

CONSTITUTION
of the
Student Government Association

PREAMBLE

Preamble

We, the students of Arkansas State University, assume certain responsibilities and privileges of self-government, strive toward higher academic standards, promote democratic principles, foster close cooperation between students and faculty, encourage worthy projects in the interest of the student body, and serve the general welfare of our institution. We ordain and establish this constitution within the limits defined by the President and the Board of Trustees of this institution.

Purpose

The name of the organization shall be the Student Government Association of Arkansas State University. The object of the Student Government Association shall be to consider all matters that may concern the general interest of the student body, as set forth in the Preamble above. The membership in this organization shall include all students enrolled at Arkansas State University.

Article I – Executive Branch

Section 1 – Offices

The Executive powers of the Student Government Association (SGA) shall be vested in the Office of the President and Vice President as the Executive Officers.

Section 2 – Election and Term of Office

1. Executive Officers shall be elected in the spring general election by a plurality vote of the student body.
2. Executive Officers shall be sworn in by the outgoing President.
3. The term of the Executive Officers shall be from their swearing in until the swearing in of their properly elected successor.

Section 3 – Eligibility

1. Candidates for Executive Office shall be required to have attended or be in the process of attending Arkansas State University for a minimum of 60 hrs and be able to serve their Offices for a full term.
2. Candidates for the Executive Offices must have also served as a senator for two consecutive semesters or as an SGA staff member for two consecutive semesters.
3. Candidates for an Executive Office must meet requirements established by the University, outlined in the Student Handbook, for participation in co-curricular activities.

Section 4 – Vacancies

1. In the case of a vacancy in the Office of President, the Vice President shall assume the Office of President for the duration of the term.
2. In the case of vacancy in the Office of Vice President, the President shall have the power to appoint a Vice President if a vacancy occurs subject to approval of the Senate by simple majority.
3. In the case of the vacancy of a Staff member, the President shall appoint an interim member of the Staff until a properly selected officer can take office subject to approval of the Senate by simple majority.

Section 5 – The Office of President

1. The President shall be the official representative of the student body.
2. The supreme executive power and the responsibility for the faithful execution of the resolutions of the Senate and the directives of this constitution.
3. The President shall have the authority to call the SGA Senate into a special meeting.
4. The President shall have the power to veto any legislative action of the SGA Senate provided that the Vice President is notified of said veto within six (6) calendar days after the legislative action is taken by the SGA Senate. The President shall attend the following SGA Senate meeting to report and answer questions on the veto.
5. The responsibility to chair the Executive Committee.
6. The President shall convene all meetings of the Executive Committee.
7. The President shall have the power of Executive Resolution, and the Executive Staff shall have the power to run an Executive Resolution through the power of the President.
8. The discretionary power to alleviate situations that require immediate attention in the event the Senate cannot convene.
9. The responsibility for preparing a budget for approval by the Senate before the end of the semester in which s/he takes office, providing a minimum of one (1) calendar week of notice to the Senate for review before budget is approved.
 - a) The President shall also describe each of the budgeting sections in a document explaining the budgets purpose.
 - b) Any changes to the budget from the previous year should be addressed to the Senate in the notice.
10. The power to appoint persons to serve on staff in the capacities of Chief of Staff, Secretary, Public Relations, Cultural Diversity Director, and Parliamentarian, subject to the approval of the Senate by a simple majority.
11. The President shall have any other authority or powers specified by Senate legislation, University Policy, or the SGA Bylaws that do not conflict with this Constitution or University Policy.

Section 6 – The Office of Vice President

1. Serve as President in the event of the President's absence, resignation or removal from office.
2. Serve as presiding officer of the Senate.
3. The Vice President shall have any other authority or powers specified by Senate legislation, the SGA President, University Policy, or the SGA Bylaws that do not conflict with this Constitution or University Policy.
4. Serve as Election Commission Chair and supervise all elections held during his/her tenure in office.

Section 7 – Executive Committee

1. The Executive Committee shall consist of the President, the Vice President, the Chief of Staff, the Secretary, the Public Relations Director, the Cultural Diversity Director, and the Parliamentarian.
2. The Executive Committee shall utilize monies as provided by the Executive Budget.
3. The Secretary shall keep minutes of the Executive Committee meetings.

