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CONSTITUTION OF THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

ARTICLE I Purpose

- A. The purpose of the Student Government Association (hereafter referred to as SGA) is to serve as a governing body responsible for representing student interests and addressing student needs on matters of University, county, or state concern.
- B. The responsibilities of the SGA are to represent students interests through:
 - 1. Serving on University and campus committees.
 - 2. Identifying and supporting student interests to the administration and faculty at each campus.
 - 3. Working in partnership with the administration and faculty to address student issues at each campus.
 - 4. Allocating Activity and Service fees.

ARTICLE II Composition

- A. The SGA is comprised of two Student Government Councils, one to represent the interests of students at University Park (hereafter referred to as SGC University Park) and one to represent the interests of students at the North Miami Campus and Broward Centers (hereafter referred to as SGC North Miami).
- B. Each SGC shall be comprised of the following:
 - 1. SGC President
 - 2. SGC Vice President
 - 3. Eighteen (18) Representatives as follows:
 - a. One (1) representative for each college or school primarily based at that campus.
 - b. Two graduate student representatives.
 - c. Four (4) lower division representatives.
 - d. On the SGC North Miami, one (1) representative for the Broward Centers.
 - e. All remaining representatives at-large.
- C. The SGA also will be comprised of a University Council to coordinate the activities of the SGCs and to represent the interests of all FIU students on matters of University-wide, county, or state concern.

- D. The University Council will be comprised of:
 - 1. Each SGC President.
 - 2. Each SGC Vice President.
 - 3. Each SGC Finance Committee Chairperson.
 - 4. One representative elected from the SGC at University Park.

ARTICLE III Authority

- A. This SGA is established through the power of the President of the University by direction of the Board of Regents which established the first Student Government Senate in June, 1973.
- B. The SGA is authorized to exist in accordance with the Florida Administrative Code, 1984, 6C-6.11 (1); 6C-6.12 (1) (a); 6C-6.12 (1) (b); and 6C-6.12 (1) (c).
- C. Unless specifically addressed within the Constitution or Bylaws of the Student Government Association, issues of parliamentary procedure will defer to the current edition of <u>Robert's Rules of Order</u> as the parliamentary authority.

ARTICLE IV Officers of the SGC

- A. The officers of each SGC will be the President and Vice President.
- B. Qualifications of the SGC President:
 - 1. Must be a student of Florida International University and attending at least 50 percent of classes at the campus he/she represents to run for and hold office.
 - 2. May not be under any academic or disciplinary sanction as detailed in the Student Rights and Responsibilities document to run for and hold office.
 - 3. Must maintain no less than a 2.50 cumulative grade point average to run for and hold office.
 - 4. Must have held an elected or appointed leadership position with the SGC for at least one year prior to election, commencing with the 1993 General Election.
 - 5. Must be of at least sophomore standing to run for and hold office.
 - 6. Must maintain a minimum of nine (9) credit hours for each semester in office, excluding summer semester.
- C.

Duties of the SGC President shall be to:

1. Preside over the SGC meetings and make all necessary arrangements for those meetings, including setting the agenda and conducting the business of the meeting in accordance with the current edition of <u>Robert's Rules of</u>

<u>Order</u> and all provisions of the SGA Constitution and Bylaws. He/she will vote only in case of a tie.

