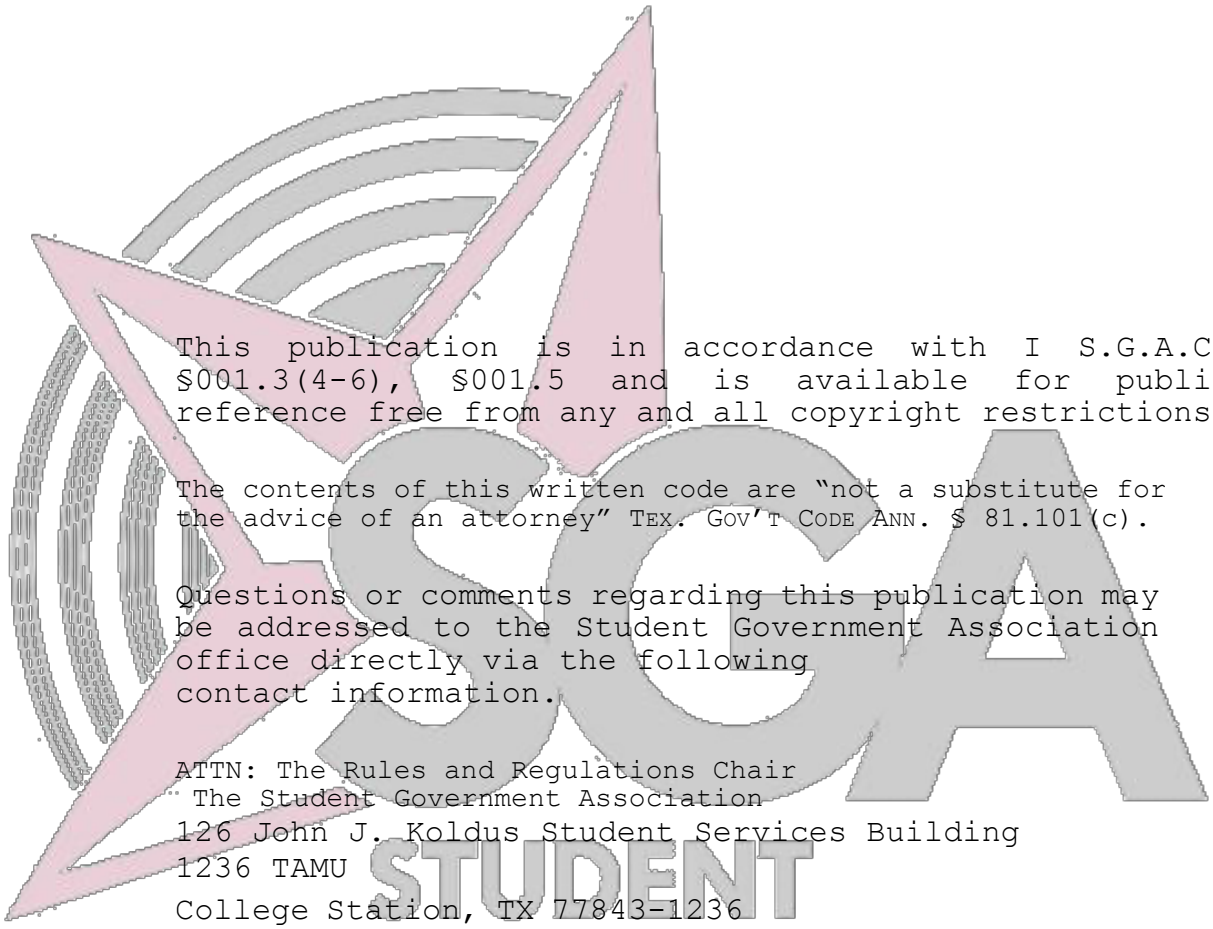
The Student Government Association Code

May 2020 73rd Session Edition

SGA
STUDENT
GOVERNMENT
ASSOCIATION
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY



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The contents of this written code are "not a substitute for the advice of an attorney" TEX. GOV'T CODE ANN. § 81.101(c).

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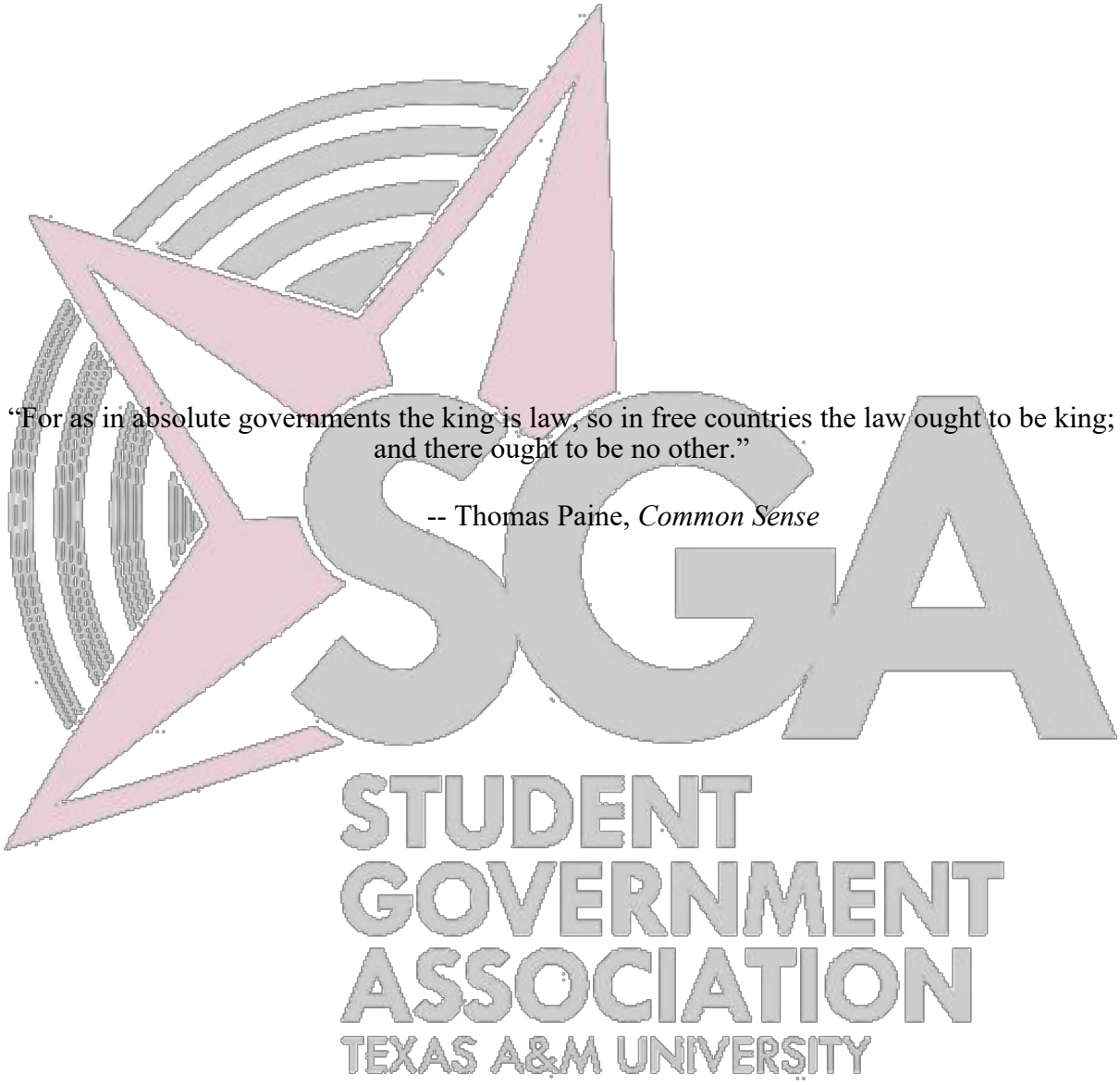

"For as in absolute governments the king is law, so in free countries the law ought to be king; and there ought to be no other."

-- Thomas Paine, *Common Sense*

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Certification

I hereby certify this July 2020 Edition of the Student Government Association Code in accordance with I S.G.A.C. §001.3(4-6), §001.5, as accurate and reflecting all legislative, executive, and judicial changes (attached in appendix).

Meghan Hein '23
Rules and Regulations Chair
Student Senate 73rd Session

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Introduction

Thomas Paine wrote that the "law is King" in America in his political pamphlet *Common Sense* published in 1776. His words were true at the founding of our nation and are still true today. The proper functioning of Government depends on the proper application of the rule of law, not the rule of man. Thus, it is necessary for a Government to enact laws to ensure the proper functioning of a Government and to provide a bulwark against confusion and arbitrary decision making by its leaders. A codification of these laws in an easy to read medium ensures that all participants in and constituents of an organization can readily hold their leaders accountable and assert their rights under the law. The 61st Session of the Student Senate has provided such a codification when it created the Student Government Association Code (S.G.A.C.) on March 11th, 2009.

This July 2020 Edition of the S.G.A.C. is part of the fifth edition of the code. It sets in place a structure for all the various governing documents that regulate the operations and structure of the Student Government Association (SGA) and its service to the Student Body at large. Since October 15th, 1947, the Student Government Association has served to serve as the representative voice of the students of Texas A&M, and this code helps harness that voice to its full potential.

The S.G.A.C. is presented on the following pages in an easy to read and structured format. For ease of use of the code, a table of contents is provided on the previous page to guide the reader to the appropriate classification of a document. Questions of procedure may be narrowed to a specific document based on whether the issue applies to a branch of Government, committee, or commission (Bylaws) or a law enacted by the Student Senate (Acts/Statutes). The constitution, as in all other forms of Government, is the supreme law of the land, and its provisions pre-empt all other documents included within this code. These documents are presented then in a flowing format with the constitution first, Bylaws second, and Statutes third in relative order of precedence, minus Title I, which is a Statute organizing the Code as a whole. Specific questions on precedence may be addressed to the Rules and Regulations Chair of the Student Senate at any time, as this individual is primarily responsible for the maintenance of this code pursuant to I S.G.A.C. §001.5(1).

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

Citing the Student Government Association Code: Recommended Methods

Long Form – The specific location of a rule may be listed followed by the long title of the document in which it is located. For example: Article I, Section II of the constitution or Article III, Section II, of the Election Regulations.

Short Form – This format is highly recommended for use in court documents or when referencing provisions of the code in Senate legislation or Executive/Judicial Orders. The title within which a specific rule is located under followed by the short form of the Code and the annotated reference of the specific section of the rule in question in the following manner:

(1) The Title's roman numeral, *space*
(2) S.G.A.C., *space*
(3) The section symbol (§), *no space*
(4) The three digit Chapter number, *a period*
(5) The article number in digit form, *parenthesis*
(6) The section number in digit form, *a space*
(7) Any other subsection or other classification with *no space* separating.

For complex cites, use Example 6/7. Ignore bolding in examples.

Example 1: Article I, Section II of the constitution
II S.G.A.C. §001.1(2).

Example 2: Article IV, Section III, Subsection (a), Number (1) of the Election Regulations.
V S.G.A.C. §101.4(3) (a)(1).

Example 3: Article IV, Section II, Subsections (a)-(d) of the Senate Bylaws.
III S.G.A.C. §001.4(2) (a-d).

Example 4: Article V, Sections III-V of the Judicial Branch Bylaws.
III S.G.A.C. §003.5(3-5).

Example 5: Article V, Sections II and IV of the SGA Allocations Regulations Act.
V S.G.A.C. §201.5(2,4).

Example 6: Article V, Section I and Article VI, Section II, Subsection (a) of the constitution. (*note the comma*)
II S.G.A.C. §001.5(1), §001.6(2) (a).

Example 7: Article V of the constitution and the Senate Bylaws as one cohesive document. (*note the semi-colon*)
II S.G.A.C. §001.5; III S.G.A.C. §001.

SGA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

How to Use the Code

If you are searching for a particular document, it is recommended you utilize the Table of Contents on page vii. The code in its current format does not have an index of topics. If you should have any questions about a particular rule, you may consult with the Rules and Regulations Chair of the Student Senate, the Chief Justice of the Judicial Court, or another member of any branch of Government whom is knowledgeable of or assigned to interpret rules. Finally, you may also consult the legislative history of all bills passed by the Senate that impacted the code in the previous session for recent changes. These changes that took place during the 65th Session of the Student Senate are noted below each chapter title listing amendments, including amendments from previous sessions of the Senate since March 11th, 2009 with the S.G.A.C. was created.

The Student Government Association Code is published on a monthly basis in electronic and physical form within the SGA office should it be amended during a particular calendar month at the discretion of the Rules and Regulations Chair. Should no amendment occur, the code will at least be updated on a yearly basis into a bound copy that is distributed to the Student Government Association Advisor and other officials during the Summer to maintain a reference copy. Funds for the creation of this code come from the budget of the Student Senate via SSFAB allocations or donations.

In closing, the rules enclosed in this code are not law in the same manner of which State Law or Federal Law governs citizens of the United States or any sub-division of Government. They only apply to the procedures and operations of the Student Government Association and when any individual student, administrator, or member of the general public, interacts with that organization. The binding power thus, of these regulations is very limited only to that scope. However, the creation of, execution of, and interpretation of the laws of this code follow the same general format of any republican Government in that the legislative branch (The Student Senate) creates laws (Acts/Statutes), the executive branch (The Student Body President) enforces those laws, and the judicial branch (The Judicial Court) interprets their enforcement and constitutionality in line with the constitution of the Student Government Association.

STUDENT
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THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION CODE

TITLE I – ADMINISTRATIVE GENERAL

Revised November 30th, 2011

CHAPTER 001 -- THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION CODE

Created by S.B. 09(S)6, Amended by S.B. 09(S)28, S.B. 64-53
Revised November 30th, 2011

ARTICLE I. NAME AND SHORT TITLE

SECTION I. This code shall be known as the Student Government Association Code.

Section II. The short title for the Student Government Association Code shall be S.G.A.C. for reference hereafter within this document, in the general operations of the Student Government Association, and in reference to all laws contained herein.

Section III. This Title and Chapter is a Statute of the Senate, codified separately for organizational purposes.

ARTICLE II. PURPOSE

Section I. The purpose of this code shall be to codify all the statutes enacted by the Student Senate, the rules and procedures enacted in the Branch Bylaws, the Student Government constitution, and other rules and procedures enacted under authority of the preceding governing documents of the Student Government Association for common reference by the executive, judicial, and legislative branches, and the student body as called for by Article III Section III of the Student Government Association constitution.

ARTICLE III. ORGANIZATION

Section I. The S.G.A.C. shall be organized into titles, which shall further be divided into sub-titles as needed, chapters, articles, sections, subsections, numbers, roman numerals, letters, and such further common divisions as the Rules and Regulations Chair of the Student Senate may deem necessary to codify any statute, Branch By-Law, other rule or procedure, or the Student Government Association constitution into a common format.

Section II. The titles for the S.G.A.C. shall divide differing governing documents in order of decreasing precedence in the following manner:

(a) Title I shall be called "Administrative General" and shall include all statutory provisions for the organization, dissemination, and display of this code, as well as definitions for its interpretation (excluding the

constitution), unless otherwise provided for in the various governing documents.

(b) Title II shall be called "The constitution of the Texas A&M University Student Government Association" and shall include the most recent copy of the SGA constitution as ratified or amended.

(c) Title III shall be called "The Bylaws of the Branches and Councils of Government" and shall include the most recent copies of the Executive Branch, Judicial Branch, and Student Senate Bylaws as ratified or amended and divided into separate chapters by entity.

(d) Title IV shall be called "The Bylaws and Regulations of the Other Entities of Government" and shall include the most recent copies of the bylaws and regulations established pursuant to the statutes of those commissions, committees, other executive offices, and other judicial offices as may currently be a part of the Executive Branch, Legislative Branch, or Judicial Branch of Government divided into separate sub-titles by Branch of Government and separate chapters by entity.

(e) Title V shall be called "The Statutes of the Senate" and shall include the statutes as may be enacted or amended from time to time by the Student Senate.

(f) Title VI shall be called "The Agreements of the Student Body President" and shall include the agreements entered into from time to time by the Student Body President and ratified by the Student Senate.

SECTION III. The chapters of the titles of the S.G.A.C. shall further divide the title or sub-title into distinguishable documents, categories, or enactments as may be enacted or amended from time to time by the Student Senate or the various entities of the Student Government Association.

SECTION IV. The S.G.A.C. shall be presented in standard, non-annotated form, including a cover and table of contents as may direct the reader by page number to individual chapters of this code, and all documents shall be modified to meet a common display standard, so long as no modifications are made to the content of those documents. The Rules and Regulations Chair shall also provide a recommended citation guide for citing the various statutes, rules or procedures, or the Student Government Association constitution in documents in cases before the Judicial Court, in bills and resolutions of the Student Senate, orders amending rules or procedures in this Code, and in petitions of the student body enacting statutes, measures, or constitutional amendments. The Rules and Regulations Chair shall also certify the S.G.A.C. as accurate according to the provisions of this Chapter. The Rules and Regulations Chair may also provide other non-binding parts to the code as they may deem necessary and proper to aid the reader in understanding or navigating its contents.

(a) Titles shall be denoted by upper case roman numeral, sub-titles by digits, chapters by three digits, articles by upper case roman numeral, sections by upper case roman numeral, subsections by lower case letter enclosed in parenthesis, numbers by digits enclosed in parenthesis, roman numerals by lowercase roman numerals enclosed in parenthesis, letters by

lowercase letter, and further common divisions by any use of the above characters at the discretion of the Rules and Regulations Chair to codify all statutes, rules or procedures, or the Student Government Association constitution into a common format.

SECTION V. All amendments made to documents subject to the enaction of the Student Senate shall be denoted with reference to the Senate Bill from which such amendments were enacted below the specific chapter amended. All other amendments shall denote the student body petition number, executive order number, Judicial Court order number, council order number, commissioner order number, committee chair order number, or such other order number amending the statute or rule or procedure below the specific chapter amended.

SECTION VI. The chapters, sub-titles, and titles of the S.G.A.C. shall indicate the date of the last revision to that entity.

ARTICLE IV. DEFINITIONS

SECTION I. Unless otherwise provided for in the statutes contained within this code, the following words shall be assigned the ascribed meaning for all purposes:

(a) Definitions from the constitution

(1) All definitions of words contained within the constitution apply with respect to the statutes

(b) Gender and other descriptive wording.

(1) All references to masculine or feminine wording shall be defined to have equal meaning under the law.

(c) "Year" shall be defined as one calendar year, 365 days in length for a normal year, and 366 days in length should the time span across February 29th of a leap year.

(d) People, Places, and Entities

(1) "Vice President," "Executive Director," "Secretary," or "Student Advocate" shall be defined for the purpose of the Executive Branch of Government as such persons the Student Body President shall appoint from time to time to the Executive Cabinet and be confirmed by the Senate.

(2) "Texas A&M University" shall be defined as such: an institution of higher education as is established by the State of Texas located in the reasonable vicinity of College Station, Texas with branches in Galveston, Texas and Doha, Qatar.

(3) "Student Government Association Advisor" or "Advisor" shall be defined to be any person fulfilling the duties of primary or secondary advisor as recognized by the Department of Student Activities to the Student Government Association, Student Body President, Executive Branch of Government, Student Senate, or Judicial Branch of Government.

ARTICLE V. DISSEMINATION AND DISPLAY

SECTION I. The Rules and Regulations Chair of the Student Senate is hereby vested the duty to enact the provisions of this Chapter, including codifying the S.G.A.C. in compliance with this Chapter. The Rules and Regulations Chair shall update this Code to reflect all reported changes within one (1) calendar month.

(a) The Student Body President shall forward to the Rules and Regulations Chair all changes made to the Executive Branch Bylaws within fourteen (14) days of their amendment.

(b) The Chief Justice shall forward to the Rules and Regulations Chair all changes made to the Judicial Branch Bylaws within fourteen (14) days of their amendment.

(c) The chair, director, commissioner, or chief student leader of any SGA Committee shall forward to the Rules and Regulations Chair all changes made to that particular committee's bylaws that exist within fourteen (14) days of their amendment.

SECTION II. The most recent copy of the S.G.A.C shall be made available for reasonable review by the general public in electronic format online as well as in physical form in the Student Government Association Office.

SECTION III. A copy of the S.G.A.C shall be forwarded by the Rules and Regulations Chair to the Student Government Association Advisor, the Director of the Cody T. Vasut Archives of the Senate, the Student Body President, and the Chief Justice of the Judicial Court for reference as it is updated and in bound format within five (5) class days of the ending of a session of the Student Senate.

SECTION IV. All costs associated with the production and amending of this code shall be incurred by the Student Senate.

CHAPTER 002 -099 – RESERVED FOR EXPANSION

TITLE II – THE CONSTITUTION OF THE TEXAS A&M STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

Revised September 19, 2012

CHAPTER 001 -- THE CONSTITUTION OF THE TEXAS A&M STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

Amended by S.B. 09(S)11, S.B. 09(S)34, S.B. 09(F)04, S.B. 09(F)06, S.B. 09(F)15, S.B. 63-70, S.B. 63-71, S.B. 63-100, S.B. 64-30, S.B. 65-06, S.B. 65-28, S.B. 65-41

We, the students of Texas A&M University, in order to provide an officially recognized student organization that identifies and represents student interests, promotes student participation in the overall policy and decision-making processes of the university, enhances the quality and scope of education at the university, and promotes the general welfare of the student body, do hereby adopt and establish this constitution.

ARTICLE I. THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

SECTION I. This organization shall be known as the Student Government Association of Texas A&M University.

SECTION II. The Student Government Association shall represent the student body, which consists of all students at Texas A&M University, and shall exercise its authority through this constitution as hereafter provided.

SECTION III. The governing structure of the Student Government Association of Texas A&M University shall consist of the following three distinct branches: Executive, Legislative, and Judicial. In order to provide for an effective system of checks and balance no person may concurrently serve in two or more of the following positions: Student Body President, member of the Executive Cabinet, Student Senator, Justice of the Judicial Court.

SECTION IV. General Definitions. For the purposes of this constitution the terms:

(a) "Student(s)" shall be defined as any individual student or group of students who are duly enrolled in at least one (1) credit hour at Texas A&M University.

(b) "Student Body" shall be defined as all students at Texas A&M University.

(c) "Member of the Student Government Association" shall be defined as any student occupying any office within the Student Government Association pursuant to this constitution, any statute enacted by the Student Senate, or under any rule or procedure enacted pursuant to this constitution or under any rule of procedure enacted pursuant to any statute.

(d) "General Assembly Meeting" shall be defined as a meeting of the full body of the Student Senate.

(e) "Announced Meeting" shall be defined as any general assembly meeting held with at least three (3) days notice to the membership of the entity conducting the meeting, including a tentative agenda of the items to be discussed and the location and the time of the meeting.

(f) "Day" shall be defined as one twenty-four (24) hour intervening period of time as determined under the central standard time zone (CST) in the United States, adjusted for daylight savings time called for by the lass of the United States.

(g) "Fall or Spring Academic Semester(s)" shall be defined as the term of classes at Texas A&M University lasting during the months of August to December for the fall semester and January to May for the spring semester, but shall not include those classes lasting from May to August (summer semester) or those classes occurring between the end of the fall semester and the beginning of the immediately following spring semester (winter semester).

(h) A rule or procedure "enacted pursuant to this constitution" shall be defined as the Student Senate Bylaws, the Judicial Branch Bylaws, and the Executive Branch Bylaws, and a rule or procedure "enacted pursuant to any statute" shall be defined as any rule or procedure authorized under, or in accordance with, any statute enacted by the Student Senate or authorized under, or in accordance with, any statute enacted by the Student Senate or authorized under, or in accordance with, any agreement entered into by the Student Body President and ratified by the Student Senate.

SECTION V. All members of the Student Government Association in office at the conclusion of a fall or spring academic semester shall continue to remain in office at the beginning of the immediately following spring or fall academic semester, notwithstanding the failure of the member to enroll in classes during the intervening winter semester or summer semester, whichever is applicable. This Section shall not apply if the member's particular term in office expires at the conclusion of a fall or spring academic semester.

ARTICLE II. EXECUTIVE BRANCH

SECTION I. All executive powers shall be vested in the Student Body President of the Student Government Association of Texas A&M University. A primary charge of the Student Body President and the Executive Branch shall be the timely implementation of all statutes enacted by the Student Senate.

SECTION II. The Executive Branch shall be organized in the following manner:

(a) The chief executive officer shall be the Student Body President who shall be elected from the student body by an instant runoff vote during the spring student body elections as provided for by statute.

(b) The term of the Student Body President shall be in accordance with the length of the term of his corresponding session of the Student Senate,

but the power of appointment for the incoming session of the Student Senate shall accrue to the Student Body President for the incoming session of the Student Senate immediately upon his election.

(c) The Student Body President shall have been enrolled at and in good standing with Texas A&M University for at least three (3) academic semesters (fall or spring) preceding their election to office. The spring academic semester during which the Student Body President is elected to office shall count towards this total.

(d) If the Student Body President is unable or unwilling to continue serving as Student Body President or to assume office, the office shall fall to the Speaker of the Senate, then to the Speaker Pro-Tempore of the Senate, and finally to the Senate Rules and Regulations Chair. If none of these are willing and able to serve, then a member of the Executive Cabinet shall be elected by a majority vote of the members of the Executive Cabinet present and voting at an announced meeting and confirmed by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Student Senate membership present and voting at an announced meeting.

(1) If the process above does not fill the position, then a special election shall be held to elect a new Student Body President by the student body. The Student Senate shall, in the interim through an emergency special session, elect a Student Senator by a majority vote of the Student Senate membership present and voting at an announced meeting to serve as acting Student Body President until a new Student Body President is elected. The acting Student Body President shall keep their seat in the Senate during this period, and the acting Student Body President shall have all of the duties and powers of the Student Body President.

(2) Each officer in the line of succession shall have forty-eight (48) hours to accept or decline the position of Student Body President by written and signed notification to the Chief Justice.

SECTION III. The duties and powers of the Student Body President shall include the following:

(a) Signing or vetoing all statutes and constitutional amendments passed by the Student Senate within seven (7) days. Any statute or constitutional amendment not signed or vetoed within seven (7) days shall be considered signed or approved. This veto power shall not extend to Student Senate resolutions, any rule or procedure enacted pursuant to this constitution or any rule or procedure enacted pursuant to any statute, or statutes or constitutional amendments approved in a referendum.

(b) Faithfully executing all statutes enacted by the Student Senate for which the Student Body President shall be responsible to the Student Senate.

(c) Acting as the ceremonial representative of the student body.

(d) Organizing and appointing members of an Executive Cabinet, which shall serve at the discretion of the Student Body President, subject to confirmation of two-thirds (2/3) of the Student Senate membership present and voting at an announced meeting.

(1) A "member of the Executive Cabinet" shall be defined as any student appointed by the Student Body President and confirmed by the Student Senate who shall advise and assist the Student Body President on performing the Student Body President's duties and powers under this constitution or such additional duties and powers of the Student Body President as may be established by statute in accordance with this constitution and noted as delegable or assignable by the particular statute.

(2) No member of the executive branch, however, may be assigned or delegated the Student Body President's signing, veto, appointment, special session, contractual agreement, executive order, or proclamations of opinion powers, except in the case of the appointment of committee chairs, commissioners, or other executive offices as may be established by statute.

(e) Appointing all executive branch committee chairs and commissioners of committees and commissions established by the Student Senate by statute, which shall serve in accordance with the statutes. The Student Body President may also appoint other executive offices as may be established by the Student Senate by statute, which shall serve in accordance with the statutes, unless the Student Senate, by statute, vests power for their appointment in a committee chair, commissioner, or member of the Executive Cabinet. Alternatively, the Student Senate may, by statute, allow committee chairs, commissioners, or other executive offices to be elected by the student body, or any subset of the student body.

(f) Appointing any student, including Student Senators and Justices of the Judicial Court, to student positions on Texas A&M University and System Committees subject to confirmation of two-thirds (2/3) of the Student Senate membership present and voting at an announced meeting. Such students appointed and confirmed shall serve in their committee positions in accordance with the statutes.

(g) Establishing such rules and procedures for the Executive Branch as may be authorized under, and in accordance with, the statutes through a signed executive order amending the Executive Branch Bylaws. Such rules and procedures shall not expire unless a provision within the rule or procedure provides for its expiration; it is repealed or superseded by a subsequent statute enacted by the Student Senate or a subsequent rule or procedure adopted by the Student Body President and authorized under, and in accordance with, the statutes; or it is ruled unconstitutional or contrary to the statutes by the Judicial Court in a case.

(1) The Student Body President may also issue non-binding proclamations of the opinion of the Student Body President by

signed executive order that shall expire at the conclusion of each corresponding session of the Student Senate.

(h) Entering into agreements with entities outside the Student Government Association subject to ratification by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Student Senate membership present and voting at an announced meeting. Such agreements shall have the same effect and legal status under this constitution as a statute passed by the Student Senate and signed by the Student Body President, but such agreements shall not contradict or alter any provision of this constitution. All agreements shall be codified into the Student Government Association Code until they are repealed by the Student Body President or expire.

(i) Reporting to the Student Senate at every regularly scheduled general assembly meeting the status of all enacted statutes for the session of the Student Senate, the state of the student body, the operations of the Student Government, and for the purpose of answering questions. If unable to attend a general assembly meeting, the Student Body President shall send a member of the Executive Cabinet to report to the Student Senate.

(j) Calling special sessions of the Student Senate if deemed necessary by the Student Body President.

(k) Presiding over the incoming Student Senate until the Speaker of the Senate is elected, or delegating this duty to another student. Whether or not this duty is delegated, the student who presides over the incoming Student Senate until the Speaker of the Senate is elected may not be a Student Senator during that meeting of the incoming Student Senate, nor may the student serve as a character witness or speaker for any candidate for Speaker of the Senate.

(l) The Student Body President shall be ultimately responsible for the lack of timely implementation of any statute enacted by the Student Senate. For this reason, the Student Body President and their Executive Cabinet shall provide a written summary of legislation enactment progress to the Internal Affairs Committee of the Student Senate for the purpose of inclusion in communication to the Senate body. That this written summary must be submitted before 12 p.m. each Sunday preceding a Senate meeting and must include all legislation passed from the current session.

ARTICLE III. LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

SECTION I. All legislative powers shall be vested in the Student Senate of the Student Government Association of Texas A&M University. The Student Senate shall be the official body which shall identify student opinion and formulate student policy.

SECTION II. The Student Senate shall be organized in the following manner:

(a) The Student Senate shall be composed of Academic Area, Living Area, and Freshman Senators. Academic Senators shall be elected by a

plurality vote from their respective constituencies based upon college representation. Living Area Senators shall be elected by a plurality vote from their respective constituencies based upon their official residence. Academic Area Senators and Living Area Senators shall be elected during the spring student body elections as provided for by statute. Freshman Senators shall be elected at-large by a plurality vote of the Freshman Class during the fall student body elections as provided for by statute.

(b) The presiding officer of the Student Senate shall be the Speaker of the Senate, who shall be nominated and elected by a majority vote of the Student Senate membership present and voting at an announced meeting prior to the end of the spring academic semester. The Speaker Pro-Tempore, the Chair of Rules and Regulations, and all other officers of the Senate provided for in the Student Senate Bylaws shall also be nominated and elected by a majority vote of the Student Senate membership present and voting at an announced meeting prior to the end of the spring academic semester.

(1) All officers of the Senate shall remain Student Senators upon their election, but officers of the Senate may be removed from their officer position by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Student Senate membership present and voting at an announced meeting.

(c) If the Speaker of the Senate is unable to fulfill the duties of office, or upon their removal or resignation from office, the Speaker Pro-Tempore shall fulfill those duties until a new Speaker can be elected from the Student Senate membership present and voting at an announced meeting. In the absence of the Speaker Pro-Tempore, such duties shall fall to the Chair of Rules and Regulations and then to the remaining officers of the Senate provided for in the Student Senate Bylaws in an order provided for in the Student Senate Bylaws.

(d) The term of each session of the Student Senate shall begin and end during a final general assembly meeting during the last fourteen (14) days of the spring academic semester every calendar year. The incoming Student Senate shall not begin its session until the outgoing Student Senate adjourns at the final called general assembly meeting. Should the outgoing Student Senate fail to make a quorum for longer than twenty (20) consecutive minutes during the final called general assembly meeting, it shall automatically be adjourned. Upon the adjournment of the outgoing Student Senate, the incoming Student Senate shall be transferred all duties and powers vested in the Student Senate under this constitution, unless otherwise provided for in this constitution. The incoming Student Senate may, however, after its election, meet in called general assembly meetings prior to the beginning of its session to conduct its officer elections, handle its internal business under the existing Student Senate Bylaws, appoint senators to and assign legislation to committees, and confirm appointments by the incoming Student Body President.

(1) The power of confirmation of Student Body President appointments shall vest immediately to the incoming Student Senate upon its election. Nothing in this Section, however, shall be construed as vesting the power to enact statutes, resolutions, constitutional amendments, or rules and procedures in the Senate Bylaws in the incoming Student Senate until the outgoing Student Senate is adjourned at the final called general assembly meeting.

(e) The right to vote in a general assembly meeting, special session, or committee meeting affecting bills or resolutions, to sponsor bills and resolutions, to debate in a general assembly meeting or special session, and to make motions in a general assembly meeting or special session shall only extend to Student Senators. A Student Senator's right to vote or sponsor bills and resolutions may not be infringed, except the primary author/sponsor of a bill or resolution may deny any other Student Senator the right to co-author/sponsor the primary bill author/sponsor's bill or resolution.

(f) The term "Student Senate membership" when used in this constitution shall be defined as Student Senators who have been duly elected or confirmed under this constitution.

(g) A quorum of a majority of the Student Senate membership shall be necessary to conduct any business at any general assembly meeting or special session under this constitution.

SECTION III. The duties and powers of the Student Senate shall include:

(a) Enacting all statutes necessary for the general welfare of the student body in accordance with this constitution. Enacting all statutes which shall be necessary for carrying and executing all duties and powers vested by this constitution in the Executive Branch, the Legislative Branch, the Judicial Branch, or in any other entity of the Student Government Association by any entity outside the Student Government Association, including duties and powers vested in the "student government" of Texas A&M University under Texas state law.

(1) A "statute" shall be defined as a rule, regulation, procedure, policy, or statement of the official opinion of the student body enacted by the Student Senate by bill, or enacted by the student body through a referendum petition, that shall be binding on all individuals interacting with all branches and entities of the Student Government Association in accordance with this constitution.

(2) Codification. All statutes may either be codified into a common Student Government Association Code or may be uncodified.

(3) Codified Statutes. Statutes may be codified, but only if the bill or the referendum petition enacting the statute expressly states which portion of the Student Government Association Code is

amended, repealed, or created by the statute. Codified statutes shall not expire unless a provision within the statute provides for its expiration, it is repealed or superseded by a subsequently codified statute, or it is ruled unconstitutional by the Judicial Court in a case.

(4) Uncodified Statutes. All other statutes shall automatically expire at the conclusion of each corresponding session of the Student Senate. Uncodified statutes, however, shall not otherwise expire during the corresponding session of the Student Senate unless the statute provides for its expiration, it is repealed or superseded by any subsequent statute, or it is ruled unconstitutional by the Judicial Court in a case. The Student Senate may, by statute, vest authority in any part of the Legislative Branch or the Executive Branch for maintaining the Student Government Association Code.

(b) Enacting non-binding statements of the opinion of the Student Senate by resolution and a majority vote of the Student Senate membership present and voting at an announced meeting. All non-binding statements of the opinion of the Student Senate shall expire at the conclusion of each corresponding session of the Student Senate.

(1) The Student Senate may also exercise its power of ratification, confirmation of appointments, impeachment, or any other action authorized under the Student Senate Bylaws by resolution, which shall be binding and shall not expire except when the agreement ratified expires, the term of the office confirmed expires, or the action taken by the Student Senate provides for its own expiration.

(2) No resolution may exercise more than one power of the Student Senate, except that any resolution may exercise a single power of the Student Senate and enact a non-binding statement of the opinion of the Student Senate.

(c) Appropriating such funds and approving such student fees as may be placed at its discretion for such purposes as it may deem of service to the student body.

(d) Creating, organizing, and removing executive committees, commissions, and other executive offices; legislative branch commissions; and judicial branch committees, commissions, and other judicial branch offices by statute.

(1) A three-fourths (3/4) vote of the Student Senate membership present and voting at an announced meeting shall be necessary to override a veto of the Student Body President on any statute removing a committee, commission, or other office under this subsection.

(e) Establishing such rules and procedures in the Student Senate Bylaws as are necessary to organize the Student Senate, to organize and govern its proceedings, to discipline its members, and to provide for any other rule or procedure expressly called for by this constitution by bill and

a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Student Senate membership present and voting at an announced meeting. Such rules and procedures shall not expire unless a provision within the rule or procedure provides for its expiration; it is repealed or superseded by a subsequent rule or procedure adopted by the Student Senate; or it is ruled unconstitutional by the Judicial Court in a case.

(1) All other rules and procedures relating to the Student Senate or the Legislative branch may only be enacted by statute.

(f) Apportioning itself annually in the Student Senate Bylaws. Such apportionment must be in accordance with the provisions of this constitution and must be approved by two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present and voting at an announced meeting.

(g) Filling vacancies in the Student Senate membership in accordance with the Senate Bylaws.

(1) The Student Senate may alternatively, by statute, vest the filling of vacancies in the Student Senate membership with the student body by special election of the vacant Student Senate seat's constituency.

(2) Upon their election and certification by the Chief Justice, senators filling vacancies or Freshman caucus seats must be sworn in immediately following opening roll call of the next general session meeting and given full status as a Student Senator, granting them all rights and privileges therein.

(h) Overriding the veto of the Student Body President on any statute by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the membership present and voting at an announced meeting. In the case of a constitutional amendment, a three-fourths (3/4) vote of the Student Senate membership present and voting is needed to override a Student Body President veto. Any vetoed bill shall be automatically placed on the next Student Senate general assembly meeting's agenda and classified as old or unfinished business. The Student Body President shall be granted at least five (5) minutes to explain the reasoning for their veto of any statute or constitutional amendment immediately preceding the Student Senate's consideration of whether to override the Student Body President's veto.

(i) Special Sessions may be called by the Student Body President, the Speaker of the Senate, or by a petition to the Speaker, signed by one-third (1/3) of the Student Senate membership. Such calls or petitions may only generate announced meetings.

(j) Calling a general referendum of the student body by bill and a majority vote of the Student Senate membership present and voting at an announced meeting in order to render a decision regarding a proposed statute. Calling a general referendum of the student body by bill and a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Student Senate membership present and voting at an announced meeting in order to render a decision regarding a proposed constitutional amendment. No bill may present both a constitutional amendment and a statute to the student body for a decision.

(1) Proposed constitutional amendments, if approved of by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the student body voting in an announced student body wide election, shall be binding as if passed by the Student Senate and signed by the Student Body President. Such constitutional amendments may not be repealed or amended by the Student Senate until at least one (1) calendar year after the referendum enacting the constitutional amendment, unless the repeal or amendment occurs through any later referendum.

(2) Nothing in this subsection shall be construed as allowing the Student Body President to veto any bill calling for a referendum of the student body on any proposed statute or constitutional amendment.

ARTICLE IV. JUDICIAL BRANCH

SECTION I. All judicial powers shall be vested in the Judicial Court of the Student Government Association of Texas A&M University.

(a) The powers of the Judicial Court shall extend to any case between any student and any member of the Student Government Association in regards to: this constitution; any statute; any rule or procedure enacted pursuant to this constitution or any rule or procedure enacted pursuant to this constitution or any statute; or any action or inaction authorized by the same and executive agreement.

SECTION II. The Judicial Court shall be organized in the following manner:

(a) The term of each Judicial Court shall last as long as the incoming session of the Student Senate. The Judicial Court shall only be in session during the fall, spring, and summer academic semesters, and the Judicial Court may not hear cases or conduct any other official business on university holidays.

(b) The Judicial Court shall consist of nine (9) Justices.

