



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY STUDENT GOVERNMENT

The Bylaws

ARTICLE I. THE PRESIDENT

Section 1. Duties, Powers, and Responsibilities of the President

Subsection i. Chief of advocacy

The President shall be responsible for leading Student Government's advocacy of student interests to American University. In this capacity, they shall also be the chief spokesperson of Student Government. The President shall take office on May 1 after their election.

Subsection ii. Creation of positions

The President shall be empowered to create any position they deem useful to the execution of their duties. Any appointments made by the President shall require approval by the Undergraduate Senate if they receive a stipend or control Student Government funds. These appointments shall expire on May 1st at midnight. The President-Elect, upon the certification of the election results, shall be able to appoint positions that require approval of the Senate before they take office. The appointments shall take effect once the appointer has taken office.

Subsection ii. Appointment of positions to represent Student Government

The President shall be empowered to appoint students to represent Student Government to fill any committees or other capacities before American University or any other outside group, except as provided by the governing documents.

Subsection iii. Progress update

At the third or fourth meeting of each Undergraduate Senate, the President shall deliver a report updating the body on all initiatives undertaken by Student Government.

Section 2. The Center for Advocacy and Student Equity

Subsection i. Establishment

There shall be a department organized under the President called the Center for Advocacy and Student Equity (CASE). The mission of CASE shall be to assisting individual students through matters concerning the policies of American University. This assistance includes providing consultation and advice to students interacting with the various administrative offices of the University. CASE shall also advocate for student interests regarding the general development and implementation of University policy affecting individual students, including students' rights.

Subsection ii. Director

The head of CASE shall be a director appointed by the President and confirmed by the Undergraduate Senate.

Section 3. The Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Subsection i. Establishment

There shall be a Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI Director) under the President, appointed by the President and confirmed by the Undergraduate Senate.

Subsection ii. Responsibilities

The DEI Director shall be responsible for leading advocacy relating to diversity and inclusion, reporting to and subject to the supervision of the President. The Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion shall report to the Undergraduate Senate on their activities at least once per semester.

Section 2. The Community Service Coalition

Subsection i. Establishment

There shall be a Community Service Coalition under the supervision of the President. The Community Service Coalition shall publicize and facilitate community service opportunities for American University students.

Subsection ii. Director

The head of the Community Service Coalition shall be a Director appointed by the President and confirmed by the Undergraduate Senate.

ARTICLE II. THE VICE PRESIDENT

Section 1. Duties, Powers, and Responsibilities of the Vice President

Subsection i. Chief of programming

The Vice President shall be responsible for organizing all Student Government programming, which refers to the practice of hosting events for students' enjoyment. The Vice President shall also be responsible for coordinating and assisting with the activities of the Undergraduate Councils. The Vice President shall take office on May 1 after their election.

Subsection ii. Creation of positions

The Vice President shall be empowered to create any position they deem useful to the execution of their duties. Any appointments made by the Vice President shall require approval by the Undergraduate Senate if they receive a stipend or control Student Government funds. These appointments shall expire on May 1st at midnight. The Vice President-Elect, upon the certification of the election results, shall be able to appoint positions that require approval of the Senate before they take office. The appointments shall take effect once the appointer has taken office.

Section 2. The Student Union Board

Subsection i. Establishment

There shall be a programming department under the Vice President called the Student Union Board (SUB), which shall be responsible for hosting entertainment events, such as musical concerts and comedy shows.

Subsection ii. Director

The head of SUB shall be a Director appointed by the Vice President and confirmed by the Undergraduate Senate.

Section 2. The Kennedy Political Union

Subsection i. Establishment

There shall be a programming department under the Vice President called the Kennedy Political Union (KPU), which shall be responsible for hosting speakers, including politicians and other political figures.

Subsection ii. Director

The head of KPU shall be a Director appointed by the Vice President and confirmed by the Undergraduate Senate.

Section 3. Women's Initiative

Subsection i. Establishment

There shall be a programming department under the Vice President called the Women's Initiative (WI), which shall be responsible for hosting programming events related to gender and sexuality.

Subsection ii. Director

The head of WI shall be a Director appointed by the Vice President and confirmed by the Undergraduate Senate.

Section 4. Founders Day

Subsection i. Establishment

There shall be a programming department under the Vice President called Founders Day, which shall be responsible for hosting an annual ball dance and events in the preceding week to celebrate the founding of American University.

Subsection ii. Director

The head of Founders Day shall be a Director appointed by the Vice President and confirmed by the Undergraduate Senate.

ARTICLE III. THE COMPTROLLER

Section 1. Duties, Powers, and Responsibilities of the President

Subsection i. Chief of finances

The Comptroller shall be responsible for administering the financial operations of Student Government, as regulated in the Finance Policy Book. The Comptroller shall also be the primary representative of Student Government regarding issues of University finances and may represent Student Government in any University body or position related to those finances. The Comptroller shall take office on May 1 after their election.

Subsection ii. Creation of positions

The Comptroller shall be empowered to create any position they deem useful to the execution of their duties. Any appointments made by the Comptroller shall require approval by the Undergraduate Senate if they receive a stipend or control Student Government funds. These appointments shall expire on May 1st at midnight. The Comptroller-Elect, upon the certification of the election results, shall be able to appoint positions that require approval of the Senate before they take office. The appointments shall take effect once the appointer has taken office.