- 2. Represent the interests of the SGC to the administration and faculty of his/her campus.
- 3. Fulfill all duties and responsibilities of the SGC President in regard to the SGA University Council.
- 4. Serve on and/or nominate and/or appoint individual students to campus governing bodies and recommend names for appointment to University committees.
- 5. Have the power to convene special campus SGC meetings, provided there is at least 48 hours notice of such meetings.
- 6. Appoint assistants as needed, subject to majority approval of the SGC members in attendance at a regular meeting.
- 7. Authorize any disbursement of SGC funds in the absence of the Finance Committee Chairperson.
- 8. Set and maintain a minimum of ten (10) weekly office hours.
- 9. Fulfill all duties and responsibilities as detailed by the SGA Constitution and Bylaws or as delegated by the SGC.
- D. Qualifications of the SGC Vice President:
 - 1. Must be a student of Florida International University and attending at least 50 percent of classes at the campus he/she represents to run for and hold office.
 - 2. May not be under any academic or disciplinary sanctions as detailed in the Student Rights and Responsibility document to run for and hold office.
 - 3. Must maintain no less than a 2.50 cumulative grade point average to run for and hold office.
 - 4. Must be of at least sophomore standing to run for and hold office.
 - 5. Must maintain a minimum of nine (9) credit hour for each semester in office, excluding summer semester.
- E. Duties of the SGC Vice President shall be to:
 - 1. Fulfill all SGC presidential responsibilities for that campus in the absence of the President as detailed in the SGA Constitution and Bylaws.
 - 2. Fulfill all duties and responsibilities of the SGC Vice President in regard to the SGA University Council.
 - 3. Set and maintain a minimum of eight (8) weekly office hours.
 - 4. Fulfill all duties and responsibilities of the SGC Vice-President as detailed by the SGA Constitution and Bylaws or as delegated by the SGC.
- F. No officer, appointed or elected, shall have any authority not specified in this document, the Bylaws of the SGC, or as may be granted to him or her by majority vote of the SGC.

ARTICLE V Representatives

- A. Qualifications of Representatives:
 - 1. Must be a student of Florida International University and attending no less than 50 percent of his/her classes at the campus he/she represents to run for and hold office.
 - 2. Representatives of specific schools, colleges, or class levels must be accepted students of that school, college, or class level as defined in the Bylaws. Graduate students shall be eligible to run only for graduate or at-large representative seats.
 - 3. May not be under any academic or disciplinary sanctions as detailed in the Student Rights and Responsibilities document to run for or hold office.
 - 4. Must maintain no less than a 2.0 cumulative grade point average to run for and hold their position on SGC.
 - 5. Must maintain a minimum of nine (9) undergraduate credit hours or three (3) graduate credit hours for each semester in office, excluding summer semester.
- B. Duties of SGC Representatives shall be to:
 - 1. Attend regularly scheduled and special meetings of the SGC.
 - 2. Serve on one (1) SGC committee.
 - 3. Serve on one (1) campus or University committee, community committee, or special project.
 - 4. Faithfully represent the needs and interests of the students they represent to the SGC.
 - 5. Fulfill all special assignments as delegated by the SGC.

ARTICLE VI Elections and Referenda

- A. SGA annual elections will be held for two (2) days of the second week following Spring Break (usually the third week of March). The SGC elections at University Park will not be held the same days as the SGC elections at the North Miami Campus.
- B. The annual elections will be held for the offices of SGC President, Vice President, and all SGC representatives on each campus. The President, Vice President and all at-large positions will be elected campus-wide. Positions for specific schools, colleges, lower division and graduate seats, and the Broward campus will be elected by the student membership of that school, college, division or campus.
- C. Unless otherwise specified, all elections shall be decided by simple majority of those voting.

- D. Campaigning for election to SGC will begin on each campus the week following spring break (usually the second week of March).
- E. All SGC positions are elected for one year, with the terms beginning the first day of summer semester and ending the last day prior to the following summer semester.
- F. A vote on Constitutional amendments and referenda may also be conducted during the annual election. Campus-specific amendments and referenda on any issue may be called with approval by two-thirds vote of SGC representatives present at a meeting at which there is a quorum. Amendments and referenda pertaining to University-wide issues may be called by either SGC and require approval by two-thirds vote of the University Council at a meeting at which there is a quorum or may be called through petition of five (5) percent of the total student population of the University.
- G. All provisions of this article will commence with the 1993 general election.

H. The officers and representatives elected in the 1992 special election will serve until the last day prior to the 1993 Summer Semester in accordance with the SGA Constitution and Bylaws.

ARTICLE VII Powers

Each SGC of the Student Government Association shall have the power to conduct the following business during official meetings at which there is a quorum:

- A. Determine positions and elect individuals as necessary to conduct the business of the SGC, and arrange its meetings provided there is a regular meeting with fixed time and place at least twice monthly.
- B. Call for a special election or referendum with two-thirds vote of the SGC representatives in attendance at the meeting.
- C. By two-thirds vote of those present, the SGC may recommend the establishment or dissolution of Standing Committees be submitted to a vote of the student body at the next campus wide election.
- D. Establish ad hoc committees with a simple majority vote of the SGC representatives at the meeting.
- E. Allocate Activity and Service Fees that have been designated for the campus and monitor the use of those funds through the

Finance Committee.

