating to the activities of NAGPS and Ivy+, including the NAGPS Leadership Summit, NAGPS National Conference, NAGPS Northeast Regional Conference, NAGPS Legislative Action Days, and Ivy+ Annual Summit. Delegates to all such activities involving travel will be selected in a process involving an open application. The Board may charge the Subcommittee with additional tasks to be carried out, specify the duration of the task, additional authorities of the Subcommittee to act on behalf of the Board, and set a budget for any expenses related to new tasks.

e. The Subcommittee shall not take sole responsibility for the execution of campaigns and initiatives developed by NAGPS and Ivy+ that significantly overlap with the core operations of the External Affairs Board or the operations of other Subcommittees of the Board. In these cases, the Subcommittee of the University Liaison shall provide logistical and secondary support to the primary group, and shall provide that group with updates from NAGPS and Ivy+ as they are received.

f. The Chair of the Subcommittee shall be responsible for reporting all funds expended in the course of activities of the Subcommittee to the External Affairs Chair or their designee.

1.3.4. Authorities

a. The Subcommittee Chair, and any other member of the Subcommittee, have no authority to act on behalf of the External Affairs Board, unless they have been charged to do so by a vote of the External Affairs Board or the GSC General Council.

1.3.5. Membership

a. Delegates selected to attend any trip organized by the Subcommittee shall be members of the Subcommittee. Any active member of the Subcommittee shall be reported to the External Affairs Board.

1.3.6. Timeline

a. The Subcommittee shall remain active indefinitely or until the Board decides to dissolve it.
Section 1.4 – Public Outreach Subcommittee

1.4.1. Name

a. The full name of the Subcommittee shall be:

Graduate Student Council External Affairs Board
Subcommittee on Public Outreach

b. The short name “GSC EAB Public Outreach” shall be suitable for general use with any audience so long as the acronyms “GSC” and “EAB” are either defined or well understood in context. The shorter name “Public Outreach” shall be suitable for correspondence internal to MIT GSC.

1.4.2. Leadership

a. The Subcommittee shall be led and managed by two Chairs.

b. The title “Chair of the Graduate Student Council External Affairs Board Subcommittee on Public Outreach” shall be suitable for use by each Chair of the Subcommittee. The short title “GSC Public Outreach Chair” shall be suitable for general use by each Chair with contextually appropriate audiences so long as the acronym “GSC” is either defined or well understood in context.

c. The election of the Chairs shall be carried out by members of the Subcommittee. There is no limit on how many times a graduate student can be re-elected as Chair. As required by the GSC Bylaws, the Chairs shall be presented to the External Affairs Board after the election of the Vice-Chair and shall have a term ending at the same time the term of the GSC Executive Officers ends.

1.4.3. Responsibilities

a. The Subcommittee shall be responsible for publicizing the public benefits of scientific research to Americans without scientific training, either directly or in collaboration with other organizations and individuals.

b. The Subcommittee shall be responsible for communications and collaborations with relevant local, national, and university-based media organizations.

c. The Subcommittee shall be responsible for conducting research on public sentiment, public communication strategies and other relevant fields necessary for effectively communicating to audiences without scientific training and benchmarking the results of its efforts.
d. The Chairs shall be responsible for providing information on the activities of the Subcommittee to the members of the Board and to the members of the GSC General Council when requested by the External Affairs Chair or External Affairs Vice-Chair.

e. The Chairs of the Subcommittee shall be responsible for reporting all funds expended in the course of activities of the Subcommittee to the External Affairs Chair or their designee.

f. The Chairs of the Subcommittee shall be responsible for informing the External Affairs Chair, External Affairs Vice-Chair, and President in a timely manner of all advocacy activities being carried out by the Subcommittee.

1.4.4. Authorities

a. The Subcommittee shall have the authority to advocate for the position of the GSC on any issue relevant to the general public enumerated on a GSC Platform Document, a Resolution of the GSC General Council, or a Resolution of the External Affairs Board.

b. The Subcommittee Chair, and any other member of the Subcommittee, have no authority to act on behalf of the External Affairs Board unless they have been charged to do so by a vote of the External Affairs Board or the GSC General Council.

1.4.5. Membership

a. Any member of the graduate student body is encouraged to join the Subcommittee and may carry out work on behalf of it. There is no limitation on how many members may join the Subcommittee. Any active member of the Subcommittee shall be reported to the External Affairs Board.

1.4.6. Timeline

a. The Subcommittee shall remain active indefinitely or until the Board decides to dissolve it.

