

The Constitution
of the
Student Government
of the
Catholic University of America

We, the Undergraduate Students of The Catholic University of America, establish this Constitution for the Student Government Association. ~~so that~~ The student government ~~may~~ **is established to** effectively advocate on behalf of the students of our ~~U~~niversity community, unite the student body, propose positive and purposeful changes in policy that govern our university. ~~;~~ **Furthermore, it is our responsibility to** foster a sense of academic excellence, ~~and~~ moral integrity ~~among all university~~ ~~University~~, and **to** better serve and represent the ~~Students~~—students of The Catholic University of America.

ARTICLE I
THE EXECUTIVE

Section 1 **Duties** **Composition**

Clause 1 The Student Government Association shall be lead led by an Executive comprised of a President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary.

Section 2 **Election**

Clause 1 The Executive shall be elected in April and serve a one-year term of office commencing on May 1 ~~of that year~~ and ending on April 30 of the following year.

Clause 2 The President and Vice President shall be elected on a joint ticket. ~~The President and Vice President shall be elected on a joint ticket. The Treasurer and Secretary shall be elected independently.~~

Clause 3 The Treasurer shall be elected independently

Clause 4 -The Secretary shall be elected independently.

Clause ~~3-5~~ Rules governing ballot access ~~and~~ campaign procedures shall be delineated in the Procedures for Election, which may be amended by an Act agreed to by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Senate and signed by the President.

Section 3 **The President**

Clause 1 The President shall be the ~~leader and~~ head of the Student Government Association ~~and the Student Body President.~~

Clause 2 The President shall represent the student body to the U~~n~~iversity A~~a~~dmistration and
of
Trust
ees.
Board of Trustees.

Clause 3 Upon approval by the President, a bill passed by the Senate shall be enacted.

Clause 4 The President shall create a Cabinet to assist ~~presidential him in discharging his~~ duties and spearheading Student Government Association initiatives. Membership in the President's Cabinet is not subject to Senate approval, ~~except for vacancies for the Treasurer and Secretary.~~

Clause 5 The President shall have the authority to make Student Government Association appointments to University boards and committees where student representation is sought.

Clause 6 The President shall, with the advice and consent of the Senate, fill vacancies in the Senate and ~~in the Executive of the secretary and treasurer.~~

~~Section 43~~ The Vice President

Clause 1 In the event of a vacancy in the office of the President, the Vice President shall assume the Presidency.

~~Section 53~~ The Treasurer

Clause 1 The Treasurer shall lead the Treasury Board.

Clause 2 The Treasury Board shall be responsible for the distribution and allocation of funds generated by the student activity fee ~~and furnished to the Treasurer.~~ Funds may be allocated to undergraduate students, student organizations, and other initiatives deemed appropriate by the Treasury Board.

Clause 3 The Treasury Board shall consist of the Treasurer, ~~and eight (8) Directors~~ appointed by the Executive, with the advice and consent of the Senate, ~~and the President.~~

Clause 4 All ~~D~~irectors shall possess full voting rights.

Clause 5 ~~The Treasurer may only vote in case of a tie. with the exception of the Treasurer, who may only vote in the case of a tie, and the President, who may not vote.~~

Clause 64 Directors shall be selected and appointed by the ~~Treasurer-elect~~ with the advice and consent of the ~~P~~resident-elect by May 1. ~~Executive-elect after the May election. The President-elect, Vice President-elect, Treasurer-elect, and Secretary-elect must be in agreement in regard to the membership of the Board. If the Executive-elect is unable to determine a slate of directors by May 1, a three-fourths (3/4) majority of the Executive may propose a slate of directors to the Senate for confirmation.~~ The Senate must vote upon the proposed slate of ~~D~~irectors within ~~ten-five (510) academic~~ calendar days of its submission by the Executive Board.