- F. Pass motions and resolutions to conduct the business of the SGC with the required vote of the SGC representatives.
- G. May remove any member of the SGC from office by a two-thirds vote of the entire SGC. In the event that the Chair of the meeting is the subject of the removal proceedings, the SGC will elect an acting chair who will preside over the meeting.
- H. Carry out other such responsibilities and duties as are consistent with the purposes of SGA and conform to State laws and University policies.

ARTICLE VIII University Council

- A. It is the responsibility of the University Council to represent student interests and address student needs on matters of University-wide, county, or state concern. The University Council also serves to aid in the coordination and support of the activities of each SGC. Issues may be brought before the Council by recommendation of the SGC of either campus or the University Council itself.
- B. The University Council shall meet monthly or more frequently as needed on a rotating basis between University Park and the North Miami Campus. The SGC President at his/her respective campus shall make all necessary arrangements for the meeting, set the agenda, and chair the meeting.
- The University Council, through majority vote of the members с. in attendance at a meeting at which there is quorum, can conduct the business of the University Council. The University Council does not have the power to override any vote, recommendation, or decision made by either SGC on matters that pertain to their respective campus. The make recommendations the University Council may to administration and faculty on behalf of the entire student body, and when necessary, call for and conduct a Universitywide referendum.
- D. The University Council shall make necessary appointments or create ad hoc committees it deems necessary to carry out the business of the University Council.
- E. The University Council shall not create any standing committees, but shall itself serve as a Finance Committee to determine fixed expenses of SGA and make initial allocations of Activity and Service fees to each SGC based on current FTE percentages.

F. The University Council shall choose the official representatives involving both SGCs to lobby on behalf of student needs and interests with state and local government organizations.

ARTICLE IX Removal from SGC

The basis for removal of a SGC member shall be malfeasance, misfeasance, and/or non-feasance.

ARTICLE X Vacancies and Succession

- A. If the office of the SGC President becomes vacant, the order of succession shall be as follows:
 - 1. The SGC Vice President.
 - A person elected by a temporary election by a vote of two-thirds of the SGC members present at a meeting at which there is quorum, until a pre-scheduled mid-year special election or regular annual election, whichever comes first.
- B. When a vacancy occurs in the SGC Vice President position or SGC representative seat, the position shall be temporarily filled through a process of nominations and selection through a majority vote of the SGC representatives present and voting at a meeting at which there is a quorum, until a pre-scheduled mid-year special election or regular annual election, whichever comes first. Nominees must be qualify for that vacancy which they intend to fill.

ARTICLE XI Amendments

No provision of the SGA Constitution may be waived. Such provisions may only be added, deleted or altered through the following amendment process:

- A. Amendments to this Constitution may be proposed by either a petition of five (5) percent of the total student population or by a two-thirds vote of the University Council members present at a meeting at which there is a quorum.
- B. A simple majority of the student body voting in a Universitywide general or special election is sufficient for ratification of an amendment to the SGA Constitution.

ARTICLE XII Bylaws

A. Each SGC shall maintain a set of campus-specific Bylaws which

may be amended only by a majority vote of that entire SGC.

B. No provision of the SGC Bylaws may be waived. Such provisions may only be added, deleted, or altered through the amendment process.

