

# Constitution of the POSTECH Graduate Student Association

Established Mar. 1, 2011

Amended Dec. 19, 2013

## Chapter 1 General Provisions

**Article 1 (Name)** The name of the organization shall be the POSTECH Graduate Student Association (hereinafter referred to as “Association”) at Pohang University of Science and Technology (hereinafter referred to as “University”).

**Article 2 (Purpose)** The Association aims to ensure autonomy in academic research, mediate the diverse interests of its members, and promote the rights of graduate students through democratic self-governing activities.

**Article 3 (Membership)** The members of the Association shall be current students enrolled in the master’s, doctoral, or MS/PhD integrated programs at the University. Students on leave of absence, however, shall not be included.

**Article 4 (Rights and Duties of Members)** The rights and duties of the Association members shall be as follows:

1. The members of the Association shall have the right to vote and to run for an election, and shall also have the right and duty to participate in the activities of the Association.
2. The members of the Association shall have the right to learn about the general operations of the Association, make a request for the disclosure of information, and offer their opinions.

**Article 5 (Composition)** To accomplish the purpose set forth in Article 2, the Association shall comprise the Graduate Student Assembly, Representative Management Committee, the president and vice President of the Association, Graduate Dormitory Council, and International Student Association.

## Chapter 2 Graduate Student Assembly

**Article 6 (Status)** The Association shall have the Graduate Student Assembly as its highest legislative body.

**Article 7 (Composition)** The Graduate Student Assembly shall consist of all members of the Association.

**Article 8 (Authority)** ① The Graduate Student Assembly shall have authority over the following matters:

1. Deliberation and resolutions on the basic direction of the Association’s activities
2. Proposals for and resolutions on amendments to the Constitution
3. Review of work plans and results reports submitted by its subordinate organizations
4. Review and approval of proposed budgets and financial reports submitted by its subordinate organizations
5. Deliberation on important matters pertaining to academic operations and campus life
6. Deliberation on important matters raised in relation to elections and operations of each self-governing group
7. Right to impeach the president and vice president of the Association
8. Deliberation and resolutions on other matters relating to the existence of the Association and important matters pertaining to the whole graduate student body

② The duties and authority of the Graduate Student Assembly may be entrusted to the Representative Management Committee.

**Article 9 (Chairman)** ① The president of the Association shall serve as the chairman of the Graduate Student Assembly.

② In the absence of the president of the Association, the vice president of the Association shall act on his/her behalf, and in the absence of both, one person elected by the Representative Management Committee

shall act as chairman.

③ In handling a case specified in Article 8, Item 7, however, one person elected by the Representative Management Committee shall act as chairman.

**Article 10 (Calling a Meeting)** When a request for a meeting is made by the Representative Management Committee or through a petition jointly signed by a minimum of 100 members, the president and vice president of the Association must fulfill their obligation to convene the Graduate Student Assembly within 10 days of the receipt of the request. For urgent matters, however, the president and vice president of the Association may call a meeting on their own initiative.

**Article 11 (Public Notice)** ① The chairman of the Graduate Student Assembly must publicly call a meeting by providing a public notice as to the date, time, and place of the meeting as well as its agenda by seven days prior to the scheduled meeting date.

② No agenda items that have not been publicly notified in accordance with Clause 1 can be deliberated or resolved by the Graduate Student Assembly.

**Article 12 (Resolution)** If the Graduate Student Assembly is held in the form of a meeting, a resolution shall be passed with a quorum of at least one-fifth of the members and the assent of at least two-thirds of those members in attendance. If the Graduate Student Assembly is held in the form of a plenary student vote, a resolution shall require participation in the voting by at least one-fifth of the members and an affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of the vote. If the Graduate Student Assembly does not meet the minimum requirement for a meeting or a vote to proceed, the Representative Management Committee shall deliberate and make a resolution on the agenda items instead.

### Chapter 3 Representative Management Committee

**Article 13 (Status)** The Representative Management Committee is a legislative body that has been entrusted with the authority to make a decision by the Graduate Student Assembly. It is composed of representatives from various self-governing student groups and academic departments, and discusses various matters within the University.