- Clause ~~5-7~~ All undergraduate students shall be eligible to serve on the Treasury Board unless otherwise stated in this Constitution.
- Clause ~~6-8~~ At least one ~~D~~irector must be a member of the freshman class, at least one ~~D~~irector must be a member of the sophomore class, at least one ~~D~~irector must be a member of the junior class, and ~~at least one Director must be a member of the senior class.~~
~~at least one director must be a member of the senior class.~~
- Clause 9 Class standing shall be defined ~~be determined in accordance with the schedule outlined in Art. I, Section 2, Clause 2.~~y the following standard earned credit schedule ~~shall be utilized:~~
freshman 0-29 credits, sophomore 30-59 credits, junior 60-89 credits, senior 90+ credits.
All ~~T~~reasury ~~B~~oard members must have the necessary credits upon the beginning of the fall semester of their term.
- Clause ~~107~~ Members of the Senate may not serve on the Treasury Board.

Clause ~~118~~ The Treasury Board shall serve a one-year term of office from May 1st - until April 30-~~of the following year.~~

Clause ~~129~~ The Treasury Board shall be governed by a set of written procedures.

Clause ~~1340~~ The Treasurer shall be authorized to audit any operation receiving funds from the Student Activity Fee.

Section ~~63~~ The Secretary

Clause 1 The Secretary, in collaboration with the Vice President, shall ensure that proper minutes are kept of all meetings of the Senate and that these minutes are made publicly available.

Clause 2 The Secretary, in collaboration with the Treasurer, shall ensure that proper record is kept of all decisions rendered by the Treasury Board and that these records are made publicly available.

Clause 3 The Secretary shall be responsible for ensuring that the student body remains knowledgeable of decisions of the Student Government Association, opportunities to join Student Government Association, and any other information deemed relevant. ~~by the Student Government Association.~~

Clause 4 The Secretary may ~~, at his discretion,~~ deputize one or more undergraduate students to assist in exercising of the duties of the Secretary's office.

ARTICLE II THE SENATE

Section 1 Duties

Clause 1 All legislative power shall be vested in a Senate. Section 2 Composition

Section 2 Composition

Clause 1 The Senate shall be composed of two (2) senators from the senior class, two (2) senators from the junior class, two (2) senators from the sophomore class, two (2) senators from the freshman class, and two (2) senators from each school of the University in which undergraduate students are enrolled.

Clause 2 For the purposes of voting, candidacy, and assumption of elected positions, the following standard earned credit schedule shall be utilized: freshman 0-29 credits, sophomore 30-59

credits, junior 60-89 credits, senior 90+ credits. All ~~members of the Senate~~ Senators representing their class must have the necessary credits upon the beginning of the fall semester of their term.

Section 3 **Term**

Clause 1 The Senate's term shall begin at the time of its first session where the Senate shall elect its leadership.

Section 3 **Leadership**

Clause 1 The Vice President shall be the President of the Senate and shall serve as the Senate's presiding officer.

Clause 2 As President of the Senate, the Vice President will only be able to cast a vote in the event of a tie in the Senate.

- Clause ~~3~~ 2 The Senate shall elect a senator to serve as President pro tempore. The President pro tempore serves at the pleasure of the Senate for the term of the Senate.
- Clause 4 The President pro tempore shall serve as presiding officer of the Senate in the absence of the Vice President.
- Clause 3 The President pro tempore shall assume ~~and assume~~ the office of the Vice- ~~President~~ ~~ey~~ if ~~vaeted~~ ~~vacated~~.
- Clause 4 The President pro tempore shall assume the Presidency in the event of simultaneous vacancies in the offices of President and Vice-President ~~exist in the offices of President and Vice-President.~~ ~~The President pro tempore serves at the pleasure of the Senate for the term of the Senate.~~

~~Section 4~~ ~~Term~~

~~Clause 1~~ ~~The Senate's term shall begin at the time of the fall inauguration. Upon the beginning of each term, the Senate shall elect its leadership, including a President pro tempore who shall lead the body in the absence of the vice president.~~

Section 5 Meetings

- Clause 1 The Senate shall meet regularly at a uniform time and place no fewer than one time per month as circumstances permit. All meetings shall be open to the university community and no undergraduate student shall be denied admittance to observe a meeting of the Senate.
- Clause 2 The Senate shall determine the rules of its proceedings concurrent with a majority vote. ~~and adopt bylaws for the Student Government Association by a majority vote subject to the approval of the Executive or a two-thirds (2/3) vote subject to the approval of the President or a three-fourths (3/4) vote.~~

Section 6 Election

- Clause 1 The Senate shall be elected in September and serve ~~an eight-month~~ ~~a~~ term of office commencing on October 1 and ending with the conclusion of the spring academic semester.
- Clause 2 Rules governing ballot access ~~and~~ campaign procedures shall be delineated in the Procedures for Election, which may be amended by an Act agreed to by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Senate and signed by the President.
- Clause 3 Candidates may seek election to only one office at a time.

