



CONSTITUTION REVISIONS QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE

Proposed Fall 2013

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ARTICLE I: THE ORGANIZATION

Section 1.A: NEW ADDITION: hereinafter referred to as the "VSU."

Section 2.B: NEW ADDITION: Non-Discrimination & Diversity Policy

Membership and all privileges, including voting and officer positions, shall be extended to all students without regard to age, ethnicity, gender, disability, color, national origin, race, religion, sexual orientation, veteran status, or sex and gender identity.

Section 3 & 4: SWITCHED & DIVIDED: Purpose before Branches of Government

ARTICLE II: LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

Section 1: Powers of Legislative Branch

1.B NEW ADDITION: Voting

1. The Senate member must be present in order to vote on any item or issue; there shall be no voting by proxy.
2. A quorum of the Senate shall be considered two-thirds of all members of the Senate on roll and must be present in order to conduct official business.
3. The Senate shall have the power to override an SGA Presidential veto on any statute or recommendation by two-thirds (2/3) vote of the entire voting membership of the Senate.

1.C & 1.D DIVIDED/NEW SECTION HEADS: Appointment & Impeachment

WORDAGE: Executive Cabinet Directors to Executive Cabinet members

Section 2: Apportionment

2.B NEW ADDITION: Added credit hours to match Registrar's requirements for each classification

WORDAGE: Changed specific location in by-laws to "Elections Code of the SGA By-laws"

Section 3: Terms and Qualification of the Senate

2.C WORDAGE: Changed specific location in by-laws to "Elections Code of the SGA By-laws"

Section 4: Senate Vacancies

4.A-4.C Broke up paragraph

2.C WORDAGE: Changed specific location in by-laws to "Elections Code of the SGA By-laws"

4.G NEW ADDITION: The Executive Branch has the authority to require an application process for senate seat vacancies as deemed appropriate.

Section 5: Officers of the Senate

5.A REMOVED: SGA President and Secretary as officers of the Senate

WORDAGE: "elected" Parliamentarian and President Pro Temp to "appointed"

DELETED: Parliamentarian must relinquish his/her position as Senator to assume the duties of the office of which he/she has been elected

5.B REMOVED: "Office of the President of the Senate" replaced with Vice President of SGA

REALIGNED: 5.B,2-4 for better clarity/confusion

- 5.C REMOVED: “Office of...”
 ADDED: 5.C, 2 “Shall perform the duties and responsibilities as an Executive cabinet member outlined in the SGA By-laws.”
 WORDAGE: Reworded 5.C,2 in old. 5.C, 3 in proposed.
 REMOVED: Office of Secretary as officer of Senate – administrative position (5.D in old)
 5.D ADDED: 5.D,3 “Shall maintain a position of impartiality when deemed necessary.”

Section 6: Meetings of the Senate

- 5.A CHANGED: meet eight times a semester to weekly
 5.B ADDED: All meetings of the SGA shall be open to all members of the University community.
 Paragraph to a, b, c, d

Section 8: Establishment of By-laws

- 8.A CHANGED: Rules and Elections to Legislative Affairs
 CHANGED: maintenance from SGA Secretary to SGA Executive Board.

Section 9: SGA Code of Conduct

- 9.A CHANGED: Rules and Elections to Legislative Affairs
 ADDED: Judiciary Committee
 9.C ADDED: The code of conduct shall be maintained by the Vice President and President Pro Tempore of the SGA.

ARTICLE III: EXECUTIVE BRANCH

Section 1: Composition

WORDAGE: Paragraph to sections

Section 2: Qualifications of the Executive Board

WORDAGE: “shall”

- 2.B CHANGED: term of office from July 1-June 30 to May 1-April 30
 WORDAGE: Changed specific location in by-laws to “Elections Code of the SGA By-laws”:

Section 3: Duties of the SGA President

WORDAGE: “shall”

- 3.A ADDED: Shall serve as the liaison between students, faculty, staff, administration, and the community.
 3.F ADDED: fall and spring for joint meetings of all divisions of SGA.
 3.G ADDED: Shall serve as the University delegate to the Student Advisory Council of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia and shall have the authority to appoint Student Advisory Council delegate(s).
 REALIGNMENT: changed veto paragraph into sections

Section 4: Duties of the SGA Vice President

- 4.A ADDED: Shall serve as the presiding officer and President of the Senate and oversee all internal operations of the organization.
 4.C ADDED: Shall ensure that academic verifications of grade point averages of all of the members of SGA are conducted at the beginning of each semester to ensure all individuals are qualified.
 4.D ADDED: Shall coordinate supply orders and event reservations on behalf of the SGA.