(c) The Justices of the Judicial Court shall be appointed to serve permanently for as many terms of the Judicial Court as they wish to remain in office, provided that the Justice continues to meet all grade and eligibility requirements for his office and is otherwise not removed from office by resignation, by violating the Judicial Court's attendance policy, by entering as a candidate for a position in SGA governed by the Election Commission or by impeachment. Justices shall be appointed by the Student Body President and confirmed by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Student Senate membership present and voting at an announced meeting.

(1) If any Justice shall enter as a candidate for a position within SGA in an election that is governed by the Texas A&M Election Commission, they shall be removed from their position of Justice at the time of registering to run. If the former Justice desires to return to the Court, they must resign their elected position within SGA and

go through the process of nomination by the Student Body President and confirmation by the Student Senate set forth in this constitution.

(d) The outgoing Student Body President shall appoint the Chief Justice for their corresponding term of the Judicial Court from the Justices of the Judicial Court for that session subject to confirmation by which two-thirds (⅔) vote of the Student Senate membership present and voting at an announced meeting. A confirmation for a new Chief Justice can be considered no earlier than after the first meeting in March during the outgoing session of the student senate, and no later than the final meeting of the outgoing student senate before Joint Session. Any newly confirmed judicial court officer may not officially take over until all pending cases are closed from the previous term.

(1) The office of Chief Justice shall be subject to re-appointment for each subsequent term of the Judicial Court.

(2) The Chief Justice shall appoint such other officers and members of the Judicial Branch as may be established by the Student Senate by statute, which shall serve in accordance with the statutes, unless the Student Senate, by statute, vests their appointment in the Student Body President or the Justices of the Judicial Court.

(3) In the event that the Chief Justice vacates the office of Chief Justice, but not the office of Justice of the Judicial Court, the Student Body President shall appoint a new Chief Justice pursuant to this subsection to serve the remainder of the session.

(e) Should a seat on the Judicial Court be vacated, the Student Body President shall appoint a new Justice to fill the seat subject to confirmation by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Student Senate membership present and voting at an announced meeting.

(f) A quorum of a majority of the Justices of the Judicial Court shall be necessary to hear any case, but a lesser amount may discipline those Justices of the Judicial Court who are not in attendance. Such disciplining shall be in accordance with the statutes or any Judicial branch By-Law authorized under, and in accordance with, the statutes.

SECTION III. The duties and powers of the Judicial Court shall include:

(a) Ruling on any case by a majority vote of the Justices of the Judicial Court hearing the case. All rulings shall be accompanied by, at minimum, a majority opinion stating the ruling, the judgment imposed, and the reasoning of the majority. Rulings may also be accompanied by the reasoning of any plurality, concurring, or dissenting opinions in whole or in part. All opinions shall also, at minimum, clearly designate the names and signatures of the Justices of the Judicial Court joining the particular opinion, the name(s) of the parties, and the date and time of the decision.

(b) Establishing such rules and procedures for the Judicial Branch as may be authorized under, and in accordance with, the statutes through a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Justices of the Judicial Court signing a judicial order amending the Judicial Branch Bylaws. Such rules and procedures shall not expire unless a provision within the rule or procedure provides for its expiration; it is repealed or superseded by a subsequent statute enacted by the Student Senate or a subsequent rule or procedure adopted by the Judicial Court authorized under, and in accordance with, the statutes; or it is ruled unconstitutional or contrary to the statutes by the Judicial Court in a case.

(1) Notwithstanding Subsection (b) above, the Judicial Court shall retain the sole power to establish rules and procedures in the Judicial Branch Bylaws governing the following specifically enumerated topics:

(i) The Judicial Court's closed internal deliberations after hearings are concluded; and,

(ii) The Judicial Court's internal officer positions occupied by the Justices of the Judicial Court (i.e. finance chair, treasurer, etc).

(2) The establishment of any rule or procedure listed in Subsection (1) above, however, must still be accomplished through a process and document in accordance with the constitution and the statutes.

(3) Bylaws, enacted or established after a case is pending before the Judicial Court may apply to that particular case, its hearings, or its re-hearings.

(4) Any statute regulating the rules of procedure or evidence for hearings shall be enacted by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Student Senate membership present and voting at an announced meeting and shall be subject to a three-fourths (3/4) veto override by the Student Senate.

(c) Administering the oath of office, through its Chief Justice or designated Justice of the Judicial Court by the Chief Justice, at the swearing in of all members of the Student Government Association that require Student Senate confirmation, the Student Body President, Student Senators, the Justices of the Judicial Court, and any other member of the Student Government Association the Student Senate may, by statute, require the oath of office to be administered to. Should no Justice of the Judicial Court be available to administer the oath of office, the Student Body President may administer the oath of office, then the Speaker of the Senate, then any Student Senator appointed for such purposes by the Student Senate, and then the Student Government Association Advisors.

(1) The oath of office shall be as follows: "I (state your name) do solemnly swear (or affirm) to faithfully execute to the best of my ability the duties of the office of (state your office) for the Texas

A&M University Student Government Association; to uphold the honor of the same; at all times to protect the welfare of the student body; and to promote good relations between the students and those concerned with the university."

(2) No individual enumerated in this subsection may exercise any power under this constitution, any statute enacted by the Student Senate, or any rule or procedure enacted pursuant to this constitution or any statute, except after taking the oath of office under this subsection.

(d) Declaring by binding judicial order that: any statute any rule or procedure enacted pursuant to this constitution or rule or procedure enacted pursuant to any statute or any action or inaction authorized by the same; is repugnant to this constitution, should such issue arise in a case. However, such declaration shall include, in writing the express provision of this constitution which shall be in conflict.

(1) The preamble of this constitution, or any other item of legislation shall not be considered in determining whether any of the preceding are repugnant to this constitution.

(2) The Judicial Court shall in all cases rule: any statute; any rule or procedure enacted pursuant to this constitution or any rule or procedure enacted pursuant to this constitution or any statute; or any action or inaction authorized by the same; as constitutional if any provision of this constitution authorizes it and no provision of this constitution prohibits it.

(3) Nothing in this Article shall be construed, however, as vesting in the Judicial Court the power to compel the Student Body President, the Student Senate, any other entity of the Student Government Association, or the student body to exercise any un-qualified discretionary power expressly listed under this constitution, including, but not limited to, compelling the Student Senate to enact any statute, rule or procedure, or constitutional amendment unless this constitution expressly requires the Student Senate to do so; to impeach, remove, or otherwise discipline any individual of any branch of government except for provisions contained in this Article; to ratify any agreement entered into by the Student Body President; or to confirm any nominee.

(e) In the event of a vacancy in the office of Student Body President, the Chief Justice shall be responsible for notifying the officer next in the line of succession.

(f) The Judicial Court shall not have the ability to order money damages or monetary fines unless authorized by statute and only in accordance with the statutes.

ARTICLE V. GOVERNANCE COUNCIL

REPEALED by S.B. 70-19

ARTICLE VI. REMOVAL PROCEDURES

SECTION I. Impeachment

(a) The Student Senate shall have the sole power to impeach any member of the governing branches of the Student Government Association for failure to uphold the duties or honor of their office. Impeachment shall require a two thirds (⅔) vote of the Student Senate membership present and voting at an announced meeting. Any individual impeached shall be removed from office and the office declared vacant if the individual does not appeal their impeachment within the time period enumerated in Subsection (b) or, if the individual appeals, the impeachment is upheld by a ruling of the Judicial Court; a vote for impeachment shall also be considered a trial for impeachment.

(b) The impeached individual has the right to appeal the Senate's ruling to the Judicial Court within forty-eight (48) hours of the conclusion of the impeachment trial. The Judicial Court shall issue a ruling within seven (7) days of their receipt of the appeal on the decision based only on the procedure, as enumerated in the Student Senate Bylaws, was followed substantially correctly. The Judicial Court shall not rule on the merits of the case, and shall ignore any error it finds harmless to the rights of the individual impeached by the Student Senate.

(c) The Student Senate may further bar any individual impeached by the Student Senate from holding any office under the Student Government Association or any office whose election is conducted by the Student Government Association under the statutes for a specified or unspecified period of time by a three-quarters (3/4) vote of the Student Senate membership present and voting at an announced meeting.

SECTION II. Attendance Policies

(a) The Student Senate may adopt an attendance policy in the Student Senate Bylaws for the purpose of disciplining Student Senators for failure to attend proceedings and meetings of the Student Senate and its committees.

(1) A Student Senator may be automatically removed from office for violating the Student Senate's attendance policy under this subsection.

(b) The Judicial Court may adopt an attendance policy in the Judicial Branch Bylaws for the purpose of disciplining Justices of the Judicial Court for failure to attend hearings or other official meetings of the Judicial Court.

(1) A Justice of the Judicial Court may be automatically removed from office for violating the Judicial Court's attendance policy under this subsection.

(c) The Executive Branch may adopt an attendance policy within the Executive Bylaws for the purpose of disciplining members for failure to attend proceedings, meetings, or other events deemed necessary.

ARTICLE VII. GRADE POLICY

SECTION I. All members of the Student Government Association shall:

(a) Have at least a 2.00 overall grade point ratio for undergraduate students and at least a 3.00 grade point ratio for graduate students at the time of the election, selection, or appointment; for the semester prior to election, selection, or appointment; and the regular semester during the term of office.

(b) Be in good standing with the university and enrolled in at least six (6) credit hours in a fall or spring academic semester during the term of office. If the student is enrolled in the Blinn TEAM program, they must meet the stipulations outlined in Student Rule 41.2.2.1 or such equivalent student rules governing the Blinn TEAM program.

(c) Students enrolled in the Blinn TEAM program are also eligible to hold office as long as the student is meeting all applicable Blinn TEAM requirements and is in good standing with the program.

(d) Be removed from office in accordance with the statute should the student fail to maintain the above requirements.

SECTION II. There shall be no additional grade requirements for any member of the Student Government Association beyond those provided in this Article.

ARTICLE VIII. FINANCES

SECTION I. All monies belonging to this organization shall be deposited and disbursed through a bank account established for this organization at the Student Organization Finance Center and/or the Fiscal Office. All funds must be deposited within 24 hours after collection. The advisor to this organization must approve and sign each expenditure before payment.

SECTION II. All monies or property donated or allocated to the Student Government Association as a single entity shall be under the exclusive control of the Student Senate and its power of appropriation and regulation by statute.

(a) The Student Senate, however, shall not have power to appropriate or confiscate those monies or property donated to individual entities of the Student Government Association, but the Student Senate shall have power to regulate their use by the particular entity by statute. Additionally, should any individual entity of the Student Government Association cease to exist, its monies and properties shall be placed under the exclusive control of the Student Senate and its power of appropriation and regulation by statute.

SECTION III. The Student Government Association Budgetary Process

(a) The Student Body President, or a member of the Executive Cabinet assigned for this purpose by the Student Body President, reserves the right to formulate an initial Student Government Association budget in accordance with the statutes.

(b) The budget shall then be considered, amended, and approved by the Student Senate through its power of appropriation and regulation by statute in a bill.

(c) Line Item Veto. The Student Body President's veto power shall extend to any line item or set of line items in any budget bill at his discretion in accordance with this constitution. The Student Senate may vote on each individual line item when considering whether to override the Student Body President's veto. Such line items as may not be vetoed by the Student Body President shall pass into effect in accordance with this constitution.

(d) The Student Government Association fiscal year shall be in accordance with the fiscal year for Texas A&M University. If a budget is not approved by either by the conclusion of the fifth Student Senate general assembly meeting during the fall academic semester, the budget for the previous year shall be automatically adopted. If the amount distributed that year is less than the previously adopted budget, then the amount shall be distributed proportionally based on the previous year's budget.

ARTICLE IX. ADVISORS

SECTION I. The Student Government Association Advisors shall provide guidance to all areas of the organization. The advisors shall provide financial and organizational advice as well as ensure compliance with all Texas A&M University rules and procedures, but not this constitution, the statutes, or any other rule or procedure established pursuant to this constitution or any other rule or procedure established pursuant to any statute. The advisors shall meet regularly with the Student Body President, members of the Executive Cabinet, committee chairs, commissioners, the Chief Justice, and the officers of the Student Senate. The advisors shall meet with the other entities of the organization as the advisors deem necessary.

Section II. The advisors shall not be vested any duty, power, or decision making authority by any entity of the Student Government Association, by any statute, or by any rule or procedure enacted pursuant to this constitution or any rule or procedure enacted pursuant to any statute, other than expressly provided for in this constitution.

ARTICLE X. THE POWERS AND RIGHTS OF THE STUDENT BODY

SECTION I. The student body's power of referendum and recall petitions.

(a) The student body shall have the power to enact statutes independent of the Student Senate in the form of a petition containing the signatures of at least five thousand (5,000) students. Such statutes, if approved of by a majority vote of the student body voting in an announced student body wide election, shall be binding as if passed by the Student Senate and signed by the Student Body President.

(1) Such statutes shall not expire or be altered, if codified into the Student Government Association Code, unless they provide for

their own expiration, unless they are repealed or amended by a later codified statute enacted by the Student Senate at least one (1) calendar year after the referendum enacting the statute, or unless they are repealed or amended by any later referendum.

(2) Any statute approved of in a referendum, but not codified into the Student Government Association Code, shall automatically expire at the conclusion of the corresponding session of the Student Senate, but may not be altered by any statute enacted by the Student Senate during the corresponding session of the Student Senate.

(b) The student body shall have the power to amend this constitution independent of the Student Senate in the form of a referendum petition containing the signatures of at least seven thousand and five hundred (7,500) students. Such constitutional amendments, if approved of by a two-thirds vote of the student body voting in an announced student body wide election, shall be binding as if passed by the Student Senate and signed by the Student Body President.

(1) Such constitutional amendments may not be repealed or amended by the Student Senate until at least one (1) calendar year after the referendum enacting the constitutional amendment, unless the repeal or amendment occurs through any later referendum.

(c) The student body shall have the power to call for a recall vote on any Student Senator in the form of a recall petition containing the signatures of at least ten percent (10%) or one hundred and fifty (150) students in the particular Student Senator's constituency, whichever is larger. Only one

(d) Student Senator may be the subject of any one (1) recall petition, and a Student Senator may be the subject of a completed recall petition only once per any session of the Student Senate. The Student Senator shall be removed from office if two-thirds (2/3) of their constituency voting in an announced constituency wide student body election vote for his removal. Any Student Senator removed from office by recall may not be appointed to any Student Senator vacancy in the corresponding session of the Student Senate.

(e) A referendum petition may only relate to either enacting a statute or a constitutional amendment, and may not relate to a combination thereof. A recall petition may only relate to a Student Senator. All referendum petitions shall include the exact items to be enacted in Senate bill format, and all recall petitions shall clearly note the individual subject to the recall. All information contained within a petition shall be made available for review by any student who is requested to sign the petition.

(f) All petitions must be turned in within fourteen (14) days of their issuance to the Chief Justice of the Judicial Court. The Chief Justice shall certify the signatures on the petition no later than fourteen (14) days after receipt of the petition, whereupon it shall be deemed complete by the Chief Justice if the required number of signatures are certified as accurate.

(g) A student body wide vote on any completed referendum petition shall be held during the next general student body election as provided for by statute, so long as the referendum petition is deemed complete by the Chief Justice within seven (7) days prior to the particular election.

(1) The petitioner may request for the vote on any completed referendum petition to be held earlier than the next general student body election should the referendum petition fail to meet this timing requirement or the issue necessitate a quicker vote at the petitioner's discretion. This request shall be filed with the Speaker of the Senate at least one (1) day before a regularly scheduled general assembly meeting or special session of the Student Senate, and must be confirmed by a majority vote of the Student Senate membership present and voting at the Student Senate general assembly meeting or special session immediately following the request by the petitioner. Should the request be confirmed, the vote on the referendum petition shall be take no later than twenty-eight (28) days after confirmation, but no earlier than seven (7) days after confirmation.

(h) A vote of the particular Student Senator's constituency on any completed recall petition shall be held, in all cases, no later than twenty-eight (28) days after it is deemed complete, but no earlier than seven (7) days after it is deemed complete.

(i) This Section shall not be construed as to deprive the Student Senate from providing further regulations by statute for the initiation, distribution, format, qualification of an effective signature, and certification of signatures for any petition as well as the operations of the student body vote for any petition.

SECTION II. The student body's right to be free of discrimination.

(a) The Student Government Association shall not discriminate against, not give preferential treatment to, any person on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin, religion, sex, gender, disability, age, sexual orientation, gender identity or veteran status, prohibiting discrimination based on these factors in any and all forms.

(1) This Section shall not be construed to prohibit acts of prayer or invocations during meetings of Student Government Association entities, nor shall it be construed to restrict in any way the content of official or unofficial communications from members of the Student Government Association.

SECTION III. The student body's right to vote

(a) The right to vote, to participate in petitions, referendums, or recalls shall extend to any student, and shall not be infringed on any other basis.

SECTION IV. The student body's right to fair process of law.

(a) The liberty, rights, and privileges of any student shall not be deprived except by fair process of law. Each student shall have equal protection of the statutes, but such equal protection of groupings of students shall only be deemed unconstitutional if arbitrary and capricious.

SECTION V. The student body's right to be free of excessive punishments or fines.

(a) Excessive punishments or fines shall not be imposed under the statutes, under the rules or procedures, or by Judicial Court; nor shall any student be put in jeopardy of adjudication of their rights in a case before the Judicial Court twice for the same offence; nor shall any student be compelled to be a witness against themself in a case before the Judicial Court.

SECTION VI. The student body's right to a speedy and public trial.

(a) In all cases before the Judicial Court, all students shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial on the Texas A&M University campus in an announced proceeding with at least seventy-two (72) hours' notice; the right to cross examine witnesses brought against them; the right to be informed of the nature and cause of any accusation; the right to assistance of counsel of their choosing, whether a licensed attorney in the State of Texas or not; and the right to compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in their favor insofar as such process can reasonably be provided for by the power of the Student Government Association.

(1) The Judicial Court may issue a writ of injunction in accordance with the statutes for a period not to exceed thirty (30) days through a hearing with at least twenty-four (24) hours' notice to the party against whom the writ is to be issued.

SECTION VII. The student body's right to approve all compensation for members of the Student Government Association.

(a) No statute establishing or modifying compensation for any member of the Student Government Association for their official duties, other than through reimbursement of expenditures, shall be valid except upon majority approval by the student body voting in an announced referendum of the student body. Compensation of any member of the Student Government Association for their official duties, including reimbursement of expenditures, must be by statute or pursuant to an appropriation by statute of the Student Senate.

(b) Nothing in this Section shall be construed as prohibiting any member of the Student Government Association from receiving scholarships, grants, or other awards from any entity in consideration directly or indirectly of the individual's service in the Student Government Association. Such scholarships, grants, or other awards, however, may not be funded directly out of student fees.

SECTION VIII. The limitation of this Article in the context of purely discretionary or disciplinary decisions.

(a) The provisions of this Article, other than those addressing petitions, shall not be construed by the Judicial Court to limit the Student Senate's power to move into executive session, power of impeachment, power to remove officers of the Senate, power to discipline Senators or other members of the Legislative Branch; the Student Body President's power to remove members of the Executive Cabinet; or the student body's power to recall any Student Senator.

ARTICLE XI. AMENDMENTS

SECTION I. Amendment of this constitution, except as otherwise provided for in this constitution, must originate in the Student Senate and must pass the Student Senate by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Student Senate membership present and voting at an announced meeting after being read at least two (2) times at separate announced meetings, and subsequently be signed by the Student Body President. If the Student Body President vetoes the amendment, then the Student Senate can override the veto with a three-fourths (3/4) vote of the Student Senate membership present and voting at an announced meeting.

SECTION II. All previous constitutions are null and void, and this constitution is subject to review by the Department of Student Activities annually and/or when it is amended.

TITLE III – THE BYLAWS OF THE BRANCHES AND COUNCILS OF GOVERNMENT

Revised March 25, 2015

CHAPTER 001 – THE STUDENT SENATE BYLAWS

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION STUDENT SENATE BYLAWS

Revised March 25, 2015

ARTICLE I. MISSION & VISION STATEMENT

SECTION I. Mission Statement

(a) The Texas A&M University Student Senate represents all students in order to enhance the Texas A&M experience within our university and communities through research, legislation, and advocacy in accordance with the core values of our institution.

SECTION II. Vision Statement

(a) Through a unified effort by the members of Student Senate and by working with the other branches of Student Government, student organizations, administrators and faculty of Texas A&M, and various government officials, we will continue to elevate the experiences of the Texas A&M student body.

(b) Our mission will be distinguished by every aspect of the Student Senate embracing the Aggie Spirit.

(c) The Student Senate recognizes the importance of strong relationships with affiliate organizations whose goals are consistent with the Student Senate's. Good relationships among all three branches of Student Government, organizations under the SGA umbrella, and other student organizations, governmental officials, and Texas A&M Administration is conducive to achievement of the Student Senate vision.

ARTICLE II. PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

SECTION I. Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised

(a) The Student Senate will operate under the guidance of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised. Should Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised conflict with the Student Government Association constitution or Senate Bylaws, the constitution will stand as the preeminent document followed by the Senate Bylaws and subsequently Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised.

ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP AND JOB DESCRIPTIONS

SECTION I. Senate Apportionment

(a) Student Senate membership shall consist of eighty (80) Senators elected by a plurality vote through the following representational guidelines:

(1) The thirty-nine (39) college representatives shall be:

(i) College of Agriculture and Life Sciences- The four (4) seats shall be four (4) currently enrolled students at-large within the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences.

(ii) College of Architecture-The two (2) seats shall be two (2) currently enrolled students at-large within the College of Architecture

(iii) Lowry Mays School of Business - The four (4) seats shall be four (4) currently enrolled students at-large within the College of Business Administration

(iv) College of Education-The four (4) seats shall be four (4) currently enrolled students at-large within the College of Education

(v) The Dwight Look College of Engineering- The eleven seats shall be eleven (11) currently enrolled students at-large within the Dwight Look College of Engineering

(vi) Transition Academic Programs - The two (2) seats shall be two (2) currently enrolled students at large within the Transition Academic Programs at the time of their respective elections.

(vii) Colleges of Science - two (2) seats shall be two (2) currently enrolled students at-large within the College of Science

(viii) College of Geo-Sciences – The two (2) seats shall be two (2) currently enrolled students at-large within the College of Geo-Science

(ix) College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences - The two (2) seats shall be two (2) currently enrolled students at-large within the College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences

(x) College of Liberal Arts-The five (5) seats shall be five (5) currently enrolled students at-large within the College of Liberal Arts and the Bush School of Government and Public Service.

(xi) The Health Science Center – The two (2) seats shall be two (2) currently enrolled students at-large within the Texas A&M Health Science Center.

(b) The thirty-nine (39) housing representatives shall be:

(1) The seven (7) on-campus representatives shall be drawn from:

(i) On-Campus - Competition for the five (5) at-large seats shall be divided among non-Corps of Cadets members living in Residence Halls managed by Texas A&M Reslife.

(ii) Corps Residence Hall - Competition for the two (2)

at-large seats shall be divided among members of the Corps of Cadets living on campus.

(iii) The off-campus Corps members shall vote for and elect off-campus Senators.

(2) Off-Campus representatives – Thirty-two (32) seats shall be twenty-four (24) off-campus residents at-large.

(c) Freshman representatives-The two (2) seats shall be two (2) students of freshman classification at-large.

(d) No apportionment bill may be accepted that provides for fewer than two (2) Senate seats for any caucus, without removing that caucus from the Senate.

SECTION II. Reapportionment

(a) The Student Senate shall reapportion itself according to the following formula:

(1) The members of Student Senate shall be divided into two (2) freshmen seats and the remaining into an equal number of academic and housing seats as follows:

(i) All seats in the housing and academic groups shall be divided up based on the percentage of students to the total in the group.

(ii) After the division of seats, any caucus with fewer than two (2) seats shall be increased to exactly two (2) seats. All other caucuses shall be rounded down to the nearest whole number.

(iii) If the total apportioned number of seats to either the academic or housing group is higher than the total number of seats in that group's caucus after Subsection (ii), the remaining seats shall be added to each caucus one at a time in the order of which caucus's decimal number was highest before the rounding took place (for instance, a caucus which had 2.9 seats would gain a seat before a caucus with 3.6).

(iv) If the total apportioned number of seats to either the academic or housing group is lower than the total number of seats in that group's caucus after Subsection (ii), seats shall be subtracted one at a time in the order of which caucus's decimal number was lowest before the rounding took place (for instance, a caucus with 20.3 seats would lose a seat before a caucus with 4.6). No caucus that has only two seats can lose a seat in this way.

SECTION III. Officers of the Senate

(a) The Officers of the Senate shall consist of the Speaker of the Senate, the Speaker Pro-Tempore, the Senate Chair for Academic Affairs, the Senate Chair for Community Relations, the Senate Chair for Legislative Relations, the Senate Chair for Rules and Regulations, the Senate Chair for Student Services, the Senate Chair for Finance, the Senate Chair for Constituency Affairs and the Senate Chair for Diversity and Inclusion.

(1) Each Chair of a legislative committee shall be responsible for disseminating all necessary information to members of their committee and to all Senators, holding regular meetings with members of the committee, and enforcing the committee absence policy.

(b) Subcommittee Regulations

(1) The creation of all subcommittees shall be presented to the Internal Affairs Committee by the chair that subcommittee falls under.

(2) The necessity of the subcommittee shall be approved by a majority vote of the Internal Affairs Committee.

(3) The chair the subcommittee falls under must select a subcommittee chair and has five minutes to present them to the senate body explaining the purpose of the subcommittee as well as reasons the specific subcommittee chair was chosen.

(4) The subcommittee chair will need to be confirmed by a two-thirds vote of the senate body.

(c) In addition to their senatorial responsibilities of representing their constituents, officers will be responsible for the following:

(1) Speaker. The Speaker shall:

(i) Preside over the Student Senate General Assembly. The Speaker acts as the primary representative of the Student Senate to all students, faculty, administrators, the media, former students, and the general public

(ii) Disseminate all necessary information to Senators

(iii) Organize agendas for Student Senate meetings

(iv) Stay in constant communication with the Student Body President as well as all necessary school administrators

(v) Oversee all communication with the media

(vi) Sign and deliver all legislation as stated in the legislation

(vii) Participate in all university Committees where membership is reserved for the Speaker of the Student Senate

(viii) Oversee and appoint all necessary liaison positions not provided for in the Student Senate Bylaws to other Senate Officers

(ix) Assist all other Senate Officers

(x) Be responsible for all official communications to newsletters in the Department of Student Activities.

(2) Speaker Pro-Tempore. The Speaker Pro-Tempore shall:

(i) Preside over the Internal Affairs Committee and Chair the Senate Operations Committee. The Speaker Pro-Tempore handles all internal operations of the Student Senate

(ii) Disseminate all necessary information to Senators

(iii) Oversee the development of incoming Senators

(iv) Enforce the absence policy and keep a weekly updated list of Senator absences on the website

(v) Manage Senator resignations

(vi) Oversee the Executive Director of Operations

(vii) Maintain all finances of the Student Senate

(viii) Serve as the Speaker in the Speaker's Absence

(ix) Oversee the development of Senators and Senate Fish Aides and aid the Rules and Regulations Chair in putting on the Spring and Fall Development Day workshops.

(x) Ensure the website and Student Senate Archives is updated regularly with all relevant material

(xi) Be responsible for all records that are considered part of the Student Senate Archives.

(xii) Inform the Rules and Regulations Chair when to start the vacancy filling procedure.

(3) Rules and Regulations Chair. The Rules and Regulations Chair shall:

(i) Preside over the Rules & Regulations Committee. The Rules & Regulations Chair is responsible for facilitating ideas for the members of the committee concerning the Student Government Associations constitution, Executive Branch Bylaws, Judicial Court Bylaws, Student Senate Bylaws, and the Election Regulations. The Rules and Regulations Chair acts as the chief interpreter of the Senate Bylaws, *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised*, and the Statutes of the Senate

(ii) Implement Spring, Fall, and vacancy development days and train all Senators in meeting procedures and rules. This will be done with the assistance of the Speaker Pro Tempore.

(iii) Stay in communication with the Election Commissioner.

(iv) Update the governing documents including the SGA Code.

(v) Perform the duties related to the vacancy filling procedure

(4) Academic Affairs Chair. The Academic Affairs Chair shall:

(i) Preside over the Academic Affairs Committee. The Academic Affairs Chair is responsible for facilitating ideas for the members of the committee concerning all academic policies affecting Texas A&M Students. The Chair works directly with the Academic Affairs Chair of the Faculty Senate and their counterpart in the Executive Branch of Student Government Association

(ii) Work directly with the Faculty Senate Academic Affairs Chair, the Executive Branch's Student Advocate for

Academic Affairs, and the Aggie Honor Code Office.

(iii) Organize and appoint subcommittees related to the duty and purpose of the Academic Affairs Committee as necessary or prudent.

(iv) Be an open and available resource to whom students can bring concerns about the academic processes at the University and propose solutions to those problems.

(5) Community Relations Chair. The Community Relations Chair shall:

(i) Preside over the Community Relations Committee. The Community Relations Chair is responsible for facilitating ideas for the members of the committee concerning proposed or current ordinances or other actions by the Cities of Bryan and College Station. The chair works directly with the member or members of the Executive Cabinet charged with overseeing advocacy to local governments.

(ii) Attend Bryan and College Station City Council meetings as a representative of the Student Senate when pertinent issues require her or him to do so.

(6) Legislative Relations Chair. The Legislative Relations Chair shall:

(i) Preside over the Legislative Relations Committee.

(ii) The Legislative Relations Chair is responsible for facilitating ideas for the members of the committee concerning proposed or current legislation or other action by state and federal governments, as well as monitoring activities at other universities and maintaining communications with their respective governing bodies.

(iii) The chair works directly with the member or members of the Executive Cabinet charged with overseeing advocacy to state and national governments.

(7) Student Services Chair. The Student Services Chair shall:

(i) Preside over the Student Services Committee. The Student Services Chair is responsible for facilitating ideas for the members of the committee concerning but not limited to issues such as parking, bus operations, dining, and campus safety. The Chair works directly with all appropriate members in the Executive Branch related to student services issues, all appropriate members of the Division of Finance and Operations, and other university and student groups as necessary.

(ii) Remain in constant communication with University Administration on projects and policies related to student services.

(iii) Disseminate all necessary information to members of their committee and to all Senator

(iv) Hold regular meetings with members of committee.
(v) Enforce the committee absence policy.
(vi) Actively participate in the University Dining Services and Transportation Services Advisory Councils, as well as any other boards deemed appropriate.
(vii) Organize and appoint subcommittees related to the duty and purpose of the Student Services Committee.

(8) Constituency Affairs Chair. The Constituency Affairs Chair shall:

(i) Preside over the Constituency Affairs Committee. The Constituency Affairs Chair is responsible to gather constituent opinion and ensure constituent representation within the Student Senate.
(ii) Keep in communication with the other chairs in Internal Affairs
(iii) Establish and maintain a Facebook page
The Constituency Affairs Chair is responsible to send out monthly 'Ag Input' through the months of September, October, November, December, January, February, March, and April. This consists of a form to gather constituent opinion, and information on what the Senate has worked on in the previous month. This may be distributed by bulk mail, the Senate website, the SGA website, social media, and/or word of mouths.
(iv) Continue to create any other relevant means, along with or in place of 'Ag Input', to increase constituent communication.
(v) The Constituency Affairs Chair is responsible to share any constituent opinion to all appropriate stakeholders, and, once the opinion(s) have been passed from the Constituency Affairs Chair to the respective stakeholder(s), any persons or organization given this constituent opinion is held responsible to take action on the information shared. When the information is passed along, it is no longer a responsibility of the Constituency Affairs Chair.

(9) Finance Chair. The Finance Chair shall:
(i) Preside over the Finance Committee. The Finance Chair is responsible for monitoring the rates and allocations of tuition and student fees at Texas A&M University, donations made to any entity of the Student Government Association, and any other funds sought by or provided to any entity of the Student Government Association. The Finance Chair is also responsible for overseeing the allocation of Student Government funds and the formulation of the annual Student Government Association budget.

(ii) Stay in constant communication with the Speaker of the Senate, the Student Body President or his or her cabinet member in charge of the budget, SGA Advisor(s), the SGA Committee Chairs and Finance Chairs, the SGA Commissioners, and the SGA Business Coordinator.

(iii) Appoint and oversee liaisons to other Texas A&M University departments as are necessary and proper to facilitate communication with the Senate Finance Committee about tuition and student fees

(iv) Call such public budget hearings as are necessary to formulate the budget and further allocate funds with at least twenty-four (24) hours notice to the committee.

(v) Hold monthly meetings of the Finance Committee to assess the budget and usage of funds from each appropriation.

(vi) Collect pictures of SGA Committees using their allocated monies and pass these photos along for distribution on SGA Social Media.

(10) Diversity and Inclusion Chair. The Diversity and Inclusion Chair shall:

(i) Preside over the Diversity and Inclusion Committee. The Diversity and Inclusion Chair is responsible for facilitating ideas for the members of the committee concerning all policies relating to diversity and inclusion affecting all Texas A&M Students.

(ii) Disseminate all necessary information to members of their committee and to all Senators.

(iii) Hold regular meetings with members of the committee.

(iv) Enforce the committee absence policy.

(v) Arrange for individuals from various faiths, religions, or none at all to present the invocation at all General Assembly Meetings.

(11) Caucus Leader. The Caucus Leaders shall:

(i) Preside over the individual caucus that they belong.

(ii) The caucus leaders shall be responsible for meeting with or facilitating meetings between their respective student organizations, confirmed delegates, faculty senators, and college deans between their SGA student senate caucus at least once before each meeting at the risk of an absence per offence.

a) Each Caucus Leader must meet with at least these organizations:

(1) COALS: College of Agriculture & Life Sciences Student Council

(2) Corps of Cadets: Representative(s) of Corps Staff

(3) Education: College of Education and Human Development Undergraduate Student Council
(4) Engineering: Student Engineering Council
(5) Freshman: Speak with a different Freshman Leadership Organization (FLO)
(6) Geosciences: Student Geosciences' Council
(7) Liberal Arts: Liberal Arts Student Council
(8) Mays Business: Business Student Council
(9) Off Campus: Choice of a different organization not already listed
(10) On Campus: Residential Housing Association
(11) Science: College of Science Dean's Student Advisory Panel
(12) Transition Academic Programs:
(13) Vet Med BIMS: Biomedical Sciences Association
(14) Architecture: American Institute of Architecture Students

(iii) Caucus Leader Selection

a) The caucus leaders shall be elected immediately following the election of the last committee chair's election.

b) Prior to the election, a ten (10) minute recess to allow an informal meeting of the caucus shall be ordered by the speaker.

(1) During this meeting, the caucuses shall decide on a caucus leader.
(2) If there is a dispute within one of the caucuses, the caucus shall vote on a Caucus Leader using a ballot system.
(3) If a vote is required, only the senators within the respective caucus may vote for their respective caucus leader. In the occurrence of a tie vote, the Speaker shall decide the caucus leader.

c) Each caucus will elect only one (1) Caucus Leader.

d) Caucus Leaders who are members of a Caucus with three or more members will automatically be assigned to the Constituency Affairs Committee.

e) Caucus Leaders will provide caucus reports to the Constituency Affairs Chair prior to each

general assembly Senate meeting where the Chair will inform the body of the committee's reports.

SECTION IV. Senator

(a) Each Senator shall:

(1) Represent their constituents on all issues; if a senator is no longer in the caucus they were elected to, the senator must resign.

(2) Attend Senate meetings, mandatory retreats, and development days

(3) Join exactly one of the eight legislative Senate Committees and attend the meetings as scheduled by the Committee Chairs.

(i) The Speaker of the Senate and the Speaker Pro-Tempore are not required to join one of the seven legislative Senate Committees; however, each of these officers can choose to be an official member of a committee and are then subject to all the rules regarding the committee process.

(4) Share the exclusive right to sponsor legislation, speak on the Senate floor, and vote

(5) Student Senators should meet with organizations within the caucus that they represent, and work with Caucus Leaders in this effort.

(6) Serve their term beginning after their election to the position and shall end after the final general assembly meeting of the session forgoing impeachment, resignation, or removal.

SECTION V. Ex-Officio Officers:

(a) Executive Director of Operations. The Executive Director of Operations shall:

(1) Assist the Speaker Pro-Tempore in all matters relating to the functioning and internal operations of the Student Senate. The Executive Director of Operations shall attend and is a non-voting member of the Internal Affairs Committee. The Executive Director of Operations shall be Co-Chair of the Operations Committee

(2) Oversee all members of the Operations Committee

(b) Members of the Operations Committee.

(1) All other Ex-Officio Positions shall be assigned and organized by the Speaker Pro Tempore. These may include, but shall not be limited to, the following positions:

(i) Director of Records
(ii) Director of Information Technology
(iii) Director of the Cody T. Vasut Senate Archives
(iv) Director of Marketing

(2) The responsibilities of the members of the Operations Committee shall be documented and updated regularly in the Standard Operating Procedures of the Senate.

(c) Additional Positions.

(1) The Speaker has the power to create and appoint liaison positions not provided for in these Bylaws.

(2) All such positions will be open to any student of Texas

A&M University, not excluding Student Senators.

(3) All nominees for said positions be approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Senate.

(d) Liaisons.

(1) Student organizations outside of the Senate may designate liaisons to the Student Senate.

(2) The Constituency Affairs chair may nominate a student as a liaison to a student organization after they have been approved by that organization in accordance with that organization's bylaws or standard operating procedures. All nominees for liaison positions must be confirmed by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Senate.

(3) If liaisons are not Senators, they shall serve as nonvoting delegates on the Constituency Affairs Committee, and shall be held responsible for following the delegate attendance policy.

(e) Committee Delegates.

(1) Chairs of legislative committees in the Senate shall have the power to nominate delegates to their committees.

(2) Delegate positions shall be open to all students except for Student Senators.

(3) Delegates shall have the ability to make motions in the committee to which they are assigned as regular Senators would, but shall not have the ability to vote. These privileges do not extend to general assembly meetings.

(4) All delegates must be approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Senate before serving in their positions.

(5) Delegates shall be responsible for attending all meetings of the committee to which they are assigned. If a delegate receives three (3) unexcused absences total, they shall be automatically removed from the committee and lose their status as a delegate. It is the responsibility of each committee chair to enforce this absence policy.

(f) All ex-officio positions will be open to any Texas A&M student, not excluding Student Senators. All ex officio officers shall be appointed by the officer indicated above and confirmed by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Student Senate.

(g) All Ex-Officio members shall have limited speaking privileges at Student Senate General Assembly meetings restricted to periods of question and answer only. These limited speaking privileges shall not extend, for any reason, to periods of debate. The Student Body President and the Chief Justice of the Judicial Court shall be considered ex-officio members only for the purpose of the aforementioned limited speaking privileges.

SECTION VI. Disclaimer

(a) The responsibilities listed above do not enumerate, in any way, the full scope of the duties of these offices, but are rather the absolute minimum expectations for these positions.

(b) No student shall be sworn in as a senator who has applied for graduation in the same semester in which they filed for election. If a Senator-elect is ineligible under this rule, the next eligible candidate who

received the highest amount of votes in that caucus shall be sworn in instead. This rule shall not apply to those students who have been accepted to or have applied to and are awaiting a decision on additional schooling at Texas A&M University in their caucus in the following regular semester; those students must sign a statement under penalty of the Aggie Honor Code that they have applied to or been accepted to additional schooling at A&M in the following semester and have not accepted any other offers.

ARTICLE IV. SCHOLASTIC, CONDUCT, AND ATTENDENCE POLICY

SECTION I. Scholastic and Conduct Policy

(a) Any candidate who fails to pay their fines prior to the next election will be ineligible to hold any office until their fines have been paid.

(b) Senator Dress Code - All Senators shall be required to adhere to professional dress standards in official Senate Meetings as enforced by the Rules and Regulations Chair. Requirements for meetings outside of the official Senate meetings shall be determined and enforced by the prospective chair. Professional dress is considered the following:

(1) Gentlemen - Slacks with button up shirt tucked in with a belt, tie (formal neckwear), and sports coat; or a suit with belt (or suspenders or braces), and tie (formal neckwear), or other professional dress. The jacket or sports coat may be removed for comfort throughout the meeting, as well as a loosening of the tie. Shirts should remain tucked in throughout the duration. Hats and cultural attire may be worn as long as they meet professional standards.

(2) Corps of Cadets members - Dress determined as business professional by the Corps of Cadets Leadership.

(3) Ladies - A professional dress, skirt and jacket, pantsuit with appropriate shirt, or other professional dress. Jackets may be removed for comfort throughout the duration of the meeting. Mini-skirts, sun dresses, beach dresses, and spaghetti-strap dresses are inappropriate and unprofessional. Clothing must be modest.

(4) Professional shoes include but are not limited to: dress shoes, oxfords, loafers, boots, flats and dress heels. Tennis shoes, flip-flops, sandals and slippers are unprofessional.

(5) Failure to adhere to the dress standards outlined will result in a loss of speaking privileges

(c) Senator Recognition - When recognized by the chair the Senator shall stand, address the chair or presenter, state their name and caucus represented, and proceed. Failure to adhere to protocol will result in a call to order by the chair, followed by loss of speaking privileges on the third call to order. Further attempts to speak out of order will result in the chairs decision to censure the voting privileges of the member, thereby resulting in their official absence for the duration of the meeting. The body reserves the right to “Appeal to the Decision of the Chair” if they feel the chair’s decision is biased or inappropriate.

(d) The “seating area” of the room in which a general assembly meeting is held shall be defined as the area of and immediately behind all

rows of chairs or benches on which Student Senators are assigned to sit, as well as any aisles leading to those areas. The "floor" of the room shall be defined as the area between the Speaker and the body assembled on which individuals are allowed to speak and present.

(1) No individuals who are not Senators shall be allowed to sit in the seating area without permission from the Speaker or a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Senate.

(2) During periods of debate, no individuals who have not been recognized may be present on the floor of the Senate meeting room. During other periods, only those individuals who have speaking privileges may be present on the floor of the Senate.

(3) Prior to each meeting, the Speaker Pro Tempore shall assign seats to each individual Senator. The Speaker Pro Tempore shall make every effort to accommodate individual Senators' needs and preferences, and to keep caucuses as close together as possible. After opening roll is taken, Senators may move into seats that belong to Senators who were not present for opening roll call.

(4) Individuals who do not have speaking privileges may be ordered to leave the room by the Speaker if they make excessive noise or are disruptive during the meeting.

(5) Rules about seating and presence on the floor shall not apply to members of the Operations Committee.

(6) All Senators are expected to behave respectfully and in accordance with university policies while attending Senate events and meetings. All Senators should encourage politeness and proper citizenship within the organization.

Section II. Attendance Policy

(a) If a Senator accumulates six (6) unexcused absences or eleven (11) total absences during one full term of the Senate, they are automatically removed from their position following the sixth unexcused absence or eleventh total absence regardless of the reason. Total absences is a senator's number of excused and unexcused absences combined. A Senator must have no pending excused absence requests prior to removal from the Senate.

(1) A senator shall have an unexcused absence removed from their record if they complete two (2) hours of tabling on days established by the Constituency Affairs Chair.

(2) A senator may also have an unexcused absence removed from their record if they talk with two (2) different organization that have students from Texas A&M University as members. They can be on or off campus organization. Senators must receive a signature and contact info (either phone number or email) from a member of that organization or proof of meeting. The Constituency Affairs Chair should verify that they have attended these meetings with the organization.

(i) Must compile a list tailored towards the respected organization detailing issues that they're facing, possible solutions, and any other relevant information regarding the respected organization and its relation to its members, the

university, the community, and the Texas A&M Student Government Association

(ii) Send the compiled list referenced above to the Chair of Constituency Affairs for review

(3) Senators may excuse one unexcused absence for meeting with a *confirmed non-voting delegate* in the Committee of Constituency Affairs or an executive from an approved student organization that is partnered with a caucus recognized by Student Activities.

(b) An excused absence shall be defined as:

(1) An excused university absence as defined in the university regulations.

(2) An absence due to a departmentally scheduled exam

(3) An absence that the Officers of the Senate deem of merit. All such excused absences must be approved by a majority vote of the Internal Affairs Committee.

(4) An absence received as a result of attendance at a professional interview or dinner, provided that the senator provides notification of attendance to the Speaker Pro-Tempore and has not previously used this excuse more than twice during the current Session.

(c) All absences are to be considered conditionally unexcused. For an excused absence to be granted, the Senator must show reasonable cause for the absence. The Senator must present their case to the Speaker Pro Tempore within forty-eight (48) hours for a determination of the status of the absence in question. If this absence is not reviewed before the next Senate meeting, the absence will automatically be considered an unexcused absence regardless of the reason.

(d) Two roll calls will be taken during the General Assembly meetings of the Student Senate, after calling the meeting to order and prior to adjournment. If a motion to adjourn is approved by the body, the second roll call will take place immediately after the motion to adjourn but before the body is declared adjourned. Missing one (1) roll call will result in one (1) absence.

(e) Each Senator must serve on exactly one (1) of the Legislative Committees (Rules and Regulations Committee, Student Services Committee, Academic Affairs Committee, Community Relations Committee, Constituency Affairs Committee, Finance Committee, Legislative Relations Committee, and Diversity and Inclusion Committee). Committee Chairmen shall be responsible for holding a meeting between each Senate meeting. In accordance with the Aggie values of integrity and selfless service, these meetings must not be held at a location in which 51% or more of the profit comes from the sale of alcohol, nor will alcohol consumption during these meetings be allowed. In the event that a Committee Chairman considers meeting unnecessary, they shall report such to the Speaker and announce the cancellation at the prior week's Senate meeting.

(1) Excused and unexcused absences must be reported by the committee chair to the Speaker Pro-Tempore seven days following the meeting missed.

(2) Members of these committees who miss a meeting without excuse will receive one (1) unexcused absence.

(3) If a committee chair does not turn in an attendance sheet for a committee meeting before three days after his or her committee meeting, or fails to hold a committee meeting in any period between two general assembly meetings without cancelling that meeting in the manner prescribed above, the committee chair, shall receive one (1) absence regardless of their attendance at any committee meetings during that time.

(4) A Senator who expects to be absent for a committee meeting for any reason may inform that committee's Chair and the Speaker Pro Tempore ahead of time that they have already, or plans to, attend the meeting of a different committee during the same period between general assembly meetings. If that Senator attends that meeting, they shall receive one excused absence for the committee meeting missed.

(f) Committee Chairs shall be required to attend all Internal Affairs Committee Meetings. Failing to attend an Internal Affairs Committee Meeting without and an approved excuse shall result in one (1) absence.

(g) All absences shall remain permanently attached to Senators through the entire Senate Session, regardless if they are to change positions within the Senate.

SECTION III. Absence Policy Enforcement Procedures

(a) If the Speaker Pro-Tempore is unable to contact a Senator in violation of the absence policy by phone or email within forty-eight (48) hours after the violating absence, this officer shall announce this Senator as having been removed from their seat and their seat announced as a vacancy.

Section IV. Disciplinary Motion to Censure

(a) GROUNDS FOR CENSURE. The Student Senate may censure any Senator, Ex-Officio Officer, Liaison, or other official serving in the Legislative Branch for failure to uphold the duties or honor of their office, improper conduct, or any other grounds for impeachment.

(b) MAIN MOTION AND EXECUTIVE SESSION. The motion to censure shall be a main motion requiring a one-fifth (1/5) second and a two-thirds (2/3) vote to pass. The motion shall move the Senate into executive session upon receipt of the required second until the motion to censure and any motion for additional punishment are completed.

(c) LIMIT ON MOTION. Only one individual may be the subject of a motion to censure at a time, an individual may only be the subject of a motion to censure once for any particular offense or charge, and an individual may be the subject of a motion to censure only once per any general assembly meeting.

(d) DISQUALIFICATION OF CHAIR. Should the Speaker of the Senate be the subject of the motion to censure, not be present, or have made or seconded the motion, he shall be disqualified from presiding over the motion, and the Speaker Pro Tempore shall chair the disposition of the motion. If the Speaker Pro Tempore is disqualified for any of the same

reasons as the Speaker of the Senate, then the Rules and Regulations Chair shall chair the disposition of the motion. If all of the above mentioned individuals are disqualified, the Senate shall nominate and approve a Senator to preside over the motion who shall not be disqualified.

(e) PROCEDURE FOR THE MOTION TO CENSURE. Upon completion of the qualification of the presiding chair,

(1) The moving Senator shall have a five (5) minute presentation period outlining the grounds for the motion to censure, followed by a three (3) minute period of question and answer. The individual subject to the motion to censure will then have the same allotment of time for a defending presentation and question and answer period. There shall be no rules governing the content of any presentation, except that such content shall not violate any standing rules of the Senate or Robert's Rules of Order on decorum.

(2) A ten (10) minute period of debate will then follow. The movant and individual subject to the motion for censure will be given no special or superseding right in debate.

(3) All presentations, question and answer, and debate periods will be held in accordance with the Standing Rules of Debate as provided for in these Bylaws.

(4) Voting shall be conducted by secret ballot vote, with no privilege of moving otherwise.

(f) MOTION TO RECONSIDER. A motion to reconsider is not in order upon passage of a motion to censure.

(g) AUTOMATIC PUNISHMENT. Should the motion to censure pass, the individual censured shall automatically lose all speaking and debate privileges and the right to make motions for the remainder of the general assembly meeting, except to debate for or against any additional punishment moved for as provided in this Section, to debate for or against any motion to amend or remove censure.

(h) PROCEDURE FOR THE MOTION FOR ADDITIONAL PUNISHMENT.

(1) The Senator who made the motion to censure, upon its passage, may make one (1) motion for additional punishment to the Senate according to the restrictions on punishment below, which shall not require a second, but shall be subject to a period of five (5) minutes of debate, shall be amendable by formal amendment subject to the restrictions on punishment in Subsection (i), and shall require a two-thirds (2/3) vote to pass.

(2) Should the Senator who made the motion to censure not make a motion for additional punishment, any Senator may make a motion for additional punishment. In no case, however, shall there be more than one (1) motion for additional punishment considered for any censured individual.

(i) RESTRICTIONS ON ADDITIONAL PUNISHMENT. Additional punishment for a censured individual shall be limited to any individual or combination of punishments listed below:

(1) Loss of speaking privileges for any number of subsequent meetings.

(2) Loss of question privileges for any number of subsequent meetings.

(3) Loss of debate privileges for any number of subsequent meetings.

(4) Loss of the right to make motions for any number of subsequent meetings.

(j) MOTION TO AMEND OR REMOVE CENSURE. Any additional punishment received by motion may be amended or removed by a subsequent main motion to amend or remove censure requiring a one-fourth (1/4) second and a two-thirds (2/3) vote to pass. Such a motion shall require a one-third plus one (1/3 + 1) second and a two-thirds (2/3) vote to pass if it is made during the same general assembly meeting as passage of the related motion to censure.

(1) The motion shall move the Senate into executive session upon receipt of the required second until the motion is completed.

(2) The motion shall be disposed of according to the procedures for a Motion to Censure, except all time limits shall be half (1/2) of their enumerated length.

(k) RECORDING. Only the outcome of a motion to censure, a motion for additional punishment, and a motion to amend or remove censure shall be in the minutes, including the movant, the individual subject to the motion, any punishment rendered under this Section, and the voting record.

(l) ENFORCEMENT. All punishments shall be enforced by the Speaker of the Senate or the Rules & Regulations Chair for the duration of the session of the Student Senate. Failure to adhere to a punishment approved by this Section, and by the Senate for additional punishments, shall be grounds for impeachment or removal through any relevant provision under the Student Senate Bylaws. Should the Speaker of the Senate be the subject of the motion to censure, punishments shall be enforced by the Rules and Regulations Chair.

(m) RIGHTS RETAINED TO INDIVIDUALS. Nothing in this Section shall be construed as to prohibit any censured individual from attending any Senate committee meeting, assembly meeting, or event, being counted presented at such a meeting or event. Nothing in this Section shall also be construed in the case of a censured Student Senator as prohibiting the Senator from authoring or sponsoring legislation or voting after the punishment period has elapsed. Any individual censured by the Senate shall retain their office.

ARTICLE V. REMOVAL PROCESS

SECTION I. Resignation Process

(a) A Senator, Senate Officer, Ex-Officio Officer, or Liaison must present a letter of resignation to the Speaker Pro-Tempore or a majority of the Senate Officers stating their reasons for resignation. The resignation may be retracted until the next meeting of the Internal Affairs Committee is held at which point the resigning individual is relieved of all applicable privileges and responsibilities including but not limited to speaking and voting at Senate functions and then the appropriate officer may begin the process of filing the vacancy.

SECTION II. Impeachment Procedures

(a) Definitions. For the purposes of Section II, the following definitions shall apply:

(1) "Senator(s)": Those elected or selected (see Article III) to the position of Senator, representing a college, area of residency, or the Freshman class at Texas A&M.

(2) "Official(s)": Those persons specifically stated to be eligible for impeachment under Article VI of the SGA constitution.

(3) "Student Senate": Any and all Senators present and voting in impeachment hearings.

(4) "Accused/Accusing": Those members either submitting the charge of misconduct or that person charged with the indictment; the "accusing" party may consist of one or more persons, and all reference time allotments apply to the "accusing" party as a whole.

(b) Impeachments Allowance

(1) Senators and officials may be impeached and removed from office for reasons including, but not limited to, any substantial failure to fulfill the duties and responsibilities mandated by the Texas A&M University Student Government constitution or the bylaws of the respective branch.

(2) Only one Senator or Official may be considered for impeachment at any given time.

(3) Once a motion for impeachment is made and approved, the Senate shall immediately proceed in special executive session. For the duration of this executive session, no one shall be allowed in the same room as the proceedings except for the following:

(i) All Senators, Senate Officers and Ex-Officio Officers

(ii) The Chief Justice of the Judicial Court and, if necessary as per Subsection (d)(3) below, one Justice of the Judicial Court

(iii) The Student Body President

(iv) The accused official and any students they wish to call to represent them

(4) The advisor for the Senate, and should the accused official be from another branch, another advisor of their choosing

(c) Impeachment Motions

(1) Impeachment by Petition

(i) To bring a motion of impeachment against an Official, any Senator may at any time file a petition with the Speaker of the Senate or the Rules and Regulations Chair containing the signatures of at least one-third (1/3) of the Senators. The Senator who files the petition and any petition signers who wishes to join them shall be considered the accusing party during the impeachment trial. The impeachment trial shall be added to the agenda of the next general meeting of the Senate after the receipt of the petition, unless that meeting takes place less than seventy-two (72) hours after the vote of the Committee, in which case it shall be added to the following meeting's agenda.

Every effort must be made to inform the Official of his impending trial immediately after receipt of the petition. The petition shall be filed in the Archives of the Senate after the conclusion of the trial.

(2) Impeachment by Resolution

(i) To bring a motion of impeachment against an Official, the Senate may pass a resolution by a majority vote of those Senators assembled at a general meeting detailing the charges against that official. Any and all Senators who are authors or sponsors of the resolution shall be considered the accusing party during the impeachment trial. The impeachment trial shall be added to the agenda of the next general meeting of the Senate after the passage of the resolution, unless that meeting takes place less than seventy-two (72) hours after the passage of the resolution, in which case it shall be added to the following meeting's agenda. Every effort must be made to inform the Official of their impending trial immediately after the passage of the resolution.

(d) Procedures

(1) The Rules & Regulations chair is the only official permitted to interpret Section IV.

(2) The Rules & Regulations chair shall preside over impeachment hearings, unless withdrawn voluntarily or deemed unable to do so by a simple majority vote. Successive presiding officers will be considered in the following order:

(i) The Speaker of the Senate

(ii) The Speaker Pro-Tempore

(iii) The Committee Chairs in increasing order of committee size

(iv) The Executive Director of Operations

(3) If any of the aforementioned officers are the accused or members of the accusing party in the impeachment hearings they will automatically be disqualified from chairing the impeachment hearing. If no officer of the Student Senate is deemed able to judiciously chair said impeachment proceedings, a Justice of the Judicial Court shall be called to chair the proceedings. Any Justice that presides over hearings shall not participate in Judicial Court hearings regarding the impeachment.

(4) At the onset of the impeachment hearing, the specified chair will briefly explain these procedures, answer any pertinent questions, and proclaim specific rules and regulations.

(5) The accusing party will have a ten minute presentation period, followed by a five minute period of question and answer. The accused will then have the same allotment of time for a defending presentation and question and answer period, respectively. A twenty-minute period of debate will follow. The accused and accusing parties will be given no special or superseding right in debate. All presentations, question and answer, and debate periods will be held in accordance with the Standing

Rules and Debate as adopted by the Student Senate.

(6) The Director of Communication on the Senate Operations Committee, or another designated member of the Senate Operations Committee, shall compile a report of the proceedings, limited to minutes of factual statements. This individual shall not be a voting Senator, and shall not participate otherwise in the impeachment hearing.

(7) A (2/3) majority vote of the Student Senate shall be required for the impeachment and removal from office. Voting shall be conducted by ballot vote, with no privilege of moving otherwise.

(e) Post-proceedings

(1) If impeachment constitutes a Senator's removal from office, the resulting vacancy will be filled according to the Senate Bylaws, Article IX, Section II. Vacancies stemming from the removal of officials from other branches will be filled according to the governing documents and practices of that branch.

(2) A public disclosure of the outcome of impeachment hearings is left to the discretion of the Internal Affairs Committee. The Internal Affairs Committee shall notify the removed Officer and the Chief Justice of the Judicial Court of the course of public action to be taken. This concluding action shall be compiled in a brief report to be kept with minutes and other records gathered throughout the course of the impeachment hearing.

(3) Minutes and reports compiled during and after hearings shall not be posted or made public domain.

(4) Motions to rescind and reconsider will not be entertained subsequent to an impeachment motion.

(5) In reference to a single occurrence of a specified impeachable offense, two (or more) impeachment indictments may not be served to a single Senator or official during any one Senate session, or within three months, whichever is longer. This regulation does not apply to a repeat or new offense.

(6) The specific charges brought may not be disclosed outside of executive session by anyone other than the accused. Violating this subsection constitutes grounds for impeachment.

SECTION III. Ex-Officio Performance Review

(a) A complaint regarding an Ex-Officio Officer's performance shall be filed with the Speaker Pro-Tempore.

(b) The Internal Affairs committee shall meet in closed session during the week following filing to consider the complaint and determine if removal of the Ex-Officio Officer is warranted.

SECTION IV. Vote of No Confidence

(a) GROUNDS FOR A VOTE OF NO CONFIDENCE. The Senate may remove any Officer of the Senate or any ad hoc committee chair, from their officer position, but not their Student Senate seat, for failure to uphold the duties and honor of his office, improper conduct, or any other grounds for impeachment.

(b) MAIN MOTION AND EXECUTIVE SESSION. The motion for a vote of no confidence shall be a main motion requiring a one-fourth (1/4) second and a two-thirds (2/3) vote to pass. The motion shall move the Senate into executive session upon receipt of the required second until the motion is completed.

(c) LIMIT ON MOTION. Only one individual may be the subject of a motion for a vote of no confidence at a time, an individual may only be the subject of a motion for a vote of no confidence once for any particular offense or charge, and an individual may be the subject of a motion for a vote of no confidence only once per any general assembly meeting.

(d) DISQUALIFICATION OF CHAIR. Should the Speaker of the Senate be the subject of the motion for a vote of no confidence, not be present, or have made or seconded the motion, they shall be disqualified from presiding over the motion, and the Speaker Pro Tempore shall chair the disposition of the motion. If the Speaker Pro Tempore is disqualified for any of the same reasons as the Speaker of the Senate, then the Rules and Regulations Chair shall chair the disposition of the motion. If all of the above mentioned individuals are disqualified, the Senate shall nominate and approve a Senator to preside over the motion by a majority vote who shall not be disqualified.

(e) PROCEDURE FOR THE MOTION FOR A VOTE OF NO CONFIDENCE. Upon completion of the qualification of the presiding chair,

(1) The moving Senator shall have a ten (10) minute presentation period outlining the grounds for the motion for a vote of no confidence, followed by a five (5) minute period of question and answer. The individual subject to the motion for a vote of no confidence will then have the same allotment of time for a defending presentation and question and answer period. There shall be no rules governing the content of any presentation, except that such content shall not violate any standing rules of the Senate or Robert's Rules of Order on decorum.

(2) A fifteen (15) minute period of debate will then follow. The movant and the individual subject to the motion for censure will be given no special or superseding right in debate.

(3) All presentations, question and answer, and debate periods will be held in accordance with the Standing Rules of Debate as provided for in these Bylaws.

(4) Voting shall be conducted by secret ballot vote, with no privilege of moving otherwise.

(f) MOTION TO RECONSIDER. A motion to reconsider is not in order upon passage of a motion for a vote of no confidence.

(g) AUTOMATIC REMOVAL. Should the motion for a vote of no confidence pass, the individual shall be immediately relieved of his or her officer position and its corresponding rights, privileges, and obligations.

The officer position shall be declared vacant and filled according to the procedures for filling a vacancy for the position under these Bylaws.

(h) RECORDING. Only the outcome of a motion for a vote of no confidence shall be in the minutes, including the movant, the individual subject to the motion, and the voting record.

(i) RIGHTS RETAINED TO INDIVIDUALS. Nothing in this Section shall be construed as to relieve any individual removed of their officer position from retaining all rights, privileges, and obligations of a Student Senator.

SECTION III. No Senator who is removed for any reason from one session of the Student Senate shall be removed for that same infraction from another separate session of the Senate, unless they are impeached and a motion is passed to bar them completely from service in the Student Government Association for a definite or indefinite amount of time.

ARTICLE VI. LEGISLATION

SECTION I. Legislation

(a) Any student or students may write a piece of legislation for consideration by the Student Senate. These students will be credited as "Authors" in the legislation. If any Author holds a title at Texas A&M university, that title may be included on the bill.

(b) To be brought to the floor for a first reading, one (1) or more Student Senators must sponsor the bill. They will be credited as "Sponsors" in the legislation at the consent of the Authors. Should a Sponsor also be an author of the bill they will only be credited as an Author.

(c) The number of Authors and Sponsors on the title page of any piece of legislation shall not exceed ten (10). If desired, an addendum of additional sponsors may be attached to any piece of legislation. Such an addendum may also include the signatures of the legislative sponsors, should that be desired by the sponsor.

(d) Legislative Authors will have speaking privileges for the entire consideration of the bill, but only Senators may participate in periods of debate. The Legislative Authors will also retain the privilege to set which sponsors are included on the title page so long as they set those individuals before the legislation is passed. Sponsors added by an amendment must be added in the order in which their request to sponsor is received by the Chair.

(e) Any student or students intending to lobby or represent the Texas A&M University Student Senate with the authority of a passed bill, resolution, or act who is not a Student Senator or a member of the Executive Cabinet must be accompanied by an appropriate Senator or member of the Executive Cabinet.

(f) All legislation shall be made available to the members of the Senate, no less than one (1) class day prior to the day of the Senate meeting at which time it is to be considered.

(g) All legislation, which could potentially alter or modify the code in any way, must be sent to the Rules and Regulations Chair for proofreading, prior to its second reading on the senate floor. The Rules and Regulations

Chair will not have the ability to modify the content of the bill.

(h) Legislation must be read in its entirety to the Senate before consideration unless by unanimous consent the Senate agrees to consider the bill as read. A bill presentation shall count as a reading in order to satisfy this requirement, but any Senator may still request that a bill be read in its entirety.

(1) Bills: A bill is a binding statement of the Senate calling for a specific action in its implementation. A bill requires a majority vote of the members present and voting. A bill must be presented to the Senate for the first reading and may be voted on only upon its second reading unless it is considered emergency legislation. A bill's first reading shall consist of a presentation and a period of questions and answers only, with no debate except in the case of emergency legislation as outlined above. At the conclusion of a bill's first reading, the Speaker of the Senate shall assign the bill to the appropriate legislative committee as outlined in Article VII, Section I, Subsection (e) of the Senate Bylaws. Each bill must pass through this committee process before being brought to the floor for a second reading unless a motion to take the bill from committee to the floor as outlined in Article VII Section II is approved by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the Senate. A bill must be in its finalized form when it comes up for a first reading. All changes made between the first and second reading of a bill must be highlighted on the document when it is sent out to the Senators and when it is brought to the floor for the second reading. During the second reading, the bill author(s) must read the bill in its entirety and also accentuate to the body the changes made in his or her presentation since the first reading. The markings signifying changes will be removed once the bill is passed or failed for archiving purposes.

(2) Renewed Bills: a renewed bill is exactly the same as a standard enacted bill. To create one, any Senator or Senators who wish to renew a bill must inform the Speaker of their intention by the same deadline at which new legislation to be read at the following meeting is due. The motion to renew will be placed on the agenda for that meeting and treated as the second reading of that bill. The main motion to be considered at that time will be a bill exactly the same as the old bill except as follows: the authors will remain the same; the sponsors will be replaced by the Senators who ask for the bill to be renewed; the bill will have a subtitle of "Special Designation: Renewed Bill;" and the bill number will be that of the original bill followed by an "RX", where X is the number of the session in which the bill is being renewed. This new bill may only be amended formally by a majority vote of those present at the meeting. The bill requires a majority vote to pass. A renewed bill may not itself be renewed, nor may a renewed bill be sent to committee.

(3) Resolutions: A resolution is a non-binding statement of opinion of the Student Senate. A resolution requires a majority vote of the members present and voting. A resolution may be voted upon

at the meeting in which it is introduced and is not subject to approval or veto by the Student Body President. Before the resolution is voted upon it must be read, in its entirety, by the resolution author(s), to the senate body.

(4) Consent Resolution: A consent resolution is a resolution, as defined in (2) above. A consent resolution will not be open to questions and answers, presentation, or debate. Consent resolutions shall be considered such by unanimous consent. If at any time one or more Senators object to the resolution being in consent form, the resolution will be considered as a normal resolution as described above. All of the Consent Agenda items will then be passed without objection.

(i) For any legislation written such that a copy of the legislation is sent to an organization or individual that is outside of the Student Government Association, the legislative authors must compile a list of the recipients along with all formal titles and contact information, such as an email or mailing address, to the Speaker pro tempore. The Operations Committee will not send any legislation that does not comply with this regulation, or if the contact information is deemed inadequate or unprofessional by the Speaker Pro Tempore.

(j) All legislation passed by the Senate subject to Presidential Approval shall be certified by the Speaker on all pages and forwarded to the Student Body President for approval within two (2) class days.

(k) All legislation passed by the Senate not subject to Presidential Approval, failed by the Senate, or referred to committee or tabled by the Senate and never returned to the floor by the end of an academic semester, shall be certified on all pages by the Speaker within two (2) class days.

(l) For any bill written such that it affects the operations or processes of an executive committee, the chair of the committee and the Operations Executive Vice President or cabinet liaison to the committees will be sent a copy of the bill at least one (1) day prior to the senate meeting in which the first hearing of the bill will occur.

(m) Before a final vote or consideration of Consent Agenda can occur on any piece of legislation, said legislation shall conform to the currently approved legislative template; this legislative template can be proposed by any member of the Internal Affairs Committee, shall be approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Internal Affairs Committee and shall be made easily available in an online format to all members of the Senate, or anyone upon request.

SECTION II. Emergency Legislation

(a) Emergency Legislation shall be defined as, "any bill which requires immediate action and should therefore be acted upon without a second reading"

(b) A bill may acquire emergency legislation status:

(1) Prior to the Senate meeting: If such action is approved by a majority of the Officers of the Senate

(2) During a Senate Meeting: If such action is called for by the author of the bill and approved by a 2/3 majority of the members of the Senate present and voting

(c) No bill that would amend the Student Government Association Code may be considered as emergency legislation. All such bills must be read at two separate, regularly scheduled general assembly meetings before passage.

ARTICLE VII. COMMITTEE PROCESS

SECTION V. Legislative Committees

(a) MEMBERSHIP. Each Senator may only be a member of one (1) of the Legislative Committees. Senators may switch committees no more than two (2) times during a session and only with the approval of a majority of the Senate officers.

(b) SPEAKING PRIVILEGES. Any Texas A&M University student may attend the meetings of, and shall have speaking privileges on, all Senate Legislative Committees.

(c) THE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEES. The Legislative Committees of the Texas A&M Student Senate shall be assigned by the Speaker to consider legislation as outlined in this subsection and may retain or release such legislation to the floor as they so determine, as outlined in Subsection (d) of this Section. The Legislative Committees and their duties are outlined herein:

(1) RULES AND REGULATIONS COMMITTEE: The Rules and Regulations Committee shall be chaired by the Senate Rules and Regulations Chair. This committee shall be assigned to consider all legislation pertaining to the operations of the Texas A&M Student Government Association and the Student Senate, including but not limited to proposed amendments and additions to the SGA constitution and the Senate Bylaws, Statues not reasonably related to any other legislative committee, and standing Rules of Order, as well as any other legislation that might affect the rules, regulations, or procedures of the SGA and its affiliates or subcommittees.

(2) THE COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE: The Community Relations Committee shall be chaired by the Senate Community Relations Chair. This committee shall be assigned to consider all legislation pertaining to interactions between the Student Government Association and the local government, as well as legislation pertaining to issues of community relations, outreach and student involvement in local issues.

(3) THE LEGISLATIVE RELATIONS COMMITTEE: The Legislative Relations Committee shall be chaired by the Senate Legislative Relations Chair. This committee shall be assigned to consider all legislation pertaining to interactions between the Student Government Association and the state and federal governments, as well as legislation pertaining to other statewide or national issues affecting the students of Texas A&M.

(4) THE ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE: The Academic Affairs Committee shall be chaired by the Senate Academic Affairs Chair. This committee shall be assigned to consider all legislation

pertaining to interactions between the Student Government Association and the faculty and academic administration of Texas A&M University, as well as legislation pertaining to issues of academic advocacy, curricula, grading, assessment, research, academic integrity, and student involvement in the academic sphere.

(5) THE STUDENT SERVICES COMMITTEE: The Student Services Committee shall be chaired by the Senate Student Services Chair. This committee shall be assigned to consider all legislation pertaining to interactions between the Student Government Association and the administration of Texas A&M University as it pertains to student service issues, as well as any legislation regarding changes to, additions of, or cessation of any student service.

(6) THE CONSTITUENCY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE*:* The Constituency Affairs Committee shall be chaired by the Senate Constituency Affairs Chair. This committee shall be assigned to consider all legislation pertaining to relations between the Student Senate and the various student organizations at Texas A&M University.

(7) THE FINANCE COMMITTEE*:* The Finance Committee shall be chaired by the Senate Finance Chair. This committee shall be assigned to consider all legislation pertaining to tuition and student fees at Texas A&M University, donations made to any entity of the Student Government Association, and any other funds sought by or provided to any entity of the Student Government Association. This committee shall also be assigned to consider all legislation pertaining to the allocation of Student Government funds to any entity of the Student Government Association, spending of any funds allocated to any entity of the Student Government Association as well as the establishment of the fiscal budget of the Student Government Association.

(8) THE DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION COMMITTEE*:* The Diversity and Inclusion Committee shall be chaired by the Senate Diversity and Inclusion Chair. This committee shall be assigned to consider all legislation pertaining to interactions between the Student Government Association and the faculty and administration of Texas A&M University as it relates to issues of diversity, inclusion, and equality on campus.

(d) SPEAKER ASSIGNMENT DISCRETION: If a piece of legislation fails to reasonably fall under any category outlined in numbers (1)-(5) of this subsection, the Speaker may, at his or her discretion, assign said bill to any legislative committees he or she deems appropriate.

SECTION VI. The Committee Process

(a) CONSIDERATION OF LEGISLATION. Whenever a committee considers legislation, whether or not said committee is a legislative committee, it shall follow the procedures outlined herein:

(1) The Committee Chair shall chair all committee meetings unless they designate another committee member to chair the committee meeting in their absence.

(2) The Chair shall provide for an appropriate period of debate on the legislation. During this time, the committee may suggest amendments to the legislation authors. Some representation of the bill's final wording must be made available to the committee prior to a vote.

(3) The Chair and the bill authors may each make brief closing statements, time permitting.

(4) The committee shall then vote whether to *retain* or *release* the legislation, with an affirmative vote signifying release to the body and a negative vote signifying retention in committee.

(5) No committee vote may be taken in absentia, or via proxy, or by any means other than an in-person vote which occurs during an official committee meeting.

(6) Only Committee Members and the Committee Chair may vote in their respective committee.

(7) Once a vote to release has been secured on a piece of legislation, the legislation may not be changed from its final wording or amended in any way until it is brought before the Senate or recommitted to the committee process outlined herein.

(8) All time-periods and procedures outlined above shall be executed and interpreted by the Committee Chair unless the procedures of subsection below are adopted by the committee.

(9) At any time during the consideration of legislation, a committee may vote to adopt standing rules of order for the remainder of the meeting by a second and two-thirds (2/3) approval. In such a case the committee shall vote on fixed time periods and rules of debate for legislation consideration and shall proceed formally with the meeting under Robert's Rules of Order, chaired by the Committee Chair or his or her designee.

(10) Each committee, at each of its meetings, shall consider and vote on all legislation submitted to it by the Speaker of the Senate and all legislation it has previously voted to retain.

(11) No quorum shall be required for committee meetings.

(b) MOTION TO TAKE FROM COMMITTEE. During a meeting of the Student Senate body, any Senator may make a motion to take any piece of legislation from committee consideration and return it to the Senate floor. Such a motion must specify the name or number designation of the desired bill.

(1) The motion is not in order in the Senate General Assembly Meeting in which a piece of legislation receives its first reading

(2) The motion is debatable and requires a second followed by two-thirds (2/3) approval of the body.

(3) A successful motion to take from committee brings the designated legislation before the body as a question for debate and a vote.

(4) Legislation taken from committee shall be subject to all motions and procedures it would otherwise be beholden to under *Robert's Rules of Order* and the governing documents of the Student Senate.

ARTICLE VIII. MEETING PROCEDURE

SECTION I. Rules of Debate

(a) Unless provided for elsewhere in the bylaws, all main motions will be considered according to the provisions in this section. All members of the body, including the bill authors, shall be bound to the rules of debate.

(1) Ten (10) minutes will be allotted for a presentation of the motion.

(2) Five (5) minutes will be allotted for a period of question and answer.

(3) Fifteen (15) minutes will be allotted for debate of the motion. Debate recognition will alternate between those arguing for and against the question. The first recognition will be a member debating against the motion, if such a member avails them self to the chair at that time. Recognitions will be limited to two and a half (2.5) minutes. A member may yield the remainder of their recognition time to another member. A motion to previous question will be out of order until two recognitions for debate have been made. If after any recognition for debate the chair can find no member to speak for the opposing side, debate will be considered one sided and shall be closed by the chair

(b) The provisions provided in this section may be temporarily suspended or amended at any time by a two thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Senate.

SECTION II. Veto Override Procedures

(a) All legislation vetoed by the Student Body President shall be presented by the bill authors as normal legislation at the general assembly or special session meeting immediately following the veto. Vetoed legislation may not be postponed, tabled, or referred to committee and must be voted on at that meeting.

(b) VETO PRESENTATION: The Student Body President shall be granted speaking privileges for a ten (10) minute presentation followed by a five (5) minute period of question and answer immediately prior to the consideration of the legislation above. This period of presentation and question and answer may be extended or shortened by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Senate, but the presentation may not be shortened to less than five (5) minutes.

SECTION III. Executive Session

(a) Student Senate meetings shall be open to all students who wish to attend. The only exception to this open attendance policy shall be when the Senate moves into Executive Session required for consideration of business under these bylaws. This motion shall be subject to debate. Only the Senate members and ex-officio members may remain and retain their privileges. The Senate may also allow others to remain by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of those present and voting. The Senate cannot move into Executive Session for consideration of any business which does not require Executive Session under these bylaws.

SECTION IV. Agenda

(a) A tentative agenda shall be compiled at least one (1) day before each Senate meeting. The full text of all legislation to be considered as new business on the agenda shall be sent with the agenda. All legislation must be submitted to the Speaker three (3) days prior to the date of the Senate meeting

(b) Legislation submitted between one (1) and three (3) days prior to the Senate meeting can be placed on the agenda if this action is approved by the majority of the Officers of the Senate

(c) The Speaker shall decide the order of the agenda, which must be approved by a majority vote of the Internal Affairs Committee.

(d) Opening Procedures shall be the first order of business on the agenda following adoption of the minutes of the previous meeting. The Opening Procedures shall include an invocation, the Pledges of Allegiance to the American Flag and to the Texas Flag, the singing of *The Spirit of Aggieland*, roll call, and, when applicable, a Silver Taps Memorial. The roll call shall begin with the Student Body President, then Chairs, then senators alphabetically by caucus starting with the Caucus Leaders and followed alphabetically by last name. The Speaker Pro Tempore shall oversee all Opening Procedures. The same order shall be followed during closing roll call.

(1) The Silver Taps Memorial shall be included in the Opening Procedures the first general meeting following Silver Taps and shall include reading the name(s), class year(s), major(s), and hometown(s) of individuals being honored at Silver Taps followed by a moment of silence.

(e) An open period of no longer than one hour must be left at the beginning of every Senate Meeting to allow constituents a time to address the Senate. Open forum rules may be temporarily amended or extended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Senate, but the total time of open forum may not be decreased.

(1) Individuals speaking in open forum shall be limited to two (2) minutes apiece to speak freely, and two (2) minutes apiece to answer questions asked by Senators. Current Texas A&M students shall be given priority for speaking in open forum. If more than fifteen (15) students are present, the sixty (60) minutes shall be divided evenly among all students who wish to speak prior to any recognition.

(2) Individuals recognized to speak in open forum may not yield their time except to the floor.

(3) All individuals speaking in open forum must sign in immediately prior to the meeting and provide their names, and if applicable, class years and residency and academic caucus information to be read to the body before they are recognized. Additionally, contact information may be provided. If more than fifteen (15) individuals have signed in for open forum, the provision of this demographic information shall constitute proof that any individual signed in for open forum is a student.

(4) Individuals speaking in open forum may not speak on behalf of, or against, candidates or nominees in officer elections or

confirmations taking place during that meeting. The Speaker must automatically end the recognition of individuals who attempt to do so.

(f) During open forum, each SGA Commissioner or a representative chosen by the commissioner is to give a report. The report is to contain the progress and state of the commission.

SECTION V. Voting Procedures

(a) Only one (1) vote shall be held by each member of the Senate. This vote may cast as yes, no, or abstain. No proxies shall be permitted. Abstain shall mean 'present and not voting' and shall not count as part of the total number of votes

(1) The Speaker of the Senate shall reserve their right to vote until their vote would alter the outcome of the pending vote.

(2) Voice voting shall be considered Standard Operating Procedure on all Bills and normal voting practices with the exception of officer elections.

(b) Ballot voting:

(1) A ballot applies to and may be held on the final votes of bills and resolutions, or if requested by one-third (l/3) of the Senators present

(2) This mandatory ballot vote on bills and resolutions may be suspended by a 2/3 majority vote of Senate

(3) Each Senator will sign their name, caucus, indicate the bill, and vote either for, against, abstain, or absent on only one ballot.

(4) The votes will be counted in the presence of the Senate, but the names will remain anonymous until the meeting is over and voting records are compiled for the use of constituents

(5) These voting records are to be stored electronically where constituents may access them, and may be stored physically as well

(c) A roll call vote shall be conducted if requested by one-third (l/3) of the Senators present and voting.

SECTION VI. Open Session

(a) After the completion of new business, time may be allotted for discussion of any item not on the agenda, but coming from the floor. At any time during Open Session, as long as no other item of business is being discussed, any Senator may move to close Open Session for the remainder of that meeting.

(b) All bills brought up in Open Session for a first reading must be emailed out no later than twenty-four (24) hours after the Student Senate Meeting adjournment where the bill was introduced.