Subsection iii. Record keeping

The Comptroller shall be responsible for maintaining records of all Student Government financial activity, which shall be itemized as much as possible. As much as allowed by contractual confidentiality requirements, the Comptroller shall maintain public records of Student Government spending on the Student Government website. These website records must be updated at least once per month.

ARTICLE IV. THE SECRETARY

Section 1. Duties, Powers, and Responsibilities of the President

Subsection i. Chief of communications and operations

The Secretary shall be responsible for administering the communications of Student Government, including the Student Government website and social media. The Secretary shall also be responsible for the daily operations of Student Government, including the reservation of

any needed meeting spaces and maintenance of email capabilities. The Secretary shall take office on May 1 after their election. The Secretary may represent Student Government on any University body related to communications.

Subsection ii. Creation of positions

The Secretary shall be empowered to create any position they deem useful to the execution of their duties. Any appointments made by the Comptroller shall require approval by the Undergraduate Senate if they receive a stipend or control Student Government funds. These appointments shall expire on May 1st at midnight. The Secretary-Elect, upon the certification of the election results, shall be able to appoint positions that require approval of the Senate before they take office. The appointments shall take effect once the appointer has taken office.

Subsection iii. Directory

The Secretary shall maintain a directory of all members of Student Government, listing their positions and official contact information.

ARTICLE V. THE UNDERGRADUATE SENATE

Section 1. Purpose

Subsection i. Generally

The purpose of Undergraduate Senate is composed of four responsibilities: creating the internal rules of Student Government, providing oversight of all Student Government activities, establishing the budget and stipends of Student Government, and pursuing its own advocacy initiatives.

Section 2. Composition

Subsection i. Term of Senators

Members of the Undergraduate Senate shall serve terms corresponding with the calendar year, with a new Undergraduate Senate term beginning every year on January 1. In academic terms, the term of Undergraduate Senate members shall consist of the Spring semester following their election and the Fall semester after that. In the time between their election and the start of their terms, Senators-elect shall attend meetings of the outgoing Undergraduate Senate.

Subsection i. The Speaker

The Speaker of the Undergraduate Senate shall be presiding officer of that body. They shall be chosen by members of the Undergraduate Senate at the first meeting of each Senate term as provided in these Bylaws and any policy books.

Subsection i. The Speaker Pro-Tempore

There shall be a Speaker Pro-Tempore, who shall be the vice chair of the Committee on Rules and Privileges. The Speaker Pro-Tempore shall preside over meetings of the Undergraduate Senate when the Speaker is absent. If the Speaker Pro-Tempore is also absent, the most senior member of the Senate shall preside.

Subsection i. The Speaker's office

The Speaker shall be empowered to create any position they deem useful to the execution of their duties. Any appointments made by the Speaker shall require approval by the Undergraduate Senate if they receive a stipend or control Student Government funds.

Section 3. Committees

Subsection i. Types of Committees

There shall be three types of Committees: standing committees, special committees, and ad-hoc committees. Standing committees shall have membership and purposes as provided in these Bylaws. Ad-hoc committees shall have membership and responsibilities as determined by the Speaker.

Subsection ii. Committee leadership

Each committee shall have a chair and a vice chair, responsible for organizing the committee's activities. The chairs of standing and special committees shall be elected at the second meeting of every Undergraduate Senate from among all Senators. The chairs of ad-hoc committees shall be elected by the membership of that committee at its first meeting. Committee vice chairs shall be elected by the membership of that committee at its first meeting.

Subsection iii. Membership on Standing Committees

Each member of the Undergraduate Senate shall be a member of only one standing committee. The specific membership of each standing committee shall be determined by the Speaker at the beginning of each term.

Subsection iv. The Committee on Campus and Student Life

The Committee on Campus and Student Life shall be a standing committee with jurisdiction over any initiative pertaining to advocacy regarding the everyday life of the students of American University including, but not limited to, student spaces, on-campus housing, dining policy, the Residence Hall Association, campus safety, fraternity and sorority matters, accessibility issues on and around campus, student organizations, and transportation policies. The Student Government President and Residence Hall Association President shall be granted non-voting, ex-officio member privileges in this committee.

Subsection v. The Committee on Student Rights and Services

The Committee on Student Rights and Services shall be a standing committee jurisdiction over any initiative pertaining to advocacy regarding the services and rights the American University administration provides the students of American University including, but not limited to, American University policies and regulations, all academic affairs, policies, and offices. The Student Government President and Director of the Center for Advocacy and Student Equity shall be granted non-voting, ex-officio member privileges in this committee.

Subsection vi. The Committee on Accessibility, Transparency, and Accountability

The Committee on Accessibility, Transparency, and Accountability shall have jurisdiction over any initiative pertaining to making Student Government accessible to students, organization-wide transparency, and oversight of Student Government departments. The Committee on Accessibility, Transparency, and Accountability will be a tool to assist the Senate in pursuing its commitment to upholding the highest standards of accessibility, transparency, and accountability throughout Student Government. The President, Vice President, Comptroller, and Secretary shall be granted non-voting, ex-officio member privileges in this committee.

Subsection vii. The Committee on Rules and Privileges

The Committee on Rules and Privileges be a special committee shall handle business that arises relating to the composition of the Senate and its rules and duties. This includes voting upon nominations to fill vacant positions, reviewing decisions of the Speaker and Parliamentarian in the first instance, and other matters that deal with the responsibilities and rights of members of the Senate. The Committee on Rules and Privileges shall be composed of the chairs and vice chairs of all standing and special committees. The chair of the Committee on Rules and Privileges shall be the Speaker.

Subsection viii. The Committee on Finance

The Committee on Finance shall be a special committee charged with creating the budget and stipends of Student Government and overseeing the administration of the budget. The Committee on Finance shall also have jurisdiction over any initiatives pertaining to University finances. The Committee on Finance shall have authority to review any and all finance accounts of the Student Government. All members of the Committee on Finance and the Speaker of the Undergraduate Senate shall be required to sign confidentiality agreements as established by the office of the Comptroller. The Comptroller, Vice President, and every director in the Vice President's cabinet

Subsection viii. The Committee on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

The Committee on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion shall be a special committee with jurisdiction over any initiative related to advocacy on diversity, equity, and inclusion. Any member of the Undergraduate Senate may choose to join this committee. The shall be granted non-voting, ex-officio member privileges in this committee. The President and Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion shall be granted non-voting, ex-officio member privileges in this committee.

Subsection ix. Ad-Hoc Committees

Ad-hoc committees are committees that may be established and dissolved by the Speaker with a specific purpose or focus. Ad-hoc committees may be used for organizing projects or studying issues but shall not have the legislative authorities of other committees. Membership on ad-hoc committees shall be regulated by the Speaker.

Section 4. Meetings

Subsection i. Organization by the Speaker

The Speaker shall call regular meetings of the Undergraduate Senate as they deem necessary. The Undergraduate Senate should meet at least once per week except as would interfere with breaks in the academic calendar. The Speaker shall work with the Secretary to ensure that the time, place, and agenda of each meeting are publicized on social media.

Subsection ii. Quorum

The Undergraduate Senate shall require quorum for the consideration of any business. Quorum shall constitute in the presence of the least whole number of Senators that is greater than half the number of Senators in total. Members may send voting proxies to represent them at meetings, and the presence of proxies can satisfy quorum. The quorum requirement shall also apply to committee meetings.

Subsection iii. Proxy qualifications

Proxies must be American University undergraduate students, and the Speaker shall only accept a request for a Senator to be represented by a proxy if they believe that request was made by the Senator whom the proxy would represent. As long as the Speaker believes the request to be legitimate, it may be transmitted by any medium. These qualifications shall apply to all proxies in meetings of the full Senate as well as in committee meetings.

Subsection iv. Special meetings

Special meetings of the Senate may be called by the Speaker or by a petition of a third of the Senate at any time provided forty-eight hours notice. The Speaker and the President, through Joint Order, may call for an emergency meeting provided four hours notice. During special meetings no other business may be conducted outside of the meeting's purpose.

Subsection v. Speaking rights

Speaking rights at Undergraduate Senate meetings shall extend to all members of the Undergraduate Senate, the four Executives, all Directors, members of the Judicial Board, the Elections Commissioner, the Parliamentarian, Executives-elect, the Student Trustee, and the President of the Residence Hall Association. Speaking rights may be granted to other people by the Senate with a majority vote.

Subsection vi. Further meeting regulations

Further regulation of Senate meetings and debate shall be provided by the Rules of Debate and Decorum and the Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure.

Section 5. Legislation

Subsection i. Generally

The Senate may consider legislation and other items of business in the manner provided by the Rules of Debate and Decorum. The types of legislation the Senate may consider are resolutions, bills, directives, referenda, and policy books.

Subsection ii. Bills

A bill is a binding piece of legislation that can, create or dissolve departments within the Executive Branch, amend the Bylaws, set organization-wide binding policy on advocacy issues, create the budget or otherwise establish and change the rules of the Student Government. Bills are subject to presidential veto and passed by a majority vote. Bills shall only be binding for the term of the Undergraduate Senate in which they were passed, except for bills affecting the budget and stipends of Student Government or those amending the governing documents.

Subsection iii. Resolutions

A resolution is a piece of legislation that expresses the official sentiment or statement of the Undergraduate Senate. Resolutions are not not subject to presidential veto and passed by a majority vote.

Subsection iv. Directives

A directive is a binding piece of legislation that can appropriate funds, direct individual officers of the Student Government to specific actions, and compel executive reports. A directive is passed with a two-thirds vote. It is subject to executive veto. Should a directive be passed, the Speaker shall be responsible for recording and conveying it to the executives in question as well as any of their relevant superiors.

Subsection v. Referenda

A referendum is a question to be voted on by the student body in a Student Government election. Referenda are regulated according to the Elections Policy Book. They are not subject to presidential veto.

Subsection vi. Policy books

A policy book is a document governing a specific aspect of Student Government, as described in these Bylaws.

Subsection vii. Veto

Any legislation passed by the Senate that is subject to presidential veto shall be transmitted by the Speaker to the president within two days of its passage for the President's signature. If the president does not sign it within seven days, it is vetoed and not ratified. The Undergraduate Senate may override a presidential veto by a two-thirds vote.