**Article 14 (Composition)** ① The Representative Management Committee shall be organized as follows:

1. Presidents of departmental graduate student councils. A departmental graduate student council whose president is absent, however, may be represented instead by an interim representative who has earned a written endorsement from at least 10 people.
2. President and vice president of the Association
3. President of the Graduate Dormitory Council (one person)
4. President of the International Student Association (one person)
5. Members of the executive body besides presidents of departmental graduate student councils

② The following persons may attend the Representative Management Committee meetings:

1. Members of the Advisory Committee
2. Those who have expressed an intent to attend and obtained approval from the chairman of the committee.

**Article 15 (Registration of Representatives)** ① The president or interim representative of each departmental graduate student council must register at the first Representative Management Committee meeting held in each semester by completing a prescribed form; any representatives who fail to register at the first meeting of a semester shall be excluded from the Representative Management Committee for the semester.

② A representative in the previous Clause may be changed, or the job can be delegated to someone else with the completion of a prescribed form.

**Article 16 (Chairman)** ① The president of the Association shall also serve as the chairman of the Representative Management Committee.

② In the absence of the president of the Association, the vice president of the Association shall act on his/her behalf, and in the absence of both, one person elected by the Representative Management Committee shall act as chairman.

③ For impeachment of the president and vice president of the Association or to handle an urgent matter, an

interim chairman may be elected through a vote of the Representative Management Committee.

**Article 17 (Duties and Rights)** The Representative Management Committee shall have the following duties and rights.

1. Right to request that a meeting of the Graduate Student Assembly be held
2. Duties entrusted by the Assembly

**Article 18 (Calling a Meeting)** ① The meetings of the Representative Management Committee shall be divided into regular meetings and extraordinary meetings.

② The president of the Association shall be obligated to hold a regular meeting every month. In the absence of the president of Association, the vice president of the Association shall become an acting chairman and fulfill the duty of holding regular meetings.

③ If the Association fails to elect a president and a vice president, an interim chairman shall be elected by the Representative Management Committee within 30 days from the commencement of a semester.

④ An extraordinary meeting shall be called by the chairman when requested by at least one-fifth of the registered representatives or the chairman himself/herself.

⑤ If the president and vice president of the Association are impeached, an extraordinary meeting must be held to elect an interim chairman within three days of the impeachment.

**Article 19 (Public Notice)** ① The chairman of the Representative Management Committee must publicly call a meeting by providing a public notice as to the date, time, and place of the meeting as well as its agenda by three days before the scheduled meeting date.

② No agenda items that have not been publicly notified in accordance with Clause 1 can be deliberated or resolved by the Representative Management Committee.

**Article 20 (Resolution)** ① One-third of the registered members shall constitute a quorum at a Representative Management Committee meeting, and a resolution shall require a majority vote in the affirmative by those in attendance. .

② A resolution on matters pertaining to the impeachment of the president and vice president of the Association, however, shall require a quorum of two-thirds of registered representatives and an affirmative vote by at least two-thirds of those in attendance.

**Article 21 (Special Committee)** A special committee may be created under the Representative Management Committee through a resolution.

## **Chapter 4 President and Vice President of the Association**

**Article 22 (Status)** ① The president of the Association shall represent the Association and serve as the chairman of the Graduate Student Assembly and the Representative Management Committee.

② The vice president of the Association shall assist the president of the Association and act on his/her behalf in his/her absence.

③ In the event the president and vice president have been impeached or are incapable of performing their duties as a result of an accident, one person elected by the Representative Management Committee shall act on their behalf.

**Article 23 (Term)** The term of office of the president and vice president of the Association shall run from March 1 each year through the last day of February the following year.

**Article 24 (Duties and Authority)** ① The president and vice president of the Association may request that a Graduate Student Assembly meeting or a Representative Management Committee meeting be held; the president of the Association shall also serve as the chairman of both the Graduate Student Assembly and the Representative Management Committee.

② The president of the Association shall execute matters falling into the scope of the duties of the president of the Association in relation to a resolution passed by the Representative Management Committee.

③ The president and vice president of the Association may create a special committee to investigate, review and resolve important issues pertaining to the Association and the entire student population, following a deliberation by the Representative Management Committee.

④ Others matters falling into the scope of the duties of the president of the Association

**Article 25 (Guarantee of Position)** The president and vice president of the Association shall not lose their positions unless they lose member eligibility or an impeachment resolution is passed against them pursuant to this Constitution.

## **Chapter 5 The Executive Body**

**Article 26 (Status)** The executive body is the administering branch of the Association.

**Article 27 (Composition)** The executive body shall comprise the president of the Association, the vice president of the Association, and the student heads and officers of the Association's administrative departments.