Section 8 – Executive Cabinet

1. The President has the discretion to activate the Cabinet committees listed below based on the necessity of addressing issues in the university.
2. Upon activation, the President Pro Temp shall appoint a Director of committee for the Executive Cabinet, with approval from the President. The Directors of the Cabinet committees must be filled by an active senator, and shall consist of the following:
 - a) Director of Academic Affairs;
 - b) Director of Athletic Relations;
 - c) Director of Campus Life, Safety, and Parking;
 - d) Director of Projects and Publicity
3. Additional Cabinet positions may be created or abolished by the President or Senate as needed for a particular academic year, and Directors shall be appointed by the President Pro Temp.
4. The duties of the members of the Cabinet shall be defined by an Executive Order issued by the President.

Article II – Legislative Branch

Section 1 – Composition of the Legislative Branch

1. All legislative powers of the SGA, except for the powers of initiative and referendum, shall be vested in the SGA Senate.
2. The Senate shall represent the interests of undergraduate and graduate students.
3. The Senate shall independently write and pass by a simple majority bills and resolutions as outlined in this constitution, unless they fall under the special rules.
4. The SGA Budget, SGA Constitutional amendments, SGA Bylaw changes, and executive appointments shall be passed by the vote thresholds as stated in this constitution by the legislative body.
5. The Senate shall make all its meetings public, except for those calling for executive session to deal with personnel matters.
6. The Senate shall be governed by Bylaws established within the limits defined by this constitution.

Section 2 – Composition of the Senate

Seats in the Senate shall be apportioned as follows:

1. Sixteen senators, two from each college,
2. Four senators from the classification of graduate students, one of which is a representative from the Graduate Student Council
3. Four senators from the classification of senior students,
4. Four senators from the classification of junior students,
5. Four senators from the classification of sophomore students,
6. Seven senators from the classification of freshman students, and
7. One senator who is a citizen of another country, representing international students.
8. One senator who is considered as a non-traditional student.

9. One senator who is enrolled in the Military Science program,
10. One senator who is enrolled in the Honors College program.

Section 3 – Qualifications for service in the Senate

1. College Senator:
 - a) Able to serve as a Senator for a full term;
 - b) A declared major in the college they represent; and
 - c) To meet the 2.5 cumulative grade point average requirement.
2. Undergraduate Class Senator:
 - a) Able to serve as a Senator for a full term;
 - b) To meet the hourly requirements of the classification they represent; and
 1. First year college students may choose to run as Freshman Senator regardless of concurrent hours they come in with.
 - c) To meet the 2.5 cumulative grade point average requirement.
3. Graduate Student Senator:
 - a) Able to serve as a Senator for a full term.
 - b) To meet the hourly requirements of the classification they represent; and
 - c) To meet the 3.0 cumulative grade point average requirement.

Section 4 – Retention of Senate Seats

In order to maintain his or her seat, Senators must:

1. Be a member of SGA;
2. Meet the University's requirements for participating in co-curricular activities as outlined in the Student Handbook; and
3. Adhere to the attendance policy as set forth:
 - a) Senators are encouraged to attend all Senate meetings; however, Senators will be removed from the Senate roll after accumulating more than three (3) absences from Senate meetings and events in a single term;
 - b) Attendance of a proxy shall count as one-half (1/2) of an absence; and
 - c) Proxies shall have the full duties and powers of a Senator for the duration of the meeting.
 - d) Any member violating the attendance policy of the SGA Senate shall be removed from office.

Section 5 – Term of Office

1. The term of office of a Senator shall be the same as the Executive Officers.
2. Members of SGA filling vacancies in the Senate shall serve until the end of that academic year.

Section 6 – Senate Nominated/Elected Positions

1. The Senate shall nominate and elect, from amongst the Senators, via a simple majority, the offices of President Pro Temp, Action Fund Commissioner, Campus Collaboration Commissioner, Sergeant-at-Arms, Continuation Commissioner, Excursion Chair, a Local Government Representative, and the Sustainability Liaison.
2. Qualifications for President Pro Temp shall include:
 - a) Be a member of the Senate.