Section 6. Attendance

Subsection i. Attendance requirements

All members of the Undergraduate Senate shall be required to attend all meetings of the full Senate and all committees they sit on. If any member of the Undergraduate Senate is absent from three such meetings without sending a proxy or getting absences waived by the Speaker or committee chair respectively, they shall be suspended. If any member fails to complete their office hours in a week, that shall count as one absence toward suspension.

Subsection ii. Suspension

If a member of the Undergraduate Senate accumulates enough absences to be suspended, they shall lose their right to vote in the Senate and shall not count for the purposes of quorum. A suspended member may appear at the next meeting of the Committee on Rules and Privileges and the full Undergraduate Senate to appeal their suspension. If the Committee and the full Senate vote to reverse that member's suspension, then the member shall be re-enrolled in the Senate. If the member does not appeal or does not have their suspension reversed, they are expelled from the Senate.

Subsection iii. Attendance waiver

The Speaker may waive absences from Senate meetings or office hours from the attendance requirement if they believe the reason provided by the member to be a legitimate excuse for the absence. A committee chair may do the same in the case of a committee absence.

Section 6. New Senator orientation

Subsection i. Establishment

After the election of Senators in the fall and before the beginning of the new Senate term in January, the outgoing Speaker shall organize an informational orientation for new members explaining how Student Government works and the role of the Undergraduate Senate in particular.

Subsection ii. Entrance test

Before they may be seated for a new term, new and returning Senators must pass an entrance test created and administered by the Speaker. This entrance test shall evaluate the knowledge of members-elect on matters necessary for them to be effective in their roles, such as the operations of Student Government, the governing documents, and the legislative process. Before administering the test, the outgoing Speaker must have the content and required standards approved by the outgoing Committee on Rules and Privileges.

Section 7. First meeting and Speaker elections

Subsection i. First Senate meeting agenda

The agenda for the first meeting of any Undergraduate Senate shall be as follows: I. Call to Order, II. Roll Call of the New Senators, III. Public Comment, IV. Report from the President, V. Election of a Speaker, VI. Remarks of the Speaker, VII. Good of the Order, VIII. Adjournment.

Subsection ii. President as chair

The chair of this meeting shall be the President. Should the President decline or be unable to preside over the first meeting, they may designate an alternative in the following order: (1) Chair of the Judicial Board, (2) Vice-President, (3) Secretary, (4) Comptroller or (5) any outgoing member of the Undergraduate Senate who relinquishes their right to stand for election as Speaker.

Subsection iii. Eligibility to be Speaker

Any undergraduate student not on academic or disciplinary probation shall be eligible for nomination to be Speaker.

Subsection iv. Debate

Following nominations, the Senate shall move into debate. Each candidate, in order of their nomination, shall deliver a candidate speech not to exceed seven minutes. Immediately following each speech, there shall be a questioning period of ten minutes per candidate. The Senate may extend this questioning period by five-minute increments. Following the period of questioning, debate on the nominees shall be in order. Any person with speaking rights shall be entitled to speak during this debate for a time not to exceed three minutes. No person shall speak more than four times.

Subsection v. Voting

Upon the close of debate, the presiding officer shall put the nominees before the Senate for a vote that shall occur by secret ballot. Ballots shall be collected by the presiding officer. A candidate shall require a majority of voting Senators. Should no candidate receive a majority of votes in the first round of voting, the candidate with the lowest number of votes shall be eliminated, and a runoff shall occur. This runoff process shall continue until a majority is reached.

Section 8. Powers of the Speaker

Subsection i. Legislative orders

The Speaker may issue legislative orders towards any end they deem necessary for the operations of the Senate, including but not limited to: the announcement of their clerical policies, the construction and appointment of ad-hoc committees, the construction and appointment of commissions, the structuring of the Senate's standing committees, the assignment of senators to committees, and the appointment of individuals to the Office of the Speaker.

Subsection ii. Committee referral

The Speaker shall when necessary refer items of consideration to the appropriate committees after first reading.

Subsection iii. Agenda

The agenda of Senate meetings shall be determined by the Speaker or as provided by the Rules of Debate and Decorum.

Subsection iv. Impartiality

The Speaker shall act with impartiality in all matters coming before the Senate, except when able to cast a vote in the case of a tie from the Senate or Committee on Rules and Privileges. The Speaker shall be obligated to speak on behalf of all legislation after its passage and convey it to the relevant departments and organs of Student Government.

ARTICLE VI. THE JUDICIAL BOARD

Section 1. Membership

Subsection i. Generally

The Judicial Board shall be composed of five members including a chair. Two members shall be appointed by the President, and two members shall be appointed by the Speaker of the Undergraduate Senate. The Chair shall be appointed jointly by the President and the Speaker. All five members require approval by the Undergraduate Senate.

Subsection ii. Term limits and renewal

Members of the Judicial Board shall serve a term of one semester following their initial appointment and confirmation. After this initial semester, members may appear before the Undergraduate Senate once per semester, requesting that the Senate renew their membership on

the Board for another semester. Members may continue to request such renewal of their terms each semester indefinitely. If a member fails to make such an appearance, or if the Senate declines to renew the term of a member, then a new member shall be appointed to that position by the appropriate officials and confirmed by the Senate. However, new individuals may not be nominated to fill a position on the Board in this manner until a previous member either fails to appear before the Senate in a semester or is denied term renewal by the Senate.

Subsection iii. Other positions

There shall be an Inspector appointed at the pleasure of the Chair of the Judicial Board. The Inspector shall collect information for the determination of facts in inquiries before the Board and perform other functions as provided in the Judicial Register. The Chair of the Judicial Board shall be empowered to create any other positions they deem necessary for the execution of the Board's responsibilities.

Section 2. Powers

Subsection i. Generally

The Judicial Board shall provide authoritative answers on questions regarding the governing documents and rules of Student Government.

Subsection ii. Restriction

Any sanctions made by the Judicial Board may be overturned by the Undergraduate Senate upon the adoption of a resolution to do so with a two-thirds vote. The Judicial Board may not permanently remove anyone in Student Government from their position.

ARTICLE VII. ELECTIONS

Section 1. The Elections Commission

Subsection i. Establishment

There shall be an Elections Commission that shall act as an independent commission led by a commissioner. The Elections Commission shall be responsible for administering all elections as well as perpetually creating and reviewing elections policy.

Subsection ii. Composition

The Elections Commission shall be led by a Commissioner. The Elections Commission shall contain a Policy Board as provided in these Bylaws. The Commissioner shall be empowered to create any positions within the Elections Commission outside of the Policy Board they deem necessary for the administration of elections. Members are to serve a purely administrative role and serve at the pleasure of the Commissioner. Members of the Policy Board and members of the Commission as a whole may not be involved in any campaigning during their term with the Elections Commission.

Subsection iii. The Elections Commissioner

The Elections Commissioner is the head of the Elections Commission, serves as the Chair of the Policy Board, and will act as the chief administrator of AUSG elections. The Commissioner is jointly appointed by the President and the Speaker of the Undergraduate Senate, and confirmed by the Undergraduate Senate, by the end of the Spring semester preceding their term. The Commissioner will have a term of one academic year starting the fall semester following their confirmation.

Subsection iv. Vacancy of the Elections Commissioner

In the event that the seat of the Elections Commissioner becomes vacant, the Vice-Chair of the Elections Commission Policy Board shall serve as Acting Commissioner until the appointment of a new Commissioner.

Subsection v. Policy Board composition

The Elections Commission Policy Board will be composed of five members, two appointed by the Speaker, two appointed by the President, and the Elections Commissioner, which shall serve as the chair of the Committee. All appointees must be confirmed by the Undergraduate Senate. Members do not necessarily need to hold a position within Student Government. Applications for positions shall be posted immediately following the creation of a vacancy. Members other than the chair will serve indefinitely; when a vacancy is created, the appropriate appointing officer shall work diligently to fill the position. All persons in and outside of the organization who are running for a position or are part of a campaign may not hold a seat on the Elections Commission Policy Board. In the event that a current member of the Committee elects to run for a Student Government position or participate as campaign staff, such members shall be required to resign their seat and subsequent procedures will be followed to fill the vacant seats

Subsection v. Policy Board responsibilities

The Elections Commission Policy Board is entrusted with improving institutional memory with elections policies and procedures. The Committee, in taking under advisement the reports of the Elections Commission and Office of the Inspector, are responsible for reviewing the Elections Policy Book, considering recent Judicial opinions, and ensuring the successful transition to a new Elections Commissioner upon vacancy. The Committee may offer additional rules or clarifications after the start of an elections cycle as long as they do not contradict any of the governing documents, including the policy book. No policy changes may be enforced ex post facto, but will take effect pursuant to the Standing Election Policy passed by the Elections Commission Policy Board. Moreover, the Policy Board may create Official Policy Interpretations, which shall be created only once a formal request has been made by a member of the American University community. Official Policy Interpretations shall establish authoritative precedent that the Judicial Board may use in crafting their opinions. The Committee will also be responsible for recommending election certification to the Undergraduate Senate after receiving the official recommendation of the Elections Commissioner and Inspector.

Section 2. Standards for elections

Subsection i. Occurrence

Elections shall be held at least twice yearly. Spring elections shall choose all extant school and class councils and all elective Executive positions. Fall elections shall choose all members of the Senate, the freshman class council, and all school and class council seats which remain vacant for whatever reason. Special elections may occur as provided by the Senate or a state of exception. Those elected shall be the candidate(s) obtaining the plurality of the popular vote amongst their electorate. Elections shall be held at least twice yearly. Spring elections shall choose all extant school and class councils and all elective Executive positions. Fall elections shall choose all members of the Senate, the freshman class council, and all school and class council seats which remain vacant for whatever reason. Special elections may occur as provided by the Senate or a state of exception. Those elected shall be the candidates obtaining the plurality of the popular vote in their races.

Subsection ii. Special elections

In accordance with the Constitution, the Commission will hold within thirty academic days a special election to fill vacancies in either the Presidency or Vice Presidency. In extenuating circumstances, the time period can be extended through a Joint Order issued through the Executive Board and the Speaker. This extension may not exceed thirty additional academic days. An extension may not be further extended.

Subsection iii. Qualifications to run

Candidates for elected Executive positions must have a minimum of forty-five academic credits to stand and must be in a degree-granting program at the time of the election. Candidates for Student Government Vice President must have either one year of experience in one of the four Student Government programming boards (KPU, SUB, WI, and Founders Day) or equivalent programming experience as certified by the office of Student Activities in another student organization. Candidates for class council positions, or for Undergraduate Senate positions representing a particular class, must be a member of that class under university academic criteria at the time of the election. Candidates for school council positions, or for Undergraduate Senate positions representing a particular school, must be in a degree-granting program within that school. Candidates for the Senate in an at-large capacity may possess any number of credits and may be from any school or program at American University. Members of the Judicial Board, Members of the Elections Commission, Members of the Office of the Inspector, and the Speaker of the Undergraduate Senate may not run for elected office while holding their incumbent positions. Paid executives who decide to run may not engage in duties of their office that pertain to their election.

Subsection iv. Qualifications to vote

Any undergraduate student enrolled in a school or program at American University shall be eligible to vote for elected Executive positions and Undergraduate Senate at-large representatives. Any student who possesses a number of credits placing them into a particular class by virtue of university academic criteria shall be eligible to vote for that particular class council and Undergraduate Senate class representatives. Any undergraduate student who is enrolled in a degree-granting program in a particular school shall be eligible to vote for that particular school council and Undergraduate Senate school representatives

Section 3. Elections violations

Subsection i. Submission of violations

All inquiries and suspected violations will be submitted to the Office of the Inspector for review. The Inspector must respond within twenty-four hours. Administrative questions or procedure may be clarified by the Elections Commission

Subsection ii. Proceedings

Upon receipt of a violation, the Chair of the Judicial Board determines whether mediation or formal charges will remedy a situation. Mediation is the primary means of correction violations issues. Concerns of election ethics, interpretation of policy, and appeals of mediation results will require a hearing, as they cannot be remedied by mediation. The Chair may designate a mediator from the membership of the Judicial Board, including themselves. For the purpose of Elections, and superseding all other provisions in the Bylaws, the Judicial Board may impose temporary administrative sanctions on campaigns before a hearing so long as the sanction is narrowly tailored to preventing the complained of action from continuing, subject to review of the full Board. The Judicial Board cannot suspend elections in any form during this process, thus requiring a timely response to election inquiries.

Subsection iii. Suspension and decertification

It is not within the purview of the Judicial Board to determine the 'fairness' of an election. Thus, appeals cannot suspend or decertify elections. Such appeals of election 'fairness' should be issued to the Special Meeting of the Undergraduate Senate for the purpose of elections certification.

Section 3. Certification

Subsection i. Certification procedure

The Elections Commissioner shall call a special meeting of the Elections Commission Policy Board within five hours after the close of polls. It is at this time that the Commissioner shall report to the Policy Board, reviewing how the elections were handled and if any practices occurred that could warrant decertification. At this time, these members do not receive the results. The Policy Board shall then vote to certify that the election was conducted in a manner free and fair. The Policy Board may only decertify elections in instances of voter disenfranchisement or object corruption. The Policy Board shall vote on each race individually. Within three hours, a special meeting of the Undergraduate Senate will be held to review the decision of the Elections Commission Policy Board.

Subsection ii. Special Senate meeting

At the special meeting of the Undergraduate Senate, the Elections Commissioner will present the certification recommendations from the Elections Commission Policy Board to the Senate for each individual race. Following the announcement of the certification for each race, the Speaker of the Undergraduate Senate will entertain any motions to reconsider the decision of the Policy Board for each individual race. If a motion to reconsider is approved by a simple majority, then a period of debate on the individual race that is being considered shall begin. A two-thirds majority vote is required to overturn the decision of the Policy Board for any individual race; if a two-thirds majority is not met, then the ruling of the Policy Board on the individual race will stand. If there are no motions, the Speaker announces the race is certified, and the Elections Commissioner will move on to the next race until all certifications have been announced

Subsection iii. Re-administration

A decertified election shall be re-administered by the Elections Commission as soon as possible, and within reasonable time. No further period of campaigning is necessary

ARTICLE VIII. POLICY BOOKS

Section 1. Establishment

Subsection i. Description

There shall be several policy books enacted as enforceable extensions of these Bylaws, subordinate to these Bylaws. The policy books shall provide for the specific details and manners by which the various operations of Student Government are conducted. All members of Student Government shall be required to adhere to the regulations provided by policy books on matters over which they have jurisdiction.

Subsection ii. Creation

A policy book may be created to govern any aspect of Student Government, provided that no other policy book also manages that same aspect. Policy books shall be created when they are adopted by the Undergraduate Senate and listed in these Bylaws.

Subsection iii. Maintenance

Each policy book shall be assigned to a specific official in Student Government who shall be responsible for maintaining it. These maintaining position should be held by the official who is responsible for the aspect of Student Government managed by that policy book.

Subsection iv. Amendment process

A policy book may be amended by the official who maintains it. Before they are enacted, the maintaining official must submit any proposed amendments to the Undergraduate Senate for adoption. The Undergraduate Senate may not initiate any amendments to any policy books except as provided in these Bylaws; unless otherwise provided, the Senate may only approve or reject amendments submitted to them by maintaining officials. The Undergraduate Senate may revise policy book amendments proposed to them by maintaining officials, but they may not revise any part of the policy book that is not affected by the specific amendment proposed to them at that time. Policy book amendments shall have two readings before the Undergraduate Senate.

Subsection v. Requirements for new policy books

Any newly created policy book must be assigned a maintaining official. The extent of a new policy book's jurisdiction must be specified in these Bylaws. Each policy book must be assigned to a specific Senate committee that will consider any proposed amendments for first reading.

Section 2. Currently existing policy books

Subsection i. The Elections Policy Book

There shall be an Elections Policy Book maintained by the Elections Commissioner. The Elections Policy Book shall govern Student Government elections. In addition to the Elections Commissioner as its maintaining official, any member of the Undergraduate Senate may also initiate amendments to the Elections Policy Book. Amendments to the Elections Policy Book shall be considered by the Committee on Rules and Privileges for first reading.

Subsection ii. The Judicial Register

There shall be a policy book called the Judicial Register maintained by the Chair of the Judicial Board. The Judicial Register shall govern the actions of the Judicial Board. Amendments to the Judicial Register shall be considered by the Committee on Rules and Privileges for first reading.

Subsection iii. The Ethical and Judicial Standards

There shall be a policy book called the Ethical and Judicial Standards maintained by the Comptroller. The Ethical and Judicial Standards shall govern the ethical responsibilities and boundaries entailed by participation in Student Government. Amendments to the Ethical and Judicial Standards shall be considered by the Committee on Accessibility, Transparency, and Accountability for first reading.

Subsection iv. The Rules of Debate and Decorum

There shall be a policy book called the Rules of Debate and Decorum maintained by the Undergraduate Senate Committee on Rules and Privileges. The Rules of Debate and Decorum shall govern the parliamentary procedure of the Undergraduate Senate. Any procedure not provided for in the Rules of Debate and Decorum shall be governed by the Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure, but the Rules of Debate and Decorum shall be supreme in the case of any contradictions. Amendments to the Rules of Debate and Decorum may be adopted by the Committee on Rules and Privileges independently and do not require approval by the full Undergraduate Senate, and thus require no first or second reading.

Subsection v. The Finance Policy Book

There shall be a Finance Policy Book maintained by the Comptroller. The Finance Policy Book shall govern the financial activities and administration of Student Government, including how funding requests are processed and how financial records are to be kept. However, this policy book shall not govern the process of creating the annual budget before it is adopted, which is the jurisdiction of the Budget Policy Book. Amendments to the Finance Policy Book shall be considered by the Committee on Finance for first reading.

Subsection vi. The Budget Policy Book

There shall be a Budget Policy Book maintained by the Chair of the Undergraduate Senate Finance Committee. The Budget Policy Book shall govern the process for creating the annual Student Government budget and stipends, such as the process for accepting budget proposals and Student Government conduct on the Budget Advisory Committee. However, this policy book shall not govern the administration of Student Government funds after the budget is adopted, which is the jurisdiction of the Finance Policy Book. Amendments to the Budget Policy Book shall be considered by the Committee on Finance for first reading.

Subsection vii. The Programming Policy Book

There shall be a Programming Policy Book maintained by the Vice President. The Programming Policy Book shall govern the activities of the Kennedy Political Union, the Student Union Board, the Women's Initiative, the Founders department, and any other programming boards within Student Government. Amendments to the Programming Policy Book shall be considered by the Committee on Accessibility, Transparency, and Accountability for first reading.

Subsection viii. The Communications Policy Book

There shall be a Communications Policy Book maintained by the Secretary. The Communications Policy Book shall govern all communications, outreach, and media activities of Student Government. Amendments to the Communications Policy Book shall be considered by the Committee on Accessibility, Transparency, and Accountability for first reading.

Subsection ix. The Presidential Policy Book

There shall be a Presidential Policy Book maintained by the President. The Presidential Policy Book shall govern the advocacy and other duties of the President. Amendments to the Presidential Policy Book shall be considered by the Committee on Accessibility, Transparency, and Accountability for first reading.

Subsection x. The CASE Policy Book

There shall be a policy book called the CASE Policy Book governing the structure and activities of the Center for Advocacy and Student Equity. The CASE Policy Book shall be maintained both by the CASE Director and the President, but the President may override any action taken by the CASE Director in maintaining this policy book. Amendments to the CASE Policy Book shall be considered by the Committee on Student Rights and Services for first reading.

Section 3. Jurisdiction

Subsection i. Limitation of Jurisdiction

Policy books may internally limit their respective jurisdictions to be more narrow than provided by the Bylaws, but they may not expand their own jurisdiction to be broader than provided by the Bylaws.

Subsection ii. Overlapping jurisdiction

If any member of Student Government believes that multiple policy books have overlapping jurisdiction over a certain activity or office, the Judicial Board shall decide which policy book has definitive jurisdiction over that activity or office. The Chair of the Judicial Board may decide

whether to provide such an answer on their own or to convene a meeting of the full Board to provide an answer. Any jurisdictional pronouncement made by the Chair individually may be appealed to the full Board.

ARTICLE IX. UNDERGRADUATE COUNCILS

Section 1. Purpose

Subsection i. Description

Undergraduate councils are all class and school councils.

Subsection ii. Mission

A council and its members shall:

- a. Advocate for the student body by working with the AU Student Government Office of the Vice President and Undergraduate Senate along with American University faculty/staff.
- b. Promote AU Student Government events to unify their respective class or school.