SECTION VII. Reports

(a) At the conclusion of Open Session, the Student Senate shall move into a period of reports. Beginning with committee reports followed by a report from the Student Body President, Chief Justice, and Speaker.

(b) Committee reports shall be offered by the chair of each respective committee and shall not exceed a time of five (5) minutes. During this report, the chair shall set a time for their committee meeting and the address

items within the jurisdiction of their committee, as determined by the Rules and Regulations Chair.

(c) Reports from the Speaker, Chief Justice, and Student Body President shall not exceed eight (8) minutes.

SECTION VIII. Quorum

(a) A majority of the members of the Senate shall constitute a quorum. The number of members shall be determined by the number of Senate seats currently filled.

SECTION IX. Speaking Privileges

(a) No person may address the Senate unless specifically provided for in the Student Government Association constitution or the Senate Bylaws

(b) Limited speaking privileges may be granted to any other person with two-thirds (2/3) approval of the Senate membership present and voting when no other motion is currently being considered. These speaking privileges shall not extend, for any reason, to periods of debate.

(c) All Ex-Officio members shall have limited speaking privileges at Student Senate General Assembly meetings restricted to periods of question and answer only. These limited speaking privileges shall not extend, for any reason, to periods of debate. The Student Body President and Chief Justice of the Judicial Court shall be considered ex-officio members only for the purpose of the aforementioned limited speaking privileges.

SECTION X. Transparency

(a) All Student Senate meetings—except when in executive session—shall be held in a location open and accessible to the public

(b) All Student Senate meetings—except for when in executive session—shall be video recorded. A video recording of all meetings shall be made available to the public online.

ARTICLE IX. INTERNAL BUSINESS OF THE SENATE

SECTION I. Internal Affairs

(a) The Officers of the Senate shall deal with all internal business of the Senate. The Speaker Pro-Tempore shall be the presiding officer of these proceedings. All Internal Affairs Committee meetings shall be announced at least one week in advance, and the time and location shall not be changed except by a unanimous vote of the Internal Affairs Committee. In accordance with the Aggie values of integrity and selfless service, these meetings must not be held at a location in which 51% or more of the profit comes from the sale of alcohol, nor will alcohol consumption during these meetings be allowed.

(b) The Internal Affairs Committee shall:

(1) Be open to the public, except when they consider absences of the members of the Senate, or 2/3 (two-thirds) of the officers vote to move to Executive Session.

(2) Publish their minutes in the Senate Agenda to allow Senators and students to have access to a record of the proceedings.
(3) Intervene when deemed appropriate in matters of the Operations Committee.
(4) Duties shall include:
(i) To take action on all articles of impeachment
(ii) To compile a list along with the means of contact of the newly elected Senators for the subsequent year from the Election Commission. They shall also be responsible for the contact of these Senators and organization of the first meeting of the incoming Senate session
(iii) To take action when a Senator does not comply with the Senate Absence Policy as defined by the Senate Bylaws
(iv) To take action on any other internal Senate business
(v) To conduct a mandatory orientation program for any incoming senator whether appointed or elected
(vi) To vote on matters concerning the Student Senate such as but not limited to: absences, formation of subcommittees, and other internal matters concerning the Student Senate. If there is an even number of members of the Internal Affairs Committee present and voting and a tie occurs, the Speaker Pro-Tempore will not vote.
(vii) Take action on business related to filling senate vacancies.

(c) Surveys. To create surveys as needed by a majority vote:
(1) The Internal Affairs Committee shall be charged with creating surveys, whenever deemed necessary, to gather student opinion.
(2) Any Senator or student may submit a survey idea to the Internal Affairs Committee for consideration.
(3) After a majority vote of the Internal Affairs Committee, the survey shall be "An Official Survey of the Texas A&M University Student Senate"
(4) The Student Senate shall maintain a contact form on its website through which students may submit questions to be surveyed.
(5) Upon passage from the Internal Affairs Committee, the surveys shall be posted online no later than forty-eight (48) hours after the conclusion of the Internal Affairs by the Speaker Pro Tempore.
(6) Each survey must contain at least two (2) questions.
(7) Surveys will remain online for 30 days after the date of posting. The Survey will be promptly removed at the end of the 30 days.
(8) Results of each poll must be shared with all Student Senators via an email sent by the Speaker of the Student Senate within one (1) week of the survey's removal.
(9) The Internal Affairs Committee may also request for the Division of Student Affairs to conduct a random-sampled survey of students using these questions in addition to the method above.

(10) A survey can be extended up to the duration of the current semester by a majority vote of the Student Senate, with the exact question in the bill.

(11) This extension can only be granted after the survey question has gone through the process described in provisions 1-4.

(d) Should the Officers of the Senate be unable to come to a consensus on any matter, the matter shall be brought before the Senate in the form of a resolution

(e) Emails

(1) Each Chair shall register the password of official Chair business email accounts with the Senate Advisor within 24 hours of a password change. Further, the password retrieval email account should also be registered as the Senate advisor's email.

(2) The Chair email account password is given to the next Chair-Elect within 72 hours of election.

SECTION II. Senate Vacancy Procedures

(a) Definitions

(1) "Fall election" shall refer to the student body election that takes place during the fall semester of a given session.

(2) "Spring election" shall refer to the student body election of the spring semester at which the Student Body President and the next session of the Student Senate are elected.

(3) "Outgoing session" shall refer to the session of the Student Senate that has held office at the beginning of the spring semester.

(4) "Incoming session" shall refer to the session of the Student Senate that is elected in the spring student body elections.

(5) "Election Commission" shall refer to the program under the direction of the Executive Branch that is charged with overseeing student body elections.

(6) "Election Regulations" shall refer to any statutes entered into the Student Government Association Code that impact or govern student body elections.

(b) The process for filling seats during the fall semester shall be as follows:

(1) The Speaker Pro-Tempore shall announce any Senate vacancies during the fall semester at the second meeting of the fall semester, to be filled during the fall elections.

(2) The elections shall be conducted according to the election regulations and the newly elected Senators shall be seated and sworn in at the meeting immediately following certification of the results. A number of Senators equal to the number of vacant seats in each caucus shall be elected from that caucus in these elections. No sitting Senator may not participate in a vacancy election in his or her own caucus, nor shall any sitting Senator be removed from the Senate as a result of this process. In the event that additional seats become vacant after the announcement of vacancies in caucuses that are already being filled during the fall election, the Speaker Pro Tempore may declare those seats vacant and fill them

during the election as well. This must take place more than twenty-four (24) hours before voting opens. No seats may be opened in caucuses that did not already have one seat to be filled by the election.

(c) The process for filling seats during the spring semester shall be as follows:

(1) The Speaker Pro Tempore of the outgoing session shall determine which Senate seats are vacant immediately following the certification of the spring election results.

(2) All vacant spots in each caucus shall then be filled automatically by the Senate candidates who do not already serve in the Senate and who are not otherwise ineligible to serve in the Senate's outgoing session, in a descending order of priority based on how many votes they received during the spring elections. If the seats cannot be filled in this manner, or if any seats in the outgoing session are vacated after election results are certified, they shall remain vacant for the remainder of that session.

(d) Any Senator wishing to switch constituencies must follow the above vacancy procedure, if the switch is not granted the Senator retains their original seat (in the outgoing session, if applicable).

(e) The process for filling vacant seats between the fall and spring elections shall be as follows:

(1) The proposed seats to be filled must be vacated after the fall 2020 election.

(2) When five (5) or more Student Senate seats are vacant and less than 25% (<¼) of the Student Senate Body is composed of selected senators, the Speaker Pro-Tempore shall notify the Rules and Regulations Chair to start the Senate Vacancy Filling Procedure and provide the Chair with a list of the vacant seats.

(3) The Senate Seat Vacancy Procedure is outlined in TITLE III CHAPTER 001a ARTICLE X Section III.

SECTION III. Officer Vacancy Procedures

(a) Should a Senate Officer Position become vacant the Internal Affairs Committee shall:

(1) Have the ability to appoint an interim officer.

(2) Allow for a new Officer to be elected following the procedures outlined in Article X, Section I, (a), (3) through (14).

SECTION IV. Operations Committee

(a) The Operation Committee shall meet for the purpose of maintaining and enabling the Student Senate. The committee shall be chaired by the Speaker Pro-Tempore and shall be composed of the Executive Director of Operations, the Director of Records, the Director of Information Technology, the Director of the Cody T. Vasut Senate Archives, and the Director of Marketing.

(b) The members shall report their activities to the chair and be given tasks at the discretion of the chair. Meetings shall be called as deemed necessary by the Chair or Executive Director. The Operations Committee shall also consist of any members the Executive Director, or the Chair

deem necessary.

SECTION V. Special Sessions

(a) At the beginning of all special sessions of the Senate, the presiding officer shall announce the purpose for calling the special meeting

(1) A petition calling for a special session must include the purpose for calling the special session, the date, time and location. The petition must be turned into the Speaker forty-eight (48) hours prior to the special session. The Student Body President and Student Senators must be given forty-eight (48) hours notification of the session called by petition

(2) Only items specified by the Student Body President, Speaker of the Student Senate, or Senator petition may be considered and voted upon by the Senate

(b) Special sessions of the Senate shall be subject to the Senate Bylaws and shall be governed by the same rules of procedures as the regular meeting

SECTION VI. The Student Senate Budget and the Student Government Association Budget

(a) THE STUDENT SENATE PRELIMINARY BUDGET. The Speaker Pro Tempore, in consultation with the Student Body President or their cabinet member in charge of the Student Government Association budget, shall be responsible for formulating the annual Student Senate Budget, and overseeing spending.

(b) THE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE. The Senate Finance Committee will consist of the Finance Chair and the six or eight (6 or 8) senators selected by the Finance Chair and confirmed by the senate.

(1) The Student Body President or their cabinet member in charge of the Student Government Association Budget, the Rules and Regulations chair of the Senate, the Student Government Association Advisor(s), and the Student Government Association Business Coordinator may serve as non-voting members of the committee to advise and assist the Finance Committee.

(2) All members of the Internal Affairs Committee, with exception to the Speaker of the Senate, the Speaker Pro Tempore, and the Executive Director of Operations, shall be sworn in as ex officio members of the Senate Finance Committee upon their respective elections. These Ex Officio members are intended as a reserve, and only serve in this capacity as a voting member of the Senate Finance Committee, if a quorum cannot, first, be met by the finance chair and their committee members;

(c) APPROPRIATION HEARINGS. The Finance Committee shall conduct hearings to consider any funding request, the Student Government Association budget, or appropriations bills or statutes referred to the Finance Committee at a time scheduled by the Finance Chair.

(1) Quorum for a Finance Committee hearing shall be five (5) members, with no more than two (2) members of the Internal Affairs Committee, one of whom must be the Finance Chair.

Finance Committee members that fail to attend more than one-half (1/2) of the total number of hearings during any one-month (1) period shall be automatically removed from the committee. The Finance Chair shall select a replacement in accordance with these Bylaws.

(2) Hearings will be open to the public, however, only the members of the Finance committee will have speaking privileges.

(3) All hearings regarding requests for the annual Student Government Association budget must be conducted during the fall academic semester and must be completed before the second general assembly meeting of the fall semester. Hearings for funding requests outside of the annual Student Government Association Budget or for additional funding beyond the annual Student Government Association budget may be conducted at any time during the fall and spring academic semesters.

(4) Each appropriation (or subsequent appeal) hearing shall follow this format:

(i) A presentation period not to exceed ten (10) minutes.

(ii) A questioning period not to exceed ten (10) minutes.

(iii) A deliberation after all presentations are done, which shall be open to only the members of the Finance Committee.

(d) All Finance committee meetings will be open.

(e) STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION BUDGET FORMULATION. The Student Senate Finance Committee shall be responsible for the formulation of the annual Student Government Association Budget through a bill or statute and by a majority vote of the committee that will be presented to the Student Senate for passage.

(1) The Senate Finance Chair will present the Student Government Association Budget bill or statute at the second meeting of the fall semester. This presentation will be accompanied by a period of question and answer.

(2) Appeals may be sent to the Senate Finance Committee after this presentation. Appeals sent by Senators, Executive Cabinet members, Judicial Court member and Student Government Committee Chairs or Commissioners must be formally considered by the Finance Committee.

(3) At the following Senate meeting, the Finance Chair will again present the budget and any changes made after the initial presentation. The presentation will be accompanied by a period of question and answer followed by a period of debate.

(4) During debate, the Senate may present amendments with a one-sixth (1/6) second subject to a vote by two-thirds (2/3) of those present and voting the Senate shall not allocate a budget or rule in order any amendment to such effect as to cause the total budget to exceed the amount allocated to the Student Government Association for the purpose of the budget.

(5) The budget will be approved by a majority of those present

and voting.

(6) All funds not allocated by the Senate for the purposes of the Student Government Association Budget shall be retained for future allocation at the discretion of the Student Senate in a standard appropriations statute introduced by a sponsor who is a Student Senator.

(f) Removal Procedures.

(1) Finance Committee members may be removed by a vote of no confidence pursuant to these Bylaws. Any committee member removed by a vote of no confidence from the Finance Committee shall be re-assigned by the Internal Affairs Committee to another legislative committee pursuant to any other limitations in these Bylaws.

SECTION VII. Senate Development Days

(a) All Senators may be required to attend one (1) development activity per semester, subject to one (1) excused absence or one (1) unexcused absence according to the absence policy in Article IV, Section II.

(1) The length of training should be condensed into one development day.

(b) Before the first meeting of the incoming session, the officer team from the previous session must conduct a development day for all newly elected Senators. This development day shall be to discuss the procedures of officer elections and parliamentary procedure used in the meetings.

(1) No officer from the previous session elected into the incoming session may help put on the development day.

(i) The order of responsibility for conducting this incoming Senator development day is as follows: the Rules and Regulations Chair, the Speaker Pro Tempore, the Speaker of the Senate, the Constituency Affairs Chair, the Academic Affairs Chair, the Community Relations Chair, the Legislative Relations Chair, the Student Services Chair, the Finance Chair, and the Diversity and Inclusion Chair.

(ii) Any number of officers may help conducting this development day, as long as they are not elected into the incoming session. The list above orders who has the primary responsibility of making sure the development day occurs.

(2) If all officers from the previous session are elected into the incoming session, then the Internal Affairs Committee shall convene and select one or two Senator(s) from the previous session who were not re-elected into the incoming session.

(3) Only newly elected Senators who have not previously served in Student Senate in any capacity may attend this development day, except for the officer or previous Senator conducting the development day.

(c) The Speaker Pro Tempore and Rules and Regulations Chair shall be in charge of creating a development day for incoming Senators selected during the vacancy process.

(1) This development day should happen after the incoming

Senators first meeting where they are sworn in and the meeting two weeks afterwards.

(d) There must be a unanimous vote of the Internal Affairs Committee and two-thirds (⅔) vote of the Senate Body must agree to hold online Development Days of Student Senate

SECTION VIII. Senate Session Classification

(a) The 1947-48 Student Senate, as established Oct. 15, 1947 by election from the student body shall be classified as the "Founding Session" for all archiving and operational purposes.

(b) The 1948-49 Student Senate shall be classified as the "First (1st) Session", the next Student Senate shall be classified as the "Second **(**2nd**)** Session", and all subsequent sessions shall be numbered accordingly in increasing order for all archiving and operational purposes.

SECTION IX. Constituent Communications

(a) The Student Senate shall maintain an official web site.

(1) All legislation, agendas, minutes, notices of vacancy, notices of election, and other official communications shall be posted or linked to.

(2) The contact information of every Senator shall be listed on the web site

(3) It may be maintained with or without university resources, according to the wishes of the officer team.

(4) Officers shall serve as moderators. The Internal Affairs Committee shall delegate the responsibility of establishing and maintaining the website as it sees fit.

(b) The Senate shall maintain a Facebook page.

(1) All legislation, agendas, minutes, notices of vacancy, notices of election, and other official communications shall be posted or linked to.

(2) The Senate Officers will serve as “admins” of the group, and every Senator must be a member.

(3) Senators shall encourage other Student Government organizations and their constituents to join the group.

(4) The Constituency Affairs Officer shall be responsible for establishing maintaining the Facebook page in each session.

SECTION X. Cody T. Vasut Archives of the Senate

(a) The Archives of the Senate shall exist for the primary purpose of documenting, organizing, and presenting all former official documents, legislation, and records as may be required by these bylaws or the statutes or may be additionally requested by the Executive Director of Operations

(b) The Archives of the Senate shall be at minimum composed of the following official Student Senate documents from all Senate sessions as may reasonably be located and established for authenticity

(1) All legislation as passed, failed, tabled, withdrawn, referred to committee, or read before the Senate

(2) All voting records as may be recorded

(3) All final agendas for all general assembly meetings and

special sessions

(4) All minutes taken for all general assembly meetings and special sessions

(5) All open forum sign-ups for all general assembly meetings and special sessions

(6) All attendance records for all general assembly meetings, policy, standing, and ad-hoc committee meetings, and absence forgiveness records

(7) A listing of all ex-officio officers, liaisons, Senators, and Senate Officers having served for any length of time.

(8) All reports and proposals as may be approved by the Senate

(9) A final copy of the Student Government Association Code as amended by the session.

(10) A copy of the of the Student Senate budget as approved for the session

(11) A closing letter from the Speaker summarizing the Student Senate session

(c) All documents comprising the Archives of the Senate shall be made archived at minimum in the following forms

(1) In physical form for access in person by any student

(2) In physical form submitted yearly by August 1 to the Texas A&M University Archives for the individual session most recently ended

(3) In electronic form made available to the general public via the internet

(4) In an electronic storage medium for access in person by any student

(d) All documents comprising the Archives of the Senate shall be entered into the archives within five (5) class days of the ending of the Senate Session unless otherwise provided for in these bylaws or statutes.

(1) All passed, failed, and withdrawn legislation, agendas, minutes, open-forum sign-ups, reports and proposals, voting records, and Senate budget as defined in Subsection (b) shall be placed in physical form and online within five (5) class days of the documents creation or certification, whichever shall be the final form.

(2) All tabled, referred to committee, or read legislation as defined in Subsection (b) shall be placed in physical form and online within three (3) months of its remaining in one of these categories un-altered or within five (5) class days of the ending of the Senate Session.

SECTION XI. Summer Session

(a) Within 30 calendar days of the adjournment of the Joint Session meeting the Speaker of the Student Senate must inform the senate body of the schedule for the summer meetings.

(1) The Student Senate must meet during the two summer sessions for a minimum of two (2) meetings during the summer months of June, July, and August.

(2) Any additional meetings beyond the required two can be at

the discretion of the Speaker of the Student Senate.

(3) General meetings cannot be scheduled more than every other week unless a special session is called per the existing guidelines.

(4) The format of the meeting is up to the discretion of the Speaker of the Student Senate.

(i) Senators must be allowed to attend the meeting in a virtual capacity without punishment if the meeting is being held in person with all rights and privileges of a full member of the body.

(ii) Meetings can be held in an entirely virtual format with majority approval from the internal affairs committee.

(b) A "Summer Session" meeting can be defined as any general body meeting that is held within the months of May (after the completion of the Spring semester), June, July, or August (before the start of the Fall semester).

(1) Summer session meetings shall have all the rights and privileges as any other senate meeting including the power to confirm Judicial Court Nominees, Executive Cabinet Nominees, and elect officers of the senate.

(2) Summer session meetings shall be subject to the Student Senate Bylaws and shall be governed by the same rules of procedures as the regular meeting, such as absence policy, and exclude the following:

(i) The Speaker of the Student Senate, with majority approval from the Internal Affairs Committee may suspend dress code requirements for the summer session meetings.

(I) The body must be notified of this decision within 24 hours of the scheduled meeting.

(ii) Any Senator who submits an absence excuse request that is approved will only receive one (1) excused absence per meeting on their record. Any unexcused absences will still be counted as normal.

(iii) If it is deemed necessary to hold entirely virtual meetings the Speaker of the Student Senate, with majority approval from the Internal Affairs Committee may implement "virtual guidelines" that each senator must adhere to during meetings that covers topics including but not limited to Alcohol consumption, language, disruptions, and offensive behavior.

(I) Any senator not adhering to the approved "virtual guidelines" can be removed from the meeting at the discretion of the chair.

ARTICLE X. ELECTION AND APPOINTMENT PROCEDURE

SECTION I. Officer Elections

(a) The Officers of the Student Senate will be elected at the first

(b) meeting of the incoming session according to the following format:

(1) Candidates for Speaker, Speaker-Pro Tempore, and Rules and Regulations Chair must have served in a prior session of Senate

(2) If no candidate meeting the above requirements chooses to run for the above offices then any current member of Senate may run for those offices

(3) Nominations shall be accepted from the floor

(4) Candidates for all officer positions must be members of the session in which they seek election.

(5) Each candidate will have ten minutes to speak, and each speaking period will be followed by a five minute question and answer session

(6) Each candidate is allowed one character speaker on their behalf who may speak for a maximum of five additional minutes

(7) If only one person is nominated for an office, they will have five minutes to speak, and they may allot any by of that time to one character speaker

(8) A period of debate will precede voting if requested by any member of the Senate immediately before voting.

(9) A Ballot Vote will be used if at least one Senator requests it

(10) A Candidate must receive a majority of the vote to be elected

(11) If in the first vote no candidate receives a majority of the vote a run-off shall occur between the two candidates with the most votes

(12) If a tie occurs for either of the run-off positions a vote must be recast to break that tie before the run-off can take place

(13) The candidates in the run-off do not get any more time to speak, but debate may be restarted

(14) If a position is not filled another election following this format will take place at the next regularly scheduled Senate Meeting

(15) A motion to adjourn will be out of order during the meeting until the Speaker, Speaker Pro-tempore, and Rules and Regulations chair are elected.

(16) No candidate may be a selected senator.

SECTION II. Approval of Appointments

(a) If solicited, applications of candidates for appointments made by the Student Body President or by a Senate officer shall be available for Senators to view at least one week prior to the meeting in which confirmation for that position will be considered.

(1) All applications for those positions must be provided, but

applications for candidates who were not selected may be sanitized to remove personal information. All applications must have information removed that would violate university rules or FAFSA if publically released.

(b) Appointments will be considered at any general assembly meeting following the first meeting of an incoming session.

(1) The Student Body President or the officer making the appointment, and all nominees shall have speaking privileges for a period of up to five (5) minutes per appointee in order to present the appointees for confirmation. During the presentation, the official making the appointment should describe the specific qualifications and traits that led to their selection.

(2) Appointees must answer questions at the discretion of the Senate after the period of presentation for no less than five (5) minutes per candidate, unless no further questions are asked.

(3) Confirmation of these appointments will require two-thirds (2/3) of those present and voting. Confirmation votes shall not be taken for multiple appointees at the same time.

(c) If an appointee is not confirmed, or the position becomes vacant, the Student Body President or Senate officer may bring candidates at subsequent meetings to be considered according to the same provisions as outlined above.

(1) The Senate will not consider for confirmation any appointee who was rejected for confirmation twice in the current session.

(d) Appointments to university committees may be considered by the Senate without the appointee's attendance at the Senate meetings. These considerations may be combined with a two-thirds (2/3) vote.

(1) The Senate may by a one sixth (1/6) second, table the confirmation of a nominee to require them to attend a subsequent regularly scheduled Senate meeting for the purpose of addressing questions put forth by the Senate.

(2) Candidates in attendance must answer questions at the discretion of the Senate.

(3) Confirmation of these appointments will require two-thirds (2/3) of those present and voting.

(e) Before a Judicial Court Justice Nominee shall be permitted to come to the senate floor for a vote on confirmation, they must participate in a confirmation hearing that shall be held by a Judicial Court Justice Confirmation Subcommittee. The purpose of the confirmation hearing shall be to obtain a sense of a potential justice's knowledge of the Texas A&M Student Government Association Code and Senate Statutes and other information pertinent to serving in this role on the Judicial Court. The Judicial Court Justice Confirmation Process shall go as follows:

(1) The Judicial Court will solicit all applications for the Associate Justice positions beginning as soon as the first day of Spring semester classes from the student body. After doing an initial screening, the Chief Justice shall forward a complete list of acceptable candidates to the Student Body President no later than the second Friday in February for an initial round of interviews to be conducted at their discretion.

(2) Upon completion of the Executive Branch interviews and selection, the Student Body President shall forward the names of the nominees to the Judicial Court Justice Confirmation Subcommittee Chair and Vice Chair. Upon receiving the names, the subcommittee must set a schedule for forming the committee and the hearing process and inform the committee of this schedule

(3) The Judicial Court Justice Confirmation Subcommittee. This subcommittee shall be charged with holding a confirmation hearing to consider the qualifications of each Judicial Court Nominee.

(i) The subcommittee shall consist of three (3) or five (5) voting members (not including four) from the Legislative Branch. The Subcommittee shall be chaired by the Rules and Regulations Committee Chair and the Chief Justice shall serve as Vice Chair. Neither the Chair nor Vice Chair will have voting privileges.

(4) The Judicial Court Justice Confirmation Subcommittee Chair or Vice Chair shall set the date of hearings. The Senate Body, Executive Branch, and the Judicial Court Justice Nominee(s) that shall participate in the confirmation hearing shall be notified as soon as a hearing date is set.

(i) The Judicial Court Justice Confirmation Subcommittee Chair or Vice Chair shall forward the names of the Judicial Court Justice Nominees to the Speaker of the Senate three days before the last regular general assembly meeting of the outgoing session before joint session to be included on the agenda.

(ii) If this timeline is not met, all proceedings will carry over to the incoming session. The candidate list from the Judicial Court Justice Confirmation Subcommittee shall be made available to the incoming session for review. This list cannot be expanded upon or shortened. These candidates must be put up for confirmation before the senate immediately.

(iii) Nominees must be confirmed by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Student Senate membership present and voting at an announced meeting of the incoming session.

(iv) If a judicial court confirmation hearing is necessary to conduct in the incoming session of the Student Senate they must first consider the current list of nominees selected.

(v) If a nominee does not get confirmed, at first or second hearing, the incoming session must put up a nominee for consideration from the original list of applications sent to the Student Body President from the Chief Justice.

(5) During the Confirmation hearing, subcommittee members shall question the Judicial Court Justice Nominee. At least seven (7) questions shall be posed; the Confirmation Subcommittee Chair shall be permitted to ask at least three (3) questions, and the other

members shall be permitted to ask at least two questions each.

(i) A Judicial Court Nominee cannot be questioned for longer than an hour.

(ii) Only one justice can be questioned at a time.

(iii) This hearing shall be open to the public.

(iv) This hearing shall be videotaped for the record. This recording must be made accessible to the public within twenty-four (24) hours before the next general meeting

(v) This subcommittee shall not have the authority to retain a Judicial Court Nominee.

(6) Within forty-eight (48) hours before the next general meeting, the Judicial Court Justice Confirmation Subcommittee shall make available to every Senate Body a report of the committee's proceedings. This report shall include:

(i) Date and time of hearing

(ii) Members of the subcommittee

(iii) Recommendation to the Senate Body on whether to confirm the Judicial Court Justice Nominee or not. The recommendation must be approved by a two-thirds (2/3) decision.

(iv) If the Subcommittee Chair decides, the recommendation will also include a group summary of the hearing

(7) After the confirmation hearing, the nominee shall appear before the entire senate body at the following general assembly meeting and be subjected to the procedure outlined in Article X, Section II, subsection B of the Senate Bylaws.

(i) The process outlined shall not extend past two (2) general meetings.

SECTION III. Senate Seat Vacancy Procedure

(a) After the SGA Fall Elections, the Rules and Regulations Chair shall make available applications and accept completed applications to fill vacant Student Senate seats.

(b) The Rules and Regulations Chair shall purge all applications at the start of Spring Elections.

(c) All submitted applications are active for 60 school days.

(d) The application shall consist of:

(1) Name

(2) Contact Information including an email address

(3) Academic College

(4) Living Situation (i.e. on-campus or off-campus)

(5) Past and current activities

(6) Past and current leadership positions

(7) Open-Ended Questions (Maximum of 300 words each)

(i) What do you hope to accomplish in the Student Senate?

(ii) List any friends or family currently in Texas A&M Student Senate, Texas A&M Executive Cabinet, or Texas A&M Judicial Court and your relationship?

(iii) Do you have any prior experience in the Texas A&M Student Government Association?

(iv) Is there anything else you would like to tell us about yourself?

(8) A disclosure message reading "This application excluding your contact information will be shared with the Student Senate Body and other affiliated entities."

(9) A majority of the Rules and Regulations Committee may add any element to the application it deems fit.

(e) Confirmation Meeting

(1) Vacant senate seat applicants will be considered at the second general assembly meeting following the Speaker Pro-Tempore notifying the Rules and Regulations Chair of the vacant seats unless otherwise specified by the Code.

(i) The Rules and Regulations Chair shall be responsible for informing all applicants for the vacant seats about the date of the confirmation meeting.

(ii) If there are more than five (3) applicants for a given seat, then the following process shall take place.

a) Filling the vacant seat(s) shall be deferred until after the next internal affairs committee meeting.

b) The internal affairs committee shall review applications to choose three (3) applicants to be presented at the next general assembly meeting.

(1) All stipulations of a regular senate vacancy confirmation meeting apply to the deferred confirmation meeting.

(2) The applicant's application shall be made available to the Senate Body at least 48 hours before the meeting.

(i) The application in its entire shall be shared except their contact information.

(3) The applicant's character witness, and all nominees shall have speaking privileges for a period of up to three (3) minutes per applicant.

(4) Applicants must answer questions at the discretion of the Senate after the period of presentation for no less than three (3) minutes per candidate, unless no further questions are asked.

(5) Confirmation of these appointments will require a simple majority of those present and voting for each seat under consideration.

(i) The vote will be taken by using the system of ranked choice voting.

(ii) The applicant who has the majority shall be sworn in as a Student Senator during the meeting and referred to as a 'selected senator'.

(iii) Selected senators shall have all the rights, privileges, and limitations as a senator with the exception outlined in TITLE III CHAPTER 001a ARTICLE X Section I (a) (16).

ARTICLE XI. OTHER PROCEDURES

SECTION I. Election Regulation Revisions

(a) The Senate shall pass no legislation concerning election regulations within fifteen (l5) days prior to the filing date or runoff that would take effect during the same period

SECTION II. Tuition and Student Fees: The Senate Finance Committee

(a) The Student Senate will review and legislate on the rates and allocations of tuition and all student fees assessed to the student body.

(1) All legislation pertaining to student fees and tuition may be passed only by roll-call or ballot vote.

(b) The Senate Finance Committee shall review the rates and allocations of tuition and all student fees assessed to the student body.

(1) The Senate Finance Committee shall consist of the Senate Finance Chair and the six to eight (6 or 8) senators selected by the Finance Chair and confirmed by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Student Senate present and voting.

(2) The Texas A&M Student Senate may recommend any tuition or fee increase, any tuition or fee decrease, or recommend the establishment of any new fee only under the following guidelines unless otherwise required by state law:

(i) The Student Senate may approve by a majority vote all tuition or fee increase or decrease recommendations.

(ii) For any fee increase or decrease greater than 10% with the overall impact to students being in excess of $5.00 a semester, the Student Senate shall call a referendum to garner opinion. The result of the referendum will be the position of Student Government Association.

(iii) Any newly created fee must go to a student referendum the semester prior to proposed implementation. The result of the referendum will be the position of Student Government Association.

(iv) That the results of all such votes will be posted to the Student Senate website within twenty-four (24) hours of certification. These postings will include the fee or tuition proposal being voted upon, whether or not the proposal passed, the names of all senators, each senator's area of representation, and each senator's vote on the tuition or fee proposal.

(3) That the Speaker forward the above Article XI, Section II (b) (3) (iv) information to the Battalion within twenty-four (24) hours of submission to the aforementioned entities to inform the student body of the position of the Student Government Association.

SECTION III. Transition Procedures

(a) The incoming Senate refers to the session of the Student Senate that will assume office before the end of the spring semester in question. The term outgoing Senate refers to the session of the Student Senate that will end before the end of the spring semester in question

(b) After Spring Elections, the incoming senate shall have at least three (3) meetings prior to the end of the spring semester

(1) The Speaker of the outgoing Senate shall arrange the first meeting of the incoming Senate and shall be responsible for contacting the members of the incoming Senate to inform them of the time and place where the meeting will be held. During this meeting, the Speaker, the Speaker Pro-Tempore, and the Chairs for the incoming Senate shall be elected according to the procedures in Article X, Section I of these Bylaws. This meeting must be scheduled no later than three (3) weeks before the beginning of the spring semester final examinations. Until the Speaker of the Senate is elected by the Senate at the first meeting, the meeting shall be chaired by the outgoing Student Body President.

(2) The third meeting shall coincide with the final meeting of the outgoing Senate, which must occur before the beginning of the final examination period of the spring semester. During this meeting the session of the outgoing Senate shall end, and the session of the incoming Senate shall begin

(3) The incoming Senate shall not meet during the same week as the outgoing session. This requirement applies to neither the final meeting of the outgoing Senate, during which the incoming Senate begins session, nor to weeks in which the outgoing Senate meets in special session

(4) There shall be a development day for the incoming Senators elected into the incoming session, who have not previously served in another session, in the Spring of their election before the first meeting which elects the new officer team as outlined under Subsection (b) of the Development Day section.

(c) Before the incoming session begins, the incoming Senate must meet to elect officers. After spring election results are announced, the outgoing Senate cannot approve nominees to appointed positions. Any nominees which require Senate approval after spring election results are announced and before the beginning of the incoming Senate session will be approved at the meetings of the incoming Senate which take place before the beginning of the incoming session. The incoming Senate may not consider any legislation until the outgoing Senate ends.

(d) No new business may be considered at the final meeting of the outgoing Senate. The outgoing senate may also not consider any piece of

legislation in old business which requires the signature of the Student Body President. The Speaker of the outgoing Senate shall relinquish the chair to the Speaker of the incoming Senate after all old business has been disposed and before the end of the meeting. When the Speaker of the incoming Senate assumes the chair, the outgoing Senate session ends and the incoming Senate session begins. A motion to adjourn is out of order until the incoming Senate session begins, and the meeting cannot end until the incoming session has begun.

SECTION IV. Emergency Procedures

(a) Online Meetings

(1) In the unlikely event Student Senate cannot physically meet without endangering the health or safety of the attendees or having a physical meeting is not logistically reasonable these procedures shall be followed:

(2) Two-thirds (⅔) of the Internal Affairs Committee and the Student Body President must agree to hold online meetings of the Student Senate.

(3) The online meeting shall be referred to as an Emergency Online Meeting (EOM).

(4) All rules and regulations governing an announced meeting shall be applied to an EOM. The only exemptions to this rule are as followed:

(i) Any process that cannot take place due to the online nature of the meeting.

(ii) The first Order of Business after opening roll call must be a two-thirds (⅔) vote to continue the meeting.

(5) SGA Judicial Court may order an injunction or overrule the decision to hold EOM(s) and may decide to declare null and void all actions taken during the meeting(s).

(6) The online platform for EOMs must be free and open access to the public.

(7) A link to the online platform utilized for any (EOM) must be sent out to all Student Senators, Executive Cabinet, Judicial Court, and the student body population 24 hours before the beginning of the meeting

CHAPTER 002 – THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH BYLAWS

Amended by S.B. 09(S)37, E.O. 62-01, E.O. 62-02, E.O. 62-03, E.O. 63-01

BYLAWS FOR THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH OF THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

Revised September 22nd, 2010

ARTICLE I. MEMBERSHIP

SECTION I. President

(a) The President is elected by the Student Body as a whole during spring elections.

(b) The President is the figurehead of Student Government as a whole and appoints his Cabinet Positions.

(c) The President must be sworn in by the Chief Justice of the Judicial Court before taking office.

SECTION II. Cabinet Positions

(a) The number and titles of the Cabinet Positions is up to the discretion of each individual President.

(b) There must be at least three Cabinet Positions, the Executive Vice President, a Cabinet Position in charge of university Committees, and a Cabinet Position in charge of Finance.

(c) The President shall appoint the Executive Vice President to oversee the other Cabinet Positions.

(d) The President shall appoint a Cabinet Position in charge of university committees to facilitate the university committee application process and other responsibilities regarding the university committees as deemed necessary by the President.

(e) All Cabinet Positions must be appointed by the President and confirmed by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Student Senate.

(f) The Chief Justice of the Judicial Court must swear in all Cabinet Positions prior to taking office.

(g) The Cabinet Positions assists in appointing the Chairs in their respective sub-branches of the Executive Branch.

SECTION III. Chairs

(a) The committee chairs, with the exception of the chair of SSFAB, will be chosen by the Student Body President and the appropriate Cabinet Positions.

(b) Chairs of individual committees are responsible for executing the duties of that committee and may appoint sub-chairs to assist them in these duties.

(c) The Committee Chairs are also responsible for selecting general committee members.

SECTION IV. Executive Branch Meetings

(a) The Student Body President shall hold meetings for the purpose of coordinating and controlling the activities of Student Government.

(b) The Student Body President may call Executive Branch meetings for the purpose of administration of the Executive Branch. The Cabinet Positions of the Executive Branch shall attend these meetings, as well as any other persons deemed necessary by the Student Body President.

SECTION V. Committees and Commissions

(a) A Committee or a Commission is defined as an organization in which the primary mission is to perform services that are of direct immediate benefit to the student body and to the community of Texas A&M University.

(b) Committees should meet at least one of the following four qualifiers:

(1) Develop service and leadership potential
(2) Serve student interests
(3) Promote Aggie Spirit, Tradition, and Core Values
(4) Provide Service to Campus and Community

(c) The Committees are as follows:

(1) Aggie Recruitment Committee (ARC)
(2) The Big Event
(3) Caring Aggies R Protecting Over Our Lives (CARPOOL)
(4) Conference on Student Government Associations (COSGA)
(5) Environmental Issues Committee (EIC)
(6) Freshman Programs (Fish Aides)
(7) GUIDE
(8) Career Closet
(9) Alternative Spring Break (ASB)
(10) Muster
(11) Parents' Weekend
(12) Replant
(13) Texas Aggies Making Changes (TAMC)
(14) Traditions Council
(15) Gilbert Leadership Conference (GLC)

(d) The Commissions are as follows:

(1) Development
(2) Diversity
(3) Elections
(4) Legislative Relations

(e) Committees and Commissions may be added or deleted by the President with a two-thirds (2/3) approval by the Student Senate. All Commission heads must be sworn in by the Chief Justice of the Judicial Court.

ARTICLE III. POLICIES

SECTION I. Academic Policy

(a) Committees are required to be evaluated based upon the four qualifiers listed in Article I, Section V, Subsection (b) a minimum of once every two years. The committees being evaluated will be notified on or before September 1st of the Academic Year during which they will undergo the committee evaluation process. The committee evaluation may occur at any time during the year; however, it must occur before that committee's officer transition period.

(b) The panel who will conduct the evaluation shall be the Student Body President, Speaker of the Senate, Chief Justice of the Judicial Court, Business Coordinator 1, SGA Primary Advisor, Senate Finance Chair, and the Cabinet Position in charge of Finance on the Executive Cabinet. The Student Body President shall appoint a mediator. At least 5 of the 7 panelists must be present to conduct the evaluation"

(c) The Committee Evaluation will be conducted in the following format:

(1) Committee presentation of materials
(2) Question and Answer
(3) Committee Comment Time
(4) Discussion conducted with the panel (without committee present)
(5) Status decided upon by the Panel
(6) Written evaluation/review of committee completed by each panel member and submitted to mediator
(7) Compilation of evaluation by mediator.
(8) Follow up meeting scheduled and conducted with committee and mediator in order to review Committee Evaluation Results

(d) Following the Committee Evaluation, the committee will be placed under one of the following statuses:

(1) Approved
  (i) Committees will be placed under this status by:
    (I) Completing committee evaluation in its entirety with all required materials and information and;
    (II) Being found to meet requirements set out by SGA and ;
    (III) Performing at budget or under budget and;
    (IV) Accepting recommendations and suggestions of the panel
(2) Under Review
  (i) Committees will be placed under this status by:
    (I) Not completing Committee Evaluation process in its entirety with all required materials and information and/or;
    (II) Not being found to meet requirements set out by SGA and/or;
    (III) Not being willing to accept

recommendations and suggestions of the panel and/or;

(IV) If they are a new committee.