- b) Have completed 60 hours or be in the process of completing 60 hours in the semester in which s/he is elected.
 - c) Have also served as a senator or staff member for at least one semester.
- 3. Duties for the President Pro Temp shall include:
 - a) Reside over the Executive Cabinet and be a direct liaison between the Cabinet and the President.
 - b) Reside over and appoint members to each Shared Governance Oversight Committee, keeping records of attendance for the senators and reporting back to the Staff Secretary.
 - c) Serve as Vice-President in the event of the Vice-President's absence.
 - d) Complete all other duties assigned him/her by the Senate.
 - e) Having a monthly meeting with the SGA staff
- 4. Action Fund Commissioner:
 - a) The Chair of the Action Fund Commission shall be selected by open nomination in general session with a simple majority. The Chair of the Action Fund Commission shall select the Action Fund Commissioners with approval by the President.
 - i. The Commission shall consist of at least five persons.
 - ii. The Action Fund Commission shall be governed by Bylaws established within the limits defined by this constitution.
 - iii. The Action Fund Commissioner shall have a monthly meeting with the SGA staff.
- 5. Campus Collaboration Commissioner:
 - a) The Campus Collaboration Commissioner shall build relationships with Registered Student Organizations.
 - i. The Commissioner shall oversee Senator attendance at RSO meetings from within their constituency and collect outreach forms from those meetings.
 - ii. The Commissioner shall have regular correspondence with the leaders and members of various RSOs to discuss the matters that concern the general interest of their membership or student body.
 - iii. The Campus Collaboration Commissioner shall report back to the SGA on a consistent basis.
 - iv. The Campus Collaboration Commissioner shall have a monthly meeting with the SGA staff.
- 6. Continuation Commissioner shall:
 - i. Be a member of the Senate.
 - ii. Work to continue the mission of previous administrations.
 - iii. Coordinate with the secretary to follow through with resolutions from previous administrations.
 - iv. Occasionally update the Senate on the current status of resolutions from previous administrations.
 - v. Have a monthly meeting with the SGA staff.
- 7. Excursion Chair shall:
 - i. Be a member of the Senate.
 - ii. Work with the Red Wolf Explore committee to organize optional excursions for the student body.
 - iii. Occasionally update the Senate on the current status of the Red Wolf Explore committee and upcoming excursion opportunities.
 - iv. Have a monthly meeting with the SGA staff.
- 8. Local Government Representative shall:
 - i. Be a member of the Senate.
 - ii. Have completed 30 hours or be in the process of completing 30 hours in the semester in which s/he is elected.

- iii. Have also served as a senator or staff member for at least one semester.
 - iv. Shall report back to the SGA on a consistent basis and update the Senate on different legislation proposed within Jonesboro City Council meetings that pertain to Arkansas State University students.
 - v. Have a monthly meeting with the SGA staff.
9. Sustainability Liaison shall:
- i. Be a member of the Senate.
 - ii. Have also served as a senator or staff member for at least one semester.
 - iii. Have completed 30 hours or be in the process of completing 30 hours in the semester in which they were elected.
 - iv. Have a monthly meeting with the SGA Staff and Continuation Commissioner appointed Senator.
 - v. Report back to the SGA Senate on different sustainability initiatives, progress on the SGA Comprehensive Sustainability Plan, and A-State Strategic Plan.
 - vi. Document all meetings, proposals, and policies pertaining to sustainability initiatives.
 - vii. Use, at their discretion, documents provided through student research to aid in their efforts to achieve sustainability [said documents hard copy may be found in the SGA Office, a digital copy will be provided to the SGA Advisor for records].
 - viii. *This position will be temporary and will be dissolved in the 2023-2024 term upon the completion of the SGA Comprehensive Sustainability Plan, unless the elected Staff and Senate determines the position shall remain.*

Section 7 – Terms of Office

1. All Holders of special senate offices shall serve for the academic year in which they are elected.
2. Should any vacancy occur for any special senate office, that vacancy shall be filled in the same manner in which the position was to be originally filled.

Section 8 – Vacancies within the Senate

1. The power to fill vacancies in its membership by approving a candidate by simple majority, other than
 - a. Resigned member must obtain a letter of approval from the Vice President, that is to be read to the Senate, in order to be approved by the Senate.
 - b. Any member who is expelled from the Senate will not be allowed to return to SGA in any capacity.
 - c. If a Senator is removed due to absences they will be suspended the remainder of the current term and following term. The Senator may reapply for a position in SGA with a letter of approval from the Vice President.
2. Vacant positions on the Senate shall be publicized and opened at the next regular Senate meeting for any student from that classification to attend the meeting and seek the position.
3. If vacancy is not filled after one meeting, any student may attend the next meeting and seek the position. At that meeting if a student is selected and they are not from the classification, they serve as the At-Large Senator until the end of the term.

