

Date of Meeting:	April 12, 2023
Ruling:	[To be completed by Parliamentarian]
President, PGSG:	Alex Seto
Senate Chair, PGSS:	Josiah Davidson

PURDUE GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE

BILL No. SP23-B014



**Establishment of the Purdue Graduate Student
Government Sustainability Committee**

Author(s): Alex Seto, Utkuhan Genc

Sponsor(s): Utkuhan Genc, PGSG Senator, Industrial Engineering

WHEREAS, One of the key missions of the Purdue Graduate Student Government (PGSG) is to advocate for and address the needs of its key constituent – the graduate student body at the Purdue; and

WHEREAS, More than a century of burning fossil fuels as well as unequal and unsustainable energy and land use has led to global warming of 1.1°C above pre-industrial levels;¹ and

WHEREAS, In 2021, the now transformed Purdue Climate Change Research Center has determined the greater Midwest can expect increased risks to public health, infrastructure, and agriculture due to increased heat wave intensity and frequency, more extreme droughts, increased heavy rain events and flooding, decreased agriculture yield, and degraded air and water quality;² and

WHEREAS, The Purdue Student Government (PSG) has an established Sustainability Committee “that is responsible for promoting sustainability within the Student Body, the Purdue Administration, Purdue Student Government, and all other relevant or interested organizations and parties. They act as a central hub of sustainable planning and decision-making within all branches of Purdue Student Government. They work with any interested Student Senators in drafting and promoting legislation that improves the sustainability of Purdue's campus”;³ and

WHEREAS, The University Senate has a sustainability committee as part of university resources policy standing committee, that has a purpose “to set five-year goals to advance the

¹ https://www.ipcc.ch/site/assets/uploads/2023/03/IPCC_AR6_SYR_PressRelease_en.pdf

² <https://docs.lib.purdue.edu/agriculturetr/1/>

³ <https://purduesg.org/sustainability>

sustainability of the university, guided by Purdue University’s Sustainability Strategic Plan including but not limited to reducing overall energy consumption and transitioning to greater utilization of clean and renewable sources of energy, determine measurable objectives for achieving these goals, and evaluate progress in meeting the objectives”;⁴ and

WHEREAS, A sustainability ad hoc committee was formed by PGSG president in February 2023 to create a group to represent graduate students at Purdue Climate Action Collective (PCAC); and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED, That PGSG establish a Sustainability Committee whose primary mission will be to ensure frequent engagement of PGSG with the Purdue and broader Indiana community on the subject of sustainability and climate change; and

BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Sustainability Committee be composed of volunteers from the graduate student body and be headed by the PGSG representative on the University Senate Sustainability Committee; and

BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the head of the committee represents graduate students in campus-wide collective sustainability efforts, such as PCAC^{5,6}, or any other sustainability relevant campus-wide groups; and

BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, The Sustainability Committee will be recognized as an official PGSG committee upon ratification of this bill.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ENACTED *[INSERT DAY OF PASSAGE]*th day of *[INSERT MONTH OF PASSAGE]* 2023.

President, PGSG

Senate Chair, PGSS

⁴ <https://www.purdue.edu/senate/committees/standing-committees/universityResources/sustainability.php>

⁵ <https://www.wbaa.org/science-and-environment/2023-03-08/purdue-faculty-and-students-call-on-university-to-commit-to-a-zero-emissions-climate-plan>

⁶ https://www.purdueexponent.org/campus/article_72ac8dc6-bd6c-11ed-ba62-d3439447c44e.html

Certification

I, Mary Brown, Senate Clerk of the Purdue Graduate Student Senate, do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was regularly passed and adopted by the Purdue Graduate Student Senate of Purdue University, at a regular meeting thereof held on the *[INSERT DAY OF PASSAGE]*th day of *[INSERT MONTH OF PASSAGE]* 2023 by the following vote:

AYES (0):

NAYS (0):

ABSENT (0):

ABSTAINED (0):

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this *[INSERT DAY OF CERTIFICATION]*th day of *[INSERT MONTH OF CERTIFICATION]* 2023.

Senate Clerk, PGSS