ARTICLE XIII Remuneration

All members of each SGC shall be entitled to compensation as follows:

- A. SGC Presidents shall receive annually an amount equal to three hundred percent (300%) of forty-five (45) undergraduate credit hours of tuition to be paid at the mid-point and end of each semester for a total of six (6) equal payments.
- B. SGC Vice-Presidents and Finance Committee Chairpersons shall receive annually an amount equal to two hundred percent (200%) of forty-five (45) undergraduate credit hours of tuition to be paid at the mid-point and end of each semester for a total of six (6) equal payments.
- C. Other SGC Standing Committee Chairpersons shall receive annually an amount equal to one hundred-fifty percent (150%) of forty-five (45) credit hours of tuition to be paid at the mid-point and end of each semester for a total of six (6) equal payments.
- D. Other SGC Representatives shall receive annually an amount equal to one hundred percent (100%) of forty-five (45) undergraduate credit hours of tuition to be paid at the midpoint and end of each semester for a total of six (6) equal payments.
- E. Other appointed or elected positions of each SGC, including such positions as State Lobbyist, Elections Commissioner, Parliamentarian, and Secretary; but not to exceed five (5) positions, shall receive annually an amount equal to a SGC Representative.
- F. Members or appointed individuals of each SGC holding more than one (1) position shall receive remuneration for only one (1) position, whichever is highest.

ARTICLE XIV Dissolution

This Constitution will be dissolved upon the full ratification of a new Student Government Constitution.

ARTICLE XV Ratification

Ratification of this Constitution or any other Constitution replacing this document shall be achieved through a two-thirds affirmative vote of the University Council members present and voting at a meeting at which there is a quorum, a simple majority vote of the student body voting in a University-wide election, and the approval of the President of Florida International University.

BYLAWS OF THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY STUDENT GOVERNMENT COUNCIL

SECTION I Qualifications and Registration of Candidates

- A. Any individual who wishes to qualify as a candidate for Student Government Council (hereafter referred to as SGC) offices must comply with the provisions of the Student Elections Board.
- B. In determining eligibility to run for or hold office in SGC, cumulative grade point average will be computed from courses attempted at FIU from the date of current acceptance. Transfer students and graduate students who have not completed any courses at FIU will have their cumulative grade point average computed from the transcript(s) used to gain admission to FIU.
- C. Candidates seeking office for a specific school/college representative position must be accepted in the school/ college they wish to represent, or present a signed letter of eligibility from the appropriate Dean with his/her Petition of Candidacy.
- D. All candidates may qualify to run for office under the name by which they are registered at Florida International University or under a variation of that name, subject to the approval of the Student Elections Board. A nickname may appear in quotation marks with the approved name of the candidate. No person shall appear on the ballot under an assumed name. Any attempt to qualify as a candidate under an assumed name shall be a violation of the Elections Code, and shall be cause for immediate disqualification.
- E. It shall be the responsibility of the candidate to determine that all information regarding his/her eligibility to run for or hold office is correct prior to qualifying for candidacy. It is a further responsibility of the candidate to certify the accuracy of this information with the Registrar, and in all related University records and Petition for Candidacy documents, and to have any deficiencies corrected as provided for by the Student Elections Board.
- F. Each candidate must sign a waiver allowing the SGA to ascertain that each elected person continues to fulfill eligibility requirements for such office during his/her term of office.

- G. A candidate must file all Petition for Candidacy documents with the Commissioner of Elections on or before the deadline date and time designated by the Student Elections Board. No candidate shall be placed on the official ballot who has not fulfilled these requirements.
- H. A candidate may withdraw his/her Petition for Candidacy prior to the election by submitting a written notice to the Commissioner of Elections. The notice to withdraw candidacy must be filed two (2) weeks prior to the first election date to assure the candidate's name will not appear on the ballot. Otherwise, it is the responsibility of the Commissioner of Elections to insure that a candidate's name is struck from all ballots.
- I. At no time during the registration process or campaign may any candidate associate himself/herself with any other candidate with the intent of running and being elected as a group.
- J. Any student of Florida International University has the right to bring a complaint before the Student Elections Board alleging a violation of the requirements of the Petition for Candidacy.

SECTION II Student Elections Board

- A. The Student Elections Board shall consist of six members, one of whom shall be the Commissioner of Elections. The Commissioner of Elections and the members of the Elections Board will be chosen through an application process to the SGC and confirmed by a simple majority vote of the SGC at a meeting at which there is a quorum. Members of the Student Elections Board shall serve a one year term, commencing the first day of the spring semester.
- B. The Student Elections Board shall be in charge of all SGC general and special elections and is established for that purpose by the SGA Constitution and Bylaws. The Commissioner of Elections shall serve as the chairperson of the Board and shall faithfully execute those duties and responsibilities designated by law, or deemed necessary to the proper conduct of an election by the Board.
- C. No member of the Student Elections Board may hold or be a candidate for an officer or representative position in the SGC during his/her time of service on the Board.
- D. Members of the Student Elections Board shall not be actively identified with any candidate or campaign for an elective position in SGC, nor shall they act in any partisan manner while they are serving as members on the Board.