Section 9 – Duties and Powers of the Senate

The duties and powers of the Senate shall be:

1. To address the academic and non-academic concerns of members by acting as representatives of undergraduate and graduate students;
2. To establish and modify as necessary a set of bylaws that dictate SGA operation known as the SGA Bylaws. If changes are made to the SGA Bylaws, corrections must be made and the current document must be made public within five (5) calendar days;
3. To pass resolutions by a majority vote. A resolution is a formal request of action. A resolution may set aside funds for a specific project or budget area, make a specific policy request to the University Administration, establish temporary government structures, request specific action by SGA officers or committees, or modify the SGA Bylaws.
 - a. A resolution stands in effect until it is repealed or replaced; and
 - b. A resolution may not supersede nor contradict this Constitution.
4. The power to override a presidential veto by a two-thirds majority.
5. The power to confirm or reject presidential appointments by a vote of simple majority.
6. The power to expel any member that it deems necessary through processes outlined in Article 3 of the SGA Bylaws.
7. To abide by Parliamentary Procedures in the order outlined below:
 - a. The Legislative Branch shall abide by Parliamentary law outlined in this Constitution and the SGA Bylaws; and
 - b. The latest edition of Roberts Rules of Order shall govern all parliamentary procedure not delineated in this Constitution or the SGA Bylaws.
 - c. The Parliamentarian, using Robert's Rules of Order, shall be the advisor to the Senate. Robert's Rules of Order (the most currently revised) shall be the final authority on all questions of procedures and parliamentary law not otherwise defined in the constitution. The Parliamentarian shall be the sole authority on such questions. The Senate shall obey whatever decisions s/he renders.

Section 10 – Petition and Referendum

1. Students have the right to petition the Senate for action on matters of general interest to the university community. Five percent of the current semester's enrollment of the student body may present their signatures to the Senate, who then must act upon the item in question as a regular piece of business, within the next two meetings.
2. Students have the right to present a referendum petition to the Senate to gain approval for presentation of an item to the student body for their approval. This shall occur in either the general or special election. This petition must contain signatures of five percent of the current semester's enrollment.

Article III – Elections

Section 1 – Election Commission

1. The Chair of the Election Commission shall be the current Vice President. In the event that the Vice President is running for an office in the coming election, the position of Election Commission Chair shall be given to another senior staff member.
 - a. The Chair of the Election Commission shall select the Election Commissioners with approval by the President
 - b. The Commission shall consist of at least five persons with an outgoing member of the SGA Staff being a member. In the event that there are no outgoing members of the SGA Staff, this position shall be given to a senate official.

- c. The Election Commission shall be governed by Bylaws established within the limits defined by this constitution
- d. The Election Commission shall supervise and execute all election procedures in accordance with Arkansas State Law

Section 2 – Executive Officer Elections

1. Executive Officers shall be elected in the spring general election by a plurality vote of the student body administered on or before the first Wednesday of April.
2. The SGA Election Commission shall be responsible for conducting the Executive Officer elections. The Commission shall supervise and execute all election procedures in accordance with Arkansas State Election Commission Bylaws and the Constitution of the Arkansas State University Student Government Association. Failure to comply with these regulations could ultimately result in a candidate's removal from the election.
3. The President and Vice President shall run together on a combined ticket in the general election.
4. A plurality of votes cast is necessary for election in the general election for President and Vice-President.

Section 3 – Senate Elections

1. All Senators shall be elected in publicized, or at-large vacancy, secret ballot elections administered by the SGA. Registration for Senate candidacy shall follow the same timeline as the Executive Officer election.
2. The initial Senate election shall be held in conjunction with the Executive Officer election.
3. A plurality of votes cast is necessary for election in the general election for Senate positions.
4. The SGA Election Commission shall be responsible for conducting the Senate elections. The Commission shall supervise and execute all election procedures in accordance with Arkansas State Election Commission Bylaws and the Constitution of the Arkansas State University Student Government Association. Failure to comply with these regulations could ultimately result in a candidate's removal from the election.