Section 1.5 – Development Subcommittees

1.5.1. Name

a. The full name of the Subcommittee shall be:

Graduate Student Council External Affairs Board
Subcommittee on Development
b. The short name “GSC EAB Development Subcommittee” shall be suitable for general use with any audience so long as the acronyms “GSC” and “EAB” are either defined or well understood in context.

1.5.2. Mission

a. The mission of the Subcommittee on Development is to, in collaboration with other subcommittees of EAB, develop new advocacy methods and opportunities, to document and evaluate established advocacy methods and opportunities, and to engage with all kinds of policy stakeholders, including our constituents, graduate students at MIT, in these tasks.

1.5.3. Leadership

a. The Subcommittee shall be led and managed by two Chairs. One of them shall be the Vice Chair of the Board, and the second Chair shall be selected according to Section 3c.

b. The title “Chair of the Graduate Student Council External Affairs Board Subcommittee on Development” shall be suitable for use by the Chairs of the Subcommittee. The short title “GSC External Affairs Development Chair” shall be suitable for general use by the Chairs with any audience so long as the acronym “GSC” is either defined or well understood in context.

c. The selection of the chair-nominee shall be carried out by members of the outgoing Board. There is no limit on how many times a graduate student can be re-elected as Chair. As required by the GSC Bylaws, the chair-nominee shall be presented to the External Affairs Board after the election of the Vice-Chair and shall have a term ending at the same time the term of the GSC Executive Officers ends.

1.5.4. Responsibilities

a. The Subcommittee shall assist the Board and all other subcommittees with developing, documenting, and evaluating the methods used to engage with different types of organizations and policy stakeholders.

b. The Subcommittee shall, as needed and to the best of its ability, inform any External Affairs contributors about established methods for advocacy and engagement when asked to do so.

c. The Subcommittee shall provide information to graduate students at MIT about the activities and advocacy methods of the External Affairs Board.

d. The Subcommittee shall provide information to graduate students at MIT about methods and opportunities they can use, individually or in groups, to engage with different types of organizations and policy stakeholders.

e. The Subcommittee shall, to the best of its ability, maintain contact information and channels that can be used to communicate with previous External Affairs Board members.
f. The Subcommittee shall liaise with the MIT Alumni Association on behalf of the External Affairs Board and in coordination with the GSC Officers and shall, to the best of its ability, maintain contact information and channels that can be used to communicate with MIT alumni who are interested to support the activities and advocacy efforts of the Board.

g. The Subcommittee shall assist in the preparation of any formal publications of original academic research conducted by the Board, in collaboration with other relevant Board members.

h. The Board may charge the Subcommittee with additional task(s) to be carried out, specifying the duration of the task(s), additional authorities of the Subcommittee to act on behalf of the Board, and a budget for any expenses related to new task(s).

i. The Chairs of the Subcommittee shall be responsible for reporting all funds expended in the course of activities of the Subcommittee to the External Affairs Chair or their designee.

j. The Chairs of the Subcommittee shall be responsible for informing the External Affairs Chair, External Affairs Vice-Chair, and President in a timely manner of all activities being carried out by the Subcommittee.

1.5.5. Authorities

a. The Chairs of the Subcommittee, and any other member of the Subcommittee, have no authority to act on behalf of the External Affairs Board unless they have been charged to do so by a vote of the External Affairs Board or the GSC General Council.

1.5.6. Membership

a. Any member of the graduate student body is encouraged to join the Subcommittee and may carry out work on behalf of it. There is no limitation on how many members may join the Subcommittee. Any active member of the Subcommittee shall be reported to the External Affairs Board.

1.5.7. Timeline

a. The Subcommittee shall remain active indefinitely or until the Board decides to dissolve it.
Section 2 – Rules of Order of the External Affairs Board

Section 2.1 – Requirements for documents to be transmitted by External Affairs contributors to external contacts

2.1.1. All documents, without exception, that are being considered for transmission with the intent to include one or more statements of the positions of the EAB, the GSC, or the graduate student body shall first be submitted to the Chair, Vice-Chair, and GSC President to determine whether the document actually includes any statements of policy positions and whether any of the conditions below apply.

If any of these three officers believe one or more statements of policy positions are present in the document and one or more of the conditions below is met, the document shall require a Resolution of Approval to be passed by the Board to authorize transmission.

1. Conditions based upon content of the document(s):
   1. The document contains a policy position that is not explicitly and unambiguously covered by a Platform Document.
   2. The document contains a significant amount of new language that has not been previously approved by the Board or applies a new interpretation of an existing Platform Document item.
   3. It is unclear if the policy position(s) stated in the document and relevant Platform Document item(s) align well.
   4. There are conflicting features in any legislation or government action in question.
      1. This can occur when the GSC supports some parts, but opposes other parts of the legislation or action.
   5. The document makes a statement about particular named elected official(s).
   6. The document contains a message that can be construed as negative or controversial.
   7. The document makes a statement or declaration about internal MIT policies.