- E. A vacancy in the position of Commissioner of Elections shall be immediately filled for the duration of the term by appointment by the SGC President, subject to approval by twothirds of the SGC present and voting.
- F. The Student Elections Board is responsible for preparing candidate packets which will include a Petition for Candidacy form, elections schedule and deadlines, SGA Constitution and Bylaws, the Election Code, posting rules, candidate fund raising and expenditure report form, and other relevant information.
- G. The Commissioner of Elections shall be responsible for distributing all necessary information and forms to the candidates and for receiving the Petitions of Candidacy and other required forms from the candidates. The Commissioner is responsible for giving written notification to all qualified candidates of their right to be present at election related events.
- H. The Commissioner of Elections may disallow any Petition for Candidacy that does not meet all requirements of the Election Procedures as established by the Student Elections Board. A candidate whose petition is disallowed may ask for a review of his/her petition by the Student Elections Board, where a majority vote of the Board will confirm or overturn the ruling of the Commissioner. The names of candidates whose Petitions of Candidacy have been disallowed shall be a matter of public record.
- I. The Commissioner of Elections shall conduct a meeting for all candidates following the deadline for registration and prior to the beginning of the campaigning period. This meeting will notify candidates of the requirements of the Election Code and other required election information. All candidates shall be responsible for all information presented at the above meeting.
- J. Student Elections Board shall investigate the The constitutional gualifications of all The candidates. Commissioner of Elections shall submit the preliminary list of qualified candidates to the Office of the Registrar, who shall certify to the Commissioner the names of candidates who meet all requirements for their chosen office as listed in the SGA Constitution and Bylaws. The Elections Commissioner shall strike from the list of certified candidates the names of all persons who have failed to qualify for their intended office and shall notify said candidates in writing.
- K. The Student Elections Board may declare any candidate ineligible to run for or hold office, or may declare void any winning candidate's office if a substantive error is found in

the candidate's qualifications, even if that error was not caused by the candidate.

- L. The Student Elections Board shall make all necessary arrangements for polling places and provide the ballots, ballot boxes and/or voting machines, and all other items required for the proper, efficient, and legal completion of the election.
- M. The Commissioner of Elections shall be responsible for the preparation of the ballot with the majority approval of the Student Elections Board.
- N. The Commissioner of Elections shall be responsible for instructing all election officials in the proper elections procedures.
- O. The Student Elections Board and SGA faculty or staff advisor(s) shall be responsible for supervising the tabulation and for certifying the results of any campus wide election or referendum.

P. It shall be the responsibility of the Student Elections Board to hear and act upon complaints and charges of violations of the Elections Code.

SECTION III Election Rules

- A. The election rules for all general and Special Elections, including referendums and Constitutional amendments, are set forth in the Elections Code, which may be amended by the Student Elections Board. The Commissioner of Elections shall submit amendments to the Elections Code to the SGC for approval by a two-thirds vote of SGC representatives present and voting at a meeting at which there is a guorum.
- B. Federal, state, and municipal laws shall apply to election procedures, and policies of the Elections Code may not contradict those laws.
- C. The Elections Code policies for campaigning on campus may not violate the University Posting Policy or the posting policies for specific facilities.
- D. The Elections Code policies for campaign expenses shall require a fund raising and expenditure report that must be completed, signed, and submitted to the Commissioner of Elections no less than 48 hours prior to the election.
- E. The Elections Code policies for balloting shall require the names of all qualified candidates to be listed on the ballot

in alphabetical order, by last name, and shall clearly indicate which office the candidates are seeking.