Section 4 – General Election Rules

1. The general election shall be held by secret ballot on or before the first Wednesday in April.
2. The election of freshman senators will be held on or before the last Tuesday in September.
3. The formal oath of office shall be administered to all officials elected during the general election of the spring semester at such time deemed reasonable by the parties involved on the second Tuesday in April.
4. The terms of all officials elected during general elections, including freshman senators, shall terminate the second Tuesday in April of the following year, or when their successors are duly elected and qualified.
5. Positions with no candidates shall not appear on the ballot and shall be filled by the Senate as vacancies.
6. No write-ins will be allowed during elections.
7. Candidates may only run for one position.

Section 5 – Protesting an Election

1. Protest of elections shall be done in the following manner:

1. Protest of all Student Government Association elections must be made in writing within 24 hours of the announcement of the final results of the election in question.
2. Any member of the student body may protest an election.
3. Any protest must be made before the Senate and all evidence must be presented to the Senate.
4. The Senate shall render a decision on the dispute. Recalling of an election shall only result from a two-thirds vote of the total membership.

Article IV –Removal of Position

Section 1 – Impeachment

Impeachment and removal procedures for the President and/or Vice-President are that:

1. The Senate may initiate impeachment proceedings against the President and/or Vice-President by a simple majority.
2. There must be a specific list of the charges in both cases provided to the parties impeached and the Senators.
3. A formal hearing will be held in a special session of the Senate.
4. The President and/or Vice-President can only be removed by a three-fourths vote of the total membership.
5. The President shall have the power to appoint a Vice President if a vacancy occurs subject to approval of the Senate by simple majority.
6. Impeachment procedures shall follow *Robert's Rules of Order*.

Article V – Amendments and Constitutional Conventions

Section 1 – Amendments

1. Amendments to the Constitution may be presented to the Senate at any time, and if approved by a two-thirds majority of the total membership, shall be submitted in the next general or a special election for approval by the electorate. This must be met by a two-thirds majority of those voting on the issue.

Section 2 – Amendments to General Provisions

1. These provisions may be amended by two-thirds vote of the Senate. Amendments must be voted on after proposal in a prior regular meeting of the Senate.

Section 3 – Constitutional Conventions

1. A constitutional convention may be called by resolution of the Senate or by petition of the student electorate as one proposed, or it may submit proposed parts or alternative parts of an amendment, for separate votes. This shall be done in either the general election or a special election.

Definitions:

- Total membership – the total number of senators present during that specific meeting. (used in Article III Section 5 clause 4, Article IV Section 1 clause 4, Article V Section 1 clause 1)
- Plurality – the number of votes cast for a candidate who receives more than any other candidate regardless of receiving more than half of the total number of votes cast. (used in Article I Section 2 clause 1, Article III Section 2 clause 1, Article III Section 2 clause 4, Article III Section 3 clause 4)
- Semester – (when referring to time served) full semester, either fall or spring. A full

semester shall consist of every meeting that takes place within the academic semester, as outlined by the university academic calendar. Any meetings between elections and the recess for summer break should count towards the upcoming fall semester. (Used in Article I, Section 3, clause 2; Article II, Section 6, clause 2, point c; Article II, Section 6, clause 8, point ii; Article II, Section 6, clause 9, point iii)

**BYLAWS
of the
Student Government Association Senate**

**ARTICLE 1
NAME**

- Section 1. Official Name:
- a. The official name of the representative body of delegates shall be the Student Government Association of Arkansas State University Senate.

**ARTICLE 2
OBJECTIVES**

- Section 1. Objectives of the SGA Senate:
- a. The creation of SGA policy, procedures, and code
 - b. The discussion of proposed legislation
 - c. The implementation of passed policy, procedures, and code
 - d. The designation of committee work and the assignment of committee tasks.
 - e. The support of events and projects of the SGA.
- Section 2. Public forum for the University:
- a. The SGA Senate shall serve as a public forum for discussion of student issues and concerns.
 - b. Any student, faculty, or staff member of Arkansas State University wishing to speak at a SGA meeting should notify the SGA Secretary at least two days in advance in order to be placed on the SGA meeting agenda.
 - c. Forum speakers will not be given Senate member rights at any time.
 - d. If forum speakers are present, they will be recognized according to placement on the agenda.