Section 5: Duties of the SGA Secretary

- 5.B ADDED: Shall maintain attendance records of Senate members and guests to meetings.
 5.C ADDED: Shall organize all business to be conducted on the Senate meeting agendas and disseminate in a timely fashion.
 5.D ADDED: Shall disseminate Senate meeting minutes to all members of the Senate as well as the student body through the designated communication channels in a timely fashion.
 5.E ADDED: Shall compile reports from committees and Executive cabinet and board members.
 5.F ADDED: Shall be responsible for dispatching all legislation requiring executive action to the President of the SGA.
 5.H ADDED: and Vice President

Section 6: Duties of the SGA Comptroller

5.E ADDED: Shall oversee and delegate duties of the SGA Finance & Civic Service committee operations.

5.F ADDED: Shall monitor the business conducted by the Planning and Budget Council of the University.

5.G ADDED: President & Vice President

Section 7: Executive Board Vacancies

7.A,1 ADDED: If the President of the SGA is vacated, the Vice President as prescribed in the SGA Constitution and Bylaws shall assume the duties of the President and be sworn in by Chief Justice the next immediate Senate meeting. The office of the Vice President shall then be considered vacant.

7.A,2 REVISED: Rules and Elections Chairman to President Pro Tempore

ADDED: By-laws and Constitution

RENAME: Rules and Elections to Legislative Affairs

7.A,4 RENAME: Finance to Civic Service & Finance

ARTICLE IV: JUDICIAL BRANCH

Section 1: Responsibilities

REALIGNMENT: changed paragraph into sections

1.A ADDED: and Code of Ethics established by the Assistant Dean of Students for Student Conduct and the Chief Justice.

1.D ADDED: Shall make written recommendations to the Student Conduct Office and Vice President of Student Affairs/Dean of Students on all hearings.

Section 2: Composition

REALIGNMENT: separate paragraph to create sections B, C, D

REALIGNMENT: separate paragraph to create G, H, I

Section 7: Double Jeopardy

REALIGNMENT: separate paragraph to create sections A, B, C, D

ARTICLE V: FINANCES

REALIGNMENT: separate paragraph to create sections A, B, C

REMOVED: Elections Code from Constitution (all inclusive in Bylaws now)

ARTICLE VI: IMPEACHMENT

Section 1: Power of Impeachment

REALIGNMENT: separate paragraph to create sections A, B, C, D, E

Section 2: Rights of Impeachment

REALIGNMENT: separate paragraph to create sections A, B, C, D, E

ADDED: NEW ARTICLE

ARTICLE IX: LEGISLATION

Section 1: Resolutions

A. Shall be drafted to express an official position of the Senate on behalf of the student body.

B. Shall be submitted to the Legislative Affairs committee for semantic revision before appearing before the Senate.

- C. Shall require one reading at a Senate meeting. The Vice President shall entertain debate and amendment, and the Senate will voted on the proposed resolution.
- D. Shall require a majority vote (50%+1) of the Senate present at time of presentation.

Section 2: Bills

- A. Shall be drafted to alter any code or other governing document other than the Constitution.
- B. Shall be submitted to the Legislative Affairs committee for semantic revision before appearing before the Senate.
- C. Shall require one reading at a Senate meeting. Upon the first reading, the Vice President shall entertain debate and amendment, and the Senate will vote on the proposed bill.
- D. Shall require a two-thirds vote of the Senate present at the time of presentation.

Section 3: Amendments

- A. Shall be drafted to make deletions or insertions to the Constitution or Bylaws.
- B. Shall be submitted to the Legislative Affairs committee doe semantic revision before appearing in front of the Senate.
- C. Shall require a first and second reading at a Senate meeting. Upon first reading, the Vice President, shall not entertain debate. At least one week shall transpire between the first and second reading. Upon second reading, the Vice President shall entertain debate and amendment, and the Senate will vote on the proposed amendment.
- D. Shall require a two-thirds vote of the Senate.
- E. Shall be approved by the Vice President of Student Affairs/Dean of Students for review and commentary or shall take effect one week after being delivered to the Vice President of Student Affairs/Dean of Students.

ADDED: NEW ARTICLE

ARTICLE X: CONSTITUTIONAL RATIFICATION

Section 1: Constitutional Amendment

Amendments or revisions to this Constitution shall require approval by two-thirds (2/3) vote of the entire voting membership of the Senate.

Section 2: Constitutional Approval

This Constitution shall take effect when approved by the voting majority of the student body via referendum.

Section 3: Constitutional Supremacy

Upon ratification, this Constitution and its associated documents shall supersede all previous governing documents, which shall be deemed null and void.