F. With the unanimous vote of its membership, the Student Elections Board shall have the power to establish temporary, supplemental guidelines for the duration of the current election only. These guidelines will be effective within forty-eight (48) hours of the official notification to candidates, but cannot contradict existing regulations of the Elections Code or SGA Constitution and Bylaws.

SECTION IV General, Special, and Referendum Elections

- A. General elections are the annual elections held in order to elect SGC officers and representatives.
- B. The Commissioner of Elections, with a majority approval of the Elections Board, shall have the right to postpone or change the date of a scheduled election as they believe necessary in the case of a natural disaster, threats of natural disaster, acts of God, or other such threats to the safety and security of FIU students.
- C. No elections of any kind shall be held during Final Examinations Week(s).
- D. Each student is eligible to vote for the positions of SGC President, Vice President, and all at-large representatives for the appropriate campus SGC. Each student may also vote for all position(s) in one of the following SGC representative categories: lower division, a specific school/college, Broward, or graduate; in accordance with the students' registration status.
- E. The Student Elections Board will make provisions for run-off elections to occur when necessary to decide the outcome of general elections. Run-off election provisions will be stipulated in the Elections Code and dates for run-off elections will be included in the elections schedule.
- F. Special elections are elections called by two-thirds (2/3) of the SGC representatives present and voting at a meeting at which there is a quorum, or by five (5) percent of the student body of FIU signing petitions and filing said petitions with the SGC President. Such petitions must state the purpose of the special election. The Student Elections Board shall be responsible for conducting all special elections.
- G. A Referendum is the submission of a proposed public measure or actual statute to a direct popular vote of the student body.

H. Referenda will be held during general elections or special elections and can be the cause for holding a special election.

SECTION V Voting Procedures

- A. The Student Elections Board shall select election poll locations and times and specify same in the Elections Code.
- B. Each student desiring to vote shall present to the poll workers his/her current validated student identification card.
- C. Students shall be eligible to vote only on the campus where they are currently enrolled in a majority of their classes. Campus voting lists will be produced through the Office of Registration and Records to be used at the polling locations. Students with equal course loads on different campuses shall be listed on a separate voting list and may vote only once at their choice of campuses.
- D. When a student votes, his/her name shall be clearly marked on the campus voting list as having voted, and his/her identification card shall be so marked.
- E. All eligible students waiting to vote at the time the polls close shall be permitted to vote.
- F. No voting records or ballots shall be destroyed until the time for contesting an election has expired, all complaints are resolved, and the election is certified by the Student Elections Board.

SECTION VI Election Violations and Procedures for Contesting Elections

- A. Any Florida International University student, including the Student Elections Board itself, shall have the right to contest an election or bring a complaint before the Student Elections Board alleging a violation of the Election Code. The complaint must be made in writing to the Commissioner of Elections no later than 48 hours after the election, and shall include: (a) the name(s) of the individual(s) against whom the complaint is brought, and (b) the specific section(s) of the Election Code which is (are) alleged to have been violated, (c) the specific nature of the alleged violation(s), and (d) the name and signature of the person(s) bringing the complaint.
- B. Violations of federal, state, and municipal laws are to be regarded as violations of election rules.

- C. If the number of ballots cast differs from the number of voters registered as having voted on the campus voting lists, the Student Elections Board shall investigate the discrepancy and determine appropriate action. If said difference exceeds five percent (5%) of the total vote, the election shall be declared invalid.
- D. Upon receipt of a complaint, the Student Elections Board shall make a determination as to whether a hearing is necessary based upon whether there has been shown probable cause that a violation has occurred. Both complainant(s) and defendant(s) must receive written notice from the Commissioner of Elections no less than twenty-four (24) hours before a hearing is conducted.
- E. The complainant(s) may withdraw the complaint prior to the Student Elections Board taking final action, however, the Student Elections Board may proceed with its investigation of the complaint(s).
- F. The Student Elections Board, upon finding a candidate guilty of committing an election violation(s), will decide the just penalty for the violation(s). Penalties for violations will be in the form of monetary fines, reprimands, and/or disqualification.
- G. Members of the Student Elections Board may not, at any time prior to the final determination of any matter before the Board, make comments or statements of any kind outside of Board meetings, concerning matters before the Board.
- H. Disputes involving members, actions of members, or decisions of the Student Elections Board shall be referred to the Student Concerns Committee.