Clause 4 A candidate may only hold office for a ~~class in which he is a member or a school or class~~ in which ~~the candidate~~ **he** is enrolled.

Clause 5 Students may only vote for offices that represent their respective class and schools in which they are enrolled.

~~Clause 6 — Rules governing ballot access and campaign procedures shall be delineated in the Procedures for Election which may be amended by an Act agreed to by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Senate and signed by the President.~~

Section 7 **MoniesFunds**

- Clause 1 The Senate shall approve ~~or deny~~ expenditures made by the Executive in excess of one hundred and fifty (150) dollars ~~per month~~ ~~beyond the approved operating budget~~.
- Clause 2 The Senate shall establish procedures for distributing and allocating dedicated Student Government Association ~~monies-funds~~ to the members- of the Executive for use on Student Government Association initiatives.
- Clause 3 ~~The Senate shall have the authority to vacate-override~~ any decision made by the Treasury Board subject to a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote and approval of the President or a three-fourths (3/4) majority vote ~~to override a presidential veto~~.

ARTICLE III REMOVAL FROM OFFICE

Section 1 Procedures

- Clause 1 Should any member of the Student Government Association fail to attend to the duties of ~~his-the~~ office in which they are serving as outlined in the ~~Student Government Association Constitution and Student Government Association Bylaws~~ ~~governing documents~~, the Senate may remove that individual from office.
- Clause 2 A member may only be removed from office after having been given an opportunity to rehabilitate their position in Student Government Association in accordance with procedures included within the Student Government Association bylaws.
- Clause 3 Removal from office shall require a three-fourths (3/4) majority vote of the full Senate.

ARTICLE IV AMENDMENTS

Section 1 Processes

- Clause 1 Amendments to this Constitution may be proposed by any member of the Senate.
- Clause 2 All amendment proposals shall be subject to notification one meeting prior to their consideration.
- ~~A~~
Clause 3 ~~A~~ two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Senate or petition signed by twenty (20) percent of ~~the undergraduate~~ ~~the undergraduate~~ student body shall place the amendments to a vote by the Student Body to occur within thirty (30) academic days.
- Clause ~~42~~ An amendment shall be considered ratified when majority of those voting approve the

amendment. No fewer than ten (10) academic days written notice shall be served to the campus community ~~via campus media~~ through University communication.

Clause 53 -Adoption and changes to the Student Government Association Bylaws may be made by a majority vote of the Executive Board for their bylaws, which are subject to the approval by a majority vote in the Senate. The Senate's Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote which is subject to the approval of the President. A three-fourths (3/4) vote is necessary to override a presidential veto. ~~senate vote; a two-thirds (2/3) vote subject to the approval of the President for the senate's bylaws with a three-fourths (3/4) vote to override a presidential veto.~~

ARTICLE V UNIVERSITY CLAUSES

Section 1 **University Policies**

Clause 1 Student Government abides by all University policies as laid out at <http://policies.cua.edu>.

Section 2 **Non-Hazing**

Clause 1 The Student Government Association will not participate in any activities which could be regarded as hazing. "Hazing" refers to any activity expected of someone joining a group (or to maintain full status in a group) that humiliates, degrades or risks emotional and/or physical harm, regardless of the person's willingness to participate.

Section 3 Non-Discrimination

Clause 1 The Student Government Association fully adheres to the University's non-discrimination policies which can be found at <http://policies.cua.edu/EEO/affirmact.cfm>.

Authorizing Legislation adopted by
the Student Association General Assembly: October 14, 2014

Approved by the Constitutional Commission: December 3, 2014

Ratified by the Student Body: April 13, 2016



Connor J. Kurtz
Chairman, Constitutional Commission

Amended by the Second Constitutional Commission: October 14, 2016

James Harrington
Chairman, Second Constitutional Commission

Julia Lattarulo
Member, Second Constitutional Commission

Elise LaFleur
Member, Second Constitutional Commission

Adopted by the Student Government Association Senate:

Ratified by the Student Body: