# THE BYLAWS OF THE SOUTHEASTERN LOUISIANA University Student Government Association

# **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

Preamble	4
TITLE I: EXECUTIVE BOARD	4
CLAUSE 1: PURPOSE	4
Clause 2: Membership	4
CLAUSE 3: EXECUTIVE BOARD LEADERSHIP	5
CLAUSE 4: MEETING REQUIREMENTS	5
Clause 5: Executive Reports	5
CLAUSE 6: EXECUTIVE OFFICE HOURS	6
CLAUSE 7: EXECUTIVE STIPENDS AND TUITION WAIVERS	6
TITLE II: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES	7
CLAUSE 1: PURPOSE	7
CLAUSE 2: CAPITAL OUTLAY ADVISORY COMMITTEE	7
CLAUSE 3: ELECTION BOARD	8

TITLE III: EXECUTIVE BRANCH	12
CLAUSE 1: EXECUTIVE BRANCH COMPOSITION	12
CLAUSE 2: OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT.	12
CLAUSE 3: OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF	13
CLAUSE 4: OFFICE OF FINANCIAL AFFAIRS	14

TITLE IV: LEGISLATIVE BRANCH	15
CLAUSE 1: LEGISLATIVE BRANCH COMPOSITION	15
CLAUSE 2: LEGISLATIVE BRANCH DUTIES	15
Clause 3: Senate Meetings	17
CLAUSE 4: LEGISLATION	17
Clause 5: Senate Committees	26
CLAUSE 6: ESTABLISHING STANDING RULES	.28

TITLE V: JUDICIAL BRANCH	
CLAUSE 1: STUDENT SUPREME COURT	
CLAUSE 2: JUDICIAL BRANCH LEADERSHIP	
CLAUSE 3: JUSTICE DUTIES	
CLAUSE 4: FREE SPEECH ALLEY GUIDELINES	

TITLE VI: IMPEACHMENTS	32
Clause 1: Purpose	32
CLAUSE 2: DEFINITIONS.	

2	
2 CLAUSE 3: COMPOSITION	32
CLAUSE 4: OATH OF IMPARTIALITY	34
Clause 5: Procedure	34
CLAUSE 6: RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES	36
CLAUSE 7: SUCCESSION	37

TITLE VII: PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY	
TITLE VIII: AMENDMENTS	

### 3 PREAMBLE

The Bylaws of the Southeastern Louisiana University Student Government Association are an extension of the laws as stated in the Constitution, and provide, in detail, the format by which the branches of Student Government can effectively govern and respond to all Southeastern Louisiana University students.

# **<u>TITLE I: EXECUTIVE BOARD</u>**

**CLAUSE 1: PURPOSE** 

The Executive Board shall serve as a means of communication among the leadership of each of the branches in the pursuit of unity, uniformity, and understanding of the operation and effectiveness of each branch within the Student Government Association.

## **CLAUSE 2: MEMBERSHIP**

- 1. The Executive Board shall be composed of the following Student Government Association officials:
  - 1.1. VOTING MEMBERS:
    - 1.1.1. President
    - 1.1.2. VICE PRESIDENT
    - 1.1.3. CHIEF JUSTICE
    - 1.1.4. CHIEF OF STAFF
    - 1.1.5. Senate Pro Tempore
    - 1.1.6. Associate Chief Justice
  - 1.2. Non-Voting Members:
    - 1.2.1. Student Government Association Advisors

# **CLAUSE 3: EXECUTIVE BOARD LEADERSHIP**

- 1. EXECUTIVE BOARD CHAIRPERSON MUST:
  - 1.1. Be the President of the Student Government Association.
  - $1.2.\ Prepare$  an agenda for each meeting.
  - 1.3. Have the authority to call special meetings when necessary, giving at least a twenty-four hour notice.

4

- 2. EXECUTIVE BOARD VICE CHAIRPERSON MUST:
  - 2.1. BE THE VICE PRESIDENT OF THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION.
  - 2.2. Serve as the Chairperson, at the request or in the absence of the President. 2.3.
  - Take minutes at Executive Board meetings, and disperse them to members.

# **CLAUSE 4: MEETING REQUIREMENTS**

- 1. The Executive Board shall meet at least twice a month during the Fall and Spring semesters.
- 2. Each branch must present information regarding ongoing events, meetings, activities, and any other pertinent information within their branch.
- 3. Meetings must be run according to Robert's Rules of Order.

# **CLAUSE 5: EXECUTIVE REPORTS**

- 1. MONTHLY REPORTS
  - 1.1. Student Government Association Executive Officials will submit monthly reports documenting the goals and activities they themselves, as well as the members of their branch, have accomplished or plan to accomplish. The following executives must submit monthly reports to the Executive Board, and the Internal Affairs Committee:
    - 1.1.1. President
    - 1.1.2. VICE PRESIDENT
    - 1.1.3. CHIEF JUSTICE
    - 1.2. Monthly reports, for the previous month, must be submitted by the first business day of every month by the close of the Office for Student Engagement.

5

1.2.1. FAILURE TO SUBMIT A MONTHLY REPORT ON TIME MUST RESULT IN LOSS OF THAT MONTH'S STIPEND.

- 1.2.2. FAILURE TO SUBMIT A MONTHLY REPORT FOR TWO OR MORE MONTHS IS GROUNDS FOR IMPEACHMENT.
- 1.3. Monthly reports must be submitted via electronic mail.
- 2. Student Government Association Logs

2.1. Only the top three Executive Officials are required to individually maintain concise

RECORDS. THESE RECORDS, TO BE REFERRED TO AS SGA LOGS, MUST BE TURNED IN BY THE

AFOREMENTIONED OFFICERS AT THE END OF EACH TERM. THEY ARE TO BE PASSED DOWN TO THE INCOMING OFFICERS OF THE NEXT TERM. THESE SHALL INCLUDE ALL PRINTED DOCUMENTS, CORRESPONDENCE, AND PERSONAL NOTES THAT WOULD HELP INCOMING OFFICERS FOR THEIR NEXT TERM.

# **CLAUSE 6: EXECUTIVE OFFICE HOURS**

1. Only the top three Executive Officials are required to serve office hours as follows: 1.1. President: Fifteen (15) office hours per week in the Fall and Spring semesters, and ten (10) office hours per week in the Summer.

1.2. Vice President and Chief Justice: Twelve (12) office hours per week in the Fall and Spring semesters, and ten (10) office hours per week in the Summer. 2. These office hours may be altered at the discretion of the Student Government Association Advisor.

2.1. A NOTICE OF AT LEAST TWO (2) WEEKS PRIOR TO THE INTENDED CHANGES MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE EXECUTIVE BOARD, AS WELL AS JUST REASONING FOR THE CHANGES.

# **CLAUSE 7: EXECUTIVE STIPENDS AND TUITION WAIVERS**

1. Only the top three Executive Officials will receive stipends and tuition waivers. 1.1. The stipends will be dispersed monthly after the submission and approval of Executive Reports by the Student Government Association Advisor.

1.2. EXECUTIVE STIPEND AMOUNTS ARE DETERMINED IN THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION POLICY

Manual, as set forth by the Executive Board and

UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATION.

1.3. TUITION WAIVERS ARE AVAILABLE FOR THE SUMMER, FALL, AND SPRING SEMESTERS. 6

### **TITLE II: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES**

### **CLAUSE I: PURPOSE**

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES ARE OVERSEEN BY MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD, AND WORK TO SERVE AND PROTECT THE RIGHTS OF ALL STUDENTS.

# CLAUSE II: CAPITAL OUTLAY ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

1. Purpose

- 1.1. The Capital Outlay Advisory Committee will discuss proposals for the use of the Capital Outlay Fund. The proposed projects that are discussed are meant to develop campus beautification or infrastructure that increases the welfare of the student body.
- 1.2. THE CAPITAL OUTLAY FUND WILL ALLOCATE MONIES TO THE PROJECTS THAT ARE VOTED AND PASSED BY THE CAPITAL OUTLAY ADVISORY COMMITTEE.
- 2. VOTING MEMBERS:
  - 2.1. CHAIRPERSON: STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION VICE PRESIDENT
  - 2.2. VICE CHAIRPERSON: DIRECTOR OF FINANCIAL AFFAIRS
  - 2.3. Two Cabinet Members
  - 2.4. Two Senators
  - 2.5. One Justice
- 3. Non-voting Members:
  - $3.1. \ Student \ Government \ Association \ President$
  - 3.2. STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION ADVISOR
  - 3.3. Representatives from the Physical Plant
  - 3.4. Representatives from Facility Planning
- 4. Committee Guidelines:
  - 4.1. The Capital Outlay Committee must meet at least three times in both the fall and spring semesters.
  - 4.2. The chairperson will be responsible for organizing all meetings and for preparing a meeting agenda.
  - 4.3. PROJECT PROPOSALS WILL ONLY BE ACCEPTED DURING THE FALL AND SPRING SEMESTERS, AND MUST BE SUBMITTED NO LATER THAN THE DROP DATE OF EACH SEMESTER TO GUARANTEE CONSIDERATION.