**Article 28 (Committees)** The executive body may establish administrative departments for smooth implementation of various tasks needed to accomplish the purpose of the Association as well as committees for completion of special tasks, pursuant to its internal implementation rules.

**Article 29 (Duties and Authority)** ① The executive body shall carry out various tasks as decided by the Representative Management Committee and guided by the president of Association.

② The executive body shall review budget proposals, business plans, and financial reports submitted by its subsidiary organizations and provide reports for the Representative Management Committee.

③ The executive body shall exercise the right to represent the Association in negotiating with outside parties about the Association's activities.

## **Chapter 6 Graduate Dormitory Council**

**Article 30 (Status and Composition)** The members of the Graduate Dormitory Council shall be all students among the members of the Association that reside in the Graduate Dormitory; the Graduate Dormitory Council shall represent such members.

**Article 31 (President)** The president of the Graduate Dormitory Council shall be appointed with the consent of a majority of the Graduate Dormitory building representatives; and the president shall represent the Graduate Dormitory Council.

**Article 32 (Duties and Authority)** The Graduate Dormitory Council shall represent the opinions of the students residing in the Graduate Dormitory and perform various tasks relating to their welfare; other matters necessary for its operation shall be determined in the Detailed Rules on the Operation of the Graduate Dormitory.

## **Chapter 7 International Student Association**

**Article 33 (Status and Composition)** The members of the International Student Association shall be all students among the members of the Association that do not have Korean citizenship; the International Student Association shall represent such members.

**Article 34 (President)** The president of the International Student Association shall be appointed upon the recommendation of the International Student Association and shall represent the International Student Association.

**Article 35 (Duties and Authority)** The International Student Association shall engage in various activities to facilitate the academic pursuits of international students within the University. Other matters necessary for its operation shall be determined in the Detailed Rules on the Operation of the International Student Association.

## Chapter 8 Departmental Graduate Student Council

**Article 36 (Status and Composition)** The members of a departmental graduate student council shall be all students among the members of the Association that belong to the relevant department; the departmental graduate student council shall represent such members.

**Article 37 (President)** The president of a departmental graduate student council shall represent the graduate students in his/her department and serve as a member of the Representative Management Committee.

**Article 38 (Duties and Authority)** A departmental graduate student council shall have as its highest legislative body the departmental graduate student assembly, which is composed of all its members, and may create other standing legislative bodies.

## Chapter 9 Advisory Committee

**Article 39 (Status and Composition)** In any given year, the Representative Management Committee members from the preceding year shall be the members of the Advisory Committee and represent the committee.

**Article 40 (Duties and Authority)** ① The Advisory Committee may provide counsel on policy making for the president and vice president of the Association and the executive body.

② The Advisory Committee may attend a meeting of the Representative Management Committee to offer opinions. However, it shall have no voting rights.

## Chapter 10 Elections

**Article 41 (Elections)** The Association's elections shall be held based on the principles of universal suffrage, direct election, secret ballots, and equal opportunity in order to freely reflect the ideas of all members.

**Article 42 (Voting Rights)** The members of the Association shall have the right to vote.

**Article 43 (Eligibility)** Candidates wishing to run for an election must meet the following eligibility requirements:

1. Only those members of the Association with the right to vote who have not been subjected to suspension or a more severe disciplinary action while enrolled at the University may run for an election.
2. Only those members of the Association who have been enrolled at the University for at least one semester may run for an election.

**Article 44 (Election Management Committee)** ① An election of the president and vice president of the Association shall be managed by an Election Management Committee.

② The Representative Management Committee must set an election date and form an Election Management Committee by no later than 20 days prior to the election day.

③ An Election Management Committee shall comprise a maximum of 20 members recommended by the Representative Management Committee, and the chairman shall be elected from among the members.

④ The members of an Election Management Committee shall not be eligible to run for the Association's presidential and vice presidential election in the year in which they serve on the committee.

**Article 45 (Election Methods and Timing)** ① Candidates for president and vice president of the Association may jointly run for an election as running mates; otherwise, a single person shall run as a presidential candidate, and upon winning the election the president-elect must appoint the vice president prior to the commencement of his/her term of office.

② A recommendation of a minimum of 20 members is required for a candidate to run for a presidential election.

③ Registration of candidates for a presidential election shall commence in September, and the election shall be held in November.

④ In the event that there are no candidates, the election may be postponed until the end of December of the same year.