SECTION VII Budget and Finance

- A. The University has established a separate Activity and Service (A&S) fee. This fee shall be collected as part of the student tuition as a dollar amount per credit hour and shall be retained by the University and paid into a separate A&S fund.
- B. The allocation and expenditure of these funds shall be determined by the Student Government Association, through the SGA University Council and the SGC. The SGA University Council is responsible for determining the fixed expenses within the SGA budget, as well as the operating budget of the SGA University Council. The SGC is responsible for the allocation and expenditure of A&S fees for its campus.

C. The SGA University Council determines the initial allocation

of the SGA budget based on A&S fees from the annual projected enrollment. The office of Planning and Analysis submits to the SGA University Council the projected figures of enrollment, upon request.

- D. The Finance Committee will prepare a budget proposal for the SGC, as outlined in Section VIII.
- E. The fiscal year for the SGA will be July 1 to June 30.
- F. No funds shall be disbursed without the approval by signature of either the Finance Committee Chair or the SGC President; as well as either the SGC Accountant or the Director of Student Activities.

SECTION VIII Committees

- A. Standing Committees
 - 1. The Standing Committees of the SGC shall be the Finance Committee, the Academic Affairs Committee, and the Student Services Committee.
 - 2. All SGC representatives must serve on at least one Standing Committee.
 - 3. Committee chairs will be chosen through an application process to the SGC and appointed by a simple majority of the SGC. A chair may be removed from office by a majority vote of the entire SGC.
 - 4. Committee size, excluding the Finance Committee, will be determined by the SGC. Members will be chosen by an application and/or appointment process.
 - 5. Minutes shall be taken at each committee meeting and submitted to the SGC office within forty-eight (48) hours of the meeting.
- B. Finance Committee
 - 1. The Finance Committee will be comprised of the Finance Committee Chair and four additional students appointed through a majority vote of the SGC.
 - 2. The Finance Committee is charged with the responsibility to prepare and submit a complete budget proposal to the SGC, based on the projected budget from the SGA University Council.
 - 3. The SGC may approve, reject, amend or refer back to the committee the proposed budget. A rejected budget shall be returned to the Finance Committee for revision.
 - 4. The SGC may amend the proposed budget by a two-thirds vote.
 - 5. When approved by the SGC, the budget will be submitted to the newly elected SGC President and Vice President for review, and then submitted to the SGA University Council to be combined with the SGC budget request of the other

- campus and the proposed SGA University Council Budget.
 6. The total SGA budget shall be submitted by the SGA University Council to the Vice-President for Student Affairs, who will present it to the University President for his/her approval or veto. If no action is taken within fifteen (15) days following presentation to the President, the budget shall be deemed approved.
- 7. The SGA University Council shall be responsible for determining all necessary adjustments to the SGA budget resulting from incorrect projections of A&S fees, based on fixed expenses and FTE enrollment figures.
- 8. It is the responsibility of the Finance Committee to review and make recommendations to SGC for the expenditure of all reserve and unallocated funds of the SGC budget.
- C. Academic Affairs Committee
 - 1. The purpose of this committee is to review and evaluate academic issues and make the necessary recommendations that will represent student views on the issues.
 - 2. Should the SGC undertake a program of faculty or course evalation, this committee will oversee the project.

D. Student Services Committee

- 1. The purpose of this committee shall be to investigate student concerns and make recommendations as deemed appropriate.
- 2. This committee shall also recommend services to be provided and evaluate current services being offered to ensure that they are serving student needs.

SECTION IX Proxy and Absentee Ballots

Proxies and absentee ballots shall not be allowed by the SGC for either quorum or voting purposes.

SECTION X Absences

Officers or members of the SGC who have three consecutive absences for any reason from regular or special SGC meetngs may be removed form their position and the SGC by a majority vote of the SGC members.

SECTION XI Bylaw Changes

- A. Bylaws may be amended, deleted and added by a two-thirds vote of the SGC.
- B. All Bylaw changes passed by the SGC shall become effective immediately unless otherwise stated in the resolution.

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