4.4. All submitted proposals must have an itemized budget breakdown. 4.5. For all accepted projects, the committee must research, develop, and oversee them through completion.

7

4.6. All accepted projects must be available to and benefit the student body. 4.7. Bids are required upon the demand of the committee.

4.8. QUORUM IS FIFTY PERCENT PLUS ONE OF THE VOTING MEMBERS.

# **CLAUSE III: ELECTION BOARD**

1. Purpose

1.1. The Election Board will oversee all elections of the Student Government Association.

2. VOTING MEMBERS:

- 2.1. CHAIRPERSON: STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION CHIEF JUSTICE
- 2.2. VICE CHAIRPERSON: ASSOCIATE CHIEF JUSTICE
- 2.3. Student Government Association President
- 2.4. Two Cabinet Members
- 2.5. Two Senators
- 2.6. One Justice
- 3. NON-VOTING MEMBERS:
  - 3.1. Student Government Association Advisors
- 4. BOARD GUIDELINES:
  - $4.1. \ If any of the aforementioned members of the Election Board are unable to attend an Election Board meeting or are ineligible to hold membership, the$

CHAIRPERSON MAY APPOINT A MEMBER OF THE BOARD MEMBER'S BRANCH TO ATTEND THE MEETING IN THEIR PLACE OR BECOME A MEMBER.

- $4.1.1. \ If no members of the specific branch are eligible, a Student Government Association member from another branch may be chosen.$
- 4.2. In the event that the Chairperson is ineligible to hold office, the powers and duties will fall upon the line of succession:
  - 4.2.1. Associate Chief Justice
  - $4.2.2. \ Justice in order \ of \ tenure$
  - 4.2.3. Student Government Association President
  - 4.2.4. Student Life Chairperson
  - 4.2.5. Student Life Vice Chairperson

4.2.6. Student Government Association Advisor will appoint a Chairperson 4.3. The Election Board's committee membership will run concurrent with the Student Government Association Chief Justice's term.

4.4. Upon the start of the SGA Chief Justice's term each branch shall appoint members to the Election Board no later than the second week of the Fall Academic Semester.

4.4.1. POTENTIAL MEMBERS OF THE ELECTION BOARD WHO WILL BE RUNNING FOR SGA OFFICE OR HOMECOMING DURING FALL OR SPRING ELECTIONS MUST BE DISQUALIFIED FROM HOLDING AN ELECTION BOARD OFFICE.

# **CLAUSE IV: BUDGET OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE**

1. Purpose

- 1.1. The Budget Oversight Committee must oversee student self-assessed fees and ensure that fees are used appropriately.
- 2. VOTING MEMBERS
  - 2.1. DIRECTOR OF FINANCIAL AFFAIRS
  - 2.2. Senate Appropriations Chairperson
  - 2.3. Three student members of groups funded by student self-assessed fees, not in  $$\rm SGA$$
  - 2.4. One Cabinet Member
  - 2.5. One Senator
  - 2.6. ONE JUSTICE
- 3. Non-Voting Members
  - 3.1. Student Government Association President
  - 3.2. Student Government Association Vice President
  - $3.3. \ Student \ Government \ Association \ Chief \ Justice$
  - 3.4. Student Government Association Advisor
  - 3.5. Representative from the Division of Administration and Finance 3.6.
  - Representative from the Division for Student Affairs
- 4. Committee Guidelines
  - 4.1. The committee must meet at least four times per year (twice in both the fall and spring semesters). One of the meetings must be held within the first month of each academic term (excluding training, educational, promotional efforts). More frequent meetings may be scheduled as needed to meet deadlines. (i.e. final report, referendum, etc.).
    - 4.1.1. Special meetings may be called by the committee chairperson when necessary.
    - 4.2. At the first meeting of the Fall Semester the Chairperson of the committee shall be elected by the voting members of the committee.
      - 4.2.1. The Chairperson shall only vote in the event of a tie.
  - 4.3. At the beginning of the Fall Semester the committee members will be required to undergo an orientation on appropriate fee use and an overview of budgetary reporting. This orientation will be coordinated by a representative from the

#### 9

DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE AND/OR A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE DIVISION FOR STUDENT AFFAIRS.

4.3.1. All existing student self-assessed fees to pay bond covenants are by legal definition irrevocable once approved by the student body as a whole in a referendum vote, but thereafter shall be subject to the Budget Oversight Committee and the supervision and management authority of the Board (BYLAWS Sect. 5 Rules of the Board of Trustees for State Colleges and Universities).

- 4.3.2. After the first meeting of each Fall semester, University Administration will ensure that access to monthly departmental budget summaries is given to the Student Government Association Advisor, the Office for Student Engagement Business Administrator, and the Student Government Association Graduate Assistant to ensure that information on said budget summaries can be received by the Student Government Association President if necessary.
- 4.4. FEE INCREASE/DECREASE PROCESS
  - 4.4.1. A FEE INCREASE/DECREASE PROPOSAL MUST GAIN THE FOLLOWING APPROVALS BEFORE IT CAN BE PLACED ON AN OFFICIAL BALLOT:
    - 4.4.1.1. Approval from the Student Government Association through the Budget Oversight Committee, the senate Appropriations Committee, and two-thirds approval from the SGA Senate in official votes.
    - 4.4.1.2. Approval from the University President and the University of Louisiana System Board of Supervisors.
  - 4.4.2. Once approved, the fee proposal will be added to the Next Official Student Government Association election.
    - 4.4.2.1. A two-thirds majority from voting students is needed for the Bill to Pass.
  - 4.4.3. ONCE PASSED, THE UPDATED FEE AMOUNT WILL BE APPLIED TO THE SUBSEQUENT SEMESTER'S TUITION BILL.

#### 4.5. Fee Referendum/Recall

- 4.5.1. A REFERENDUM MAY BE PLACED ON THE BALLOT BY:
  - 4.5.1.1. A two-thirds vote of the Senate with the authorized signature of the Student Government Association President.
  - $4.5.1.2.\ Petition of a number of signatures not less than five percent of the$

TOTAL NUMBER OF STUDENTS ENROLLED DURING THE SEMESTER OF

The last Spring election. All signatures must include

Southeastern Louisiana University W#, email address, and phone number of the signer. The Election Board shall certify the

#### 10

AUTHENTICITY OF THE SIGNATURES UPON RECEIPT AND SHALL EDIT THE PROPOSAL FOR PROPER LANGUAGE.

4.5.2. The Student Government Association Legislative and Executive Branches are charged with the duty and task of coordinating a campus-wide effort to increase student awareness and understanding of the value of the student self-assessed fee or fees in question. This effort may include, but is not limited to: forums, press releases, radio ADS, RESOURCE/DOCUMENTATION MANAGEMENT AND BROCHURE DEVELOPMENT. 4.5.3. THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION ELECTION BOARD SHALL SEE THAT THE FEE OR FEES "RECALL" IS PLACED ON THE BALLOT IN REFERENDUM FORM IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE FOLLOWING LANGUAGE:

"Do you favor the automatic renewal of (Description of Fees) as a student self-assessed fee?"

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

4.5.4. The student assessed fee (s) will be renewed if a majority of the voting membership replies in the affirmative. If the vote is negative, the student fee(s) shall be discontinued effective at the end of the fiscal year. The fee(s) can be reinstated in any subsequent year, but only through the same process, which applies to any proposed new student assessed fee.
4.5.5. Fee recalls shall be placed only on a fall ballot.

# **CLAUSE V: STUDENT TECHNOLOGY FEE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE**

Committee membership and rules shall be governed by the current Student Technology Fee Agreement.

### 11 <u>TITLE III: EXECUTIVE BRANCH</u>

### **CLAUSE 1: EXECUTIVE BRANCH COMPOSITION**

- 1. EXECUTIVE BRANCH LEADERSHIP
  - 1.1. President
  - 1.2. CHIEF OF STAFF
  - 1.3. DIRECTOR OF FINANCIAL AFFAIRS
  - 1.4. Cabinet Positions deemed necessary by the current Student Government Association President
    - 1.4.1. Cabinet Directors may appoint other members to their offices as approved by the Student Government Association President.
- 2. Appointment Process
  - 2.1. Directors of these Cabinet positions will be appointed by the Student Government Association President, and voted upon by a simple majority vote of the Senate.
  - 2.2. All Cabinet positions must be appointed before the end of the spring semester in which the President is elected.
  - $\label{eq:2.3.} The Student Government Association President will have the authority to remove members of the Executive Branch as he/she deems necessary.$

# **CLAUSE 2: OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT**

- 1. The President must:
  - $1.1.\ Call\ Cabinet\ meetings\ no\ less\ than\ twice\ per\ month.$

1.2. Attend all meetings and represent Southeastern Louisiana University's Student Government Association at the Council of Student Body Presidents. 1.3. Have the authority to make emergency expenditures with the approval of the Student Government Association Advisor and must report such expenditures to the Student Senate immediately. The amount that the President is authorized to use for emergency expenditures is five thousand dollars (\$5,000) per academic semester.

1.4. Establish such policies for the Executive Branch as needed.

1.5. Serve on all Student Government Association Executive Committees. 1.6. Be Limited to serve only two Presidential terms in his/her Southeastern Louisiana University academic career.

### 12

- 1.7. Have the authority to issue executive orders on Student Government Association policies and procedures.
  - 1.7.1. Executive orders must not:
    - 1.7.1.1. DIRECTLY APPROPRIATE FUNDS FROM ACCOUNTS WHICH REQUIRE SENATE APPROVAL.

- 1.7.1.2. DIRECTLY REMOVE A MEMBER OR MEMBERS FROM OFFICE.
- 1.7.1.3. DIRECTLY CONTRADICT THE CONSTITUTION, BYLAWS, AND STANDING RULES.
- 1.7.1.4. BE UNETHICAL IN NATURE.
- 1.7.2. Executive orders are subject to appeal to the Supreme Court, where a majority vote of the court must be required to overturn an executive order.
- 1.7.3. EXECUTIVE ORDERS WILL REMAIN IN EFFECT UNTIL THE END OF HIS/HER PRESIDENTIAL TERM.
- 1.8. If necessary, appoint nominations for empty Senate positions, upon the advice and consent of the Vice President and Student Government Association Advisor, and approval of the Student Senate.
  - 1.8.1. Should the Vice President advise against the approval of the applicant, a formal recommendation of disapproval shall be presented to the Internal Affairs Committee, along with any pertinent documentation

JUSTIFYING THEIR RECOMMENDATION.

- 1.9. If necessary, appoint nominations for empty Justice positions, upon the advice and consent of the Chief Justice and Student Government Association Advisor, and approval of the Student Senate
  - 1.9.1. Should the Chief Justice advise against the approval of the applicant, a formal recommendation of disapproval shall be presented to the Internal Affairs Committee, along with any pertinent documentation Justifying their recommendation.

# **CLAUSE 3: OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF**

1. Purpose

1.1. TO ASSIST WITH ALL MATTERS OF THE CABINET OF THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION. 2. THE CHIEF OF STAFF MUST:

2.1. Oversee all aspects of the Cabinet as directed by the President. 2.2.

Serve as a liaison between the President and the Cabinet.

2.3. Coordinate Cabinet meetings.

#### 13

- 2.4. BE IN CONTACT WITH CABINET MEMBERS DURING EACH WEEK TO REVIEW GOALS AND ASSIGN TASKS.
- 2.5. COORDINATE THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION AWARDS BANQUET, WHICH SHALL BE HELD TOWARDS THE END OF THE SPRING SEMESTER.
- 2.6. Accept and complete all duties assigned by the Student Government Association President.

2.7. Serve office hours at the discretion of the Student Government Association President.

### **CLAUSE 4: OFFICE OF FINANCIAL AFFAIRS**

- 1. Purpose
  - 1.1. TO ASSIST WITH ALL FINANCIAL MATTERS AND FINANCIAL PROJECTS OF THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION.
- 2. The Director of Financial Affairs must:
  - 2.1. KEEP ACCURATE AND UP-TO-DATE BALANCES OF ALL STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION FUNDS AND ACCOUNTS.
  - 2.2. Serve on the Budget Oversight Committee
  - 2.3. Serve as the Vice Chairperson of the Capital Outlay Committee. 2.4. Keep an ongoing report, documenting the balances and transactions of all Student Government Association funds and accounts, and submit it to: 2.4.1. The Senate at the first and third meetings of each month.
    - 2.4.2. The Executive Board on the first meeting of each month.
  - 2.5. Serve as a financial advisor to the Student Government Association President on All SGA financial matters.
  - 2.6. Keep all financial records and upkeep previous financial records. 2.7. Issue a detailed report of all Student Government Association funds and accounts as well as any financial projects at the end of his/her term.

### 14 TITLE IV: LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

### **CLAUSE 1: LEGISLATIVE BRANCH COMPOSITION**

### 1. LEGISLATIVE BRANCH LEADERSHIP

- $1.1. \ Student \ Government \ Association \ Vice \ President$
- 1.2. Senate Pro Tempore
- 1.3. Senators
  - 1.3.1. Freshman Senators
  - 1.3.2. Graduate Senators
  - 1.3.3. Senators-at-Large
  - 1.3.4. Senators for the College of Nursing and Health Sciences
  - 1.3.5. Senators for the College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences
  - 1.3.6. Senators for the College of Science and Technology
  - $1.3.7.\ Senators$  for the College of Business
  - 1.3.8. Senators for the College of Education
  - 1.3.9. Senators for the College of Honors and Excellence

# **CLAUSE 2: LEGISLATIVE BRANCH DUTIES**

- 1. The Vice President Must:
  - 1.1. Prepare an Agenda and any necessary legislation for each Senate meeting and see that it is presented to the Student Government Association prior to each senate meeting.

1.2. COORDINATE AN ORIENTATION PROGRAM FOR NEWLY ELECTED SENATORS. 1.3. SIGN AND THEN PRESENT ALL ADOPTED MEASURES TO THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT FOR SIGNATURE OF APPROVAL WITHIN THREE DAYS OF ADOPTION. 2. THE SENATE PRO TEMPORE MUST:

- $2.1.\ Be$  elected at the first Senate meeting of the semester.
  - 2.1.1. In the event of the resignation of the current Pro Tempore, a new Pro Tempore shall be elected at the earliest scheduled meeting following the resignation.
- 2.2. Assume the duties of the Vice President upon his/her absence.
- 2.3. Take accurate minutes of the Senate meeting and see that each Senator receives a copy of these minutes.
- 2.4. Maintain a roster of all active Senators within their respective colleges. 15
- 3. Senators must:

3.1. Attend Senate meetings and adhere to the attendance policy.

3.1.1. Any Senator Absent for more than three meetings per semester, shall be subject to impeachment and referred to the Internal Affairs Committee. 3.2. Reside on at least one Senate standing committee.

- 3.3. Author and sponsor at least one (1) piece of legislation per semester, and work to see adopted or sponsored legislation through to fulfillment.
- 3.4. BE CONSIDERED A VOTING MEMBER OF THE SENATE UPON BEING SWORN IN BY THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION CHIEF JUSTICE.
- 3.5. Complete at least one (1) organizational/SE 1010/1020 visit over the course of each semester.
  - 3.5.1. An organizational visit consists of the Senator attending a meeting of an organization/class to uncover specific issues the organization/class deals with, and to inform the organization of the resources available through the Student Government Association.
    - 3.5.1.1. Senators are not permitted to meet with an organization that another senator has previously visited within the academic year.
      - 3.5.1.1.1. This does not prohibit senators from making joint visitations.
  - 3.5.2. The Internal Affairs Committee is responsible for approving, and keeping record of, all organizational and SE 1010/1020 visitation reports.
  - 3.5.3. Senators must submit a report to the Internal Affairs Committee within two Senate meetings of the visitation.
  - 3.5.4. Not accumulating the required amount of organizational or SE 101 visits in a semester can be grounds for impeachment at the discretion of the Vice President and the Internal Affairs Committee.
- 3.6. Complete at least one departmental visitation within their college over the course of their term.
  - 3.6.1. A DEPARTMENTAL VISIT CONSISTS OF A SENATOR MEETING WITH ANY DEPARTMENT HEAD WITHIN THEIR COLLEGE OR THEIR COLLEGE DEAN TO DISCUSS MATTERS PERTAINING TO THEIR DEPARTMENT/ACADEMIC COLLEGE, AND TO INFORM THEM OF THE DEPARTMENTAL GRANT PROCESS.
    - 3.6.1.1. Senators are not permitted to meet with a department head or dean that another senator has previously visited within the academic year.
      - 3.6.1.1.1. This does not prohibit senators from making joint visitations.
  - 3.6.2. Senators must submit a visitation report to the Senate within two Senate meetings of the visitation.

3.6.3. The Internal Affairs Committee is responsible for approving, and keeping record of, all departmental visitation reports.

# **CLAUSE 3: SENATE MEETINGS**

- 1. The regular meetings of the Senate will be divided into two sessions, the Fall Session and the Spring Session.
- 2. QUORUM FOR REGULAR AND SPECIAL SESSION MEETINGS MUST BE FIFTY PERCENT PLUS ONE OF THE TOTAL SENATORS THAT HAVE BEEN BOTH ELECTED/APPOINTED AND SWORN IN.
- 3. EVERY SENATE MEETING AND SENATE COMMITTEE MEETING SHALL BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC, WITH THE FOLLOWING EXCEPTIONS:
  - 3.1. EXECUTIVE SESSIONS ARE CALLED.

3.1.1. A SIMPLE MAJORITY VOTE IS REQUIRED TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION. 3.1.2. DURING AN EXECUTIVE SESSION NO FINAL OR BINDING ACTION MAY BE TAKEN. 3.2. THIS OPEN MEETING RULE SHALL NOT PROHIBIT THE REMOVAL OF ANY PERSON OR PERSONS WHO DISRUPT A MEETING TO THE EXTENT THAT ORDERLY CONDUCT OF THE MEETING IS SERIOUSLY HARMED.