**ARTICLE 3
MEMBERS**

- Section 1. Membership:
- a. Members of the SGA Senate shall be all elected and appointed Senate members, the Vice-President of the SGA, and the appointed secretary and parliamentarian.
- Section 2. Attendance:
- a. No member shall have more than three absences from Senate meetings and events per term. The submission of a proxy shall count as half an absence.
 - b. Any member violating the attendance policy of the SGA Senate shall be removed from office.
- Section 3. Removal of Membership:
- a. Any member wishing to call for the removal of an SGA senator shall present formal written charges to the SGA Senate.

- b. Impeachment procedures shall follow *Robert's Rules of Order*.
- Section 4. Member Eligibility:
 - a. Any member who is expelled from office shall be ineligible for any SGA positions.
- Section 5. Filling of Vacant Senate Seats:
 - a. Vacant positions on the Senate shall be publicized and opened at the next regular Senate meeting for any student from that classification to attend the meeting and seek the position.
 - b. If a vacancy is not filled after one meeting, any student may attend the next meeting and seek the position. At that meeting if a student is selected and they are not from the classification, they serve as the At-Large Senator until the end of the term.

ARTICLE 4 OFFICERS

- Section 1. The SGA Senate shall elect the following officers:
 - a. President Pro Temp of the Senate.
 - b. Sergeant-at-Arms of the Senate.
 - c. Action Fund Commissioner of the Senate.
 - d. Campus Collaboration Commissioner
 - e. Continuation Commissioner
 - f. Excursion Chair
 - g. Local Government Representative
 - h. Sustainability Liaison
- Section 2. The SGA Senate has the authority to confirm the following officers nominated by the SGA President:
 - a. Secretary – with speaking rights
 - b. Parliamentarian – with speaking rights
 - c. Cultural Diversity Director
 - d. Public Relations Director
 - e. Chief of Staff
- Section 3. Speaker:
 - a. The Vice-President of the SGA shall serve as the speaker of all SGA meetings.
 - b. Impeachment procedures shall follow *Robert's Rules of Order*.
 - c. Upon impeachment, the President Pro Temp of the Senate shall preside as speaker.

ARTICLE 5 MEETINGS

- Section 1. Meeting types and provisions:
 - a. Meetings shall consist of the body of delegates, Speaker, Parliamentarian, SGA Secretary, and Sergeant-at-Arms.
 - b. The delegate body, the Speaker, or the student body may call constitutional conventions.
 - c. If the SGA President calls a special meeting or constitutional convention, the SGA President may preside as Speaker. In this event, the Speaker shall step down and will be given full delegate rights.
- Section 2. Quorum:
 - a. Quorum shall consist of a two-thirds majority of the delegate body.
 - b. If quorum is not present, no business shall be discussed and the meeting shall be called to adjournment.
- Section 3. Structure:

- Section 4. a. The speaker shall determine the structure of all SGA Senate meetings.
Voting:
a. All senators of the SGA Senate will be given voting rights.
b. In the event of a tie, the Speaker may reserve the right to vote.
c. If the Speaker refuses to vote and the vote remains tied, the question at hand will die.
d. All abstention voting shall be neutral in nature.

ARTICLE 6 COMMITTEES

- Section 1. Committee directors:
a. All committee directors shall be selected by the President Pro-Temp from the active senators in the delegate body.
b. Changes in the committee shall be determined by the President Pro-Temp.
- Section 2. Committee Secretaries:
a. Each committee shall elect a secretary.
b. Committee secretaries shall record every event of a committee meeting and submit typed records to the SGA Secretary for filing.
- Section 3. Committee Attendance:
a. Attendance records will be taken at every committee meeting by the committee secretary and will be given to the SGA Secretary within 48 hours of the meeting.
- Section 4. Designated Committees:
a. The following are, but not limited to, designated as official SGA Senate committees: Academic Affairs, Athletic Relations, Campus Life, Safety, and Parking, and Projects and Publicity
b. The Senate or the President may create/abolish a new committee at any time.
- Section 5. Committee Assignments:
a. The President shall determine committee assignments and will be overseen by the President Pro Temp.
b. At any time, the President Pro-Temp may change the placement of members in committees.

ARTICLE 7 PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

- Section 1. Parliamentary authority shall follow the SGA Constitution.

ARTICLE 8 AMENDMENTS TO THE BYLAWS

- Section 1. Procedure:
a. Amendments to the Bylaws shall require a three-fifths majority for approval.
b. Amendments shall be presented in the form of a resolution.

ARTICLE 9 RULES

- Section 1. Rules of Order:
a. Any legislation submitted to the SGA Senate shall be tabled for two weeks before being voted on.

- b. A proper motion to suspend the rules must be made and approved by two-thirds vote of the Senate in order for a non-member of the Senate to speak.

ARTICLE 10 ELECTION CODE

Section 1. Overview:

- a. All campaign regulations will be in accordance with the Constitution of the Arkansas State University Student Government Association. The Student Government Association shall not endorse any candidate or any other electoral matter. Failure to comply with these regulations will result in Class One or Class Two offenses and could ultimately result in a candidate's removal from the election. All formal offenses will be reviewed by the Election Commission and appropriate action will be determined by this committee.
- b. The election commission shall present any recommended changes to the SGA Senate within two weeks of elections for consideration.

Section 2. Offenses:

- a. Class One Offenses
 - i. Committing a class one offense may result in:
 - 1. 1st offense: Verbal warning from the Election Commissioner
 - 2. 2nd offense: Written warning from the Election Commissioner
 - 3. 3rd offense: Fine of \$100
 - 4. Subsequent offenses: Fine of \$150 and considered disqualification
- b. Class Two Offenses
 - i. Committing a class two offense may result in:
 - 1. 1st offense: Fine of \$50
 - 2. 2nd offense: Fine of \$100
 - 3. 3rd offense: Fine of \$250 and considered disqualification

Section 3. Rules:

- a. Verbal campaigning can take place at any time. However, organized speaking engagements (classrooms, organizations, free speech areas) cannot take place until official campaigning begins. (*Class One Offense*)
- b. No videos, campaign-based GroupMe, or social media posting from any personal or organized accounts until official campaigning begins March 8, 2021 at 12:01am. These platforms include, but are not limited to privately acquired websites, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat, GroupMe, etc. (*Class Two Offense*)
- c. Campaign materials cannot be displayed until official campaigning begins at 12:01am. (*Class Two Offense*)
- d. Campaign expenses cannot exceed \$500 for candidates (T-Shirts not included). All campaign funds shall be documented, including the source of funds. Donated materials and their monetary value shall also be documented, including the source of the donation. The value of the donated materials must be counted against a candidate's campaign expenses. (*Class Two Offense*)
- e. No signs, posters, or banners may be used on campus (including Greek housing). (*Class Two Offense*)
- f. Individuals or groups may sponsor political rallies. In all areas, use of voice amplification is prohibited. Use of music is determined by facility guidelines. (*Class One Offense*)
- g. No candidate may disseminate campaign materials or postings containing false or misleading information about a candidate, staff member, or Election Commission member. No person shall deface or contribute to the defacing of any campaign materials. (*Class Two Offense*)

- h. No paint or spray chalk of any kind will be allowed on any University property whatsoever. (*Class Two Offense*)
- i. The distribution of food, candy, or beverages is prohibited. (*Class Two Offense*)
- j. No individual gifts or trinkets valued at more than \$0.99 can be distributed. (*Class Two Offense*)
- k. All campaigning must take place at least 100 ft from the Reng Student Union and Library. No campaigning materials will be allowed in the Library at any time. Campaigning and materials will only be allowed in the Reng Student Union while attending Registered Student Organization meetings and/or events. (*Class One Offense*)
- l. Chalking will be allowed on sidewalks only. No chalking is to be done on any walls, steps or vertical surface. No chalking is to be done within 100 ft of the Reng Student Union or Library. (*Class One Offense*)
- m. No candidate may intentionally damage the character of another candidate, staff member, or Election Commission member with false information. Furthermore, any allegations that could be considered libel or slander will be brought to the Election Commission for review. (*Class Two Offense*)
- n. Creating polling sites is strictly prohibited. (*Class Two Offense*)
- o. Candidates must seek approval through the Office of University Housing before posting campaign materials in the residence halls. Documentation of approval must be shared with the Election Commission prior to posting. (*Class One Offense*)

Section 4. Additions:

- a. All fines must be paid by the close of voting. Failure to pay fines will result in removal from election.
- b. No Student Government Association resources and/or platforms may be used in the promotion of, advocacy for, or campaigning on behalf of or in coordination with any candidate or any other electoral matter on the ballot. General announcement, notification, or publication of an upcoming election is acceptable, and general statements of encouragement to vote in said election are also permissible.