**Article 46 (Winning an Election)** ① When there is more than one candidate in an election, the candidate who receives the highest number of votes shall win the election provided that voter turnout is 15% or higher.

② If voter turnout is lower than 15% in an election with more than one candidate running for it, the voting may be extended once for up to three days.

③ If there a tie vote between two or more candidates with the highest number of votes in an election where voter turnout is 15% or higher, the Election Management Committee must hold a runoff voting within 20 days; only those candidates who tied in the first round of the election by receiving the highest number of votes shall be included in the second ballot.

④ When there is a single candidate in an election, the candidate shall win the election if 80% or more of the total ballots cast are in his/her favor, or if voter turnout is 15% or higher and a majority of the total ballots cast are in his/her favor.

⑤ In an election with a single candidate, if the requirements specified in Clause 4 are not satisfied by the single candidate during the original voting period, the election must be held again within 20 days.

**Article 47 (Public Announcement of Election Results)** The results of an election must be publicly announced within 48 hours upon completion of the count of the ballots.

## Chapter 11 Finance

**Article 48 (Funding)** The Association's source of financial income shall comprise membership dues paid by the members, subsidies from the University fund, various sponsorships, and other incomes.

**Article 49 (GSA Dues)** ① The membership dues for the Association shall be paid upon enrollment each semester.

② The amount of dues shall be determined by the Representative Management Committee.

**Article 50 (Fiscal Year)** A fiscal year of the Association shall commence on March 1 each year and end on the last day of February the following year.

**Article 51 (Proposed Budget)** ① Proposed budgets submitted by the Association's subsidiary organizations shall be subject to approval by the Representative Management Committee following a review by the executive body.

② The compilation and approval of the proposed budgets must be completed at the first meeting of the Representative Management Committee each semester.

③ The chairman of the Representative Management Committee must disclose the approved budgets to the members without delay.

④ If a budget proposal fails to be approved within the due date owing to unavoidable circumstances, a preliminary budget for a maximum period of one month may be administered following a review by the executive body.

**Article 52 (Supplementary Budget)** ① In the event that an approved budget needs to be increased or reduced owing to unavoidable circumstances, a supplementary budget may be drawn up following a review by the executive body.

② It shall be the responsibility of the executive body to report the allocation of a supplementary budget to the Representative Management Committee.

**Article 53 (Budget Administration)** ① The executive body shall be in charge of the administration of the budget.

② Each subsidiary organization must keep accounting books and record all transactions in detail.

**Article 54 (Financial Reports)** ① Each subsidiary organization shall draft a financial report for each of the following periods in a fiscal year and file them with the Representative Management Committee following a review by the executive body.

1. From March 1 to August 31

2. From September 1 to the last day of February the following year

② The Representative Management Committee may request a second review of a financial report, and if so, the executive body must conduct a second review of the financial report without delay.

③ The executive body must disclose to the members a financial report submitted to the Representative Management Committee without delay.

**Article 55 (Audits)** The registered members of the Representative Management Committee may conduct an audit of the accounting books kept by each subsidiary organization at any time as needed.

## **Chapter 12 Amendment of the Constitution**

**Article 56 (Proposal)** To propose an amendment to this Constitution, one of the following requirements must be met:

1. Proposal by a minimum of one-third of the registered representatives of the Representative Management Committee
2. Proposal by the president of the Association
3. Proposal based on a petition jointly signed by a minimum of 100 members

**Article 57 (Public Notice)** The chairman of the Representative Management Committee must provide a public notice on a proposed amendment within three days after receiving it.

**Article 58 (Resolutions)** ① The chairman of the Representative Management Committee shall call a meeting of the Representative Management Committee and discuss and vote on a proposed amendment within 7 to 20 days from the day of public notification.

② A proposed amendment to the Constitution shall be passed by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the Representative Management Committee members with the right to vote.

③ An amendment to the Constitution of the Association shall be implemented upon the approval of the president of the University, following a resolution of the Representative Management Committee.

**Article 59 (Public Announcement)** The chairman of the Representative Management Committee must announce the finalization of an amendment to the Constitution within three days after the proposed amendment is approved.

**Article 60 (Effective Date)** An amendment to the Constitution shall become effective 15 days after the amendment is publicly announced. If an effective date is indicated in an addendum, however, that date shall apply.

### **Addendum**

This Constitution shall be established and take effect on March 1, 2011.

### **Addendum**

This amended Constitution shall take effect on December 19, 2013.