2. Conditions based upon the intended audience(s) of the document(s):
   1. The audience is not intended to be constrained and potentially includes all members of the general public.
   2. The document is intended to be transmitted directly to offices, departments, or officials of MIT.
   3. Documents may require a Resolution of Approval at the discretion of any of the officers listed in Section 1 even if they do not meet any of the other conditions listed above.
2.1.2. A Resolution of Approval is the instrument used to demonstrate that a document or set of documents that meet or might meet one or more of the conditions established in Section 1 has been considered and approved by the Board.

10. A Resolution of Approval approves the full and final text of a document or set of documents and authorizes transmission of said document(s) to specified recipients within a specified timeframe.

11. A Resolution of Approval shall also include the relevant language from GSC Platform Documents that supports the positions taken in the proposed document or set of documents.

12. A Resolution of Approval shall no longer apply if the text, the recipients, or timeframe of transmission is altered.

2.1.3. All documents, without exception, that are transmitted with the intent to include one or more statements of the positions of the EAB, the GSC, or the graduate student body must be reported to the full Board at the time of their transmission.

2.1.4. The Rule shall remain in effect indefinitely or until the Board decides to repeal it.

2.1.5. The Guidelines for Implementation of the Rule shall describe current preferred practice for implementing the Rule, and can be updated at any time with the approval of the Chair, Vice-Chair, and GSC President.

Section 2.2 – Procedure for consideration of a Resolution of Approval via electronic mail

2.2.1. Voting members of the External Affairs Board shall have the option to introduce via electronic mail a motion to pass a Resolution of Approval.

2.2.2. The motion shall be broadcast to an electronic mailing list containing all voting members of the Board.

2.2.3. The document in question shall be attached to the broadcast. Each motion to pass a Resolution of Approval by electronic mail shall have no more than one attached document.

2.2.4. The audience to which the document will be transmitted shall be specified in the motion.
2.2.5. The motion shall include the title “Resolution of Approval” in the subject line.

2.2.6. The motion shall pass if a simple majority of the individuals holding a vote on the Board at the time the motion was broadcast reply to the motion with a statement of agreement or approval. Replies must be broadcast to all voting members of the Board.

2.2.7. The motion shall expire 72 hours after it was introduced. The motion shall not pass if fewer than a simple majority of Board members have replied with statements of agreement or approval by this time.

2.2.8. The Member of the Board who introduced the motion, or the External Affairs Chair or Vice-Chair, shall announce the final vote tally to the Members of the Board at the conclusion of the vote.

2.2.9. The External Affairs Chair and GSC President have the opportunity to place the Resolution of Approval under Review. As such, no action may be taken on the resolution until the end of a 48 hour waiting period beginning after the expiration of the motion as specified in Section 7, or until both the Chair and the President waive the requirement for this waiting period. The Chair and President have the option to waive the requirement for this waiting period at any time after the Motion is introduced.

2.2.10. The Rule shall remain in effect indefinitely or until the Board decides to repeal it.

2.2.11. The Guidelines for Implementation of the Rule shall describe current preferred practice for implementing the Rule, and can be updated at any time with the approval of the Chair, Vice-Chair, and GSC President.

Section 2.3 - Procedure for consideration of any motion via electronic mail

2.3.1. Voting members of the External Affairs Board shall have the option to introduce via electronic mail any motion.

2.3.2. The motion shall be broadcast to an electronic mailing list containing all voting members of the Board.

2.3.3. The motion shall include any relevant documents as attachments.

2.3.4. The motion shall include the title “EAB Motion” in the subject line.
2.3.5. The motion shall pass if a simple majority, or other applicable higher threshold, of the individuals holding a vote on the Board at the time the motion was broadcast reply to the motion with a statement of agreement or approval. Replies must be broadcast to all voting members of the Board.

2.3.6. The motion shall expire 72 hours after it was introduced. The motion shall not pass if fewer than a simple majority, or other applicable higher threshold, of members of the relevant body have replied with statements of agreement or approval by this time.

2.3.7. The Member of the Board who introduced the motion, or the External Affairs Chair or Vice-Chair, shall announce the final vote tally to the Members of the Board at the conclusion of the vote.

2.3.8. Rules may be made for specific types of motions, which then supersede any stipulations specified in this section.