A RESOLUTION TO: Develop a New Distribution System for the Administration of the Travel Grants Program

WHEREAS, the Graduate Student Council administers the distribution of funds from the Graduate School to graduate students for travel expenses on an annual basis; and

WHEREAS, the Graduate Student Council has received several complaints from graduate students about the fairness of the distribution system; and

WHEREAS, an ad-hoc committee of the Graduate Student Council deliberated the issue and concluded that the questions of whether or not you had been to a conference before and whether or not you had received a travel grant from the program before were both important to improving the system and could be reasonably accounted for; and

REALIZING, there was a sentiment within the committee that a long-term solutions should be sought so that the program could be administered in such a way as to provide more benefits to students; and

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Graduate Student Council amends its bylaws to adopt a distribution system for presenting grants that gives preference to those students that have not yet been to a conference and to those that have not received a travel grant from the Graduate Student Council before, as illustrated in Attachment A; and

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, that the Graduate Student Council charges the Graduate Student Council President with developing an application that achieves the goals of the proposed system.

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1 This would amend the bylaws to judge eligibility based upon a floating year rather than the rigid August to August definition that exists in the current system.
Preference Drawing System for Presenting Grants

System Description:

All applicants that haven't received a travel grant from GSC in the past two travel grants drawings are eligible. Applicants are separated into pools as follows: (a) those who have never presented at a conference before, (b) those that have presented at a conference before but have never received a GSC travel grant, and (c) all other eligible applicants.

Corresponding to the figure, less than or equal to 25% of the available grants will be awarded to applicants chosen randomly from those that fall into pool (a), less than or equal to 25% of the available grants will be awarded to applicants chosen randomly from those that fall into pool (b), and greater than or equal to 50% of the available grants will be awarded to applicants chosen randomly from those that fall into pool (c). All applicants that fall into pool (a) or (b) that are not drawn from their original pool will be entered into the next corresponding pool for that drawing. The same holds true if there are more grants available in a pool than applicants.