(ii) This status will remain in effect for one year from the date the original Committee Evaluation was conducted. This will give an opportunity for committees to make adjustments and necessary measures to be put in place in order to meet the requirements originally set out.

(iii) The committee will undergo a Committee Evaluation again within 10 days of the one year time span and will be reassessed. Should they fail to then meet the requirements set out for them or should the panel see fit, they will be placed on status III or left under status II for a designated period of time to be determined by the panel

(3) Removal

(i) Committees will be placed under this status:

(I) Following at least one year on "Under Review" status and;

(II) If found to be failing to meet requirements set out by SGA in their follow up Committee Evaluation

(e) Removal of a SGA Committee

(1) Once a committee has been placed on Removal Status by the evaluation panel, the mediator of said panel will file a request for removal to the Senate Rules and Regulations Chair

(2) The Senate Rules and Regulations Chair will then bring forth a bill addressing the removal of said committee during the next Student Senate Meeting

(3) A committee may then be removed by a 2/3 vote of the Student Senate

(4) If the 2/3 vote fails, the committee will be placed back on Under Review Status ;

SECTION III. Impeachment

(a) The Student Senate may impeach, if necessary, the Student Body President. If impeachment charges are brought on, the process shall be handled in accordance with the Student Government Association constitution Article V.

SECTION IV. Removal of Executive Officers

(a) All members of the Executive Branch serve at the pleasure of the Student Body President.

ARTICLE II. EXECUTIVE RECORDS

SECTION I. Intent and Purpose

(a) The Executive Branch intends to set forth regulations to provide for the accurate record keeping of information for the purposes of sustainable and effective governance for future executive branch members.

SECTION II. Definitions

(a) Unless otherwise provided for, the following terms shall be ascribed the following meanings:

(1) The "Executive Archives" shall be the program under the direction of the Student Body President for the purpose of archiving the records of the Executive Branch.

(2) "Minutes" shall be the official record taken of a meeting. Should these not be available, a write-up of the discussion that took place shall suffice. Minutes or descriptions of meetings designated as closed-door or confidential need not be entered into the Executive Archives.

(3) "Reports" and "Memoranda" are written or electronic correspondence that discusses items of relevance to the activities of SGA.

(4) "Newsletters" are written or electronic newsletters that discuss the activities of SGA. Both newsletters issued internally and externally are included under this term.

SECTION III. Executive Records

(a) The Executive Branch shall, at minimum, file all of the following documents into the Executive Archives within five (5) business days of their creation:

(1) The minutes of any meeting attended by a member of Executive Cabinet in their official capacity

(2) The minutes of any meeting attended by a member of a university Committee in their official capacity

(3) Any reports or memoranda issued by members of Executive Cabinet to administrators or other members of SGA

(4) All newsletters issued by SGA.

(b) The complete and organized contents of the Executive Archives at the end of each session of the Student Senate must, at maximum, be filed in the Archives of the Senate within ten (10) business days of the end of that Session. A copy of that session's records must be kept readily available by the Executive Branch for three (3) years following the end of that session, at which they may be disposed of or filed with the Cushing Library, at the discretion of the Student Body President.

SECTION IV. Responsibility

(a) The primary responsibility for the enforcement of Article III of this Act shall fall to the Student Body President.

(b) Any member of the Executive Branch who attends meetings in an official capacity as per Article III, Section I of this Act, is also responsible for the placement of their own records. Should an Executive Branch member be delegated responsibility for the placement of students on university Committees, they are responsible for the records of university Committee members. All executive job descriptions must include a statement about responsibilities under this Act.

(c) The Judicial Court shall hear appeals related to the enforcement of provisions of this Act, or lack thereof, and have authority to issue a final ruling and compel compliance. The failure of any member of the Executive Branch to comply with the provisions of this Act shall be considered grounds for removal under performance review.

ARTICLE III. AMENDMENT AND EXECUTIVE ORDERS

SECTION I. The Executive Branch bylaws shall be amended by the Student Body President through a signed executive order.

(a) The initials of the Student Body President shall also be present on each page of the order which shall not bear his signature.

(b) Executive orders shall be numbered according to the session of the Student Senate during which they are signed and shall bear an increasing numerical designation restarting at the beginning of each session of the Student Senate.

(c) Executive orders amending these bylaws shall take immediate effect and shall not expire until they are amended or repealed by the Student Body President. All other orders shall expire at the conclusion of the term of the Student Body President who shall have signed the order.

CHAPTER 003 – THE JUDICIAL COURT BRANCH BYLAWS

Established: 4/3/2012

Revised: 4/1/2017

The Judicial Court recognizes its duties of constitutional interpretation, legislative interpretation, election regulation, and conflict resolution as granted by the Student Government Association constitution. Each student shall be protected by equal justice under the Student Government Association governing documents.

ARTICLE I. RESPONSIBILITY OF THE CHIEF JUSTICE

SECTION I. The Chief Justice shall be responsible for upholding, protecting, and complying with these Bylaws, as well as preserving the integrity and transparency of the Court. A failure to maintain and uphold the aforementioned duties shall constitute grounds for impeachment of the Chief Justice.

SECTION II. Any motion or appeal, such as a Motion to Rehear, taken against the Court shall name the Chief Justice as the opposing party.

ARTICLE II. WRITS OF THE COURT

SECTION I. In cases pertaining to constitutional, legislative, election, or any other matters within the Court's jurisdiction, a Writ of Injunction may be issued on appeal when at least four Justices agree to the issuance of the Writ. The Writ must be issued directly following an appeal's submission and before any subsequent hearing is scheduled.

(a) A Writ of Injunction shall forbid those named in the writ or their agents to 1) do, 2) threaten to do, 3) attempt, or 4) continue to commit a specified action which is deemed unjust, inequitable, or injurious and which cannot be immediately addressed by action of the Court.

(b) The Writ of Injunction shall remain in effect until a hearing adjudicates the related controversy. At such time, the status of the Writ will be determined.

SECTION II. A Writ of Mandamus may be issued by the Judicial Court to inform S.G.A officials that adequate evidence of negligence and/or abuse of their duties and responsibilities has been shown such that appropriate remedial action must occur. The Court shall designate in the Writ the directed course of action an official must take following issuance of an opinion related to the controversy.

SECTION III. An appealing party shall receive a Writ of Certiorari immediately following the Judicial Court's acceptance of an appeal. For details regarding the conditions of acceptance and the petition process for a Writ of Certiorari, refer to Article

III.

SECTION IV. The Chief Justice will be notified of any and all writs before they are served for the purpose of ensuring proper protocols are followed by all parties involved, and not necessarily to gain the Chief Justice's support for or against the writ's issuance. If a writ is issued without the prior notification of the Chief Justice then the status of the writ will be determined by the Court once the Chief Justice is aware of the writ.

ARTICLE III. THE PETITION FOR A WRIT OF CERTIORARI

SECTION I. The Petition shall be initiated and submitted to the Chief Justice by email using the appeal form located on the Judicial Court website.

(a) Email shall be the primary mode of communication between the Court and all parties involved. The Court will send all notification via email unless specifically requested to do so otherwise by a party involved.

SECTION II. Upon filing the Petition, the Chief Justice shall notify all Justices of the appeal. A vote of four or more Justices to hear the case shall signify the Court's acceptance of the appeal. Following acceptance, the Chief Justice shall issue a Writ of Certiorari to the Petitioner(s) and notify the Respondent(s).

(a) Any Justice may recuse them self from a case if they feel that a conflict of interest exists.

SECTION III. Should the Court vote not to accept an appeal the Chief Justice shall notify the Petitioner of the Court's vote and provide a substantive reason for the Court's decision.

(a) Parties shall not be permitted to request a specific Judicial Advocate.

ARTICLE IV. DISCOVERY AND NOTIFICATION OF EVIDENCE

SECTION I. Any party is allowed counsel of its choosing to assist the party during the course of its appeal. Both parties may email the Chief Justice and request a Judicial Advocate be assigned to them. The Vice-Chief Justice will then assign a Judicial Advocate to the requesting party.

(a) Parties shall not be permitted to request a specific Judicial Advocate.

SECTION II. Parties to the appeal have 72 hours following notification of issuance of a Writ of Certiorari to submit all relevant evidence and a Witness List to the Court. Except upon an emergency Motion to Admit, no additional evidence or witnesses will be accepted for consideration following the 72 hour period of discovery.

(a) A party wishing to call a witness must include that witness in the originally submitted Witness List and include in evidence a signed affidavit of the witness's perception and recollection of events pertinent to the case. The witness shall include in their affidavit signature accompanying the following oath: "I swear or affirm on my honor as an Aggie the truthfulness of everything stated in this affidavit." Only the affidavit

template on the Judicial Court website may be used for purposes of an affidavit.

SECTION III. The Chief Justice, upon receiving all evidence submitted by both parties at the conclusion of the 72 hour period of discovery, shall immediately notify and provide both parties access to the respective opposing party's evidence.

ARTICLE V. GENERAL APPEAL PROVISIONS

SECTION I. This article applies to any hearing that may be convened by the Judicial Court.

SECTION II. If the information presented is of a nature that is deemed confidential by FERPA, HIPAA or any other educational confidentiality document, then the Court shall move into executive session.

(a) Either party may make a motion for the Court to enter into executive session if they provide valid cause related to the preceding.

(b) Information discussed in executive session is to be treated with the highest level of confidentiality by all persons involved with said session.

SECTION III. The Court may begin a hearing only upon achieving a quorum (5) of Justices.

SECTION IV. During any proceedings, the Chief Justice may, upon request by either party OR by his or her discretion, grant a motion to extend time.

SECTION V. The amount of people allowed to attend a hearing is limited to the capacity of the room. Entry into the hearing will be on a first-come, first-serve basis.

SECTION VI. Upon the vote of at least three Justices, the Court shall move to a Closed Hearing, in which only the related parties, their witnesses, the Justices, and SGA advisors are permitted to attend. This can be done for any reason deemed appropriate by the Court.

SECTION VII. Counsel shall be asked no more than two judicial questions at the same moment. If two Justices simultaneously address counsel or a witness, the less tenured Justice shall defer to the other Justice.

SECTION VIII. No audio or video recording, except upon agreement of the Chief Justice, shall be allowed during any Judicial Court hearing.

SECTION IX. Any opinions by a Justice given outside of the Court setting, otherwise known as advisory opinions, are not binding on either that Justice or the Court.

SECTION X. In the event that a decision comes to an even split among the Justices, the status quo shall be upheld.

ARTICLE VI. RULES OF EVIDENCE

PURPOSE. These rules should be construed so as to administer every proceeding fairly, eliminate unjustifiable expense and delay, and promote the development of evidence law, to the end of ascertaining the truth and securing a just determination.

RULE 1. *Excluding Relevant Evidence that was Acquired Illegally or in Violation of the Aggie Honor Code*

The Court may exclude relevant evidence if it determines that the evidence was obtained illegally or in violation of the Aggie Honor Code. This shall be left to the discretion of the Justices of the Judicial Court.

RULE 2. *Remainder of or Related Writings or Recorded Statements*

If a party introduces all or part of a writing or recorded statement, an adverse party may require the introduction, at that time, of any other part – or any other writing or recorded statement – that in fairness ought to be considered at the same time.

RULE 3. *Test for Relevant Evidence*

Evidence is relevant and admissible, unless provided otherwise under these rules or the SGA Code, if:

(a) it has any tendency to make a fact more or less probable than it would be without the evidence; and

(b) the fact is of consequence in determining the action.

RULE 4. *Excluding Relevant Evidence for Prejudice, Confusion, Waste of Time, or Other Reasons*

The court may exclude relevant evidence if its probative value is substantially outweighed by a danger of one or more of the following: unfair prejudice, confusing the issues, misleading the jury, undue delay, wasting time, or needlessly presenting cumulative evidence.

RULE 5. *Character Evidence*

(a) Character Evidence.

(1) Prohibited Uses. Evidence of a person's character or character trait is not admissible to prove that on a particular occasion the person acted in accordance with the character or trait.

(b) Wrongs, or Other Acts.

(1) Prohibited Uses. Evidence of a crime, wrong, or other act is not admissible to prove a person's character in order to show that on a particular occasion the person acted in accordance with the character.

(2) Permitted Uses. This evidence may be admissible for another purpose, such as proving motive, opportunity, intent, preparation, plan, knowledge, identity, absence of mistake, or lack of accident.

RULE 5.1. *Methods of Proving Character*

(a) By Reputation or Opinion. When evidence of a person's character or character trait is admissible, it may be proved by testimony about the person's reputation or by testimony in the form of an opinion. On cross-

examination of the character witness, the court may allow inquiry into relevant specific instances of the person's conduct.

(b) By Specific Instances of Conduct. When a person's character or character trait is an essential element of a charge, claim, or defense, the character or trait may also be proved by relevant specific instances of the person's conduct.

(c) By Habit or Routine Practice. Evidence of a person's habit or an organization's routine practice may be admitted to prove that on a particular occasion the person or organization acted in accordance with the habit or routine practice. The court may admit this evidence regardless of whether it is corroborated or whether there was an eyewitness.

RULE 6. *Need for Personal Knowledge*

A witness may not testify to a matter unless evidence is introduced sufficient to support a finding that the witness has personal knowledge of the matter. Evidence to prove personal knowledge may, but need not, consist of the witness's own testimony.

RULE 7. *Definitions That Apply to Hearsay; Exclusions from Hearsay*

(a) Hearsay, as defined, is not admissible unless provided otherwise by these rules.

(b) Statement. "Statement" means a person's oral assertion, written assertion, or nonverbal conduct, if the person intended it as an assertion.

(c) Declarant. "Declarant" means the person who made the statement.

(d) Hearsay. "Hearsay" means a statement that:

(1) The declarant does not make while testifying at the current trial or hearing; and

(2) A party offers in evidence to prove the truth of the matter asserted in the statement.

(e) Statements That Are Not Hearsay. A statement that meets the following conditions is not hearsay:

(1) An Opposing Party's Statement. The statement is offered against an opposing party and:

(i) was made by the party in an individual or representative capacity;

(ii) is one the party manifested that it adopted or believed to be true;

(iii) was made by a person whom the party authorized to make a statement on the subject; or

(iv) was made by the party's agent or employee on a matter within the scope of that relationship and while it existed;

RULE 7.1. *Exceptions to the Rule Against Hearsay – Regardless of the Declarant's Availability*

The following are not excluded by the rule against hearsay, regardless of whether the declarant is available as a witness:

(a) Present Sense Impression. A statement describing or explaining an event or condition, made while or immediately after the declarant perceived it.

(b) Excited Utterance. A statement relating to a startling event or condition, made while the declarant was under the stress of excitement that it caused.

(c) Then-Existing Mental, Emotional, or Physical Condition. A statement of the declarant's then-existing state of mind (such as motive, intent, or plan) or emotional, sensory, or physical condition (such as mental feeling, pain, or bodily health), but not including a statement of memory or belief to prove the fact remembered or believed.

(d) Recorded Recollection. A record that:

(1) is on a matter the witness once knew about but now cannot recall well enough to testify fully and accurately;

(2) was made or adopted by the witness when the matter was fresh in the witness's memory; and

(3) accurately reflects the witness's knowledge.

(e) Records of a Regularly Conducted Activity. A record of an act, event, condition, opinion, or diagnosis if:

(1) the record was made at or near the time by – or from information transmitted by – someone with knowledge;

(2) the record was kept in the course of a regularly conducted activity of a business, organization, occupation, or calling, whether or not for profit;

(3) making the record was a regular practice of that activity;

(4) all these conditions are shown by the testimony of the custodian or another qualified witness

(5) neither the source of information nor the method or circumstances of preparation indicate a lack of trustworthiness.

(f) Market Reports and Similar Commercial Publications. Market quotations, lists, directories, or other compilations that are generally relied on by the public or by persons in particular occupations.

(g) Statements in Learned Treatises, Periodicals, or Pamphlets. A statement contained in a treatise, periodical, or pamphlet if:

(1) the statement is called to the attention of an expert witness on cross-examination or relied on by the expert on direct examination; and

(2) The publication is established as a reliable authority by the expert's admission or testimony, by another expert's testimony, or by judicial notice.

(h) Reputation Concerning Character. A reputation among a person's associates or in the community concerning the person's character.

RULE 7.2. *Exceptions to the Rule Against Hearsay –When the Declarant Is Unavailable as a Witness*

(a) Criteria for Being Unavailable. A declarant is considered to be unavailable as a witness if the declarant:

(1) is exempted from testifying about the subject matter of the declarant's statement because the court rules that a privilege applies;

(2) testifies to not remembering the subject matter;

(3) cannot be present or testify at the trial or hearing because of then-existing infirmity, physical illness, or mental illness; or

(4) is absent from the trial or hearing and the statement's proponent has not been able, by process or other reasonable means, to procure:

(b) The Exceptions. The following are not excluded by the rule against hearsay if the declarant is unavailable as a witness:

(1) Statement Against Interest. A statement that:

(i) a reasonable person in the declarant's position would have made only if the person believed it to be true because, when made, it was so contrary to the declarant's proprietary or pecuniary interest or had so great a tendency to invalidate the declarant's claim against someone else or to expose the declarant to civil liability; and

(ii) is supported by corroborating circumstances that clearly indicate its trustworthiness

(2) Former testimony. Testimony that:

(i) was given as a witness at a trial, hearing, or lawful deposition, whether given during the current proceeding or a different one; and

(ii) is now offered against a party who had – or, in a civil case, whose predecessor in interest had – an opportunity and similar motive to develop it by direct, cross-, or redirect examination.

RULE 7.3. *Attacking and Supporting the Declarant's Credibility*

When a hearsay statement has been admitted in evidence, the declarant's credibility may be attacked, and then supported, by any evidence that would be admissible for those purposes if the declarant had testified as a witness. The court may admit evidence of the declarant's inconsistent statement or conduct, regardless of when it occurred or whether the declarant had an opportunity to explain or deny it. If the party against whom the statement was admitted calls the declarant as a witness, the party may examine the declarant on the statement as if on cross-examination.

ARTICLE VII. PRE – TRIAL HEARING PROCEDURES

SECTION I. The Chief Justice, upon request by either party, may grant and set the date of a pretrial hearing so long as:

(a) the request comes less than 96 hours following the issuance of a Writ of Certiorari and;

(b) the requesting party provides a substantive and legitimate reason for calling such hearing.

SECTION II. All motions considered during the pre-trial phase will either be granted or denied by the Court, by majority vote, immediately following the pre-trial hearing. Motions must be formally submitted no later than 12 hours before the pretrial hearing begins and must include substantive reasons for granting the motion. Only the following may be considered during the pre-trial hearing:

(a) Motion(s) to Dismiss

(1) Either party may make a Motion to Dismiss specific evidence in the form of an exhibit submitted to the Court during the discovery phase

(2) Either party may make a Motion to Dismiss the testimony of a witness

(3) The Respondent may make a Motion to Dismiss the case altogether

(4) A Motion to Dismiss may pertain to more than one witness or exhibit in a singular motion if:

(i) the nature of the exhibits or witnesses is substantially similar and;

(ii) the legal reasoning to dismiss the set of exhibits or witnesses is substantially similar.

(b) Motion(s) to Admit

(1) A party may make an emergency Motion to Admit specific evidence in the form of an exhibit submitted to the Court. The motioning party must demonstrate that the evidence included in the emergency motion could not have been collected during the period of discovery.

(2) A party may make an emergency Motion to Admit witness testimony submitted to the Court and include that witness in the party's Witness List The motioning party must demonstrate that the evidence included in the emergency motion could not have been collected during the period of discovery.

(3) A Motion to Admit may pertain to more than one witness or exhibit in a singular motion if:

(i) the nature of the exhibits or witnesses is substantially similar and;

(ii) the legal reasoning to admit the set of exhibits or witnesses is substantially similar.

SECTION III. Each party will have 15 minutes, split however the party deems appropriate, to present an opening statement and a rebuttal.

(a) During opening statements, the motioning party must offer arguments germane only to its motions.

(b) Following the rebuttal phase, the Justices will deliberate and upon a majority vote grant or deny each motion brought forth.

SECTION IV. Each party and/or their representative must be in attendance to raise claims against any of the preceding.

ARTICLE VIII. APPEAL HEARING PROCEDURES

SECTION I. The failure of the Petitioner or their representative to appear before the Judicial Court without justifiable cause approved by the Court shall terminate their right to appeal. In the event that the Respondent fails to appear at the oral arguments scheduled by the Court, the Court reserves the right to conduct an ex parte hearing consisting of presentations by the Petitioner alone.

SECTION II. Any current student of Texas A&M University may submit to the Court for any case an Amicus Curiae Brief that outlines the outcome sought by the submitting party and the legal reasoning supporting that outcome.

(a) All briefs must be submitted to the Chief Justice after the appeal for the case has been filed and at least 12 hours before the beginning of oral arguments for the same case.

SECTION III. Each party will have 15 minutes, split however the party deems appropriate, to present an opening statement and a rebuttal.

(a) the first 3 minutes of each party's argumentation will not be interrupted by judicial questioning.

(b) Each party will then call witnesses included in the Witness List.

(1) Either party may Motion to Sequester witnesses for the appellate hearing. If sequestration is circumstantially permissible, all witnesses to testify will exit the room. When the time arrives, the Bailiff will escort the called witness back into the courtroom and to the witness stand.

(2) The Chief Justice shall issue the following oath to all witnesses immediately before testifying: "Do you swear on your honor as an Aggie to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth?" The proper response is, "I do."

(3) A witness may provide two uninterrupted minutes of testimony and one minute of testimony available to judicial questioning. The opposing party to a called witness may then cross examine for a time of two uninterrupted minutes and one minute of cross examination available to judicial questioning.

(c) After all witnesses have taken the stand, the hearing shall conclude with both parties providing up to 3 minutes of uninterrupted closing argumentation.

ARTICLE IX. DELIBERATION AND OPINION

SECTION I. Immediately following the conclusion of a hearing, all Justices on the case shall exit to a secluded, private location to begin closed deliberations. Only the justices who heard the case and SGA advisors may be present during the deliberations. The least tenured sitting Justice shall begin by providing general perceptions and inclinations regarding the case, then the next Justice shall offer the same until the most tenured Justice has spoken. Then, open dialogue among Justices shall occur before a final vote is taken. Voting shall occur from the least tenured Justice to the most tenured Justice.

SECTION II. The most tenured Justice for each opinion shall delegate the responsibility of writing each respective opinion. Individual Justices are able to write or join concurring or dissenting opinions.

SECTION III. Every opinion issued by the Court must bear the signature of each Justice joining the opinion. After approval, a copy of each opinion is to be placed in the Student Government Association Judicial Court permanent file. Similarly, all opinions are to be issued to The Battalion for publication, provided to all parties involved, and posted on the Judicial Court website. Every opinion receiving at least two votes shall also be posted in the SGA front office, and must be transmitted to the parties involved.

ARTICLE X. REHEARING PROCEDURES

SECTION I. A Motion to Rehear can be submitted by any student of Texas A&M University and may be entertained if a procedural fault is more likely than not to have occurred. A procedural fault must meet both of the following criteria:

(a) a direct contradiction of a previously established procedural mandate and;

(b) such fault unreasonably inhibited the application of justice.

SECTION II. This motion must be made within 7 days of the opinion being posted. The Motion to Rehear shall be heard in a Closed Hearing consisting of at least 3 Justices who sat on the original case.

(a) Only Justices who heard the original case may sit on the panel and vote on the motion.

SECTION III. The moving party will have 10 minutes to substantiate the claim of a procedural fault. No exhibits or witnesses are permitted. Arguments in the Closed Hearing on a Motion to Rehear shall solely be confined to failures to adhere to procedures mandated by the SGA Code.

SECTION IV. If the Motion to Rehear is granted, then the original case shall be declared a mistrial, the original ruling shall be discarded, and the case shall be reheard anew according to the procedures listed in Articles III-VIII in these Bylaws.

ARTICLE XI. OATH OF OFFICE

I (state your name) do solemnly swear (or affirm) to faithfully execute to the best of my ability the duties of the office of (state your office) for the Texas A&M University Student Government Association; to uphold the honor of the same; at all times to protect the welfare of the student body; and to promote good relations between the students and those concerned with the university.

ARTICLE XII. INTERNAL PROCEDURES

SECTION I. The Student Government Judicial Court shall convene at the discretion of the Chief Justice in order to conduct normal business matters.

SECTION II. The Court's regular meetings shall be construed to be mandatory and only upon excusal by Chief Justice shall a member's absence be permitted. Upon accumulating more than 3 unexcused absences, the Justice in question will only continue to serve on the Court at the discretion of the Chief Justice. If after more than 3 unexcused absences, the Chief Justice may inquire of the Primary Advisor of Student Government Association for the removal of the Justice in question.

SECTION III. The only officer position required for the function of the Court is the Vice-Chief Justice, appointed by the Chief Justice.

(a) Officer positions may be created at the discretion of and appointed by the Chief Justice for viable functioning of the Court.

SECTION IV. The Secretary of the Court shall be responsible for maintaining Court files in accordance with the Filing and Administrative Guidelines that were established by the Court on November 1st, 2013.

ARTICLE XIII. JUDICIAL ADVOCATES

SECTION I. The entire Judicial Advocate Commission shall include six Judicial Advocates.

SECTION II. The Judicial Advocate shall fall under the charge of the Vice-Chief Justice of the Judicial Court. The Vice-Chief's responsibilities shall include, but are not limited to, leading the selection of the Judicial Advocates, ensuring communication between the Court and the Judicial Advocates, and selecting the Chief Judicial Advocate. These processes shall be completed in whichever manner the Vice-Chief Justice sees fit.

SECTION III. The responsibilities of the Judicial Advocates include performing discovery and research for cases, representing parties, assisting parties, and maintaining impartiality through all elections during the year. All requirements or expectations, be they attendance, supplementary, or academic in nature, that apply to a Justice shall also apply to the Judicial Advocates. The tenure of a Judicial Advocate shall be for the entirety of the Judicial Advocate's tenure at Texas A&M University at College Station so long as they do not resign or get removed.

SECTION IV. The removal of a Judicial Advocate shall occur when deemed appropriate by the Vice-Chief Justice and when approved by both the Chief Judicial Advocate and Chief Justice. Reasons for removal include, but are not limited to, a Judicial Advocate entering as a candidate in an election governed by the Election Commission, consistently not maintaining impartiality throughout elections, and failure to perform duties required for the position.

SECTION V. The position of Chief Judicial Advocate shall be responsible for the training of newly selected Judicial Advocates, and ensuring communication among Judicial Advocates. The selection of the Chief Judicial Advocate shall be completed no later than four weeks following the end of the last Chief Judicial Advocate's tenure. The Chief Judicial Advocate's tenure shall last as long as the corresponding session of Student Senate.

ARTICLE XIV. REMOVAL OF MEMBERS OF JUDICIAL COURT

SECTION I. A complaint concerning an Associate Justice shall be filed by any current student of Texas A&M University to the Chief Justice.

SECTION II. Upon receipt of a complaint, the Chief Justice has one week to convene a performance review committee to consider the matter. The performance review committee shall be made up of the Chief Justice and a quorum of Judicial Court. If the complaint is made by a member of Judicial Court that person shall then forfeit their position in the review process and any subsequent appeal as secondary to their position as the filer of the complaint.

SECTION III. The performance review committee will evaluate the claim and may remove an individual from Judicial Court if it can be shown beyond a reasonable doubt that any of the following are true:

(a) The accused individual has shown gross negligence in their duties as outlined in the SGA constitution.

(b) The accused individual has shown gross negligence in their duties as outlined in the Judicial Court bylaws.

(c) The accused individual has violated the Aggie Honor Code or engaged in egregious abuse of their position in Judicial Court.

SECTION IV. A two-thirds majority vote of the performance review committee will be required to remove any individual from Judicial Court or from their officer position. In the case of a complaint concerning an officer's job performance, the performance review committee may allow the individual to resign from their office without being removed as an Associate Justice.

SECTION V. Following the impeachment of the Chief Justice by the Student Senate, the Vice-Chief Justice will assume the position of Chief Justice, until a new Chief Justice has been confirmed.

SECTION VI. A Justice who has issued an appeal through any of the means mentioned above to determine the legitimacy of removal will not have their seat filled until the appeals process is completed and the Justice is confirmed to not meet the qualifications of office.

SECTION VII. If any Judicial Advocate has been deemed unfit for office by any Justice, they may request to the Chief Justice that they be removed. If no action is taken by the Chief Justice, a Justice may move for a vote. A vote of two-thirds of Justices in a meeting with quorum shall be deemed sufficient to remove a Judicial Advocate.

SECTION VIII. If any Justice shall enter as a candidate for a position within SGA in an election that is governed by the Texas A&M Election Commission, they shall effectively resign their position of Justice at the time of registering to run. If, after losing, the former Justice desires to return to the Court, they must go through the process of nomination by the Student Body President and confirmation by the Student Senate set forth in the constitution.

(a) For any measures of seniority and tenure relevant in these Bylaws, a Justice's tenure shall be measured from their most recent appointment and confirmation.

ARTICLE XV. ACADEMIC POLICY

SECTION I. No member of the Judicial Court shall be on scholastic or conduct probation with the university. All officers and members must comply with the academic policies set forth in the university Rules and Regulations, as well as have at least a 2.00 cumulative grade point ratio for undergraduate students and at least a 3.00 cumulative and term grade point ratio for graduate students and at least a 3.00 cumulative and term grade point ratio for graduate students for every semester (spring, summer, and fall) while in office.

SECTION II. A Justice who has issued an appeal through Student Activities to determine the legitimacy of any probation will not be removed from office until the appeals process is completed and the Justice is confirmed to not meet the qualifications of office.

ARTICLE XVI. JUDICIAL BRANCH BY-LAW AMENDMENTS

SECTION I. Amendments to the Judicial Court Bylaws shall be voted on and approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of a quorum of Judicial Court.

(a) Judicial Advocates may only vote when amendments to the Judicial Court Bylaws concern ARTICLE XIII.

SECTION II. A revision date shall be implemented in the Bylaws. No votes shall be necessary to change the revision date directly. The date shall reflect the same date in which the last time the Judicial Court Bylaws were amended.

SECTION III. In order to provide consistent formatting for the Bylaws, the Chief Justice, at their discretion, can change the formatting of the Bylaws at any time.

CHAPTER 004 – GOVERNANCE COUNCIL BYLAWS

REPEALED by S.B. 70-17

CHAPTER 005-099 RESERVED FOR EXPANSION

TITLE IV – THE BYLAWS AND REGULATIONS OF THE OTHER ENTITIES OF GOVERNMENT

Revised November 30th, 2011

No Bylaws currently exist for the various Commissions and Committees of the Student Government Association.

TITLE V – THE STATUTES OF THE SENATE

Revised November 30th, 2011

CHAPTER 001 – THE STATUTES OF THE SENATE

Created by S.B. 09(S)28, Amended by S.B. 64-13
Revised October 5th, 2011

ARTICLE I. NAME AND SHORT TITLE

SECTION I. This Title shall be known as the Statutes of the Senate.

SECTION II. The short title for the Statutes of the Senate shall be the statutes for reference hereafter within this document, in the general operations of the Student Government Association, and in reference to all laws contained herein.

ARTICLE X. PURPOSE

SECTION I. The purpose of the statutes shall be to organize rules and regulations the Student Senate from time to time may enact.

ARTICLE XI. JURISDICTION

SECTION I. The Student Senate shall have jurisdiction to enact such statutes as it may be authorized to enact by the Student Government constitution, subject to the checks and balances between the branches of government contained therein for enactments.

ARTICLE XII. ORGANIZATION

Section I. The statutes shall be organized according to the provisions outlined in Title I of the SGAC including the following subtitles:

(a) Subtitle 1 shall contain Chapters 100-199 as may be enacted, amended, or repealed by the Student Senate from time to time which shall reasonably relate to its name of "The Executive Branch."

(b) Subtitle 2 shall contain Chapters 200-299 as may be enacted, amended, or repealed by the Student Senate from time to time which shall reasonably relate to its name of "The Legislative Branch."

(c) Subtitle 3 shall contain Chapters 300-399 as may be enacted, amended, or repealed by the Student Senate from time to time which shall reasonably relate to its name of "The Judicial Branch."

(d) Subtitle 4 shall contain Chapters 400-499 as may be enacted, amended, or repealed by the Student Senate from time to time which shall reasonably relate to its name of "The Governance Council."

(e) Subtitle 5 shall contain Chapters 500-599 as may be enacted, amended, or repealed by the Student Senate from time to time which shall reasonably relate to its name of "Finances."

(f) Subtitle 6 shall contain Chapters 600-699 as may be enacted,

amended, or repealed by the Student Senate from time to time which shall reasonably relate to its name of "Elections, Referendums, Petitions, and Voting."

(g) Subtitle 7 shall contain Chapters 700-799 as may be enacted, amended, or repealed by the Student Senate from time to time which shall reasonably relate to its name of "General Operational Regulations of the Student Government."

(h) Subtitle 8 shall contain Chapters 800-899 as may be enacted, amended, or repealed by the Student Senate from time to time which shall reasonably relate to its name of "Student Government Association Records."

(i) Subtitle 9 shall contain Chapters 900-999 as may be enacted, amended, or repealed by the Student Senate from time to time which shall reasonably relate to its name of "Student Body and Student Government Policies and Proposals."

Further subtitles may be added to the statutes through an Act related to this section.

CHAPTERS 002-099 RESERVED FOR EXPANSION

SUBTITLE 1 – THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH

Revised February 20, 2012

CHAPTER 101 – THE SBP LEGISLATIVE COOPERATION ACT

Created by S.B. 63-92, Amended by S.B. 64-13

Revised October 5th, 2011

ARTICLE I. LEGISLATIVE INTENT

SECTION I. To establish mutual accountability, understanding and respect between the Executive and Legislative Branches of the Student Government Association, the Student Body President should make attending the General Assembly Meetings of the Student Senate a high priority. This Act shall establish a means of holding the Student Body President accountable for his attendance at Senate meetings.

ARTICLE II. RESPONSIBILITIES

SECTION I. The Student Body President, or in the event they is unavailable, a designated proxy, shall be responsible for attending every meeting of the general assembly of the Student Senate. The Speaker Pro Tempore shall record the attendance of the Student Body President, or the designated proxy when he takes attendance at general assembly meetings as provided for in the Senate Bylaws.

CHAPTER 102 – THE STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT

Created by S.B. 64-45

Revised February 20, 2012

ARTICLE I. GENERAL RULE MAKING AUTHORITY

SECTION I. The Student Body President is hereby authorized to enact any rule or procedure necessary for carrying into execution any duty or power vested in the Executive Branch under the statutes or the constitution, including any rule or procedure necessary for conducting the affairs of the Executive Branch.

(a) This general rule making authority shall be construed broadly by the Judicial Court.

(b) All such rules and procedures, however, shall not conflict with the constitution or with any statute enacted by the Student Senate.

(c) All such rules and procedures shall also be enacted by the Student Body President through a signed executive order.

(d) The initials of the Student Body President shall be present on each page of the order which do not bear his signature. The date of the executive order shall also be present on the page that contains the Student Body President's signature.

(e) Executive orders shall be numbered according to the session of the Student Senate during which they are signed and shall bear an increasing numerical designation restarting at the beginning of each session of the Student Senate (e.g., E.O. 64-01, E.O. 64-02, E.O. 64-03, etc…).

SECTION II. CROSS REFERENCE. All executive orders shall be provided to the Archives of the Student Senate pursuant to the provisions of the SGA Records Act (Title V Chapter 801).

ARTICLE II. ASSIGNABILITY OF POWERS AND DELEGATION OF DUTIES

SECTION I. Unless expressly denied by the particular statute enacted by the Student Senate, any additional duty or power vested in the Student Body President by a particular statute enacted by the Student Senate shall be freely assignable and delegable by the Student Body President to any member of their Executive Cabinet.

ARTICLE III. ADDITIONAL DUTIES AND POWERS

SECTION I. The Student Body President is hereby vested the following additional duties and powers, in addition to any duties or powers vested in the Student Body President by any other statute enacted by the Student Senate or the constitution:

(a) PROSECUTORIAL POWER. The Student Body President shall have power to sue on behalf of the student body in the Judicial Court to: enforce any statute, rule or procedure, or executive agreement; to challenge the constitutionality of the same; or to challenge that the same as contrary to any other later enacted statute, rule or procedure, or executive agreement, whichever is applicable.

ARTICLE IV. NON-BINDING PROCLAMATIONS OF OPINION

SECTION I. All non-binding proclamations of the opinion of the Student Body President shall be made by signed executive order pursuant to the same provisions governing the signing, initialing, and numbering of executive orders contained in Article I above.

SECTION II. CROSS REFERENCE**.** All executive orders proclaiming the non-binding opinion of the Student Body President shall be provided to the Archives of the Student Senate, as if they were an executive order establishing rules or procedures in the Executive Branch Bylaws, pursuant to the SGA Records Act (Title V Chapter 801).

ARTICLE V. REMOVAL OF COMMITTEE CHAIRS, COMMISSIONERS, OR OTHER EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

SECTION I. Unless otherwise provided for by the statutes or the constitution, the Student Body President may remove any committee chair, commissioner, or other executive officeholder for cause according to an established removal process provided for in the Executive Branch Bylaws.

CHAPTER 103 – THE EXECUTIVE CABINET

Created by S.B. 64-4, Amended by SB 67-04

Revised October 12, 2014

ARTICLE I. ORGANIZATION

SECTION I. Pursuant to the constitution, the organization/titles of the Executive Cabinet shall be solely at the discretion of the Student Body President without any limit.

ARTICLE II. ABSENCE OF A CABINET MEMBER

SECTION I. Should any statute vest any duty or power in a member of the Executive Cabinet, the Student Body President may freely assign or delegate that duty or power to another member of the Executive Cabinet or them self. Such a re-designation; however, shall be accompanied either by a signed executive order amending the Executive Branch Bylaws or by a written letter sent to the Speaker of the Senate and the Rules and Regulations Chair informing the individuals of the re-designation.

ARTICLE III. MEETINGS OF THE EXECUTIVE CABINET

SECTION I. The Student Body President shall provide for the organization and holding of any meeting of the Executive Cabinet at their discretion. All meetings of the Executive Cabinet, however, shall be open to the student body, unless the Student Body President calls the Executive Cabinet into executive session to consider personnel decisions or any other decision authorized by statute or the constitution to be held in executive session. The result of any decision made in executive session shall be announced publicly.

ARTICLE IV. CABINET LEVEL COMMITTEES/TEAMS/TASK FORCES

SECTION I. QUASI-CABINET MEMBERS/COMMITTEES OR TEAMS. Any student assisting a member of the Executive Cabinet with exercising his duties and powers (e.g., by serving as a member of a cabinet member's committee or team) shall not be considered a member of the Executive Cabinet. Such students shall be appointed by the member of the Executive Cabinet or the Student Body President and shall serve at the pleasure of the member of the Executive Cabinet or the Student Body President.

(a) However, should the student be directly assigned any duty or power of the Student Body President, the student shall be considered a member of the Executive Cabinet and must be confirmed by the Student Senate pursuant to the constitution.

(b) No Student Senator or Justice of the Judicial Court may occupy any office under this Section.

SECTION II. ADVISORY TASK FORCES. The Student Body President may create any task force necessary to advise them on pending legislation or student issues. Such task forces shall only be advisory in function, and shall not exercise any duty or power of the Student Body President.

SECTION III. Members of Student Body President task forces may be Student Senators and Justices of the Judicial Court; further, members of Student Body President task forces do not require confirmation of the Student Senate.

CHAPTER 104 – EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS, AND OTHER OFFICES

Updated February 20, 2012 & April 17, 2013

Added by S.B. 64-60
Amended by S.B. 65-66

ARTICLE I. LEGISLATIVE INTENT AND DEFINITIONS

SECTION I. Legislative Intent and Purpose.

(a) The purpose of this Chapter is to establish, organize, and provide for the removal of executive branch committees, commissions, and other executive offices, to ensure excellence in service to the student body, and to ensure maximum flexibility and delegation to these entities.

SECTION II. Definitions.

(a) Unless otherwise indicated in the context of this act, the following words shall be ascribed the following meanings:

(1) "Executive branch committee" shall be defined as a committee under the executive branch established pursuant to the constitution. Executive branch committees exist primarily to provide a program or service to the student body.

(2) "Executive branch commission" shall be defined as a commission under the executive branch established by the Student Senate pursuant to the constitution. Executive branch commissions exist primarily to administer or oversee some governmental or quasi-governmental program or service.

(3) "Committee chair" shall be defined as the student appointed pursuant to a process outlined in the Executive Branch Bylaws, who oversees an executive branch committee.

(4) "Commissioner" shall be defined as the student appointed by the Student Body President and confirmed by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Student Senate membership present and voting at an announced meeting, who oversees an executive branch commission.

(5) "Finance chair" shall be defined as the student appointed through a procedure outlined in the executive branch committee or commission's bylaws who shall be charged with maintaining the executive branch committee or commission's finances and with preparing the executive branch committee or commission's budget pursuant to the SGA Allocations Regulations Act (Title V Chapter 501).

(6) "Committee member" shall be defined as any student appointed by a committee chair to serve as a general member or officer of the executive branch committee through a procedure outlined in the executive branch committee's bylaws.

(7) "Commission member" shall be defined as any student appointed by a commissioner to serve as a general member or officer of the executive branch commission through a procedure outlined in the executive branch commission's bylaws.

ARTICLE II. GENERAL ORGANIZATIONAL PROVISIONS

SECTION I. ORGANIZATION. All executive branch committees and commissions shall be organized, at minimum, in the following manner:

(a) Committee Chairs and Commissioners

(1) MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITY. All executive branch committees shall be led, managed, and overseen by a single committee chair. All executive branch commissions shall be led, managed, and overseen by a single commissioner.

(2) COMPLIANCE RESPONSIBILITY. The committee chair or commissioner shall be ultimately responsible for the compliance of the executive branch committee or commission with all statutes enacted by the Student Senate, all executive orders of the Student Body President governing executive branch committees or commissions, the constitution, or any Texas A&M University rule or procedure.

(3) SELECTION OF COMMITTEE CHAIRS. Unless otherwise provided for within the context of this Chapter, all committee chairs shall be appointed through a procedure outlined in the Executive Branch Bylaws, or in the absence of such a procedure, by the Student Body President. Committee chairs are not required to be confirmed by the Student Senate.

(4) SELECTION OF COMMISSIONERS. Unless otherwise provided for within the context of this Chapter, all commissioners shall be appointed by the Student Body President and shall be confirmed by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Student Senate membership present and voting at an announced meeting.

(5) OATH OF OFFICE. All committee chairs and commissioners shall take the oath of office under the constitution prior to assuming any duty or power of their office.

(b) Committee and Commission Finance Chairs

(1) SELECTION. All executive branch committees and commissions shall, at minimum, have a finance chair as an officer of the executive branch committee or commission who shall be appointed or elected according to the applicable executive branch committee or commission's bylaws.

(c) Members

(1) COMMITTEE MEMBER SELECTION. All executive branch committees may have as many committee members and officers as the committee chair deems prudent. All committee members shall be appointed by the committee chair through a procedure outlined in the executive branch committee's bylaws.

(i) All executive branch committees that are not open to all students must submit a copy of their bylaws delineating their processes for admissions yearly to the Senate Archives and Cabinet position in charge of Committees. These bylaws must also be available on their website. The Judicial Court shall consider how these processes were followed and the constitutionality of these processes in any cases involving admissions into committees.

(I) All applications, written or otherwise, shall be evaluated under the processes that were in place at the time that that application was received by the committee. No change to Executive Committee Bylaws governing the selections shall take effect until all outstanding applications for that committee have either been fully evaluated or have expire.

(ii) Executive branch committees may require a written application to be submitted by a new member before granting admittance; however, any such application must contain a disclaimer stating the SGA Anti-Discrimination Policy found in the constitution, stating the section of the Code in which the admissions process for that committee can be found, and advising the student of their right to appeal any decision of the committee to the Judicial Court

(2) COMMISSION MEMBER SELECTION. All executive branch commissions may have as many commission members and officers as the commissioner deems prudent. All commission members shall be appointed by the commissioner through a procedure outlined in the executive branch commission's bylaws.

(d) Anti-Discrimination Policy

(1) No member or officer of any executive branch committee or commission may violate the anti-discrimination policy found in Article X of the constitution when selecting members or officers.

(e) Terms of Office

(1) COMMITTEE CHAIRS, COMMISSIONERS, AND FINANCE CHAIRS. The terms of office of all committee chairs, commissioners, and finance chairs may not exceed the length of one session of the Student Senate without re-appointment. A committee chair, commissioner, and finance chair may be re-appointed an indefinite number of times.

(2) MEMBERS. The terms of office of all committee or commission members or other officers shall be for as long as the committee or commission member or other officer remains in good standing with the applicable executive branch committee or commission pursuant to the executive branch committee or commission's bylaws.

(f) Removal of Committee Chairs, Commissioners, Finance Chairs, and Members

(1) COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND COMMISSIONERS. All committee chairs and commissioners may be removed at any time for cause by the Student Body President pursuant to an established removal process provided for in the Executive Branch Bylaws.

(2) FINANCE CHAIRS AND MEMBERS. Committee or commission finance chairs, members, or other officers may be removed at any time for cause by the applicable committee chair or commissioner pursuant to an established removal process provided for in the applicable executive branch committee or commission's bylaws.

SECTION II. DUTIES AND POWERS. All executive branch committees and commissions shall have, at minimum, the following duties and powers:

(a) GENERAL RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY. Unless otherwise indicated within the context of this Chapter, all executive branch committee chairs and commissioners are hereby authorized to enact all rules and procedures necessary and proper for organizing and operating the committee or commission, including establishing its membership, and carrying into execution all duties and powers vested in the executive branch committee or commission by any statute enacted by the Student Senate or by any Executive Branch By-Law.

(1) This general rule making authority shall be construed broadly by the Judicial Court.

(2) All such rules and procedures, however, shall not conflict with the constitution or with any statute enacted by the Student Senate.

(3) All such rules and procedures shall be enacted by the applicable committee chair or commissioner through a signed committee chair or commissioner order amending the applicable executive branch committee or commission's bylaws.

(i) The initials of the committee chair or commissioner shall be present on each page of the order which do not bear his signature. The date of the committee chair or commissioner order shall also be present on the page that contains the committee chair or commissioner's signature. The name of the executive branch committee or commission shall also be prominently displayed on the first page of the order.

(ii) COMMITTEE CHAIR ORDER NUMBERING. Committee chair orders shall be numbered according to the session of the Student Senate during which they are signed and shall bear an increasing numerical designation across all executive branch committees restarting at the beginning of each session of the Student Senate (e.g., CC.O. 64-1, CC.O. 64-2, CC.O. 64-03, etc…).

(I) The Student Body President shall assist the committee chairs with ensuring that all committee chair orders are numbered sequentially.

(iii) COMMISSIONER ORDER NUMBERING. Commissioner

orders shall be numbered according to the session of the Student Senate during which they are signed and shall bear an increasing numerical designation across all executive branch commissions restarting at the beginning of each session of the Student Senate (e.g., CM.O. 64-1, CM.O. 64-2, CM.O. 64- 03, etc…).

(I) The Student Body President shall assist the commissioners with ensuring that all committee chair orders are numbered sequentially

(4) ARCHIVES CROSS REFERENCE. All committee chair and commissioner orders shall be provided to the Archives of the Student Senate pursuant to the provisions of the SGA Records Act (Title V Chapter 801). All committee chair and commissioner orders shall also be provided to the Student Body President within five (5) days of their issuance.

(5) EFFECTIVE DATES OF ORDERS. No committee chair or commissioner order shall take effect until at least five (5) days after it is submitted to the Archives of the Senate and the Student Body President.

(b) WEBSITES. All executive branch committees and commissions shall maintain a website whose web address is provided to the Student Body President for linking to the Student Government Association website. The website shall contain, at minimum, the executive branch committee or commission's mission statement under this Chapter, an up to date copy of the executive branch committee or commission's bylaws, information on services or programs that the executive branch committee or commission provides, and a link to the Student Government Association website.

(c) MISSION STATEMENTS AND PRIMARY CHARGES. All executive branch committees and commissions shall strive, at minimum, to fulfill or perpetuate their mission statements and primary charges provided for by statute. All executive branch committees and commissions are authorized to pursue any program or service that is reasonably related to the executive branch committee or commission's mission statement or primary charge that is otherwise not prohibited or substantially regulated by statute.

(1) All executive branch committees and commissions may summarize or modify their mission statements when displaying their mission statements in their bylaws or to the general public, provided that all such summaries or modifications shall not alter the substance of the mission statement provided for by statute.

(d) BRANDING ACT CROSS REFERENCE. All executive branch committees and commissions shall comply with the SGA Branding Act (Title V Chapter 704).

(e) OFFICE SPACE. All executive branch committees and commissions shall be provided office space within the Student Government Association Office located in the John J. Koldus building as deemed reasonable and possible by the Student Body President.

ARTICLE III. GENERAL REMOVAL PROVISIONS

SECTION I. All executive branch committees, commissions, or other executive offices, however, may only be removed by a statute repealing or removing the executive branch committee, commission, or other executive office's section from Article IV, V, or VI of this Chapter, whichever is applicable. Such a statute must be passed by a majority vote of the Student Senate membership present and voting at an announced meeting, and may only be passed into law over the veto of the Student Body President by a three-quarters (3/4) vote of the Student Senate membership present and voting at an announced meeting, pursuant to the constitution.

ARTICLE IV. EXECUTIVE BRANCH COMMITTEES

SECTION I. The Aggie Recruitment Committee (ARC)

(a) STATUTORY ESTABLISHMENT. There is established an executive branch committee known as the "Aggie Recruitment Committee (ARC)."

(b) Mission Statement.

(1) The Aggie Recruitment Committee shall perpetuate the livelihood of Texas A&M University by striving for excellence in facilitating and coordinating recruiting efforts by Texas A&M students. ARC shall provide potential Aggies with first-rate recruiting conferences and presence in high schools across the state and nation while upholding the Aggie Code of Honor and maintaining a charismatic commitment to promoting a positive image of Texas A&M. ARC members shall embody the strength and character and integrity true of Texas Aggies, and shall seek to contribute to the greater good of Texas A&M through the premise of their dedication to recruiting future generations of Aggies. The Aggie Recruitment Committee shall always remain proud of the past, but committed to the future.

(c) Primary Charge.

(1) A primary charge of the Aggie Recruitment Committee shall be the recruitment of high school students inside and outside the State of Texas to attend Texas A&M University.

SECTION II. Alternative Spring Break (ASB)

(a) STATUTORY ESTABLISHMENT. There is established an executive branch committee known as "Alternative Spring Break (ASB)."

(b) Mission Statement.

(1) The Alternative Spring Break Committee exists to move enthusiastic, giving students from being heartfelt volunteers toward becoming active, life-long citizens and leaders for social change, committed to social justice.

(c) Primary Charge.

(1) A primary charge of the Alternative Spring Break Committee shall be to provide students with an interactive, fun, volunteer experience that teaches participating students about cultural and social issues by connecting them with a new and different community, by involving them in services to that

community, and by asking them to reflect on their experiences when making future choices to support their community.

SECTION III. The Big Event

(a) STATUTORY ESTABLISHMENT. There is established an executive branch committee known as "The Big Event."

(b) Mission Statement.

(1) Through service-oriented activities, The Big Event promotes campus and community unity as students come together for one day to express their gratitude for the support from the surrounding community.

(c) Primary Charge.

(1) A primary charge of the Big Event Committee shall be to organize and operate a one-day student-run service project that supports the Bryan/College Station communities.

SECTION IV. Career Closet

(a) STATUTORY ESTABLISHMENT. There is established an executive branch committee known as the "Career Closet."

(b) Mission Statement.

(1) The Career Closet's mission is collaborating with the Texas A&M Career Center to enhance the professionalism of Texas A&M students while removing the financial burden that is inherently associated with launching a career

(c) Primary Charge

(1) The primary charge of the Career Closet shall be to provide professional attire to students for job interviews, career fairs, and any other professional events required to enter into the work force.

SECTION Va. The Legislative Relations Commission

(a) STATUTORY ESTABLISHMENT. There is established an executive branch commission known as the "Legislative Relations Commission."

(b) Mission Statement.

(1) The Legislative Relations Commission exists to lobby state and federal governments on behalf of the Student Government Association. The Legislative Relations Commission shall be responsible for achieving the legislative goals of The Student Government Association and serving as the chief representative of Texas A&M at all Texas Student Government Coalition (TSGC) functions.

(2) The Legislative Relations commission shall faithfully execute any policy or initiative called for by Statute or Senate resolution, and the Legislative Relations Commission shall only lobby for policies called for through Statute or Senate resolution.

(c) Primary Charge

(1) A primary charge of the Legislative Relations Commission shall be to organize lobbying trips to Austin, Texas and Washington D.C. to facilitate good relations with state and federal governments as well as achieve the legislative goals of the Student Government Association and serve as the chief representative of Texas A&M at

all TSGC functions.

SECTION Vb. Caring Aggies R Protecting Over Our Lives (CARPOOL)

(a) STATUTORY ESTABLISHMENT. There is established an executive branch committee known as "Caring Aggies R Protecting Over Our Lives (CARPOOL)."

(b) Mission Statement.

(1) The CARPOOL Committee shall facilitate a safe and reliable commuting environment in the Bryan/College Station area by providing free, non-judgmental rides home to intoxicated patrons and/or patrons rendered incapable of transportation due to other circumstances.

(c) Primary Charge.

(1) A primary charge of the CARPOOL Committee shall be to organize and operate a safe-ride program in the Bryan/College Station area for patrons rendered incapable of transportation, and to assist other universities or institutions in adopting similar programs.

SECTION VI. Conference on Student Government Associations (COSGA)

(a) STATUTORY ESTABLISHMENT. There is established an executive branch committee known as the "Conference on Student Government Associations (COSGA)."

(b) Mission Statement

(1) The COSGA Committee shall passionately serve a community of student leaders who strive for professional growth. The COSGA Committee shall be committed to leadership and its mission: to achieve the highest quality student government conference in the world.

(c) Primary Charge

(1) A primary charge of the COSGA Committee shall be to organize and operate a national or international student government conference focused on providing personal and organizational development, as well as communication between the various student governments across the United States and the world

SECTION VII. Environmental Issues Committee (EIC)

(a) STATUTORY ESTABLISHMENT. There is established an executive branch committee known as the "Environmental Issues Committee (EIC)."

(b) Mission Statement

(1) The Environmental Issues Committee shall actively strive to provide and support: programs which enhance environmental education and awareness and programs which reduce the community's impact on the environment, in order to improve quality of life.

(c) Primary Charge

(1) A primary charge of the EIC Committee shall be to provide educational programs and service projects for the students of Texas A&M University to improve the quality of the community's environment.

SECTION VIII. Freshman Programs (FISH AIDES)

(a) STATUTORY ESTABLISHMENT. There is established an executive branch committee known as "Freshman Programs (FISH AIDES)."

(b) Mission Statement

(1) The Fish Aides Committee exists to develop and empower Texas A&M University's leaders of tomorrow through integrity, motivation, confidence, and service.

(c) Primary Charge

(1) A primary charge of the Fish Aides shall be to assist the various entities of the Student Government Association with their operations, programs, and service projects, while also developing its freshmen members ' integrity, motivation, confidence, and service skills.

(d) The Fish Aides shall serve as the Student Government Association's Freshmen Leadership Organization (FLO).

SECTION IX. Gilbert Leadership Conference (GLC)

(a) STATUTORY ESTABLISHMENT. There is established an executive branch committee known as the "Gilbert Leadership Conference (GLC)." This conference shall be named in memory of David Gilbert '07, former member of the Student Government Association.

(b) Mission Statement

(1) The Gilbert Leadership Conference exists to serve the students of Texas A&M University by providing freshmen the opportunity to develop themselves as leaders, to network and interact with one another, and to understand the leadership opportunities that are available across campus to them in their time at Texas A&M University. In keeping with the traditions of the Student Government Association and Texas A&M University, the conference shall focus on character, service, and involvement as well as to help better the student body of Texas A&M University.

(c) Primary Charge

(1) A primary charge of the Gilbert Leadership Conference shall be to organize and operate a leadership conference for freshmen at Texas A&M University known as the "Gilbert Leadership Conference."

SECTION X. GUIDE

REPEALED by S.B. 70-20

SECTION XI. Muster Committee

(a) STATUTORY ESTABLISHMENT. There is established an executive branch committee known as the "Muster Committee."

(b) Mission Statement

(1) The Muster Committee exists to perpetuate the tradition of Muster at Texas A&M University and across the world.

(c) Primary Charge

(1) A primary charge of the Muster Committee shall be to organize and operate the observance of Muster at the Texas A&M University campus on April 21st of each calendar year, to assist the fifty-year reunion class with their homecoming activities, and to inspire current students to carry on the Muster tradition when they leave Texas A&M University.

SECTION XII. Replant

(a) STATUTORY ESTABLISHMENT. There is established an executive branch committee known as "Replant."

(b) Mission Statement.

(1) Aggie Replant is an environmental service organization which strives to improve its greater community and bring students together through tradition, unity and selfless service by providing an avenue for environmental service through annual tree planting events, such as Replant Day."

(c) Primary Charge.

(1) A primary charge of the Replant Committee shall be to organize and operate all activities, programs, and service projects related to Replant Day.

SECTION XIII. The 12th Can

(a) STATUTORY ESTABLISHMENT. There is established an executive branch committee known as "The 12th Can."

(b) Mission Statement

(1) The 12th Can strive to address and r educe food insecurity in the Texas A&M community by providing students, faculty, and staff with good and other necessary items that they may not be able to easily obtain themselves in order to support our Aggie Family.

(c) Primary Charge

(1) A primary charge of The 12th Can committee shall be to organize and operate an on-campus food pantry aimed at improving the quality of life on Texas A&M University's campus.

SECTION XIV. Traditions Council

(a) STATUTORY ESTABLISHMENT. There is established an executive branch committee known as "Traditions Council."

(b) Mission Statement

(1) Traditions Council shall be exist to preserve and promote the traditions of Texas A&M University through education and awareness.

(c) Primary Charge

(1) A primary charge of the Traditions Council shall be to research Texas A&M university's traditions, educate students and the general public on the same, and promote the same through organizing and operating all programs necessary to perpetuate Texas A&M University's traditions.

(2) TRADITIONS SUMMARIES. The Traditions Council shall provide for summaries of all Texas A&M University traditions deemed pertinent by the committee chair for Traditions Council in its bylaws. These summaries shall, at minimum, describe the history of the tradition, its practices, and its significance historically and currently.

(i) The Traditions Council shall, at minimum, provide summaries for the following traditions:

(I) Silver Taps;
(II) Aggie Bonfire;
(III) Midnight Yell
(IV) 12th Man
(V) Parent's Weekend; and,
(VI) Muster.

(d) Specific Programs or Services Called For

(1) SILVER TAPS. The Traditions Council shall organize and operate the Silver Taps ceremony on the Texas A&M University campus.

(2) BONFIRE REMEMBRANCE WEEK. The Traditions Council shall perpetuate the respectful memory of Aggie Bonfire through programs, activities, or service projects during bonfire remembrance week in November of each calendar year.

(3) AGGIE RING SCHOLARSHIPS. The Traditions Council will annually distribute scholarships to students in order to receive their Aggie Rings according to the processes outlined in their bylaws.

(4) SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS. The Traditions Council will promote awareness of traditions through speaking engagements to other organizations and clubs.

ARTICLE V. EXECUTIVE BRANCH COMMISSIONS

SECTION I. The Development Commission

(a) STATUTORY ESTABLISHMENT. There is established an executive branch commission known as the "Development Commission."

(b) Mission Statement

(1) The Development Commission exists to facilitate the fundraising activities of the Student Government Association, and its constituent entities, for the purpose of ensuring the ultimate financial independence of the Student Government Association from reliance on student fees.

(c) Primary Charge

(1) A primary charge of the Development Commission shall be to raise funds to support the activities of the Student Government Association in accordance with the SGA Endowment Regulations (Title V Chapter 502).

SECTION II. The Diversity Commission

(a) STATUTORY ESTABLISHMENT. There is established an executive branch commission known as the "Diversity Commission."

(b) Mission Statement

(1) The Diversity Commission exists to creatively address the issues surrounding diversity by rebuilding the norm. The Diversity Commission shall facilitate communication, generate awareness, and emphasize the importance of these issues throughout the entire Texas A&M University campus. Through the ideals of the Aggie Family, Code of Honor, and the Core Values the commission shall strive to provide a cohesive and welcoming environment for campus interaction among the variety of students at Texas A&M University.

(2) The Diversity Commission shall also faithfully execute any diversity policy or initiative called for by the statutes or the Student Body President.

(c) Primary Charge

(1) A primary charge of the Diversity Commission shall be to organize and operate programs to educate the students of Texas A&M University about diversity and to facilitate discussion on the same.

SECTION III. The Election Commission

(a) STATUTORY ESTABLISHMENT. There is established an executive branch commission known as the "Election Commission."

(b) Mission Statement

(1) The Election Commission exists to organize and oversee all Student Government Association elections in a manner consistent with the Aggie Code of Honor.

(c) Primary Charge

(1) A primary charge of the Election Commission shall be to organize and oversee all Student Government Association elections

in accordance with the Election Regulations Act (Title V Chapter 601).

SECTION IV. The Sunset Commission

REPEALED BY S.B. 70-30

SECTION V. The Legislative Relations Commission

(a) The Legislative Relations Commission, as previously established by the Student Body President, is officially dissolved effective at the beginning of the 65th Session of the Student Senate. The Student Body President is encouraged to continue to provide for an Executive Cabinet member in charge of legislative relations to replace this executive branch Commission.

ARTICLE VI. OTHER EXECUTIVE OFFICES

SECTION I. This Article is reserved for statutory provisions governing other executive offices. All executive offices not provided for within the statutes at the beginning of the 65th Session of the Student Senate shall be deemed dissolved.

SECTION II. Students serving on Texas A&M University and System Committees are not considered other executive offices under the statutes.

CHAPTER 106 – Fish Aides Admissions Act

Created by S.B. 68-82

ARTICLE I. LEGISLATIVE INTENT

SECTION I. The 68th Student Senate recognizes the need for improved understanding and the enforcement of the selections processes of the committees within the executive branch.

ARTICLE II. DEFINITIONS

SECTION I. Fish Aides shall refer to the Texas A&M Student Government Association's freshman program

ARTICLE III. ADMISSIONS GUIDELINES

SECTION I. Fish Aides shall be made up of a total of forty (40) freshman.

SECTION II. Fish Aides shall grant interviews to applicants based on the following criteria.

(a) Professionalism of resume and ability to follow application instructions
(b) Prior leadership and extracurricular experience
(c) Willingness and intent to serve the student body

SECTION III. Fish Aides members shall be granted interviews at the discretion of the Fish Aides Executive Staff. Once all applicants are interviewed, the Director of Fish Aides shall select the forty (40) applicants

(a) Once members are selected, they shall assume membership within Fish Aides are to attend a preferencing informational to learn about the committee, commission or branch they can serve under
    (1) A director or officer, or their proxy, from each committee, commission or branch which receives a freshman aide shall be invited to the informational
(b) A dual system will then be issued to the freshmen to select the preference the committee, commission or branch they wish to serve, and to the directors or officers receiving an aide to preference the aide(s) they wish to receive. Based off the results to the preferencing system, the freshmen will be appointed to a committee, commission or branch.
    (1) The directors will be informed of the freshman chosen to serve their committee, commission or branch
(c) Fish Aides shall execute their normal duties of office hours, participate in development, and perform duties of the organization under the direction of the Fish Aides Executive Staff.

ARTICLE IV. AUTHORITY AND ENFORCEMENT

SECTION I. The primary responsibility for the enforcement of this Act shall fall to the Student Body President, Speaker Pro-Tempore of the Student Senate and the Chief Justice of the Judicial Court.

CHAPTER 107 – INTERMITTENT CONDUCT EVALUATION FOR SGA ENTITIES

CREATED BY S.B. 70-39

SECTION I. Legislative Intent of this Particular Article

(a) The Student Senate intends this Act to set forth guidelines for the evaluation of an executive branch committee at a time outside of the regularly scheduled committee evaluation process outlined in the executive branch bylaws.

SECTION II. Definitions

(a) For the purposes of this Article, the following words shall be ascribed the following meanings:

(1) "Committee" shall refer to an executive branch committee or commission that is a recognized student organization that operates within Student Government.

(2) "Evaluation Panel" shall refer to process in which a specified group of students required to evaluate an SGA committee every other year to ensure compliance and fit

(3) "Conduct process" shall refer to an external StuAct governed process that subjects all student organizations to compliance to student rules

(4) "Evaluation materials" shall refer to the materials requested in the committee evaluation process as outlined in the Executive branch bylaws.

SECTION III. The Committee Conduct Evaluation Policy and Proposal

(a) This article shall allow a panel to be called by the Student Body President to evaluate a committee at a time outside of their regular evaluation panel.

(b) This may be called at any time in the academic year in the case of an organization receiving a sanction due to conduct process or failure to uphold student rules; or any other issue deemed necessary for evaluation.

(c) The purpose of this article shall be to evaluate the committee as a whole, not a particular member.

(d) The panel shall proceed in the manner outlined in the executive bylaws; however, it must adhere to the following guidelines

(1) The panel must include an SGA advisor

(2) Evaluation materials shall include an explanation of the issue as well as the committees steps to address it

(e) Outcomes of the panel may include, but are not limited to:

(1) Decision on the status of the committee as either "approved," "under review", or "recommended for removal"

(2) Decision on sanctions of finances for the next allocation cycle

(f) The panel shall reconvene within a year if deemed necessary by the Student Body President.

SECTION IV. Execution of this Particular Article

(a) Execution of the provisions of this article shall fall on the Student Body President and the cabinet position in charge of the committees and commissions.

SUBTITLE 2 – THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

CHAPTER 201 – THE LIAISON ESTABLISHMENT ACT

Established April 4th, 2013
Established by S.B. 65-64

ARTICLE I. LEGISLATIVE INTENT

SECTION I. To establish a council of liaisons in order to facilitate communication between the Student Senate and students who are representative of the diverse population of Texas A&M University.

ARTICLE II. COUNCIL OF LIAISIONS

SECTION I. The Legislative Branch shall maintain a council of liaisons. This council shall accept members from various organizations. The chair of this body shall be appointed by the Student Body President and confirmed by the Student Senate according to the confirmation process in the Bylaws of the Student Senate. Its members shall have the ability to give their collective opinion on issues being considered by the Student Senate as well as those issues which they deem necessary. They shall be allowed to determine their own meeting times, rules, procedures, keep their own records and be allowed to amend the same at their leisure, not excluding the aforementioned section. The Student Senate shall not impede on any of the aforesaid rights including the establishment of or operations within the association.

SECTION II. The appointed chair of the body shall be responsible for prompting organizations to send liaisons.

CHAPTER 202 – The Tate A. Banks Aggie Core Values Exemplification Award Act

Established April 22, 2020
Established by S.B. 72-21

ARTICLE I. LEGISLATIVE INTENT

SECTION I. To establish a subcommittee to award members of the Texas A&M community for their exemplification of our core values.

ARTICLE II. OPERATIONS

SECTION I. The Texas A&M Student Government Association officially recognizes the months of September, October, and November and February, March and April, the months where the Student Senate is the most active, as Excellence, Integrity, Leadership, Loyalty, Selfless Service and Respect Months, respectively.

SECTION II. Within four (4) general assembly meetings of the start of each session of the Student Senate the Community Relations Committee Chair must create a Core Values subcommittee within the Community Relations Committee.

SECTION III. The Core Values Subcommittee will take nominations, each month from the student body, of current or former Aggies who have exhibited that month's Core Value in their public & personal lives, and will select from among those nominees at least one to officially honor as recipients of the Tate A. Banks Core Values Exemplification Award upon a majority confirmation in the Senate and the approval of the nominee or next of kin, when possible.

SECTION IV. The Student Body President and SGA Vice President of Communication, in conjunction with the subcommittee, find an appropriate way to promote each month's Core Value and associated honorees.

CHAPTERS 201-299 RESERVED FOR EXPANSION

SUBTITLE 3 – THE JUDICIAL BRANCH

Revised October 5, 2011

CHAPTER 301 – THE JUDICIAL COURT

Created by S.B. 64-45
Revised February 20, 2012

ARTICLE I. GENERAL RULE MAKING AUTHORITY

SECTION I. The Justices of the Judicial Court are hereby authorized to enact any rule or procedure necessary for carrying into execution any duty or power vested in the Judicial Branch under the statutes or the constitution, including any rule or procedure necessary for conducting the affairs of the Judicial Branch.

(a) This general rule making authority shall be construed broadly by the Judicial Court.

(b) All such rules and procedures, however, shall not conflict with the constitution or with any statute enacted by the Student Senate.

(c) All such rules and procedures shall also be enacted by the Justices of the Judicial Court through a signed judicial order clearly indicating that two-thirds (2/3) of the Justices of the Judicial Court adopted and signed the rule or procedure at an announced meeting.

(1) The initials of the Chief Justice shall be present on each page of the order which do not bear the justice's signatures. The date of the judicial order shall also be present on the page that contains the justice's signatures.

(2) Judicial orders shall be numbered according to the session of the Student Senate during which they are signed and shall bear an increasing numerical designation restarting at the beginning of each session of the Student Senate (e.g., J.O. 64-01, J.O. 64-02, J.O. 64-03, etc…).

SECTION II. CROSS REFERENCE. All judicial orders shall be provided to the Archives of the Student Senate pursuant to the provisions of the SGA Records Act (Title V Chapter 801).

ARTICLE II. ASSIGNABILITY OF POWERS AND DELEGATION OF DUTIES

SECTION I. Unless expressly denied by the particular statute enacted by the Student Senate, any additional duty or power vested in the Chief Justice by a particular statute enacted by the Student Senate shall be freely assignable and delegable by the Chief Justice to any Justice of the Judicial Court.

CHAPTER 302 – THE JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL COMMISSION

Created by S.B. 64-45

Revised February 20, 2012

ARTICLE I. THE JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL COMMISSION

SECTION I. The Judge Advocate General Commission exists to advise and assist plaintiffs and defendants before the Judicial Court, and the Justices of the Judicial Court as requested

SECTION II. Mission Statement.

(a) The Judge Advocate General Commission exists to advise and assist plaintiffs and defendants before the Judicial Court, and the Justices of the Judicial Court as requested.

SECTION III. Membership.

(a) The Judge Advocate General Commission shall be composed of as many Judge Advocate Generals from among the student body as deemed necessary by the Chief Justice. No Judge Advocate General, however, may be a Student Senator, Justice of the Judicial Court, member of the Executive Cabinet, or the Student Body President.

(b) All Judge Advocate Generals shall be appointed by the Chief Justice. The term for all Judge Advocate Generals shall be for as long as the corresponding session of the Student Senate.

(c) The Chief Justice shall appoint one Judge Advocate General to serve as Chief Judge Advocate General. The Chief Judge Advocate General shall oversee the operations of the Judge Advocate General Commission.

(d) Any Judge Advocate General may be removed by the Chief Justice for cause, provided however, that should any Judge Advocate General be actively representing a party before the Judicial Court, that Judge Advocate General may only be removed by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Justices of the Judicial Court present and voting at an announced hearing.

(1) Any Judge Advocate General removed by the Judicial Court may continue to advise and assist any party before the Judicial Court at the discretion of the party, provided that the former Judge Advocate General comply with all other rules and procedures in the Judicial Branch Bylaws governing the conduct of counsel.

SECTION IV. Duties and Powers.

(a) The members of the Judge Advocate General Commission shall provide appropriate counsel to any plaintiff or defendant before the Judicial Court that they are appointed to represent by the Chief Justice. Such appointment may only occur if requested by a party before the Judicial Court. Any party who requests assistance from a member of the Judge Advocate General Commission may terminate that assistance at any time and for any reason.

(b) The members of the Judge Advocate General Commission shall have further duties and powers as provided for in the Judicial Branch Bylaws or the statutes.

CHAPTER 303 – RULES OF PROCEDURE

Created by S.B. 64-45
Revised February 20, 2012

ARTICLE I. RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR CASES

SECTION I. The Justices of the Judicial Court shall establish standing rules of procedure in the Judicial Branch Bylaws for all cases heard by the Judicial Court.

SECTION II. Such Rules of Procedure shall be clearly delineated in the Judicial Branch Bylaws and shall, at minimum, cover the following subject matters:

(a) The initiation of a complaint with the Judicial Court.

(b) The method for providing notice to the plaintiff and the defendant of the complaint.

(c) The process for conducting pre-trial discovery, if deemed feasible by the Justices of the Judicial Court.

(d) The process for conducting any pre-trial hearings or motions to dismiss a case.

(e) The process for conducting the trial in accordance with the protections of the constitution provided to students.

(f) The process for conducting any post-trial hearings or motions for rehearings.

SECTION III. Nothing in this Article shall be construed as to regulate the deliberations of the Judicial Court.

CHAPTER 304 – RULES OF EVIDENCE

Created by S.B. 64-45

Revised February 20, 2012

ARTICLE I. RULES OF EVIDENCE FOR CASES

SECTION I. The Justices of the Judicial Court shall establish standing Rules of Evidence in the Judicial Branch Bylaws for all cases heard by the Judicial Court.

SECTION II. Such Rules of Evidence shall be clearly delineated in the Judicial Branch Bylaws and shall, at minimum, cover the following subject matters:

(a) The admissibility of evidence in a case before the Judicial Court, including definitions and rules covering the authentication, relevancy, and competency of the same.

(b) The exclusion of evidence acquired illegally or in violation of the Aggie Honor Code, to be determined at the discretion of the Justices of the Judicial Court.

(c) The presentation of evidence during the course of a trial or other hearing.

SECTION III. Nothing in this Article shall be construed as to regulate the deliberations of the Judicial Court.

CHAPTER 305 – WRITS AND ORDERS

Created by S.B. 64-45
Revised February 20, 2012

ARTICLE I. WRITS

SECTION I. TEMPORARY WRIT OF INJUNCTION. The Judicial Court may issue a writ of injunction to forbid those named in the writ, or their agents, from doing, threatening, or attempting to continue an act which is in violation of: any rule or procedure under the constitution or under the statutes; any statute; or the constitution.

(a) A writ of injunction may only be issued after a related case is filed with the Judicial Court, and only after an announced hearing.

(b) The writ may be requested by a moving party or by the Judicial Court on its own motion. The non-movant, however, shall be notified at least twenty-four (24) hours in advance of any hearing considering a writ of injunction.

(c) A writ of injunction may only be issued if the Justices of the Judicial Court find that the movant, or the party who will benefit from the injunction, is reasonably likely to succeed on the merits of the case. Further, a writ of injunction may only be issued if the movant, or the party who will benefit from the injunction, has no other redress to avoid immediate harm.

(d) A writ of injunction may only issue for a period not to exceed thirty (30) days.

SECTION II. WRIT OF MANDAMUS. The Judicial Court may issue a writ of mandamus to command any member of the Student Government Association to comply with any order of the Judicial Court; any rule or procedure under the constitution or under the statutes; any statute; or the constitution.

(a) A writ of mandamus may only be issued after a related case is filed with the Judicial Court, and only after an announced hearing.

(b) The writ may be requested by a moving party or by the Judicial Court on its own motion. The non-movant, however, shall be notified at least three (3) days in advance of any hearing considering a writ of mandamus.

(c) Any member of the Student Government Association who is found to have not complied with a writ of mandamus may be fined by the Judicial Court or may be removed from his office after receiving at least two (2) separate fines for the same offense. The fine shall not exceed ten dollars ($10.00) for non-compliance with any single writ of mandamus. Further no member of the Student Government Association may be fined any more than twenty dollars ($20.00) during any session of the Student Senate for failure to comply with any writ(s) of mandamus. All fines under this Section shall be remitted to the Student Senate for later appropriation.

(1) No fine or removal may be considered or ordered by the Judicial Court except upon three (3) days notice and a hearing.
(2) No Student Senator, Justice of the Judicial Court, member of the Executive Cabinet, or the Student Body President may be removed by the Judicial Court for failing to comply with a writ of mandamus. However, the Judicial Court may fine any such individual or refer the individual to the Student Senate for impeachment or for removal by the Student Body President, whichever is applicable.
(3) No student shall be eligible to file to run for any office whose election is conducted by the Election Commission under the statutes who has failed to pay a fine incurred for failure to abide by a writ of mandamus.

SECTION III. All writs shall issue only by a majority vote of the Justices of the Judicial Court hearing the motion for a writ to be issued, and only through a signed judicial order.

ARTICLE II. ORDERS

SECTION I. EXECUTION OF JUDICIAL ORDERS. All judicial orders shall be executed and enforced in good faith by the Student Body President.

CHAPTERS 306-399 RESERVED FOR EXPANSION

SUBTITLE 4 – THE GOVERNANCE COUNCIL

Revised August 7, 2016

CHAPTER 402 – THE GOVERNANCE COUNCIL

Repealed by S.B. 72-20

CHAPTER 403 – THE SUNSET COMMISSION ACT

REPEALED BY S.B.70-30

CHAPTERS 404-499 RESERVED FOR EXPANSION

SUBTITLE 5 – FINANCES

Revised November 30th, 2011

CHAPTER 501 – THE SGA ALLOCATION REGULATIONS ACT

Created by S.B. 09(S)29, Amended by S.B. 64-13
Revised October 5th, 2011

ARTICLE I. LEGISLATIVE INTENT AND PURPOSE

SECTION I. The Senate intends this act to set forward regulations for the proper use of Student Services fees as appropriated by the Student Senate and to provide for a continuous, fair, ethical, and accountable process for the presentation of budgets, use of appropriated funds, reporting of SGA finances, and encumbrance of un-spent appropriated funds.

ARTICLE II. DEFINITIONS

SECTION II. Unless otherwise provided for in the context of this Act, the following words and phrases shall be ascribed the following meanings:

(a) "Vice President for Finance" shall be the individual appointed by the Student Body President and confirmed by the Senate for the purpose of preparing the Student Government Association Budget and performing other finance or treasurer related duties to that end, or the Student Body President should the Vice President for Finance not be confirmed, is incapacitated, or has not been appointed. The cabinet position in charge of finance may be called something other than the Vice President for Finance.

(b) "Student Government Association Budget" shall be the budget submitted by the Vice President for Finance, subsequently appropriated by the Finance Committee of the Student Senate, approved by the Student Senate, and signed by the Student Body President for the current fiscal year.

(c) "Entity Budget" shall include all budgets for any branch of government, commission, SGA committee, or any other entity receiving funds appropriated by the Student Senate.

(d) "Financial Officer" shall be the officer of any entity receiving appropriated funds by the Student Senate in charge of preparing that entity's budget, submitting that budget to the Vice President for Finance, attending Finance Committee hearings, and overseeing spending of appropriated funds.

(e) "SGA Advisor" shall be the individual serving as the primary SGA advisor or in a similar role to the Student Body President as established by Texas A&M Administration.

(f) "Business Coordinator" shall be the individual serving as the primary SGA accountant and staff member assigned to oversee spending for university and legal compliance by all entities appropriated funds as

established by Texas A&M Administration.

(g) "Finance Chair or Committee" shall be the chairman of or the committee as a whole that is selected and confirmed according to the Student Senate bylaws for the purposes of preparing the Student Senate appropriation of the Student Government Association Budget and all other subsequent appropriations in accordance with the constitution.

ARTICLE III. COMPOSITION OF BUDGETS

SECTION I. The Vice President for Finance shall prepare a budgetary template for all entities requesting appropriated funds in the Student Government Association Budget which shall be forwarded to all financial officers and members of the Finance Committee of the Student Senate prior to the notification of all Student Government association entities regarding the submission of preliminary requests.no later than the fifth (5th) class day of the Fall Semester Spring Semester.

(a) This budgetary template may be modified by the Vice President for Finance to accommodate unique entity needs or extenuating circumstances, subject to approval by the Finance Committee, or by the Finance Committee alone.

(1) Such a modification must include, at minimum, categories that shall be utilized in the enforcement of budgets in Article V.

(b) The budgetary template shall be limited to the following categories unless provided for under Subsection (a).

(1) Operations

(i) Operations shall include such line items as may be deemed necessary for the general day-to-day operations of an entity.

(2) Programming

(i) Programming shall include such line items as may be deemed necessary for the preparation, implementation, or review of any program, event, or service conducted by an entity not directly related to operations.

(3) Miscellaneous

(i) Miscellaneous shall include such line items as may not be directly related to any other category listed.

(c) Budgetary template categories shall be defined broadly for the purposes of this act.

(d) Line items shall be created by the Vice President for Finance under the general categories to designate the use of funds for a specific purpose or program by the entity.

(1) Line items may be added, amended, or eliminated subsequently at the discretion of the Finance Committee in preparing the Student Government Association Budget.

(e) All budgets shall clearly designate by line item the amount of appropriated funds for that entity in the Student Government Association Budget.

SECTION II. All entities requesting appropriated funds in the Student Government Association Budget shall forward such preliminary requests in writing or through an application created by the Vice President for Finance no earlier than the second meeting of the new Senate and no later than 5:00 PM Friday following the first week of classes of the Fall Semester end of final examinations of the Spring semester.

(a) Notice shall be provided to all entities within the Student Government Association regarding the submission of preliminary requests or applications for at least twenty 28 days prior to the first day of class of the fall semester.

(b) The Vice President for Finance shall subsequently sit through the Finance Allocation Presentations with the Finance Committee to discuss such requests with the financial officers and recommend changes to the entity's budget.

(c) Committees may subsequently request additional appropriated funds throughout the year from the Finance Committee according to the rules and procedures of that committee.

ARTICLE IV. SUBMISSION OF THE PRELIMINARY BUDGET REQUESTS

SECTION I. The Vice President for Finance shall forward to the Finance Chair, the preliminary Student Government Association budget requests for the upcoming fiscal year no later than two (2) class days following the first Senate meeting of the fall semester.

(a) The preliminary budget requests shall include all categories and line items recommended for consideration for appropriation by the Student Senate as called for by the constitution.

(b) The resulting preliminary budget, after senate consideration, shall not exceed the amount allocated to the Student Senate for the purposes of establishing the Student Government Association Budget for the next fiscal year as can be reasonably established.

ARTICLE V. ENFORCEMENT OF APPROPRIATED FUNDS

SECTION I. Spending and maintenance of the Student Government Association Budget as appropriated by the Student Senate and signed by the Student Body President shall be enforced by the Vice President for Finance, whom alone shall interpret the provisions of this Article.

SECTION II. Unless otherwise authorized in an appropriations bill of the Student Senate or other Student Senate enactment, entities are forbidden from using funds for such purposes:

(a) That are in violation of the Student Government Association constitution, the Statutes of the Senate, or made after any enaction of the Student Senate as may from time to time be enacted.

(b) That are convicted of violating university rules, local, State, or Federal law.

(c) That intentionally and recklessly seeks to undermine the written and certified intent of the Student Senate in appropriating such funds.

(d) That are used to support candidates for Student Body Elections or to support positions on referendums or petitions provided for in the

constitution.

SECTION III. All line item appropriations shall be used solely for purposes reasonably directly related to that line item.

(a) Line item appropriations may be transferred to other line items within the same category at the discretion of the financial officer with written notice given to the Vice President for Finance within two (2) class days.

(b) A copy of such transfers shall be forwarded to the Finance Chair by the Vice President for Finance within two (2) class days.

(c) No appropriated funds may be transferred from a budgetary category to another budgetary category unless authorized.

(1) The Vice President for Finance shall have authorization authority should the amount of cumulative transfers under (c) be less than or equal to twenty five (25) percent of the entity's original total appropriation.

(2) The Finance Committee shall have authorization authority should the amount of cumulative transfers under (c) be more than twenty five (25) percent or less than or equal to (50) percent of the entity's original total appropriation.

(3) The Student Senate shall have authorization authority should the amount of cumulative transfers under (c) be more than fifty (50) percent of the entity's original total appropriation.

SECTION IV. The Vice President for Finance shall have authorization to penalize entities for violations of the provisions of this act, including but not limited to use of funds in violation of Section 11, intentional misrepresentation of expense reports or receipts, failure to reasonably comply with requests for relevant and appropriate information by the Vice President for Finance within five (5) class days, failure to reasonably comply with requests for relevant and appropriate information by the Finance Committee within five (5) class days, or transfer of funds in violation of Section 111..

(a) Penalties shall be limited to verbal warning, citation attached to the committee's budgetary request for the next fiscal year, or take possession of all non-expensed appropriated funds for gross misconduct.

SECTION V. The Judicial Court shall hear any appeals to any action by the Vice President for Finance against any entity receiving appropriated funds and shall have final ruling on such matters.

(a) All appeals must be filed within ten (10) class days of the purported action or the reasonable discovery of the action by the financial officer of an entity.

ARTICLE VI. FISCAL ACCOUNTABILITY

SECTION I. The financial officers shall forward to the Vice President for Finance, a monthly report including all expenditures from line items appropriated in the Student Government Association Budget within ten (10) class days of the end of a month.

(a) A copy of these reports shall be forwarded to the Finance Committee within five (5) class days of their submission to the Vice President for Finance.

SECTION II. The Vice President for Finance shall have audit authority over such reports to reasonably determine their accuracy and authenticity in conjunction with the business coordinator.

SECTION III. The Vice President for Finance shall submit a fiscal report summarizing the balances and activity of all appropriated entities, including the overall balance of appropriated funds, to the Finance Committee at the end of each semester. During the third (3rd) and twelfth (12th) week of every fall and spring academic semester.

ARTICLE VII. POSSESSION OF NON-EXPENSED FUNDS

SECTION I. All appropriated funds not expensed by entities at the conclusion of the fiscal year shall be taken possession of by the SGA reserve account and the Finance Committee of the Student Senate loses authority over such money.

(a) Financial officers shall have until July 31st, or the deadline set by Student Government Association financial advisor, each year to spend the entirety of their budget.

SECTION II. All funds taken possession of by the Vice President for Finance for violations of the provisions of this Act shall be transferred to the Student Senate for the purpose of future appropriations within fifteen (15) class days or at the conclusion of a pending appeal to the Judicial Court as decided by the court and forwarded to the Vice President for Finance by the Chief Justice.

ARTICLE VIII. OVERSIGHT

SECTION I. The Finance Committee of the Student Senate shall have oversight to review the use of appropriated funds, enforcement by the Executive Branch, proper fiscal accountability, and other issues related to the execution of this act including the review of all budgets and receipts, fiscal reports, and testimony of the Vice President for Finance or financial officers.

ARTICLE IX. ENACTION

SECTION I. All provisions of this act shall take effect according to the following schedule:

(a) Article III shall take immediate effect, except that such time constraints listed in Section I and Section II Subsection (a) shall be waived until November 1st, 2009, upon which time they shall subsequently be effective.

(b) Articles V, VI, and VIII shall take effect November 1st, 2009.
(c) Articles I, II, and IV, VII, and IX shall take immediate effect.

CHAPTER 502 – THE SGA ENDOWMENT REGULATIONS ACT

Created by S.B. 64-54
Revised November 30th, 2011

ARTICLE I. LEGISLATIVE INTENT AND PURPOSE

SECTION I. The Student Senate intends this Act to set forward regulations for the raising of money from external sources by the Development Commission on behalf of the Student Government Association for the purpose of eliminating the dependence of the Student Government Association on student fees.

ARTICLE II. DEFINITIONS

SECTION I. Unless otherwise provided for within the context of this Act, the following words and phrases shall be ascribed the following meanings for the purpose of this Act:

(a) "Development Commissioner" shall be defined as the individual appointed by the Student Body President and confirmed by the Student Senate for the purpose of overseeing the Development Commission of the executive branch, or such a similar entity as exists to oversee the raising of money from external sources for the Student Government Association, or the Student Body President, should the Development Commissioner not be confirmed, is incapacitated, or has not been appointed.

(b) "Development Commission" shall be defined as the Development Commission of the executive branch as established by the Student Body President or the Student Senate by statute.

(c) "External Sources" shall be defined as any source of financial contributions to the Student Government Association, excluding student fees and tuition at Texas A&M University.

(d) "Entities of the Student Government Association" shall be defined as any committee, commission, office, or branch of the Student Government Association.

(e) "Student Senate Finance Committee" shall be defined as the standing committee of the Student Senate tasked with overseeing donations to the Student Government Association or the SGA Endowment.

ARTICLE III. THE SGA ENDOWMENT

SECTION I. There is established a monetary endowment for the Student Government Association known as the "SGA Endowment," which shall be housed under the Texas A&M Foundation, or a related entity, for the purpose of facilitating monetary donations to the Student Government Association.

SECTION II. The SGA Endowment shall be overseen by the Development Commission, which shall work diligently to facilitate monetary donations to the endowment through communications and events with current and former students, faculty, staff, and administrators at Texas A&M University, corporations, and other individuals.

(a) The goal of the SGA Endowment shall be, at minimum, to raise $1,000,000 to support the Student Government Association's operations with the annual interest earned from the principal balance.

(b) The annual interest earned on the SGA Endowment shall be at the discretion of the Student Senate to appropriate to the various entities of the Student Government Association once the principal balance reaches $1,000,000. All annual interest accrued on the principal balance before the principal balance reaches $1,000,000 shall be re-invested into the principal balance of the SGA Endowment.

SECTION III. The SGA Endowment shall be supported by the following enumerated programs, and such other programs that the Development Commissioner deems appropriate:

(a) The Path to Success Brick Campaign

(1) This Subsection (a) shall automatically expire on January 1st, 2020.

(2) There is established a program under the Development Commission which shall be known as the "Path to Success Brick Campaign."

(3) The Development Commissioner shall work diligently to facilitate the placement of bricks outside of the John J. Koldus Building at Texas A&M University for purchase by individuals, who may then inscribe their names or phrases on the surface of the brick.

(4) The Development Commissioner and the Development Commission shall advertise the brick campaign to current students, former students, and other individuals as deemed appropriate by the Development Commissioner. At minimum, however, the Development Commissioner and the Development Commission shall contact all graduating students at least two (2) weeks prior to their graduation from Texas A&M University in August, December, or May, whichever is applicable, informing them of the opportunity to purchase bricks through the Path to Success Brick Campaign to support the Student Government Association and its committees.

(5) The Development Commissioner is authorized to incur such expenses as are necessary and proper to purchase, inscribe, and install bricks for the Path to Success Brick Campaign from the current balance of the SGA Endowment.

(6) The Development Commission is authorized to establish such rules and procedures in the Development Commission Bylaws as are necessary to operate the Path to Success Brick Campaign, including the establishment of prices, design, and installation of bricks.

ARTICLE IV. FACILITATING DONATIONS TO SGA ENTITIES

SECTION I. The Development Commission shall advise and assist the various entities of the Student Government Association with their fundraising efforts, for both monetary as well as non-monetary contributions, as deemed reasonable by the Development Commissioner and as requested by the chief student leader or financial officer of the entity.

(a) The Development Commissioner shall, at minimum, inform the various entities of the Student Government Association that the Development Commission is available to assist the entities with their fundraising efforts.

(b) The Development Commissioner shall also ensure that at least one member of the Development Commission is primarily tasked with advising and assisting the entities of the Student Government Association with their fundraising efforts.

ARTICLE V. FISCAL ACCOUNTABILITY

SECTION I. Semesterly Reporting

(a) The Development Commissioner shall report to the Student Senate Finance Committee at least once during the months of November and April on the following information:

(1) The current principal balance of the SGA Endowment;

(2) The interest earned to date, and during the last year, on the SGA Endowment;

(3) All expenses incurred on the principal balance or interest of the SGA Endowment;

(4) The current purchase price of bricks for the Path to Success Brick Campaign;

(5) The number of bricks purchased during the last year by individuals for the Path to Success Brick Campaign; and,

(6) A report summarizing the fundraising efforts of the Development Commission on behalf of the Student Government Association and its various entities.

(b) The Development Commissioner shall submit them self to questions from the Student Senate Finance Committee on the contents of their report.

(c) The Development Commissioner shall also publish the contents of their semesterly report online on the Development Commission website within seven (7) days of their report to the Student Senate Finance Committee.

ARTICLE VI. OVERSIGHT

SECTION I. The Development Commissioner shall annually review the contents of this Act, and shall recommend changes, if necessary, to the Student Senate Finance Committee.

CHAPTER 503-599 RESERVED FOR EXPANSION

SUBTITLE 6 – ELECTIONS, REFERENDUMS, PETITIONS, AND VOTING

CHAPTER 601 – THE ELECTION REGULATIONS

Amended by S.B. 09(S)30, S.B. 09(F)18, S.B. 63-53, S.B. 64-13, S.B. 64-63, S.B. 65-04

ARTICLE I. ELECTION COMMISSION

SECTION I. Candidates for any election shall be responsible for these regulations provided herein. Ignorance of these regulations shall not be an acceptable defense in response to any offense in any election.

SECTION II. These regulations are subject to interpretation only by the Election Commissioner and are subject to review only by the Student Government Judicial Court. Additionally, any liberties of interpretation given specifically to the Election Commissioner are subject to review by the Student Government Judicial Court.

SECTION III. Candidates and their staff members may contact the Election Commissioner for the purpose of consultation pertaining to the election.

SECTION IV. The only entity that may grant reprieve due to extenuating circumstances from any penalties incurred due to a violation of the rules and regulations outlined in Title V, Chapter 601 is the SGA Judicial Court.

ARTICLE II. JURISDICTION

SECTION I. Organizational Eligibility

(a) The Yell Leader election shall be eligible for elections so long as their governing documents include:

(1) Measures to be bound by the final result of the election and Judicial Court appeals process and measures to accept plurality voting for determination of yell leader election winner.

(b) Any recognized student organization wishing to have any or all of its elections conducted by the Election Commission must obtain majority approval of the Student Senate no later than fifteen (15) calendar days before the first day of filing for that election unless the Election Commission conducted elections for that organization in the prior calendar year.

(c) All organizations having elections conducted by the Election Commission must provide reasonable financial and/or other support for the elections as deemed necessary by the Election Commissioner.

(d) All organizations having elections conducted by the Election Commission must file a current copy of their constitution and bylaws with the Department of Student Activities no later than fifteen (15) calendar days prior to the first day of filing, if not presently filed. The constitution and bylaws on file with the Department of Student Activities at that time shall be considered the official copy for election purposes. Changes made to organizational constitutions and bylaws after this time shall not be

applied to the current election but will apply to subsequent elections. The Election Commission shall not be responsible for the enforcement of the governing documents of organizations that fall outside the jurisdiction of the Student Government Association. In the event of any conflict between these regulations and the governing documents of an organization outside of SGA, these regulations shall take precedence.

(e) Any organization wishing to withdraw its elections from the jurisdiction of the Election Commission must submit a written request to the Election Commission stating its intent no later than fifteen (15) calendar days prior to the first day of filing. Requests to withdraw need not be approved by the Student Senate.

SECTION II. Referenda

(a) Entities, including commissions, organizations, and branches, that are a part of the Texas A&M University Student Government Association or are employees of Texas A&M University or the Texas A&M System may not involve themselves in Student Government Referenda. "Involvement" includes but is not limited to campaigning, education, activism, monetary spending and internet use in support or against the referendum question. Individuals acting on their own merit or name recognition would never be subject to this restriction; however, they should not associate themselves with SGA entities or the university in any way while undertaking these activities. The chairmen of these entities and their superiors will be held responsible for violations of this rule. If an SGA entity does become actively involved in an SGA referendum, this involvement shall be considered grounds for a challenge to the results of the referendum in Judicial Court.

ARTICLE III. FILING

SECTION I. Candidate Eligibility

(a) General Qualifications for Office

(1) All candidates must meet the qualifications for their respective offices as set forth in the Texas A&M University Student Rules and their respective organization's governing documents.

(2) Undergraduate Students may be classified as freshmen, sophomores, juniors, or seniors according to the starting date of their undergraduate studies or, if the candidate requests, according to the number of course hours they have completed if that places them ahead of their class year. Graduate Students are considered to be in their own classification.

SECTION II. Filing Process

(a) Commission Mandates

(1) The Election Commission shall make available to each candidate:

(i) The Election Regulations

(ii) Dates, times, and locations for Mandatory Candidates' Meeting that will be available online at

tamuelection.com

(iii) Finance Forms:

(I) Expense Report

(II) Fair Market Value Assessment Form

(III) Null Expenditure Statement

(iv) Co-candidacy forms

(I) Any group of candidates for any office may file as co-candidates.

(b) Candidate Mandates

(1) By filing, the candidate agrees to abide by these Election Regulations.

(2) All candidates for positions elected under the supervision of the Election Commission shall file their intention to run for office with the Election Commission. Filing shall be done online through the Marketplace system found through tamuelection.com by each candidate, or in person at the discretion of the Election Commissioner, and in accordance with the guidelines set forth within these regulations.

(i) Requests to file in person must be sent via email to the Election Commissioner no later than 11:59 p.m. on the second day of filing for all races. Such requests will be approved or denied and arrangements shall be communicated to the candidate within one (1) calendar day of the request.

(3) A candidate must submit the following at the time of filing:

(i) A Declaration of Candidacy form containing at least the candidate's current address, phone number, email address, and the candidate's name as it shall appear on the ballot.

(ii) A signed grade release statement enabling the Department of Student Activities to check academic, classification, and conduct qualifications of candidates.

(iii) The appropriate filing fee for the position they are seeking

(I) Candidates in major races shall be assessed a $20 filing fee

(II) All other candidates shall be assessed a $10 filing fee

(iv) Any other reasonable information required by the Election Commissioner.

(4) Filing shall only be considered complete upon the candidate receiving a confirmation email via the Marketplace System

(5) Students may not file for candidacy for more than one office in the same organization or association.

(6) Candidates shall not change the caucus or race for which they have filed after the filing deadline.

(7) Any candidate who files for election and fails to comply with all filing requirements shall not be qualified for election to any office.

(8) Any Student Senator removed from office because of

excessive absences or impeachment shall not be allowed to file for any Student Government office for the session of the Student Senate in which they were removed, or for the session following that session.

SECTION III. General Filing Information

(a) For the spring general elections, filing for office shall begin on the first Monday of February at 10:00 a.m. and shall conclude on the Friday that is 11 days in advance at 3:00 pm. Filing may not be re-opened for any reason.

(b) For the fall general elections, filing for office shall begin no later than five (5) class days prior to the first day of the established campaign period.

(1) The Speaker Pro Tempore of the Student Senate must, in accordance with the Student Senate By-Laws, inform the Election Commissioner of all Student Senate caucuses that have at least one (1) vacancy no later than 11:59 p.m. on the day before the first day of filing for fall elections. The Election Commission shall only hold elections in these caucuses.

SECTION IV. Write-In Candidates

(a) To be considered for a write-in seat, a candidate must receive at least 5 votes for that position. If elected, write-in candidates shall be accepted provided they meet the requirements for the office to which they have been elected. Upon election, write-in candidates must be certified as eligible by the Student Government Advisor and submit the following within seventy-two (72) hours or be subject to disqualification:

(1) The same finance report or null expenditure report as is submitted by candidates on the ballot

(2) The filing fee for the position to which they were elected

(3) Fines payable shall be enforced in the same manner as those assessed against balloted candidates.

SECTION V. Positions

(a) Major and Minor Races

(1) "Major Races" shall be defined as races in which every student may vote, regardless of class, residency, college, or any other demographic information. These include:

(i) Student Body President

(ii) Yell Leader

(2) A Minor Race is any race not classified as a Major Race.

(i) RHA position(s) are to only be voted on by those students who live on campus.

(b) Student Government Association

(1) Student Body President

(i) At the time of filing the candidates for Student Body President must have a minimum overall G.P.R. of 2.0 and post at least a 2.0 for the preceding semester.

(ii) The Student Body President shall have been registered at and in good standing with Texas A&M

University for at least three (3) consecutive fall/spring semesters immediately preceding his/her election to office.

(2) Senate

(i) A candidate for a Senate seat must be a member of that constituency during the upcoming academic year. If a candidate is not in the caucus for which they seek office, but does anticipate entering that caucus, they may run for that position.

(I) Students who have applied for graduation at the end of the semester in which the election is taking place but intend to continue on to graduate school at Texas A&M must sign a statement saying that they have not been rejected by A&M, nor have they accepted any offers at any other schools or any job offers that would prevent them from serving in their position in the following semester. **Students are ineligible to run for office within the semester they are graduating, unless they are accepted to attend graduate school at Texas A&M.**

(ii) Students of freshman classification not on scholastic probation are eligible to run during the fall freshman elections. They must post a minimum G.P.R. of 2.0 at the end of the semester in which they are elected or they may face removal from office.

(iii) Newly elected Senators must have a minimum overall G.P.R. of 2.0, or a 3.0 if a Graduate Student, at the time of filing, and post at least a 2.0, or a 3.0 for Graduate Students, for the preceding regular semester or the two preceding summer sessions and during the term of office or they shall be automatically removed from office.

(3) Class Agent Teams

(i) See Association of Former Students for eligibility information.

(ii) Class Agent candidates must each file separately. After filing, a team needs to submit a co-candidacy form with each student's name. From that point forward, the team will be treated as one single candidate. This means that only one finance report must be submitted, only one candidate guide submission may be made, and any violations apply to the team as a whole rather than each individual student.

(4) Honors Student Council

(i) See HSC Governing Documents for eligibility information

(ii) Races for Honors Student Council shall not allow for write-in winners

(5) All Other Races

(i) See respective organization Governing Documents for eligibility information.

SECTION VI. Mandatory Candidates' Meeting

(a) For spring elections, the mandatory candidates' meeting shall be held the Sunday that is after the closing of filing. For fall elections, the mandatory candidates' meeting shall be held no more than one (1) week following the close of filing.

(b) At the mandatory candidates' meeting, the Election Commissioner shall explain the Election Regulations, answer any questions, and announce any notable interpretations of the Election Regulations.

(c) The Election Commissioner shall announce the days and times that finance reports and receipts are due, and the location(s) at which they must be deposited.

(d) Any candidate who is unable to attend the Mandatory Candidates' meeting must contact the Election Commission in writing at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the meeting to report a reason for his/her absence as well as name an agent to attend the meeting in the candidate's place. The agent must show written verification from the candidate, identifying the person as an agent.

(e) Failure for a candidate or their registered proxy to attend the Mandatory Candidate's Meeting in a timely manner shall result in disqualification.

(f) All candidates are responsible for all information covered at the Mandatory Candidates' Meeting without exception.

ARTICLE IV. CAMPAIGNING

SECTION I. Process

(a) A candidate may not campaign until the time and dates specified by the Election Commission and these regulations.

(b) The candidate shall be held responsible for the actions taken by his/her supporter. Any violation of the regulations by a supporter of a candidate could result in a fine for the candidate. A supporter is anyone who (including but not limited to):

(1) Speaks on behalf of the candidate, posts or shares material online on the behalf of the candidate, holds banners, or distributes campaign materials for the candidate.

(2) Publicly approves of a candidate by wearing apparel as defined by the Election Commission.

(3) Works on any financial reports for a candidate.

(c) Pre-Campaigning Period

(1) The pre-campaigning period shall be defined as the period of time starting the Monday after filing closes but before general campaigning begins, during which candidates and campaign staff may begin speaking to any university-recognized student organization during meetings at locations on-campus or off-campus.

(2) The first day of spring pre-campaigning shall begin immediately after the Mandatory Candidates' Meeting and shall end at 11:59 p.m. on the Sunday before the Monday of general

campaigning and voting.

(3) Speaking engagements shall be at the discretion of the organization being addressed.

(4) Distribution of any flyers, passing out campaign materials, and holding campaign signs during this period is strictly prohibited.

(i) Candidates and campaign staff shall be allowed to wear any article of clothing that supports their candidate during the pre-campaigning period, as long as these materials are not distributed to the general student population.

(ii) Candidates and their supporters are allowed to utilize car chalk on vehicles during this period.

(d) General Campaigning

(1) General campaigning shall be defined as the period of time after the pre-campaign period and before voting during which candidates may actively campaign (in addition to all activities permitted during the pre-campaigning periods) while following all campaign rules listed in these Election Regulations.

(2) The first day of spring general campaigning shall begin at 12:00 a.m. on Monday of the third full week of February and shall end at 12:00 pm on the second day of voting.

(3) The dates of fall general campaigning shall be set by the Election Commissioner who is in office that fall but may not begin prior to the conclusion of the Mandatory Candidates' Meeting and shall end at 12:00 pm on the second day of voting.

(4) Materials used to make campaign signs and shirts for modified campaigning must be included in the expense report that is to be submitted on the Wednesday during the week of voting by 5:00 p.m.. No expenses shall be made past this deadline.

(i) Social media purchases must be made prior to these days and included in expense reports

(5) Candidates may not speak to organizations on voting days.

SECTION II. Commission-Sponsored Campaigning

(a) Debates

(1) The Commissioner may set up to four (4) dates and times for candidates to participate in forums, debates or other public demonstrations or congregations. Registered candidates and write-in candidates that have submitted a Voluntary Compliance Notice are eligible to participate.

(2) During such forums or debates, all general campaign practices in or around the area, as defined by the Election Commissioner, where these are taking place shall be prohibited. This includes holding signs or banners, distributing materials, etc. The Election Commissioner shall notify candidates the starting and ending point of the time frames when the use of campaign materials will be prohibited. During those times, verbal campaigning may be prohibited. Failure to adhere to this rule may result in sanctions and is a Tier 1 violation.

(b) Candidates Guide

(1) A Commission-compiled candidate's guide may be posted prior to the start of voting and may contain nothing more than a biography or resume, short platform synopsis and photograph.

SECTION III. Materials

(a) Campaign materials are defined as anything distributed or displayed for the purpose of soliciting votes for a candidate.

(b) Recognized student organization communication that is typically distributed amongst members shall not be considered campaign materials as long as it is not distributed outside the organization. The Election Commissioner shall decide what constitutes such organizational communication under this rule.

(c) Flyers

(1) The term "flyer" is defined as a single piece of paper with a surface area no larger than 93.5 square inches (equal to that of an 8 1/2 inch by 11 inch piece of paper).

(2) Flyers may be distributed with a maximum of one flyer per bulletin board for each candidate.

(3) The term "bulletin boards" shall be defined as the corkboard and the surrounding frame.

(4) Candidates may need to obtain approval from a departmental office or building manager or proctor before posting flyers on bulletin boards in university buildings, including residence halls. It is the responsibility of the candidate to obtain any needed approval before posting flyers on campus bulletin boards or other areas within campus buildings. Bulletin boards reserved for departmental or organizational announcements or designated for official use only shall not be used for campaigning.

(d) It is the responsibility of the candidate to ensure fliers are being placed in areas allowed by the building manager or proctor. This applies to fliers placed in restrooms, elevators, hallways, dining areas, and any other area within a university building.

(e) No candidate may distribute any food or beverage while campaigning; this includes the distribution of candy.

(f) Facilities run by Department of Residence Life and Corps dormitories, campaign materials may be placed in accordance with that specific hall's rules and regulations according to the Department of Residence Life or Corps Dorm Policies set by Corps Staff. Campaigning activity regarding ballot proposals or referendums inside residence halls and apartments is subject to similar approval and regulations, while the two may not necessarily be congruent.

(g) The Election Commission has the power to remove or order the removal of any materials that are in violation of the Election Regulations.

(h) A voter may bring to the polling place any flyer relating to a campaign in order to assist them while voting. However, those materials cannot in any way be distributed, made visible, or shared with anyone else.

(i) Each candidate shall be responsible for the removal and disposal of all displayed campaign materials.

ARTICLE V. RESTRICTIONS

SECTION I. Rulings of the Election Commission

(a) Candidates must adhere immediately to all rulings and directives issued by the Election Commissioner. Failure to do so shall be a major violation and place the candidate subject to disciplinary action by the Election Commission.

(b) Anyone may help advertise the time, manner and place of elections.

(c) Anyone wishing to contact the Election Commissioner in regards to any election related violation must do so through the violation report that can be found at tamuelection.com.

(1) Reports made through this system shall be done so under the Aggie honor code and have the optional protection of anonymity.

(2) Photographic, video, and written testimonies shall be considered in assessing violations

SECTION II. Campaigning

(a) No candidate or their supporters may remove, deface, destroy, or obscure any campaign material of any candidate.

(b) Off-campus campaigning shall be prohibited. No campaign materials shall be distributed, posted, or held off campus (excluding car chalk).

(1) Car chalk shall be exempt from regulation under these regulations, except that the car chalk itself must be expensed as any other item / campaign material and cannot be used until the Pre-Campaigning Period.

(c) Any candidate or member of the candidate's staff who violates departmental or university regulations, or Texas A&M University Student Rules, in an action related to campaigning shall be subject to disciplinary action by the Election Commission.

(d) Forms of campaigning - specifically those that do not involve distribution of materials - may occur anywhere on campus if that location or activity is not in conflict with any other regulation or restriction.

(e) Areas inside the Memorial Student Center, Rudder Buildings, classrooms, the Rec Center, and the John J. Koldus Building are off limits to campaigning during the campaigning period, except when a group or organization allows candidates to speak at their meetings. In these cases, the candidate may only campaign in the immediate room in which the meeting is being held. The only exception to this rule is that articles of clothing may be worn anytime anywhere during the campaign period. Any candidate found actively campaigning in the aforementioned areas shall be assessed a major violation. Wearing t-shirts or apparel is not considered actively campaigning. Apparel includes clothing, backpack tags, tattoos, and anything else deemed apparel by the Election Commissioner.

(f) No demonstrations, gatherings, or other form of campaigning, which interfere with the natural flow of either pedestrian or vehicular traffic, shall be permitted. Riding in the bed of a truck, pulling trailers, or offering rides in order to solicit votes or promote a candidate are not to be permitted. No form of campaigning can impede the health and wellness of any candidate or student. Candidates must submit a written request for

prior approval from the Election Commissioner before campaigning activities that may reasonably impede the health and wellness of any candidate or student. This will be determined by a unanimous vote of the commission as well as the approval of the Election Commission advisor. The approval or denial must be within two (2) business days of the candidate asking for permission else the activity will be approved.

(g) Dining hall public address systems may not be used for campaigning purposes. While campaigning in dining facilities, candidates must adhere to standards of conduct established by Dining Services. Campaigning within dining facilities may be further restricted by the appropriate facility director.

(h) Door-to-door campaigning hours and rules shall be established by the Residential Housing Association and Corps Staff. No one may campaign door-to-door on campus at any other time. This restriction shall not affect campaigning at organizational meetings or campaigning outside the residence halls and Corps dormitories.

(i) Candidates are not permitted to display campaign slogans or other campaign related messages by marking them on university sidewalks or buildings.

(j) Only signs flyer-size or smaller may be posted or otherwise left unattended on campus

(k) Live animals, including Reveille, may not be used for campaigning and cannot be present at campaigning locations. Exceptions shall be granted for service animals.

(1) This includes photographs taken with live animals.

SECTION III. Electronic Campaigning

(a) The Election Commission shall not regulate any activity that takes place over the Internet or other electronic media, such as telephone lines or electronic mail. The following exceptions apply to this rule:

(1) Any internet activity in which there is a monetary transaction, including, but not limited to, advertisement, hosting, or the purchase of products (physical or electronic) must be documented and expensed in accordance with the financial rules in these Regulations.

(2) Use of the Texas A&M University bulk mail system available through bulkmail.tamu.edu is in violation of university policy.

(3) Candidates may begin contacting organizations via email to request to speak at their meeting beginning two weeks prior to the Mandatory Candidates' Meeting.

(4) Evidence found on the internet of physical campaign violations shall be accepted by the Election Commission.

(5) Videos created in support of a candidate shall be considered campaign materials and the contents within such materials may be subject to regulation. Equipment that is used in the production and creation of electronic media need not be expensed.

ARTICLE VI. VIOLATIONS

SECTION I. Compliance

(a) Failure to comply with the aforementioned and subsequent regulations may result in a violation as determined by the Election Commission.

SECTION II. Reporting

(a) A student who wishes to report an alleged violation of the Election Regulations may do so by filing a written account or online report of the alleged violation with the Election Commission within twenty-four (24) hours of the alleged violation. The violation report can be found at tamuelection.com.

(b) Violations will not be accepted after 7 p.m. of the day that results are announced.

(c) The Election Commissioner shall keep record of all reported violations against candidates and the resulting decision to assess or not assess a fine in a document available to the public.

SECTION III. Tiered Violations

(a) Tier 1

(1) Major offenses. Major violations include, but are not limited to: offenses against local, state or federal law to any degree; sabotage of opposing campaigns; voting fraud, falsified documents (with proof included to show falsification, including finance reports); and ethics/Honor Code violations.

(i) Voting fraud shall include but not be limited to voting using another student's credentials, physically selecting options on the ballot of another voter, or anything else deemed to be voting fraud by the Election Commissioner.

(ii) Obstruction of the free and fair nature of voting shall include but not be limited to operating a polling location without the consent of the Election Commissioner; candidates and their staff asking students to vote in their presence, and/or coercing students to vote against their own volition

(b) Tier 2

(1) Minor offenses. Minor violations include, but are not limited to: pre-campaigning, finance violations, and offenses not included within the major violations criteria as determined by the Election Commission and these regulations.

(c) Any violation found in the Common Violation Table shall be fined the amount therein associated for the first offence, scaled up for subsequent offences thereafter

SECTION IV. Fines

(a) Major violations shall be assessed by the entire Election Commission. Meetings shall be called at the discretion of the Election Commissioner to address potential major violations. During these

meetings, the Election Commissioner shall direct the Election Commission to discuss the violations at hand, take into account all evidence presented, and vote on one (1) of two (2) reasonable actions:

(1) A maximum fine of 15% of the candidate's allotted budget.

(2) Disqualification

(b) Decisions must be the result of a majority of the Election Commission members present. The Election Commissioner shall be a non-voting member unless they are required to achieve a majority. The Election Commissioner shall notify the candidate of the decision through the "Major Violation Report" within seventy-two (72) hours of the Election Commission meeting.

(c) Minor violations shall be assessed within twenty-four (24) hours of the report by the Election Commissioner.

(1) Candidates filing under a Major Race shall be subject to a base $20 fine. Each subsequent related offense shall result in an additional fine, with a $5 increase to the amount of the last fine.

(2) Candidates filing under a Minor Race shall be subject to a base $10 fine. Each subsequent related offense shall result in an additional fine, with a $5 increase to the amount of the last fine.

(d) The total amount of fines shall be deducted from the candidate's budget, however, only one-half of the fine shall be paid by the candidate to the election commissioner.

(1) All such payments must be made within ten (10) days after the final day of voting.

(2) Should a candidate fail to pay his or her fines, the candidate may not be appointed, selected, or elected to any office in the Student Government Association until such time as his or her fines are paid in full.

(i) Any elected candidate who fails to pay his or her fines within ten (10) days after the final day of voting, or requests an extension in writing to the Election Commissioner, shall be disqualified from taking office.

Common Violation Table

Violation	Fine
Live animal used for campaigning	Minor violation
More than four (4) people campaigning	Minor violation
No disclaimer on email	Minor violation per offence
Lack of receipts or Fair Market Value Form	Disqualification
Unattended campaign materials	Minor violation
Campaigning in unapproved locations	1st Offence – 5% of budget 2nd Offence – 10% of budget 3rd Offence – 15% of budget
Missing Mandatory Candidates' meeting	Disqualification

SECTION V. The Election Commission shall collect all fines in its Student Organization Financing Center account.

ARTICLE VII. FINANCE

SECTION I. General Expenditure

(a) Each candidate for any office shall be required to keep accurate, up-to-date records of all campaign receipts and expenditures.

(1) The term "expenditure" is defined as the fair market value or actual cost, depending on the appropriate circumstance, of all campaign materials used or obtained by any candidate in their campaign and any fines incurred by the candidate. To be considered valid, a receipt must have all of the following qualities:

(i) Vendor with contact information (website or phone number preferred)

(ii) Date of purchase.

(iii) Verification of amount being paid in full

(iv) Itemized list of purchases

(2) Actual cost is defined as the cost as enumerated on an official sales receipt including the cost of tax.

(3) Fair market value is defined as the cost available locally to any given student within the Bryan/College Station area. Possible prices available over the internet to a student within Bryan/College Station are not considerable when determining fair market value unless approved by the Election Commissioner.

(4) Tax shall not be included in the fair market values assessed by the Election Commission, but it must be applied at a rate of 8.25% on the finance report.

(5) Items purchased over the internet which do not have fair market equivalents in the Bryan/College Station area must be expensed at cost, including any taxes paid.

(6) The term “campaign materials” shall be defined as any items, services or materials used or intended to be used in the course of campaigning or preparing for a campaign.

(7) Shipping and handling costs need not be expensed for any item.

(b) Candidates must use the following system when determining the expensed cost of materials:

(1) All campaign materials must be expensed at actual cost.

(2) Any purchases made over the internet from companies not based in Bryan/College Station are considered outside purchases and should be treated as if they were purchased outside Bryan/College Station.

(3) All donated materials are to be expensed at fair market value, regardless of quality.

(c) It is the responsibility of the candidate to assess a fair market value for any donated campaign materials or campaign

materials used without any proof of payment. This shall be done by filling out the Fair Market Value Assessment Form provided by the Election Commissioner. Fair Market Values must be assessed using a minimum of two (2) vendors. If a candidate lists less than the required amount of acceptable vendors, the candidate shall receive a minor violation. This form shall serve as the receipt for donated items and must be included in the submitted finance report.

(d) Candidates must list the entire cost of each individual expense that results in campaign material that in any way suggests support for their candidacy. There shall be no prorating of costs to account for unused campaign items which were purchased.

(e) Budgets from two (2) or more candidates may not be combined in any way. Any campaign material bearing the name of more than one (1) candidate must be expensed in full at actual cost or fair market value, depending on the appropriate circumstance, by each candidate named.

(f) Receipts for such expenditures must be submitted by each candidate separately. For final expense reports, candidates may not submit photocopied receipts without the prior consent of the Election Commissioner.

(1) In the case of co-candidacy, one candidate must submit the original receipt and the co-candidates may submit photocopies.

(g) No candidate shall be held responsible for any expense of an unused campaign item purchased before the mandatory candidates' meeting.

(h) Candidates running in more than one (1) race in any one election cycle shall be identified as a separate candidate per race and submit an expense report for each race.

SECTION II. Budget

(a) Any candidate who exceeds his or her allotted budget shall be disqualified.

(b) All candidates filed under a minor race will have a budget of $200.

(c) All candidates filed under a major race will have a budget of $1500.

SECTION III. Campaign Reporting

(a) Finance Reports are due Wednesday of the week of voting at 5:00 PM to a location specified by the Election Commissioner. Candidates failing to comply shall be disqualified.

(b) The Election Commission shall notify the candidates forty-eight (48) hours prior to the expense report deadline.

(c) If no campaign spending has occurred, the candidate must submit a Null Expenditure Statement in place of a finance report.

SECTION IV. Officers of the Student Government Association (as recognized by the Department of Student Activities) shall be allowed to accept compensation from university entities or departments or partners of the university in direct consideration of the individual's service to the Student Government Association. Such compensations may not be funded directly out of student fees. Nothing in this section shall be construed as prohibiting any member of the Student Government Association (as recognized by the Department of Student Activities) from receiving scholarships, grants, or other awards from any entity in consideration directly or indirectly of the individual's service in the Student Government Association. Such scholarships, grants, or other awards, however, may not be funded directly out of student fees. If compensation for SGA officers is executed in any given year, before any other officer of SGA is compensated, the Student Body President must first be compensated followed by the Speaker of the Student Senate and then other officers of SGA.

ARTICLE VIII. SPENDING

SECTION I. Auditing

(a) The Commission shall audit all expense reports to determine compliance with necessary and applicable regulations

(b) Items that have been used in campaigning in any way, or have been purchased with the intent to use in any way unless it is an unused campaign item purchased before the mandatory candidates' meeting, shall be considered necessary for expensing and such items shall be included in audit procedures.

(c) Items to be expensed shall include, but not be limited to, items that fit both of the following criteria:

(1) The item would not be purchased but for the candidate's running for election.

(2) The item cannot be accessed for free by the regular student.

SECTION II. Transparency

(a) The Election Commission shall make all candidates' expense reports publicly available at tamuelection.com before 7:00 p.m. on the first day of voting.

(b) Inaccuracies or omissions suspected in campaign budgets may be reported to the Election Commission in the same way that finances are reported. The complainant must include material or photographic clear and convincing evidence of the error in order for it to be considered by the Election Commission. All such complaints about a posted budget must be made before 7:00 p.m. on the second day of voting

ARTICLE IX. VOTING

SECTION I. General

(a) Elections shall be conducted online using a secure and private method. Ballots shall be organized and marked in a manner designated by the Election Commission. Students may vote only once and only with their own Net ID and password. Duplicate ballots and those not complying with these requirements shall be voided.

(b) Students voting fraudulently may be subject to sanctions by the Election Commission, and the university, and state or federal law.

(c) The Election Commission shall make every attempt to conduct voting in a way free from coercion or pressure. Those obstructing the free and fair nature of the voting process, by which voters may cast a ballot by free choice, are in violation of these regulations and the Aggie Honor Code.

SECTION II. Voter Qualifications

(a) A voter must be an enrolled student at Texas A&M University in College Station, Bush School, Law School or Health Science Center

(b) A voter must have a valid Texas A&M University ID number for the current year.

SECTION III. Ballots

(a) The Election Commission shall post the sample ballot for the purpose of correcting errors on or before the Friday following the mandatory candidates' meeting by 9:00 a.m. If a candidate does not appeal any error on the sample ballot by 5:00 p.m. that day, they loses their right to appeal on this issue.

(b) The sample ballot shall not be used for any voting. It shall only be used for a candidate to verify that their name and caucus has been properly recorded for the election process, and for other administrative purposes as needed by the Election Commission.

(c) The Election Commission shall post the final sample ballot for any election at least four (4) class days prior to the election onto tamuelection.com.

(d) Candidates who are disqualified at least seven (7) days prior to the start of voting may appeal that disqualification to the Judicial Court immediately. The Election Commission shall remove all such disqualified candidates who fail to do so from the final sample ballot. Candidates who are disqualified after that time shall not be removed from the ballot under any circumstances, and the disqualification shall not be publicized by the Election Commission until the announcement of unofficial results after voting has taken place. The Election Commission may privately notify any candidate of the grounds of their disqualification immediately after that decision is reached by the Election Commission.

(1) Candidates may withdraw from the election at any time in writing via email to the Election Commissioner. Withdrawal from the election may not be rescinded by a candidate once submitted. The Election Commission may only remove a candidate from the ballot within the 7 days prior of voting opening upon receiving an emailed request for withdrawal from the candidate. Candidates who withdrew will be marked as "withdrawn" in the final results and will be eliminated following the conclusion of voting.

(e) No phrases or slogans may be attached to a candidate's name on the ballot. The name that will appear on the ballot must be the name for which the candidate is normally known in a professional or academic setting.

(f) An employee of the Division of Student Affairs shall maintain the online ballot.

SECTION IV. Election Dates

(a) General Elections

(1) Voting days of the spring general elections shall begin on Thursday at 9:00 a.m. and end on Friday at 12:00 p.m.

(2) The dates of the fall general elections shall be set by the Election Commissioner who is in office during that fall.

(3) All election dates shall be announced via campus-wide email at least one (1) week before the start of filing, and again on the day that filing is opened.

SECTION V. Changes

(a) The Election Commissioner has the authority to change the dates of an election if unforeseen circumstances arise that would warrant such a change with notification of the Student Government Advisor and all candidates.

SECTION VI. Instant Runoff Voting

(a) Instant Runoff Voting is a method of voting in which voters rank candidates from most-preferred to least-preferred in the general election. Losing candidates are eliminated one by one in rounds, and ballots cast for them are reassigned to their voters' next choice, until the final number of winners is reached.

(1) The following definitions shall be ascribed to these terms in this subsection:

(i) Ballot: A ranking of any or all candidates cast by a voter in one race. During any given round, each ballot shall be counted as a vote for the candidate or candidates ranked highest on that ballot, who is neither disqualified nor eliminated.

(ii) Round: Any count of ballots cast.

(iii) Elimination: Occurs when a candidate is

most-preferred by the fewest voters in a round. This is not the same as disqualification, but prevents a candidate from being counted in future rounds in that race.

(iv) Exhausted Ballot: A ballot in which all candidates ranked are either disqualified or previously eliminated. Exhausted ballots shall not be counted in any given round. This will not occur on any voter's ballot if that voter assigns a ranking to all candidates in a race.

ARTICLE X. PROCEDURES – SINGLE SEAT RACES

SECTION I. At the point of voting, all voters shall be presented with a list of candidates running for each race, as well as spaces for the allowed number of write-ins (equal to the number of winners for that race). Voters shall be allowed to rank those candidates and write-ins from one (1) for most-preferred to the number of candidates on the ballot plus the number of write-ins for least preferred.

(a) Example: in a race in which eight (8) candidates are running for one (1) seat, the number of write-ins allowed would be one and the rankings would go from one (1) [most preferred] to nine (9) [least preferred], for the eight (8) candidates on the ballot plus the one (1) write-in.

(b) Before rounds begin, all disqualified candidates shall be eliminated and all candidates, including write-in candidates, who receive fewer than one percent (1%) of the total number of ballots cast in a race shall be eliminated.

(c) In the first round, all candidates shall be ordered by the number of ballots that are counted as votes for them (they are ranked most preferred after removing eliminated candidates). The candidate who receives the fewest votes is eliminated. Exhausted ballots shall not be counted.

(d) If necessary, a second round shall take place by the same procedure. Additional round shall be counted by this same process until the number of candidates who have not been eliminated or disqualified is equal to the number of winners. Those candidate(s) shall be declared the winner(s) of that race.

(e) If two (2) or more candidates in a round are exactly tied for last place, they shall all be eliminated unless that would result in the number of candidates falling below the number of winners. In that instance, the remaining candidates shall be declared as the winners, and the outgoing session of the Student Senate shall resolve the tie by a majority vote at its next regularly scheduled general meeting in accordance with its rules for officer elections.

SECTION II. Locations

(a) The official polling place for elections shall be online at *vote.tamu.edu* for the fall and spring general elections.

(b) Physical polling locations may be added at the discretion

of the Election Commissioner. These locations shall remain open for a maximum of two (2) class days for an election. Election Official's watch shall be the official timepiece for opening and closing of each polling place.

(c) Students shall have the right to vote online with the use of an electronic device free from pressure or obstruction.

SECTION III. Results

(a) Results of all elections must be certified by the Chief Justice of the Judicial Court. This certification must occur after the time which either no appeals to the election results may be filed or all outstanding appeals for any given race to the Judicial Court have been dealt with, whichever comes later. This certification shall signify that no further challenges to the results of an election may be filed. The Chief Justice may certify all races at once or any combination of races at their discretion, so long as all certifications are completed according to the above timeline.

(b) The Election Commission shall announce uncertified results of all elections no earlier than 7:00 p.m. on the last day of voting, and the results shall be posted online immediately thereafter. Results are not official until certified by the Chief Justice of the Judicial Court. Results shall also be submitted to The Battalion for publication.

(c) The winners in elections other than Student Senate and Yell Leader elections are determined by the instant runoff process above.

(1) In the Student Senate elections, the winners shall be decided by a plurality vote. If there is a tie for the last remaining seat in a Senate constituency, the seat shall be decided by a coin flip under the supervision of the Election Commissioner and the SGA Advisor.

(2) Ties for Yell Leader shall be resolved according to the Yell Leader Governing Documents without further use of SGA Election resources

SECTION IV. Judicial Court Appeal

(a) A candidate may contest an election no sooner than after the announcement of unofficial results, and later than forty-eight (48) hours after the unofficial results are announced by filing an appeal with the Judicial Court stating the basis on which the election is contested.

(1) In any appeal concerning election fines, disqualifications, or the improper application of these Regulations, the defendant shall be the Election Commissioner.

(2) In any appeal challenging the constitutionality of any of these Regulations, the defendant shall be the Student Senate.

(3) In any appeal that would change the outcome of a race, the defendant shall be the election commissioner and

not the winning candidate in that race who would lose their status as the winner if the appeal were decided in favor of the plaintiff. The ruling of the Judicial Court on the outcome of the reported violations or other ground for the appeal shall be final and not subject to review by a subsequent appeal by the originally winning candidate.

(i) The plaintiff may be required to name any or all of these parties as defendants under this rule depending on the circumstances of the appeal.

(b) Administrative Error

(1) If prior to Judicial Court certification, it is discovered that the winning candidate was not qualified because of an error in the certification provided by the Student Government Advisor, the Student Body President shall declare the post vacant and/or it shall go to the candidate

ARTICLE V. SUBMISSION OF PETITIONS

SECTION I. All referendum petitions and recall petitions must be returned to the Chief Justice in physical form at a location within the John J. Koldus building at Texas A&M University provided to the petitioner by the Chief Justice upon issuance of the petition. All referendum petitions and recall petitions are due fourteen (14) days after they are issued.

ARTICLE VI. CERTIFICATION OF SIGNATURES

SECTION I. All referendum petitions and recall petitions shall be certified by the Chief Justice within fourteen (14) days of their submission upon determining that the following has occurred:

(a) Certified Signatures

(1) Only certified signatures may be counted when determining whether the minimum number of students have signed the petition.

(2) Only students who have provided the following information shall have their signatures counted as certified signatures:

(i) A signature;

(ii) A first and last name;

(iii) The last four digits of a UIN that matches the last four digits of the UIN for the first and last name provided; and,

(iv) A date by the signature that clearly indicates that the information was provided within the fourteen (14) day distribution time period for the petition.

(b) Referendum Petitions

(1) In the case of referendum petitions enacting statutes, the Chief Justice determines that the petition

contains at least five thousand (5,000) certified signatures.

(2) In the case of referendum petitions enacting constitutional amendments, the Chief Justice determines that the petition contains at least seven thousand five hundred (7,500) certified signatures.

(c) Recall Petitions

The Chief Justice shall calculate the number of students in the Student Senator's constituency based upon the twelfth (12th) class day enrollment figures for Texas A&M University College Station for the fall or spring academic semester, whichever is applicable.

(1) The Chief Justice shall multiply the number reached in Sub-Division (1) by 10% (.10). Should this calculation exceed 150, this calculation shall be used to determine the minimum number of certified signatures required; however, should this calculation be less than 150, 150 shall be used as the number of certified signatures required.

(2) The Chief Justice shall then determine that the petition contains at least the number of certified signatures called for by Sub-Division (2) above.

(d) The Chief Justice may cease counting signatures and immediately certify a petition as complete upon determining that the number of certified signatures for a petition is at least 10% more than is required. In all other cases, however, the Chief Justice shall count all signatures before determining whether the petition is complete or incomplete.

(e) All completed referendum petitions shall be delivered by the Chief Justice to the Election Commissioner in senate bill format within twenty-four (24) hours of their completion. All completed recall petitions shall be delivered by the Chief Justice to the Election Commissioner within twenty-four (24) hours of their completion. The completed referendum or recall petition shall be accompanied by a certified statement of the Chief Justice that the referendum or recall petition is complete.

ARTICLE VII. REFERENDUM AND RECALL ELECTION

SECTION I. Referendum Petitions

(a) The student body shall have the power to enact statutes in the form of a petition containing the signatures of at least 1% of the total number of the student body population at the time the referendum petition is being proposed with ⅓ of support in the form of certified signatures from total current sitting senators that shall be recorded in a separate document to be counted towards the overall signature tally; Such statutes, if approved of by a majority vote of the student body, shall be binding.

(1) Should the referendum petition be deemed

complete by the Chief Justice less than seven (7) days before the next general election, however, the Election Commissioner shall not place the completed referendum petition on the ballot until the next general student body election, as provided for in the Election Regulations Act (Title V Chapter 601) that is more than seven (7) days after the referendum petition is deemed complete by the Chief Justice.

(2) Should the Student Senate vote to call for a completed referendum petition to be voted on by the student body earlier than the next general student body election, pursuant to Article X of the constitution, the Election Commissioner shall call a student body election on the completed referendum petition no sooner than seven (7) days after the Student Senate's affirmative vote, but no later than twenty-eight (28) days after the Student Senate's affirmative vote.

(b) The student body shall have the power to enact statutes in the form of a petition containing the signatures of at least 1% of the total number of the student body population at the time the referendum petition is being proposed with ⅔ of support in the form of certified signatures from total current sitting senators that shall be recorded in a separate document to be counted towards the overall signature tally; Such statutes, if approved of by a majority vote of the student body, shall be binding.

(1) In the case of referendum petitions enacting statutes, the Chief Justice determines that the petition contains certified signatures of at least 1% of the total number of the student body population at the time the referendum petition is being proposed as well as ⅓ of certified signatures from current student senators.

(2) In the case of referendum petitions enacting constitutional amendments, the Chief Justice determines that the petition contains certified signatures of at least 1% of the total number of the student body population at the time the referendum petition is being proposed as well as ⅔ of certified signatures from current student senators.

(3) The Chief Justice shall certify all referendum results no sooner than forty-eight (48) hours after the referendum results, and no later than seventy-two (72) hours after the referendum results. The Chief Justice shall not certify any referendum result while a Judicial Court challenge is pending regarding the referendum result. This certification shall void any further challenge to referendum result.

(c) The Election Commissioner shall inform the Chief Justice of the Judicial Court, the Student Body President, and the Speaker of the Senate on the results of any election containing a completed referendum petition.

(d) Any referendum petition which passes a certified student

body election shall be considered immediately amended into the Student Government Association Code as a matter of law. The petition shall then be physically amended into the Student Government Association Code by the Student Senate Rules and Regulations Chair according to the provisions of the Administrative General Act (Title I Chapter 001).

SECTION II. Recall Petitions

(a) All completed recall petitions shall be placed on the ballot for a special election of the Student Senator's constituency by the Election Commissioner. The ballot shall contain the name of the Student Senator subject to removal and a place for the students participating in the election to vote "yes" "no" or "abstain" on the question of whether the Student Senator should be removed from office. No other information about the Student Senator may be placed on the ballot.

(b) The special election of the Student Senator's constituency shall take place no sooner than seven (7) days after the recall petition is deemed complete by the Chief Justice and no later than twenty-eight (28) days after the recall petition is deemed complete by the Chief Justice.

(c) All special elections of Student Senator's constituencies on completed recall petitions shall be conducted in accordance with the Election Regulations Act (Title V Chapter 601).

(d) The Election Commissioner shall inform the Student Body President, the Chief Justice, the Speaker of the Senate, and the Speaker Pro Tempore on the results of any recall election. Should the requisite number of students voting in the election vote to remove the Student Senator from office, the Student Senator shall be automatically removed from office and relieved from any and all privileges and rights pertaining to Student Senators.

SUBTITLE 7 – GENERAL OPERATIONAL REGULATIONS OF THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT

Revised November 16th, 2011

CHAPTER 701 – THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY ACT

Created by S.B. 09(F)12, Amended by S.B. 64-13
Revised October 5th, 2011

ARTICLE I. JOB DESCRIPTIONS

SECTION I. Job Descriptions

(a) The three branches of the Student Government Association must provide job descriptions for each position within their respective branch in each appropriate set of Bylaws

(1) The job descriptions must include but are not limited to:

(i) Executive Branch
  (I) Members of Executive Council

(ii) Legislative Branch
  (I) Senate Officer
  (II) Senator
  (III) Ex-Officio Officer
  (IV) Caucus Leaders
  (V) Liaisons

(iii) Judicial Branch
  (I) Justice

CHAPTER 702 – THE STACK EXCHANGE ADOPTION ACT

Repealed by S.B. 64-43
Repealed November 16th, 2011

CHAPTER 703 – THE STUDENT PROFESSOR AWARDS PROGRAM ACT

Created by S.B. 63-111, Amended by S.B. 64-13
Revised October 5th, 2011

ARTICLE I. LEGISLATIVE INTENT

SECTION I. The Student Senate intends to set forth regulations to define precisely what type of student professor awards program the executive branch may engage in on behalf of the Texas A&M University student body.

ARTICLE II. CONDITIONS FOR PARTICIPATION

SECTION I. For the purposes of any Student Professor Awards Program, the Texas A&M Student Government Association, on behalf of the Texas A&M student body, will only participate in Student Professor Evaluations Awards Programs if the following conditions are met:

(a) The Texas A&M Student Government Association, on behalf of the Texas A&M Student Body, shall retain full control in determining the name of any student professors evaluation awards program that is intended to be managed by the students.

(b) The Texas A&M Student Government Association, on behalf of the Texas A&M Student Body, shall retain full control over which questions are used in any student professors evaluation awards program that is intended to be managed by the students.

(c) There should be no student fee implemented or increased for the operational or awards costs of this program.

ARTICLE III. AUTHORITY AND ENFORCEMENT

SECTION I. The primary responsibility for the enforcement of this Act shall fall to the student assigned to manage Academic Affairs in the executive branch of the Texas A&M Student Government Association. The Student Body President shall be responsible for ensuring the compliance of the Academic Affairs individual in the executive council.

CHAPTER 704 – THE SGA BRANDING ACT

Created by S.B. 64-03, Amended by S.B. 64-13

Revised October 5th, 2011

ARTICLE I. LEGISLATIVE INTENT

SECTION I. The Student Senate intends to set forth guidelines for SGA branding.

ARTICLE II. DEFINITIONS

SECTION I. Branding shall be the process of creating a unique name and image for a product in the consumer's mind.

ARTICLE III. REQUIREMENTS

SECTION I. All entities within SGA shall be subject to the following branding requirements:

(a) SGA organizations shall include the SGA logo on any and all official items of the organization items include but are not limited to T-shirts, printed paper materials, banners, buttons and other large items

(b) SGA organizations shall include the words "TAMU SGA" on small items which are not large enough to distinguish the SGA logo small items include but are not limited to pens and pencils

(c) The SGA logo or words "TAMU SGA" may be in color or black and white.

ARTICLE V. AUTHORITY AND ENFORCEMENT

SECTION I. The primary responsibility for the enforcement of this Act shall fall to the student(s) who oversee the SGA committees, commissions, cabinet members, Student Senate, and the Judicial Court. Each aforementioned person is responsible for the respective bodies of which they are a part. The SBP shall be responsible for ensuring the compliance of the respective individuals.

CHAPTER 705 – STATE OF KOLDUS ACT

REPEALED BY S.B. 70-36

CHAPTER 706 – STUDENT REGENT ACT

Created by S.B. 68-56, March 9, 2016

ARTICLE I. LEGISLATIVE INTENT

SECTION I. The 68th Student Senate recognized the need for a transparent and fair selection process for the Texas A&M University System Student Regent. This Act is intended to enhance the quality of our Student Regent recommendations, create a more transparent process, and involved all branches in the selection of the recommended students.

ARTICLE II. DEFINITIONS

SECTION I. "Student Regent" shall refer to the student appointed by the Governor of Texas to serve on the Texas A&M University System Board of Regents as a non-voting member and student representative.

Section II. "Student Regent recommendation" shall refer to the recommendation of five students to fill the position of Texas A&M University Student Regent made every-other year by the Texas A&M University Student Government Association to the Chancellor of the Texas A&M University System and Governor of Texas

SECTION III. The "Student Regent Recommendation Committee" shall be defined as the five member committee outlined in Article III Section I of this Act.

SECTION IV. "Appointment year" shall refer to the calendar year in which a Student Regent recommendation is solicited from the Student Government Association.

ARTICLE III. REQUIREMENTS

SECTION I. The Student Regent recommendation shall be made by a five member committee known as the "Student Regent Recommendation Committee" and shall be made up of the following members:

(a) Speaker of the Student Senate
(b) Student Body President
    (1) Chief Justice of the Judicial Court
    (2) Student Senate Legislative Relations Chair
    (3) Legislative Relations Commissioner

SECTION II. The Student Regent Recommendation Committee shall be chaired by the Student Body President, who will vote only in the event of a tie amongst the members.

SECTION III. A quorum of three (3) members must be present in order to make a recommendation. All meeting of the Student Regent Recommendation Committee must be set at least 72 hours in advance at a reasonably accessible location to all Committee members.

SECTION IV. A majority vote of the Student Recommendation Committee shall be required to recommend a Student Regent candidate.

ARTICLE IV. SELECTION PROCESS

SECTION I. No later than November 1 of an appointment year, the Student Body President shall solicit applications for the position of Student Regent via campus-wide communication.

SECTION II. The Student Regent Recommendation Committee shall then meet to select which applicants to interview, interview these candidates, and vote on the Student Regent recommendation. Applicants shall be evaluated on at least the following merits:

(a) Professional skills including but not limited to communication, presentation, and personal skills

(b) History of working with elected officials, testifying before the Board of Regents, and experience lobbying administrators or Regents on issues

(c) Understanding of Texas A&M University student issues, fee structures, and other policy knowledge

(d) History of service at Texas A&M

SECTION III. The Committee shall report their recommendation to the Chancellor of the Texas A&M University System no later than January 1 of the appointment year.

ARTICLE V. AUTHORITY AND ENFORCEMENT

SECTION I. The primary responsibility for the enforcement of this Act shall fall on the Student Body President, Speaker of the Student Senate, and the Chief Justice of the Judicial Court.

SUBTITLE 8 – STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION RECORDS

Revised October 5th, 2011

CHAPTER 801 – THE SGA RECORDS ACT

Created by S.B. 09(S)31, Amended by S.B. 10(S)62, S.B. 64-13
Revised October 5th, 2011

ARTICLE I. LEGISLATIVE INTENT AND PURPOSE

SECTION I. The Student Senate intends to set forth regulations to provide for the accurate record keeping of information conducive towards a transparent and accountable Student Government, as well as to catalogue demographic and other historical information for the purpose of charting the history of the organization and connecting its past members with current members.

ARTICLE II. DEFINITIONS

SECTION I. Unless otherwise provided for in the context of this act, the following words shall be ascribed the following meanings:

(a) "The Archives of the Senate" shall be the committee or program under the direction of the Student Senate for the purposes of archiving Student Senate records, or the Speaker Pro Tempore of the Student Senate should such a committee or program not exist.

(b) "Executive Orders" shall be the official certified documents through which the Student Body President shall amend the Executive Branch Bylaws and establish other rules and procedures necessary for the proper functioning of the Executive Branch duties pursuant to Article 11, Section 111, Subsection (g) of the constitution.

(c) "Judicial Court Orders" shall be the official certified documents through which the Judicial Court shall amend the Judicial Court Bylaws and establish other rules and procedures necessary for the proper functioning of the Judicial Branch duties pursuant to Article IV, Section 111, Subsection (b) of the constitution and other official certified court orders.

(d) "Certified Election Results" shall be the official certified results of any Student Body election, referendum, or recall election pursuant to the constitution.

(e) "Certified Referendum and Initiative Petition Forms" shall be the official certified petition obtained by a student from the Student Government Association office to solicit signatures for a referendum or initiative pursuant to Article 11, Section 111, Subsection (g) of the constitution.

ARTICLE III. OFFICIAL RECORDS

SECTION I. All executive orders, appropriated entity budgets as defined in Chapter 201 of Title V of the SGAC, Judicial Court appeals, writs, orders, and judgments, certified referendum and initiative petition forms, and certified election results shall be submitted by the Student Body President or Chief Justice, whomever shall have original possession, to the Archives of the Senate within ten (10) class days of their creation or certification or within five (5) class days of the end of the corresponding Senate Session, whichever occurs first.

SECTION II. The following numbering system shall be used for legislation submitted to the Speaker for consideration:

(a) As soon as a piece of legislation is submitted to the Speaker, it shall be given a unique number that will not be changed or reused. Senate Bills shall be given the designation S. B. X-Y, where X is the session number and Y is the next number in increasing order, starting with one (1). Senate Resolutions shall have their own set of numbers also starting with one (1), but they will be designated S.R. X-Y. At no time shall any two pieces of legislation have the exact same designation. All numbered legislation must be entered into the Senate Archives in its most recent form within five (5) class days of the end of the session.

SECTION III. The written copies of any legislation acted upon by the Senate must be dated after any of the following events:

(a) First reading of the legislation;
(b) Passage of the legislation;
(c) Failure of the legislation to pass after a vote;
(d) Tabling or referral to committee if the legislation is not subsequently acted upon;
(e) Objection to consideration of the legislation;
(f) Certification of the legislation by the Speaker;
(g) Approval and signature of the legislation by the Student Body President;
(h) Veto of the legislation by the Student Body President;
(i) The override of a Presidential veto or failure thereof.

ARTICLE IV. DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

SECTION I. The voluntarily submitted names of all members of the Executive Cabinet, justices of the Judicial Court, student senators, senate ex-officio officers, and senate liaisons, officers of the SGA Committees, SGA Staff members, and other members including a contact email shall be forwarded by the Student Body President or their designee to the Archives of the Senate within five (5) class days preceding the end of the corresponding Senate Session.

SECTION II. The Student Body President or his designee shall conduct a numerical census of the unique members of the Student Government Association yearly no later than the fortieth (40th) class day of the fall semester and forward the number of unique members of the Student Government Association, each branch of government, each commission, and each SGA committee to the Archives of the Senate no later than the fiftieth (50th) class day of the fall semester.

SECTION III. The Student Body President or his designee shall prepare a summary of the activities of the Student Government Association, including its commissions and committees, which shall include at least an overview of the various programs and initiatives undertaken, and forward such a summary to the Archives of the Senate within five (5) class days preceding the end of the corresponding Senate Session.

ARTICLE V. ENFORCEMENT

SECTION I. The Student Body President shall enforce the provisions of this act.

SECTION II. The Judicial Court shall hear appeals related to the enforcement of the provisions of this act, or lack thereof, and have authority to issue a final ruling and compel compliance.

ARTICLE VI. OVERSIGHT

SECTION I. The Internal Affairs Committee of the Student Senate shall have oversight to review the enforcement of this act and recommend changes to its construction, including the review of all documents and testimony.

SUBTITLE 9 – STUDENT BODY AND STUDENT GOVERNMENT POLICIES AND PROPOSALS

Revised October 5th, 2011

CHAPTER 901 – GENERAL PROVISIONS

Created by S.B. 64-13, Amended by S.B. 64-14
Revised October 5th, 2011

ARTICLE I. GENERAL LEGISLATIVE INTENT

SECTION I. The Student Senate intends this Subtitle to organize the various permanent policies and proposals of the student body or the Student Government Association enacted by bills from the Student Senate or referendums from the student body that do not automatically expire at the conclusion of a session of the Student Senate.

SECTION II. Suggestions Regarding Enacting Articles under this Subtitle:

(a) It is suggested that any unique policy or proposal under this Subtitle be enacted as a separate Article under a relevant Chapter for ease of organization. It is also suggested that the Article clearly designate which sections contain policies or proposals. It is further suggested that each Article should include separate sections governing such topics as: legislative intent, definitions, the policy or proposal, execution of the particular Article, and judicial review of the particular Article.

ARTICLE II. GENERAL DEFINITIONS

SECTION I. Unless otherwise provided within the context of any Article of this Subtitle, the following words shall be ascribed the following meanings:

(a) "Designee" of the Student Body President shall be defined as any member of the Executive Cabinet, any committee or commission of the executive branch, or any inferior executive office, the Student Body President designates, in writing, to fulfill the duties and powers established under any Article of this Subtitle.

CHAPTER 903 – COMMUNITY RELATIONS POLICIES AND PROPOSALS

Created by S.B. 64-14
Revised October 5th, 2011

ARTICLE I. LEGISLATIVE INTENT

SECTION I. The Student Senate intends this Chapter to organize all policies and proposals concerning community relations between the student body of Texas A&M University and the cities of College Station, TX and Bryan, TX, and any other statutes it may enact reasonably relating to community relations.

CHAPTER 904 – LEGISLATIVE RELATIONS POLICIES AND PROPOSALS

Created by S.B. 64-14

ARTICLE I. THE VOTER INITIATIVE ACT

REPEALED BY S.B. 70-21

ARTICLE III. THE NON-ACADEMIC STUDENT FEE REVIEW ACT

REPEALED BY S.B. 70-22

ARTICLE IV. THE PERSONAL PROTECTION ACT

REPEALED BY S.B. 70-23

CHAPTER 905 – STUDENT FEES AND TUITION POLICIES AND PROPOSALS

*Created by S.B. 64-14, Amended by S.B. 64-61, S.B. 65-05*Revised September 19, 2012

ARTICLE I. LEGISLATIVE INTENT

SECTION I. The Student Senate intends this Chapter to codify all policies and proposals concerning student fees and tuition, both academic and non-academic in nature at Texas A&M University, including both rates and allocations, and any other statutes it may enact reasonably relating to student fees and tuition.

ARTICLE II. THE OPPOSITION TO OFF-SEMESTER STUDENT FEE IMPLEMENTATIONS ACT

REPEALED BY S.B. 70-35

ARTICLE III. STUDENT OPINION ON FEES ACT

SECTION I. Legislative Intent and Purpose

(a) The student body of Texas A&M University intends this act to set forward a default policy of opposition to any increase in fees or tuition, unless that increase is expressly approved by a bill of the Student Senate or by a referendum of the student body. Since fee increases are historically permanent, this policy will endeavor to prevent fees and tuition from being raised without definite student approval.

SECTION II. Student Opinion on Fees Policy and Proposal

(a) It shall be the official permanent policy of the SGA, on behalf of the student body of Texas A&M University, to oppose by default any increase to fees (academic or non-academic) or tuition. In order for the SGA to support or maintain neutrality on any particular increase to fees or tuition, a statute reflecting that position must be passed by the Student Senate and signed by the Student Body President, or a referendum must be passed by the student body in a school-wide election in accordance with Article X of the Student Government Association constitution.

SECTION III. Execution of this Particular Article

(a) The Student Body President, or his designee, shall faithfully execute the policies described in Section II, and shall regularly report to the Student Senate on the status of the execution of the policies contained in Section II. This Act may not be repealed by the Student Body President or considered "substantially accomplished" according to the process set forth in Title V, Chapter 901 of the Student Government Association Code.

CHAPTER 906 – STUDENT SERVICES POLICIES AND PROPOSALS

Created by S.B. 09(S)40, S.B. 64-14

Revised October 5th, 2011

ARTICLE I. LEGISLATIVE INTENT

SECTION I. The Student Senate intends this Chapter to organize all policies and proposals concerning student services at Texas A&M University, including, but not limited to, dining services, transportation services, the university center, and the recreational sports center, and any other statutes it may enact reasonably relating to student services.

ARTICLE II. THE ZACHARY JOHNSON SUL ROSS PENNY ACT

SECTION I. Legislative Intent and Purpose

(a) The Senate intends this act to set forward regulations for the collection of money from the Sul Ross statue as authorized by Texas A&M University and subject to the additional rules and procedures of the university and to provide for a continuous, fair, and accountable process for the collection of money by a recognized student organization at Texas A&M University for the purpose of the common welfare of the student body or a local charity in accordance with the core value of selfless service.

SECTION II. Definitions

(a) Unless otherwise provided for in the context of this Act, the following words and phrases shall be ascribed the following meanings:

(1) "Recognized Student Organization" shall include any student organization at Texas A&M University in College Station recognized by the Department of Student Activities or such a related administrative body as is set forward for organizing student organizations at the university.

(2) "Applicant" shall include any recognized student organization which submits a written and signed form as prepared by the Student Body President or their designee for review in assigning the collection of money from the statue.

(3) "Collectee" shall be the recognized student organization assigned for the collection of the money from the statue by the Student Body President and confirmed by the Senate in accordance with this Act.

(4) "Chief Student Leader" shall be the individual recognized as the chair, director, or other top student leader of a recognized student organization as recognized by the Department of Student Activities.

(5) "Financial Officer" shall be the individual recognized as the treasurer or chief financial officer of a recognized student organization as recognized by the Department of Student Activities.

SECTION III. Selection of Collectee

(a) The Student Body President shall provide for an application made available to all recognized student organizations every odd calendar year for at least five (5) class days which shall include at minimum the following information:

(1) The name of the recognized student organization.

(2) The period of time during which the organization shall be, if selected, authorized to collect the money from the statue.

(3) The deadlines for submission of reports to the Student Body President in accordance with Article V.

(4) The name of the charity, student organization, program, or other activity the funds shall be used for.

(5) The name, date, and signature of the Chief Student Leader and Financial Officer of the recognized student organization including their acknowledgement that they have read and understood this Act and understand their binding to its provisions as well as the other provisions of the SGAC and other acts as may be enacted by the Senate from time to time.

(6) The name, date, and signature of the recognized student organization's advisor.

(b) The Student Body President shall determine his designee for the collection of the money from the statue from the listing of applicants at their discretion and forward such nomination to the Student Senate for confirmation no later than November 1st.

SECTION IV. Collection of Money

(a) Unless otherwise agreed to by the Student Senate, the dates for collection of money by a recognized student organization confirmed by the Senate shall be from November 1st until October 31st for a period of two calendar years.

(b) Money shall be collected in accordance with all university, local, State, and Federal laws, and any violation of those laws shall be grounds for immediate revocation of authorization for collection by the Student Government.

(c) Money shall be collected at least once every month and distributed at least once every fall and spring semester to the designated charity, student organization, program, or other activity provided for in the agreement, or agreed to by the Student Body guifthe receiver of the funds need to be changed for a significant

circumstance.

(d) All money collected shall be disbursed by the recognized student organization to the authorized charity, student organization, program, or other activity and shall not be retained in any amount by the recognized student organization at the conclusion of the agreement, but instead by remitted to the care of the Student Body President for disbursement to the authorized charity, student organization, program, or other activity to whom they belong no later than August 1st.

(e) The Student Body President shall have power to cancel any agreement should they find the recognized student organization has violated the provisions of this act including but not limited to:

(1) Falsifying logs or reports.

(2) Disbursing funds to un-authorized recipients.

(f) Violating another provision of the constitution, SGAC, or other acts as may be enacted from time to time by the Senate.

(1) Coming under suspended status by the Department of Student Activities or in bad standing with the university.

(g) The Judicial Court shall hear any appeals to any action by the Student Body President against the Collectee and shall enter final judgment on all matters.

SECTION V. Reporting of Money

(a) A log shall be kept and certified by the Chief Student Leader detailing the individual members of the recognized student organization collecting the money, the amount of the money collected, and the date and time of collection for each individual collection.

(b) A log shall also be kept and certified by the Chief Student Leader detailing the disbursement of such money collected in accordance with this act to the authorized charity, student organization, program, or other activity including the amount disbursed, the date and time, and the amount of any non-disbursed money remaining in the possession of the recognized student organization.

(c) A report shall be prepared every three (3) months and certified by the Chief Student Leader and Financial Officer including all logs kept on the collection and disbursement of funds and the totals of all such collections and disbursements made to date.

(1) This report shall be forwarded to and discussed with the Student Body President and a copy shall be submitted to the Director of Student Activities or such equivalent Texas A&M Administrator as deemed appropriate by the Student Body President.

(2) A copy of this report shall be made available to the Internal Affairs Committee of the Student Senate upon request.

SECTION VI. Oversight

(a) The Internal Affairs Committee of the Student Senate shall have oversight to review the selection of organizations, collection of money, and reporting of money by and to the Student Body President, including the review of all applications, agreements, reports, and testimony.

ARTICLE III. STUDENT FEES REVIEW COMMITTEE ACT

SECTION I. Legislative Intent of this Particular Article

(a) The Student Senate intends this Act to set forth guidelines for a committee tasked with assessing proposals for student fees and providing recommendations on a plan of action to be addressed by the branch leaders or their representatives with administration.

SECTION II. Definitions

(a) For the purposes of this Article, the following words shall be ascribed the following meanings:

(1) "Committee" shall refer to a group of individuals as outlined in this act who will be called upon because of their position to address the issue of student fees.

(2) "Student fee proposal" shall refer to any proposal or idea brought by administration or university entities with the purpose of adjusting student fees to fund an entity that affects students

SECTION III. The SGA Student Fee Review Committee Policy and Proposal

(a) The Student Senate will review all fee increase requests brought to the student government association.

(b) The Texas A&M Student Senate and Executive Cabinet will have a standing SGA Fee Review committee to review all proposed fee increases.

(c) This article shall call for a panel to meet at least once per semester, at a time called for by the student body president to assess and review all proposed student fee changes in a centralized manner.

(d) The panel shall, at a minimum, consist of the following people:

(1) The Executive Vice President
(2) The Vice President for Legislative Relations
(3) The Vice President for Academic Affairs
(4) The Vice President for Student Services
(5) Speaker Pro-Tem of the Student Senate
(6) Chair of the Legislative Affairs Committee
(7) Chair of the Academic Affairs Committee
(8) Chair of the Student Services Committee
(9) Chief Justice of the Judicial Court
(10) Chair of Finance Committee

(e) The panel may not convene without a quorum of at least 6 of the required members.

(f) The chair of the SGA Fee Review committee will be chosen by a majority of the senate from the required members of the committee through the process outlined for the election of other senate chairs.

(g) Other members may be appointed to the committee by either the Student Body President or Speaker of the Senate, pending confirmation from the student senate, so long as the 50+ majority by senate is maintained.

(h) The committee will create a SGA Fee report that takes a position on proposed fee increases on an individual basis in an all-inclusive report, with justification for such positions.

(1) Any entity requesting a fee increase must give a full presentation to Senate prior to the first meeting

(i) The panel shall convene at an announced time, with presentations by each of the entities occurring prior to the last meeting in October in a special session.

(1) For the special session, the time limits for the presentations will be determined by the Internal Affairs committee. Any motion to extend or amend the time limits is out of order.

(2) At the senate meeting following the special session, the committee will give a preliminary presentation to the Student Senate for feedback from the body

(3) At the second meeting following the special session, the report will be presented to senate in a final form. Senate will then vote on each fee increase proposal on an individual basis to approve or reject the committee's position. This is debatable but not amendable.

(4) Parties concerned with the student fee assessments may be allowed to submit any additional information necessary for assessment, and shall do so with at least 48 hours notice to the committee.

(j) The committee shall assess any proposal or idea brought by administration that has not previously been addressed within the calendar year. Proposals for students fees may be brought up to this panel for discussion, but are not prohibited from going through regular senate channels.

(k) Following all assessment of documents, testimony, and gather opinion, the panel shall collectively provide recommendations of action to the Student Body President and Speaker of the Student Senate in the form of a comprehensive document.

(l) Recommendations may include, but are not limited to:

(1) Action by senate to either support, remain neutral, or oppose any potential student fees

(2) Action to be taken to lobby administration for funding and financing to university entities in lieu of student fees

(m) The committee's recommendations shall in no way represent the official stance of SGA or the students of Texas A&M, but rather provide suggestions for action to be taken by the Student Senate and the Executive Cabinet.

(n) The committee may also meet at additional times throughout the semester as deemed necessary by the Student Body President to assess any outstanding issues relating to student fees.

(o) The Speaker, the Student Body President, and Chair of the SGA Fee Review committee shall prepare a letter of recommendation for the report. This letter should detail the overall recommendations highlighted in the report and significant concerns brought forward in debate. These letters, along with any applicable legislation shall be sent to the President's Office, CFO's office, office of the provost, office of the vice president for student affairs, and student fee review committee as well as the applicable departments. These letters should detail the overall recommendation by the senate as well as significant items of debate brought forth during the debate period regarding individual components of fee increases for any fee recommendation legislation.

SECTION IV. Execution of this Particular Article

(a) Execution of the provisions of this article shall fall on the Student Body President.