- 3.2.1. Harm to the orderly conduct of a meeting shall be defined as an action or series of actions that consists of hate speech, calls to violence, and unwarranted outbursts.
- 3.2.2. The removal of any person or persons from a meeting under such conditions shall be at the discretion of the Student Government Association Vice President, or the acting Senate Chair in the absence of the Vice President.
- 4. Senate meeting agendas and minutes will be published weekly, by the Webmaster, under the supervision of the Vice President, to be viewed by the student body, faculty, and administration.

# **CLAUSE 4: LEGISLATION**

- 1. Legislation must only be adopted by the Senate:
  - 1.1. During the session in which they are introduced in the Senate.
    - 1.2. DURING A SPECIAL SESSION HELD BETWEEN THE FIRST AND LAST MEETING OF A REGULAR SESSION IF THE LEGISLATION WAS INTRODUCED DURING THAT REGULAR SESSION.
  - 1.3. During a meeting of the regular session if the bill was introduced during a special session held between the first and last meeting of that regular session.

1.4. DURING A SUMMER SPECIAL SESSION.

2. Types of Legislation

- 2.1. Governing Document Amendments
  - 2.1.1. This legislation must follow the Amendment guidelines for each document.
  - 2.1.2. Amendments to the Constitution must be introduced no later than ten class days prior to an election in order to be considered by the Senate. All amendments submitted later than ten class days prior to an election and proposed by the Senate must be withheld from the ballot until the next election.
  - 2.1.3. All suggested amendments must go through the Internal Affairs Committee for review.
- 2.2. Presidential Appointments
  - 2.2.1. Presidential Appointment legislation must go through the Internal Affairs Committee for review.
- 2.3. Resolutions
  - 2.3.1. Resolutions will be brought before the University's Administration as a formal suggestion with the Student Government Association's Approval.
  - 2.3.2. All resolutions require a minimum of 500 signatures with Southeastern Louisiana University issued W-numbers in order to be introduced to the Senate.
  - 2.3.3. All resolutions must go through the Student Life Committee for review.

#### 2.4. Appropriations

- 2.4.1. All appropriations must be submitted to the Director of Financial Affairs at least two full class days prior to the Senate meeting at which it will be introduced, so that they can prepare a budget impact statement to be presented at the first and third Senate Meetings of each month.
- 2.4.2. All monetary appropriations passed by the Senate shall be spent within the time allotted by the appropriations policy of the Student Government Association.
- 2.4.3. A THREE-QUARTER (3/4) VOTE OF SENATORS PRESENT SHALL BE REQUIRED TO REPEAL ANY APPROPRIATIONS LEGISLATION.
- 2.4.4. All appropriation legislation must go through the Appropriations Committee for review.
- 2.4.5. Types of Grants:

2.4.5.1. TRAVEL GRANTS

2.4.5.1.1. Purpose: To provide an opportunity for Southeastern Louisiana University students to enhance both their academic and leadership skills. The Travel Grant

PROGRAM IS DESIGNED TO DEFER THE COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE TRAVEL.

2.4.5.1.2. REQUIREMENTS FOR ELIGIBILITY

- 2.4.5.1.2.1. 2.5 GPA or higher (semester and cumulative) for each individual traveling. If grades fall below this minimum before the use of grant, the grant will be revoked.
  - 2.4.5.1.2.2. IN GOOD STANDING WITH THE UNIVERSITY, MEANING FREE OF ANY ACADEMIC OR DISCIPLINARY

PROBATION/SUSPENSION.

2.4.5.1.3. GRANT APPLICATION

2.4.5.1.3.1. All grants shall be submitted through an online system.

2.4.5.1.3.2. A GROUP MUST SUBMIT A SINGLE TRAVEL GRANT

APPLICATION IF THEY ARE APPLYING FOR TRAVEL FOR:

2.4.5.1.3.2.1. THE SAME CONFERENCE

2.4.5.1.3.2.2. SAME OFFICIAL CONFERENCE DATES

2.4.5.1.3.2.3. SAME LOCATION

2.4.5.1.3.2.4. SAME FACULTY ADVISOR

2.4.5.1.3.3. A COMPLETED APPLICATION INCLUDES:

2.4.5.1.3.3.1. CONFERENCE INFORMATION (INCLUDING

#### ITINERARY)

2.4.5.1.3.3.2. Detailed budget sheets for funds requested

2.4.5.1.4. REQUIREMENTS OF APPLICANT

 $2.4.5.1.4.1.\ Must give a brief presentation at the SGA$ 

APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING ABOUT TRAVEL

DETAILS

2.4.5.1.4.1.1. THE CHAIR OF THE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REQUEST THE PRESENCE

of the applicant at the following  $\ensuremath{S}\xspace$  enate

MEETING FOR ADDITIONAL

INFORMATION/DISCUSSION.

2.4.5.1.5. REQUIREMENTS OF FACULTY ADVISOR

2.4.5.1.5.1. Sign off on student's applications

2.4.5.1.5.2. COORDINATE TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS WITH STUDENTS

2.4.5.1.5.2.1. COMPLETE TRAVEL AUTHORIZATION

19

2.4.5.1.5.2.2. Complete expense report no later than two WEEKS AFTER THE STUDENTS RETURN 2.4.5.1.5.2.3. Ensure that all travel guidelines are FOLLOWED SO THAT REIMBURSEMENT IS POSSIBLE 2.4.5.1.6. Other Grant Information 2.4.5.1.6.1. NO GRANT MAY EXCEED \$2,000. 2.4.5.1.6.1.1. 1-5 STUDENTS TRAVELING ARE ELIGIBLE FOR REIMBURSEMENT UP TO \$1,000. 2.4.5.1.6.1.2.6-10 students traveling are eligible for REIMBURSEMENT UP TO \$1,500. 2.4.5.1.6.1.3. 11 OR MORE STUDENTS TRAVELING ARE ELIGIBLE FOR REIMBURSEMENT UP TO \$2,000. 2.4.5.1.6.2. IF LEGISLATION FOR APPLICATION FAILS, A STUDENT MAY NOT REAPPLY FOR A GRANT FOR THE SAME TRIP. HOWEVER, A STUDENT IS NOT BARRED FROM SUBMITTING AN APPLICATION FOR A DIFFERENT TRAVEL OPPORTUNITY. 2.4.5.1.6.3. GRANT PRIVILEGES SHALL BE REVOKED FOR ANY PARTY NOT ADHERING TO THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS: 2.4.5.1.6.3.1. MUST SUBMIT 1-2 PAGE CONFERENCE REPORT WITH 3 PHOTOS OF THE CONFERENCE ATTACHED 2.4.5.1.6.3.2. MUST ATTEND A POST TRAVEL MEETING WITH STUDENT ENGAGEMENT STAFF TO SUBMIT AN EXPENSE ACCOUNT FORM WITH REOUIRED DOCUMENTATION. DOCUMENTATION INCLUDE, BUT IS NOT LIMITED TO, RECEIPTS (SHOWING ZERO BALANCE) AND BANK/CREDIT CARD STATEMENTS VERIFYING THE PURCHASER. 2.4.5.2. DEPARTMENTAL GRANTS 2.4.5.2.1. PURPOSE: DEPARTMENTAL GRANTS ARE AWARDED TO PROVIDE

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SOUTHEASTERN DEPARTMENTS TO HOST EDUCATIONAL EVENTS ON CAMPUS, OR TO PURCHASE EQUIPMENT AND RESOURCES THAT WOULD DIRECTLY BENEFIT THE STUDENTS ASSOCIATED WITH THAT DEPARTMENT. THE DEPARTMENTAL GRANT PROGRAM IS DESIGNED TO DEFER THE COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THESE INITIATIVES.

2.4.5.2.2. Requirements for Eligibility

2.4.5.2.2.1. All departmental programs are eligible.

2.4.5.2.2.1.1. Any department consisting of more than one academic program may be eligible for one departmental grant per program.

20

2.4.5.2.2.2. IF THE PROGRAM IS SEEKING FUNDS FOR AN EVENT:
2.4.5.2.2.2.1. THE EVENT MUST BE HELD ON SOUTHEASTERN'S CAMPUS.
2.4.5.2.2.2.2. NO ONE MAY BE CHARGED TO ATTEND THE EVENT.
2.4.5.2.2.2.3. EVENTS MUST BE OPEN TO ALL STUDENTS.
2.4.5.2.2.3. IF THE PROGRAM IS SEEKING FUNDS FOR EQUIPMENT OR SUPPLIES:

2.4.5.2.2.3.1. THE SGA LOGO MUST BE DISPLAYED ON THE EQUIPMENT.

2.4.5.2.3. GRANT APPLICATION

2.4.5.2.3.1. Grant requests shall be submitted through the Online system.

2.4.5.2.3.2. A COMPLETED APPLICATION INCLUDES:

2.4.5.2.3.2.1. EVENT INFORMATION

2.4.5.2.3.2.2. A detailed budget sheet including quotes for funds requested

2.4.5.2.4. REQUIREMENTS OF APPLICANT

2.4.5.2.4.1. MUST GIVE A BRIEF PRESENTATION AT THE

Appropriations Committee meeting about the event or project

2.4.5.2.4.1.1. THE CHAIR OF THE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REQUEST THE PRESENCE

OF THE APPLICANT AT THE FOLLOWING  $\ensuremath{\mathsf{S}}\xspace{\mathsf{Enate}}$ 

MEETING FOR ADDITIONAL

INFORMATION/DISCUSSION.

2.4.5.2.4.2. REQUIREMENTS FOR FACULTY/STAFF MEMBER

2.4.5.2.4.2.1. MUST POSSESS A UNIVERSITY PROCUREMENT CARD

2.4.5.2.4.2.2. MUST COORDINATE ALL PURCHASES MADE

2.4.5.2.4.2.3. MUST MAKE ALL GRANT FUND PURCHASES USING THEIR PROCUREMENT CARD

2.4.5.2.4.2.4. MUST SIGN OFF ON ALL PURCHASES MADE

2.4.5.2.4.2.5. MUST COLLECT ALL RECEIPTS FROM PURCHASES

2.4.5.2.4.2.6. MUST ENSURE THAT UNIVERSITY'S PURCHASING GUIDELINES ARE FOLLOWED

2.4.5.2.5. Completion of Event

2.4.5.2.5.1. No purchases will be made after the date of the event

21 2.4.5.2.5.2. COPIES OF ALL RECEIPTS FROM PURCHASES MADE WITH THE GRANT FUNDING MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE SGAAdvisor no more than two weeks following the EVENT 2.4.5.2.5.3. A BRIEF REPORT ON THE EVENT DESCRIBING THE EVENT'S SUCCESSES AND INCLUDING PICTURES MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE SGA ADVISOR NO MORE THAN TWO WEEKS FOLLOWING THE EVENT 2.4.5.2.6. Other Grant Information 2.4.5.2.6.1. THE MAXIMUM AMOUNT A DEPARTMENTAL PROGRAM CAN APPLY FOR SHALL NOT EXCEED \$5,000 2.4.5.2.6.1.1. REQUESTS FOR SMALL-SCALE EVENTS OR GUEST SPEAKER EVENTS MAY BE ELIGIBLE FOR UP TO \$1,500 2.4.5.2.6.1.2. REQUESTS FOR LARGE-SCALE OR ANNUAL/TRADITIONAL EVENTS MAY BE ELIGIBLE FOR UP TO \$2,500 2.4.5.2.6.1.3. REQUESTS FOR INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS/EQUIPMENT MAY BE ELIGIBLE FOR UP TO \$5,000 2.4.5.2.6.2. A DEPARTMENTAL PROGRAM MAY APPLY FOR MORE THAN ONE GRANT AS LONG AS THE ANNUAL ALLOCATION DOES NOT EXCEED \$5,000 2.4.5.2.6.2.1. IF LEGISLATION FOR APPLICATION FAILS, A DEPARTMENTAL PROGRAM MAY NOT SUBMIT THE SAME APPLICATION WITHIN THE SAME FISCAL YEAR. HOWEVER, A DEPARTMENTAL PROGRAM MAY SUBMIT A DIFFERENT APPLICATION AS LONG AS IT SUBSTANTIALLY DIFFERS FROM THE APPLICATION THAT WAS DENIED. 2.4.5.2.6.3. A DEPARTMENTAL PROGRAM WILL LOSE GRANT PRIVILEGES FOR TWO ACADEMIC YEARS IF THE FOLLOWING OCCURS: 2.4.5.2.6.3.1. FAILURE TO SUBMIT RECEIPTS AND REPORT PACKET BY THE DEADLINE

2.4.5.2.6.3.2. PURCHASES ARE MADE THAT WERE NOT

APPROVED BY THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

22

2.4.5.3. Organizational Grants

2.4.5.3.1. PURPOSE: ORGANIZATION GRANTS ARE AWARDED TO PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR SOUTHEASTERN STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS TO HOST EVENTS ON CAMPUS. THE ORGANIZATION GRANT PROGRAM IS DESIGNED TO DEFER THE COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THESE

#### EVENTS.

2.4.5.3.2. REQUIREMENTS FOR ELIGIBILITY

2.4.5.3.2.1. APPLICANT MUST BE IN GOOD STANDING WITH THE

UNIVERSITY, OR FREE OF ANY ACADEMIC OR

DISCIPLINARY PROBATION/SUSPENSION

2.4.5.3.2.2. MUST BE A RECOGNIZED STUDENT ORGANIZATION

Through the Office for Student Engagement

2.4.5.3.2.3. Event grants may not include Food and Beverage as the only line item in the request

2.4.5.3.2.3.1. The application should provide itemized documentation of appropriate menus and/or contract from food vendor

2.4.5.3.2.3.2. UNLESS GIVEN SPECIAL EXCEPTION, ANY EVENT

HELD IN THE STUDENT UNION BALLROOM MUST USE ARAMARK

2.4.5.3.2.4. EVENT MUST BE FREE OF CHARGE AND OPEN TO ALL

#### STUDENTS

2.4.5.3.2.5. No money (including raffles, donations, etc.), aside from charitable and philanthropic donations,

SHOULD BE COLLECTED AT THE EVENT

2.4.5.3.3. GRANT APPLICATION

2.4.5.3.3.1. All grant applications must be submitted through the

#### ONLINE SYSTEM

2.4.5.3.3.2. A COMPLETED APPLICATION INCLUDES:

2.4.5.3.3.2.1. EVENT INFORMATION

2.4.5.3.3.2.2. DETAILED BUDGET SHEET INCLUDING QUOTES

AND ITEMIZED LIST FOR FUNDS REQUESTED

2.4.5.3.4. REQUIREMENTS FOR APPLICANT

2.4.5.3.4.1. MUST GIVE A BRIEF PRESENTATION TO THE

APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE ABOUT THE EVENT

2.4.5.3.4.1.1. The Chair of the Appropriations Committee reserves the right to request the presence of the applicant at the following Senate meeting for additional information/discussion.

23

2.4.5.3.4.2. REQUIREMENTS FOR FACULTY ADVISOR

2.4.5.3.4.2.1. SIGN OFF ON STUDENT'S APPLICATION

2.4.5.3.4.3. REQUIREMENTS FOR PURCHASING

2.4.5.3.4.3.1. PURCHASES WILL BE MADE BY A PROFESSIONAL

STAFF MEMBER OF THE OFFICE FOR STUDENT ENGAGEMENT. THE PROFESSIONAL MEMBER WILL BE ASSIGNED TO THE ORGANIZATION AFTER THE GRANT LEGISLATION IS PASSED.

2.4.5.3.4.3.2. AN ITEMIZED BUDGET MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THE

GRANT APPLICATION. ONLY APPROVED PURCHASES WILL BE MADE. STUDENTS SHOULD COORDINATE ALL PURCHASING WITH THE PROFESSIONAL STAFF MEMBER.

2.4.5.3.4.3.3. Applicants must coordinate with the professional staff member to arrange time to meet with the student organization to make purchases using their procurement card.

2.4.5.3.4.3.4. Unless an exception is made, purchase will be made the Friday before the event at the latest.

2.4.5.3.5. COMPLETION OF EVENT

2.4.5.3.5.1. NO PURCHASE WILL BE MADE AFTER THE DATE OF THE EVENT.

2.4.5.3.5.2. Copies of all receipts from purchases made with the grant funding must be submitted to the SGA

Advisor no more than two weeks following the event

2.4.5.3.5.3. A BRIEF REPORT ON THE EVENT DESCRIBING THE EVENT'S SUCCESS INCLUDING PICTURES MUST BE SUBMITTED TO

THE SGA Advisor no more than two weeks

FOLLOWING THE EVENT.

2.4.5.3.6. Other Grant Information

2.4.5.3.6.1. NO ORGANIZATIONAL GRANT MAY EXCEED \$500

- 2.4.5.3.6.2. ORGANIZATIONAL GRANT FUNDS MAY BE USED FOR PROGRAM SUPPLIES IF THEY MEET THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA:
  - 2.4.5.3.6.2.1. The supplies are crucial to the success of the event

24

2.4.5.3.6.2.2. The supplies are stored on campus after their use and may not be given away or destroyed

- 2.4.5.3.6.2.3. PROGRAM SUPPLIES REQUIRE DOCUMENTATION OF PRICE, QUANTITY., AND PURPOSE FOR EACH INDIVIDUAL ITEM IN ORDER TO BE CONSIDERED.
- 2.4.5.3.6.3. A STUDENT ORGANIZATION MAY ONLY RECEIVE ONE GRANT PER ACADEMIC YEAR
  - 2.4.5.3.6.3.1. IF LEGISLATION FOR THE GRANT FAILS, AN ORGANIZATION MAY NOT REAPPLY FOR A GRANT FOR THE SAME EVENT WITHIN THE SAME ACADEMIC YEAR. HOWEVER, AN ORGANIZATION MAY SUBMIT ANOTHER APPLICATION FOR A DIFFERENT EVENT.
- 2.4.5.3.6.4. The student organization will lose grant privileges for two academic years if the following occurs:
  - 2.4.5.3.6.4.1. FAILURE TO SUBMIT RECEIPTS AND REPORT PACKET BY THE DEADLINE
  - 2.4.5.3.6.4.2. Purchases are made that were not approved by the Student Government Association
- 2.5. PROCLAMATION
  - 2.5.1. PROCLAMATIONS WILL BE BROUGHT BEFORE THE UNIVERSITY'S ADMINISTRATION AS AN OPINION OF THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION
  - 2.5.2. All proclamations require the Student Government Association President, Student Government Association Vice President, Student Government Association Chief Justice, and Internal Affairs Chair's Approval to be introduced to the Senate.
  - 2.5.3. A FOUR-FIFTHS (%) VOTE OF SENATORS PRESENT SHALL BE REQUIRED TO BRING THE LEGISLATION TO COMMITTEE.
  - 2.5.4. All senators voting in favor are required to sign the proclamation if passed.

2.5.5. All proclamations must go through the Student Life Committee for review.

#### 2.6. Articles of Impeachment

2.6.1. A BILL CONTAINING ARTICLES OF IMPEACHMENT SHALL CONTAIN A LIST OF CHARGES AGAINST A MEMBER OF THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION FOR VIOLATIONS OF THE GOVERNING DOCUMENTS OF THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT

25

Association. The bill shall contain detailed accounts of the violations, as well as the section of the specific governing document being violated. 2.6.2. The Internal Affairs Committee Chairperson shall author the Articles of Impeachment, following a discussion of the charges and a vote to progress the charges to trial by the Internal Affairs Committee.

### **CLAUSE 5: SENATE COMMITTEES**

1. The following must be the permanent standing committees of the Student Senate: 1.1.

### APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

1.1.1. Must review all financial matters that come before the Student Senate. 1.2. Internal Affairs Committee

- 1.2.1. MUST REVIEW NOMINATIONS OF ANY APPOINTMENTS IN THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION, WHICH REQUIRE SENATE APPROVAL.
  - 1.2.1.1. In the case of Senator appointments, the Committee must consider the formal recommendation of the Student Government Association Vice President.
  - 1.2.1.2. In the case of Justice appointments, the Committee must consider the formal recommendation of the Student Government Association Chief Justice.
- 1.2.2. Must review and may propose changes to the SGA Constitution, SGA Bylaws, and the Senate Standing Rules.
- 1.2.3. MUST ASSURE THAT ALL SGA MEMBERS ARE ABIDING BY THEIR OATH OF OFFICE AND PERFORMING THE DUTIES THEY HAVE BEEN ASSIGNED.
  - 1.2.3.1. MUST REVIEW ALL EXECUTIVE MONTHLY REPORTS.
  - 1.2.3.2. MUST REVIEW ALL SENATOR VISITATION REPORTS.
  - 1.2.3.3. MEMBERS OF THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION WHO ARE NOT PERFORMING UP TO THEIR SPECIFIED DUTIES MUST APPEAR IN FRONT OF THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE. IF DISCOVERED THAT THEIR SPECIFIED DUTIES WERE NOT BEING DONE, THE COMMITTEE SHALL HAVE THE

AUTHORITY TO VOTE FOR AN IMPEACHMENT TRIAL.

#### 1.2.4. IF NECESSARY, SHALL AUTHOR IMPEACHMENT LEGISLATION CONCERNING MEMBERS OF

ANY BRANCH OF THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION.

#### 1.3. STUDENT LIFE COMMITTEE

- 1.3.1. Must review and assess all grievances and pertinent issues of the student body.
- 1.3.2. Must survey and develop new programs and events for the student body.

#### 26

1.3.3. Must review all resolutions brought before the Senate.

- 2. Senate committee statutes:
  - 2.1. NO SENATOR CAN BE THE CHAIRPERSON OF MORE THAN ONE COMMITTEE AT THE SAME TIME.
  - 2.2. Special committees of the Student Senate shall be authorized upon a majority vote of the Senate.

2.3. Each standing committee shall hold elections for the offices of Vice Chairperson of each committee after the first Senate meeting of the semester. 2.4. Quorum for each standing committee shall consist of at least five senators. 2.5. Committee membership shall be comprised of Senators from at least three different colleges.

#### 3. Committee Leadership Duties

3.1. The Chairperson of the permanent standing committees of the Senate must:

3.1.1. Hold a meeting at least once a week while the Senate is in Session. 3.1.2. Prepare an Agenda for each committee meeting.

3.1.3. Report promptly to the Senate all work of the committee.

3.1.4. MEET WITH THE VICE PRESIDENT AT THE VICE PRESIDENT'S DISCRETION. 3.1.5. UPON A MAJORITY VOTE OF APPROVAL OF THE COMMITTEE, SET A DAY, TIME, AND LOCATION FOR THE COMMITTEE MEETINGS AT THE FIRST REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE SEMESTER.

3.1.6. Have the authority to appoint, upon a majority vote of the committee, additional members to the committee to serve in a non-voting capacity. 3.1.7. In the absence of the Vice President and Senate Pro Tempore, preside over the

Senate Meeting in the order of succession as follows:

- 3.1.7.1. INTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON
- 3.1.7.2. Appropriations Committee Chairperson
- 3.1.7.3. Student Life Committee Chairperson
- 3.2. THE VICE CHAIRPERSON OF THE PERMANENT STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE SENATE MUST:
  - 3.2.1. Succeed the Chairperson of the committee should the Chairperson be removed of their position.
  - 3.2.2. Record the minutes of each committee meeting and submit these minutes via Email to the committee, Webmaster, and Vice President.

3.2.3. BE RESPONSIBLE FOR MAINTAINING RECORDS FOR THE COMMITTEE WHICH MUST INCLUDE ALL AGENDAS AND MINUTES FOR THE CURRENT SESSIONS AS WELL AS ANY OTHER INFORMATION WHICH IS NECESSARY FOR THE COMMITTEE.

3.2.4. BE IN CHARGE OF COMMUNICATING ALL INFORMATION TO THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE SENATE AND THE COMMITTEE MEMBERS.

27

3.2.5. Contact all individuals or organizations whose presence at the committee meeting is requested and inform them of the date, time, and location of the meeting.

### **CLAUSE 6: ESTABLISHING STANDING RULES**

1. The Student Senate shall establish Standing Rules, as it deems necessary. 2. Individual Standing Rules may be suspendable only as specified within the Senate Standing Rules.

3. The Senate Standing Rules cannot be suspendable as a whole unit at any meeting.

### **TITLE V: JUDICIAL BRANCH**

### **CLAUSE 1: STUDENT SUPREME COURT**

1. COMPOSITION:

1. THE STUDENT SUPREME COURT MUST BE COMPOSED OF THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT Association Chief Justice and Six (6) Justices.

2. Meetings and Hearings

1. THE STUDENT SUPREME COURT SHALL MEET AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHIEF JUSTICE. 2. ALL MEETINGS AND HEARINGS SHALL BE OPENED TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC.

1. ONLY IMPEACHMENT HEARINGS MAY BE HEARD IN A JUDICIAL EXECUTIVE SESSION. 2.

ALL HEARING DATES AND TIMES SHALL BE SUBMITTED TO MEMBERS OF THE

STUDENT SUPREME COURT AND THE EXECUTIVE BOARD AT LEAST ONE WEEK PRIOR TO THE SCHEDULED HEARING.

### **CLAUSE 2: JUDICIAL BRANCH LEADERSHIP**

1. The Chief Justice must:

1.1. Attend all meetings of the Senate specifically to:

1.1.1. Deliver reports to document the Court's activities during the preceding week.

28

1.1.1.1. IF THE CHIEF JUSTICE IS UNABLE TO DELIVER REPORTS, THEN THE ASSOCIATE CHIEF JUSTICE SHALL DO SO.1.2. SWEAR IN ELECTED OR APPOINTED OFFICIALS WITH THE FOLLOWING OATH:

I (STATE YOUR NAME) DO SOLEMNLY SWEAR THAT I WILL FAITHFULLY EXECUTE THE OFFICE OF (STATE YOUR OFFICE) OF THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION, AND WILL TO THE BEST OF MY ABILITY, PRESERVE, PROTECT, AND DEFEND THE CONSTITUTION OF THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION, AND THE RIGHTS OF THE STUDENTS OF SOUTHEASTERN LOUISIANA UNIVERSITY, SO HELP ME GOD.

1.3. Serve on at least one (1) university standing committee.

1.4. Assist the Associate Chief Justice in the coordination of Free Speech Alley. 1.5.

Call and preside over all meetings and hearings of the Student Supreme Court.

1.6. Assume final responsibility for such paperwork that goes through the Student Supreme Court and, at their request, be responsible that potential

COMPLAINANTS AND/OR RESPONDENTS ARE EDUCATED ON THE PROCEDURES OF THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION AS OUTLINED IN THE GOVERNING DOCUMENTS. 2. THE ASSOCIATE CHIEF JUSTICE MUST:

 $2.1.\ Be$  elected at the first meeting of the Student Supreme Court.

- 2.1.1. This election must be overseen by the Chief Justice.
- 2.2. Assume the duties of the Chief Justice upon their absence.
- 2.3. COORDINATE FREE SPEECH ALLEY
- 2.4. Observe and record the minutes for all meetings and/or hearings of the Student Supreme Court.

2.4.1. Video and/or audio-taped testimony may be substituted in Lieu of writing for

COURT HEARINGS.

- 2.4.1.1. IN SUCH INSTANCES, THE INDIVIDUAL OPINIONS FILED BY THE JUSTICES PRESENT SHALL CONTRIBUTE TO THE ATTENDANCE RECORD.
- 2.5. Assist the Chief Justice and serve office hours at the discretion of the Chief Justice.

29

# **CLAUSE 3: JUSTICE DUTIES**

### 1. JUSTICES MUST:

1.1. FAMILIARIZE THEMSELVES WITH:

- 1.1.1. THE SOUTHEASTERN LOUISIANA UNIVERSITY STUDENT GOVERNMENT Association Constitution
- 1.1.2. THE SOUTHEASTERN LOUISIANA UNIVERSITY STUDENT GOVERNMENT Association Bylaws.
- 1.1.3. The Southeastern Louisiana University Student Code of Conduct.
- 1.1.4. The Judiciary Manual of the Southeastern Louisiana University Student Government Association.
- 1.2. Deliver informal advice on potential questions of interpretation and/or impact of Legislative or Executive acts.

1.3. Attend all meetings and hearings of the Student Supreme Court. 1.3.1. Meetings will be weekly and at the discretion of the Chief Justice. 1.4. Individually contribute office hours, at the discretion of the Chief Justice, to the Student Government Association each week through any combination of the following:

1.4.1. SGA Senate meetings

 $1.4.2.\ M {\rm eetings} \ {\rm of} \ SGA \ {\rm committees}$ 

- 1.4.3. SGA SPONSORED EVENTS
  - 1.4.4. University sponsored events for which the S tudent  $G {\rm overnment}$

Association's presence has been requested

- $1.4.5. \ Processing \ \text{and} \ reviewing \ of \ appeals$
- 1.5. Assume any other duties assigned by the Chief Justice.

### **CLAUSE 4: JUDICIARY COMMITTEE**

- 1. The following must be the permanent standing committee of the Student Supreme Court:
  - 1.1. PARKING CITATION APPEALS COMMITTEE:
    - 1.1.1. MUST REVIEW ALL PARKING CITATION APPEALS THAT COME BEFORE THE STUDENT SUPREME COURT TO DETERMINE IF THEY WERE ISSUED WRONGFULLY TO A STUDENT/STAFF/FACULTY MEMBER
      - 1.1.1.1. The appeals presented to the committee must include at least the basic information: Appeal number, permit type, reason for citation, citation location, and citation defense.

#### 30

- 1.1.1.2. The Court may request supplemental information should the base requirements prove insufficient in determining the appeal's validity. This information may include, but is not limited to, issue time of citation and parking officer images.
- 1.1.1.3. Appeals presented to the Court must not include the personal information of the student/staff/faculty member submitting the citation appeal to ensure the decision of the Court remains unbiased. This includes name and W-Number.
- 2. PARKING CITATION APPEALS COMMITTEE LEADERSHIP DUTIES
  - 2.1. The Chairperson of the permanent standing committee of the Supreme Court must:
    - 2.1.1. BE A JUSTICE OF THE STUDENT SUPREME COURT THAT IS ELECTED BY ALL APPOINTED JUSTICES PRESENT AT THE FIRST REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE FALL SEMESTER.
    - 2.1.2. Hold a meeting at least twice a month during both of the primary semesters.
    - 2.1.3. PREPARE AN AGENDA FOR EACH COMMITTEE MEETING.
    - 2.1.4. PREPARE THE APPEAL CITATION INFORMATION TO BE PRESENTED TO THE COURT WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE CHIEF JUSTICE.
      - 2.1.5. Submit the appeals results to the Chief Justice for Submission within the Online system within a week of the meeting time.
        - 2.1.6. MEET WITH THE CHIEF JUSTICE AT THE CHIEF JUSTICE'S DISCRETION.
    - 2.1.7. Upon a majority vote of the committee, set a day, time, and location for the committee meetings at the first regularly scheduled meeting of the semester.
    - 2.2. THE VICE CHAIRPERSON OF THE PARKING CITATION APPEALS COMMITTEE MUST:
      - 2.2.1. BE THE ASSOCIATE CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT.
      - $2.2.2.\ Record$  the minutes of each committee meeting and submit these minutes in

WRITING TO THE CHIEF JUSTICE AND COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON.

2.2.3. BE RESPONSIBLE FOR MAINTAINING RECORDS FOR THE COMMITTEE WHICH MUST

INCLUDE ALL AGENDAS AND MINUTES FOR THE CURRENT SESSIONS, AS WELL AS ANY OTHER INFORMATION WHICH IS NECESSARY FOR THE COMMITTEE.

- 3. SUPREME COURT COMMITTEE STATUTES
  - 3.1. Special committees of the Student Supreme Court shall be authorized upon a majority vote of the Court.
    - 3.2. Each standing committee shall determine all committee bylaws which are not expressed within the Student Government Association Bylaws.

3.3. Quorum for each standing committee shall consist of at least four (4) Justices. 3.4. Committee membership shall be composed of all appointed Justices.

### 31 <u>TITLE VI: IMPEACHMENT AND REMOVAL PROCEDURES</u>

## **CLAUSE 1: PURPOSE**

The purpose of this procedure is to ensure that the members of the Student Government Association are held accountable to the oath that is sworn upon joining the organization and to provide all members of the Student Government Association with specific rights and due process of law during a trial.

# **CLAUSE 2: DEFINITIONS**

- 1. <u>Impeachment</u>: The process by which the various governing bodies of the Student Government Association undergo an inquiry of written accusations against any member(s) of the Student Government Association.
- 2. <u>A</u>RTICLES OF <u>I</u>MPEACHMENT: A WRITTEN DOCUMENT LISTING ACCUSATIONS AGAINST ANY MEMBER(S) OF THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION THAT WOULD WARRANT AN INVESTIGATION BY THE BODY OF IMPEACHMENTS, IN WHICH EACH OFFENSE WILL SEPARATELY AND DISTINCTLY BE DESCRIBED ALONGSIDE THE SPECIFIC SECTION OF THE GOVERNING DOCUMENTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE CHARGE(S).
- 3. <u>B</u>ODY OF <u>I</u>MPEACHMENTS: A GOVERNING BODY THAT SERVES AS THE FIRST TRIAL COURT IN AN IMPEACHMENT INQUIRY. THE BODY OF IMPEACHMENT SHALL BE RESERVED THE SOLE POWER TO IMPEACH MEMBERS OF THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION FOLLOWING AN IMPARTIAL REVIEW OF THE EVIDENCE AND TESTIMONY ASSOCIATED WITH THE CHARGE(S).

4. <u>B</u>ODY OF <u>T</u>RIALS: A SECOND GOVERNING BODY THAT SERVES AS THE FINAL TRIAL COURT IN AN IMPEACHMENT INQUIRY. UPON IMPEACHMENT OF THE MEMBER(S) BY THE BODY OF IMPEACHMENTS, THE BODY OF TRIALS SHALL FURTHER REVIEW THE EVIDENCE AND DETERMINE WHETHER THE CHARGE(S) SHOULD WARRANT THE OFFICER'S REMOVAL FROM OFFICE.

# **CLAUSE 3: COMPOSITION**

- 1. BODY OF IMPEACHMENTS
  - 1.1. VOTING MEMBERS
    - 1.1.1. STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION VICE PRESIDENT
    - 1.1.2. INTERNAL AFFAIRS CHAIRPERSON

32

- 1.1.3. Six (6) Senators, each being appointed by the Student Government Association Vice President as the Senators with the longest standing as senators for their respective academic college.
  - 1.1.3.1. IF THERE IS AN ACADEMIC COLLEGE WITH NO SENATORIAL
    - REPRESENTATION, ANOTHER SENATOR FROM THE MOST POPULATED
    - ACADEMIC COLLEGE SHALL SIT IN THEIR PLACE, HAVING THE NET LONGEST
    - Standing as a  $\ensuremath{\mathsf{S}}\xspace{\mathsf{Enator}}$  for their respective academic college.

#### 1.2. Non-Voting Members

- 1.2.1. Student Government Association President
- 1.2.2. Student Government Association Chief Justice
- 1.2.3. STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION ADVISOR(S)
- 2. BODY OF TRIALS
  - 2.1. VOTING MEMBERS
    - 2.1.1. Student Government Association Chief Justice
    - 2.1.2. Student Government Association Director of Membership
    - 2.1.3. Three (3) Justices, each being nominated by the Student Government Association Chief Justice at the beginning of the Fall semester as the longest serving members of the Judicial Branch.
    - 2.1.4. Three (3) Cabinet members, each being nominated by the Student Government Association President at the beginning of the Fall semester.
  - 2.2. Non-Voting Members
    - 2.2.1. Student Government Association President
    - 2.2.2. Student Government Association Vice President
    - 2.2.3. Student Government Association Advisors

# **CLAUSE 4: OATH OF IMPARTIALITY**

1. Prior to the commencement of the inquiries in the Body of Impeachments, as well as the Body of Trials, all voting and non-voting members must swear the following oath to ensure impartiality:

33

I, (STATE YOUR NAME), DO SOLEMNLY SWEAR THAT I WILL FAITHFULLY AND IMPARTIALLY CONSIDER ALL OF THE INFORMATION IN THIS TRIAL, AND IN MAKING A WELL-INFORMED DECISION, WILL EXECUTE JUSTICE ACCORDING TO THE BYLAWS OF THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION, WITH LION PRIDE.

2. Failure to adhere to this oath of impartiality may result in removal from the Body of Impeachments/Body of Trials and may result in impeachment charges.

**CLAUSE 5: PROCEDURE** 

1. Complaints regarding a particular member or members of the Student Government Association shall be reviewed by the Internal Affairs committee at the discretion of the Internal Affairs Chairperson and the Student Government Association Vice President.

> 1.1. Any complaints against a member or members of the Student Government Association shall be presented in a comprehensive email to the Internal Affairs Chairperson and the Student Government Association Vice President, including the offenses or violations in question, as well as the specific section of the governing documents that have been violated.

1.2. Following a review of the charges, the Internal Affairs Committee shall vote to progress the charges to trial. The charges shall progress to trial by a simple majority (51%) vote of the members present and eligible to vote.

1.2.1. The accused member shall be given at least a week's notice prior to the meeting of the Body of Impeachments.

1.2.2. The Internal Affairs Chairperson shall author the Articles of Impeachment in the event that the charges are progressed to trial.

2. BODY OF IMPEACHMENTS

### 34

2.1. The Student Government Association Vice President shall serve as the Chair of the Body of Impeachments

2.1.1. The Internal Affairs Chairperson shall serve as the Vice Chairperson, taking any minutes and maintaining an accurate record of attendance. 2.2. At the beginning of the first meeting of the Body of Impeachments, all voting members of the Body of Impeachments shall be administered the Oath of Impartiality by the Student Government Association President.

2.2.1. The Body of Impeachments shall convene at a date, time, and location determined by the Student Government Association Vice President.

- 2.3. All evidence, witnesses, and other information important to the trial shall be presented to the Body of Impeachments.
  - 2.3.1. After careful review of the evidence and testimony, the voting members shall vote on the impeachment of the charged officer. The officer shall be impeached by a two-thirds  $\binom{2}{3}$  majority vote of the members present and eligible to vote.
    - 2.3.1.1. The vote shall take place in the form of a roll call vote. The vote of every voting member shall be recorded in the meeting minutes, as well as the outcome of the vote.

### 3. BODY OF TRIALS

3.1. The Student Government Association Chief Justice shall serve as the Chairperson of the Body of Trials.

- 3.1.1. The Director of Membership shall serve as the Vice Chairperson, taking any minutes and maintaining an accurate record of attendance.
- 3.2. At the beginning of the first meeting of the Body of Trials, all voting and non-voting members of the Body of Trials shall be administered the Oath of Impartiality by the Student Government Association President.
  - 3.2.1. The Body of Trials shall convene at a date, time, and location determined by the Student Government Association Chief Justice.
- 3.3. All evidence, witnesses, and other information important to the trial, including evidence and testimony discussed in the Body of Impeachments, shall be presented to the Body of Trials.
  - 3.3.1. After careful review of the evidence and testimony, the voting members shall vote to remove the charged officer from their office and from the Student Government Association. The officer shall be removed from their office by a two-thirds  $(\frac{2}{3})$  majority vote of the members present and eligible to vote.
    - 3.3.1.1. The vote shall take place in the form of a roll call vote. The vote of every voting member and the outcome of the vote shall be recorded in the meeting minutes.

35

3.4. Any and all members of the Student Government Association that are removed from their office in accordance with the procedure in this clause shall be barred from rejoining the Student Government Association for at least one (1) academic year or two (2) academic semesters.

3.4.1. Any member(s) of the Student Government Association that have been impeached but not removed by the Body of Trials shall remain in their elected or appointed positions, reaping all of the rights, privileges, and benefits of a fully sworn-in member of the Student Government

Association.

# **CLAUSE 6: RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES**

- 1. All members of the Student Government Association shall be reserved the right to a fair and impartial trial following impeachment charges being brought against them. 1.1. Those charged with violations of the Student Government Association governing documents shall be reserved the right to defend themselves during trial.
  - 1.1.1. All members of the Student Government Association, upon being

CHARGED WITH VIOLATIONS TO THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION GOVERNING DOCUMENTS, SHALL BE RESERVED THE RIGHT TO INTRODUCE EVIDENCE OR WITNESSES DURING MEETINGS OF THE BODY OF IMPEACHMENTS.

- 2. All records, meetings, or minutes of the Bodies of Impeachments and Trials shall remain open to the public.
  - 2.1. MINUTES FROM THE MEETINGS SHALL BE PUBLISHED TO THE MEMBERS OF THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION, AS WELL AS SENT TO THE WEBMASTER TO BE PUBLISHED TO THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION WEBSITE.
- 3. All members of the Bodies of Impeachments and Trials shall be reserved the right to vote freely and according to their best judgement.
  - 3.1. A THREAT BY ANY AUTHORITY WITHIN THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION TO NEGATIVELY AFFECT A VOTING MEMBER OF THESE BODIES ACCORDING TO THEIR VOTE WOULD BE AN IMPEACHABLE OFFENSE.
- 4. The Chairpersons of the Bodies of Impeachments and Trials shall be reserved the right to progress their respective meetings to ensure the trial is performed in an orderly and timely manner.
  - 4.1. FURTHERMORE, THE CHAIRPERSONS OF THE BODY OF IMPEACHMENTS AND BODY OF TRIALS SHALL BE RESERVED THE RIGHT TO EXCUSE ANY AND ALL PERSONS CONSIDERED TO BE HARMFUL TO THE ORDERLY CONDUCT OF THE MEETING.

### 36

# **CLAUSE 7: SUCCESSION**

- 1. In the event that one of the Branch Heads is charged and tried in an impeachment hearing, there shall be a line of succession for the Chairpersons of the Bodies of Impeachments and Trials, respectively:
  - 1.1. BODY OF IMPEACHMENTS
    - 1.1.1. STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION VICE PRESIDENT
    - 1.1.2. Student Government Association Senate Pro Tempore
    - 1.1.3. Appropriations Committee Chairperson
  - 1.2. BODY OF TRIALS
    - $1.2.1. \ Student \ Government \ Association \ Chief \ Justice$
    - 1.2.2. Student Government Association Associate Chief Justice
    - $1.2.3.\ Justice$  with longest standing in the Judicial Branch
- 2. In the event that one of the voting members of the Bodies of Impeachments or Trials is charged and tried in an impeachment hearing, there shall be a line of succession for the voting members:
  - 2.1. BODY OF IMPEACHMENTS:
    - 2.1.1. IF THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON IS TIRED, THE INTERNAL

AFFAIRS COMMITTEE VICE CHAIRPERSON SHALL SIT IN THEIR PLACE.

- 2.1.2. If one of the Senators that was appointed to sit on the Body of Impeachments is tried, the Student Government Association Vice President shall appoint the Senator with the next longest standing as a Senator for their respective academic college.
- 2.2. BODY OF TRIALS
  - 2.2.1. IF THE DIRECTOR OF MEMBERSHIP IS TRIED, THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT Association President will appoint another member of the Executive Cabinet to sit in their place.
  - 2.2.2. If one of the Justices sitting on the Body of Trials is tried, the Student Government Association Chief Justice shall appoint the Justice with the Next longest standing in the Judicial Branch.
  - 2.2.3. If one of the Cabinet members sitting on the Body of Trials, aside from the Director of Membership, is tried, the Student Government Association President shall appoint the Cabinet member with the next longest standing in the Executive Branch.

### 37 <u>TITLE VII: PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY</u>

*Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised*, must govern the Southeastern Louisiana University Student Government Association in all cases not covered by the Constitution, these Bylaws, or the Standing Rules of the Student Senate, the Executive Branch, and the Student Supreme Court.

### **TITLE VIII: AMENDMENTS**

These Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds majority vote of the Senators present at any regularly scheduled Senate meeting only during the Fall and Spring semesters, after the appropriate notice of at least one week following introduction.

# Amended on Monday, April 28, 2025

38