Section 2. Leadership

Subsection i. President

The Council President shall serve as the chief executive officer and spokesperson of a council and oversee initiatives and programming to promote class or school unity.

Subsection ii. Vice President

The Council Vice President shall assist the Council President with initiatives and programming for their class or school.

Subsection iii. Treasurer

The Council Treasurer shall oversee financial activities of a council and may acquire authorization from the Student Government Vice President, Comptroller, or Undergraduate Senate.

Subsection iv. Secretary

The Council Secretary shall oversee communications of a council and assist the Council President with daily operations and meeting minutes.

Subsection v. Creation of positions

The Council President may create positions deemed necessary and shall inform the AU Student Government Office of the Vice President about new position holders.

Subsection vi. Filling vacancies

If a Council President resigns or takes a leave of absence, then the Council Vice President shall work with the AU Student Government Office of the Vice President to appoint an eligible student subject to confirmation by the Undergraduate Senate. No nominees shall be introduced between the nominating convention and certification of the election in an election cycle. If a Council Vice President, Treasurer, or Secretary resigns or takes a leave of absence, then the Council President shall appoint an eligible student subject to confirmation by the AU Student Government Office of the Vice President. No nominees shall be introduced between the nominating convention and certification of the election in an election cycle.

Subsection vii. Succession

The Council Vice President shall succeed a Council President. The Council Treasurer serves as the third ranking member followed by the Council Secretary. If an entire council remains vacant following an election, then the AU Student Government Vice President shall appoint a Council President subject to confirmation by the Undergraduate Senate.

Section 3. Oversight

Subsection i. Student Government Vice President

Undergraduate Councils shall report to the AU Student Government Office of the Vice President. School Councils may report to their respective School Senator.

Subsection ii. Undergraduate Senate

The School Senator may introduce legislation on behalf of the School Council and its shared student constituents.

ARTICLE X. THE BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Section 1. Accession and charter

Subsection i. Accession

Student Government officially accedes to the Budget Advisory Committee (BAC) and ratifies its charter.

Subsection ii. Notice of amendment restrictions

This section of the Bylaws contains the BAC charter. Therefore, this section cannot be amended except as allowed under the amendment process described in the BAC charter.

Subsection iii. Definition of BAC

- a. The Student Activities Budget Advisory Committee is the representative body which oversees the budgeting of the Student Activities Fund between the Student Government, the Student Media Board and the Club Council, i.e. the three recipients of American University Student Activities funding. These tasks include, but are not limited to, making recommendations on the modification of stipend allocations, oversight of the Student Activities Fund among the three organizations, and other budgetary issues as determined by the Committee.
- b. BAC is made up of three representatives from each of the three organizations it represents. These nine representatives have equal standing in BAC decision making and equal voting power.
- c. Student Government's representatives are the President, the Comptroller, and the chair of the Undergraduate Senate Special Committee on Finance; the Student Media Board representatives are its two co-chairs and one special representative elected from SMB; Club Council's representatives are its chair, its outreach director, and its finance director.
- d. These representatives may change either by a change in personnel in said positions or if there is a change to any of the three organizations' government documents necessitating such a change. In no event may any organization represented on the BAC have more than three voting representatives.
- e. As the representative of the three groups which receive Student Activity funds, the BAC makes recommendations on the allocation of the funds, stipends, and other budgetary issues.
- f. Meetings of the BAC are presided over by an unbiased chair, who has no vote and is normally the Director of Student Activities or their representative. "Unbiased" means here that the chair may not actively exclude or silence any of the nine representatives on the BAC.

Subsection iii. BAC organization and operations

- a. The nine members of BAC serve one-year terms, as per the normal operations of the three member organizations.
- b. All official meetings of the BAC must meet quorum. For any official decisions to be taken by the BAC, three conditions must be met: the chair or their representative must be present; a majority of voting members (i.e. five) must be present; and at least one representative from

each of the member groups must be present. The last requirement may be waived if permission is granted by a majority of representatives of the absent group (e.g. if an emergency meeting must be held at a time when none of the SMB representatives may attend, the BAC may have an official meeting and conduct official business if a majority of the representatives of the SMB consent). The quorum requirement may also be waived for an upcoming meeting by a unanimous vote by all voting members on a meeting-by-meeting basis.

- c. All meetings shall be convened, presided over, and adjourned by the chair at an agreed-upon time designated by the nine voting members.
- d. All decisions made by the BAC shall be made under the principle "majority of representatives; consensus of organizations." In practice, this means that decisions may only be made under the following conditions: a majority of present voting representatives vote in favor of a proposal and a majority of present voting representatives from each organization vote in favor of the proposal. These decision-making criteria constitute normal means.
- e. Any of the nine voting members may send a voting proxy in their absence.
- f. The charter of the BAC may be amended by only normal means, as described in this section. The only exception is if there is an internal change to any of the three groups which changes its representation on BAC.
- g. All meetings of the BAC are open to the public. The minutes of all meetings must be taken and published within 48 hours of each meeting's adjournment on a website devoted to budgetary transparency. The chair may either take the minutes or delegate that responsibility; the note-taker does not need to be a member of the BAC.
- h. The chair is tasked with ensuring that the BAC operates transparently and is consequently encouraged to have an honest and active presence on social media and maintain regular contact with the SMB and other relevant organizations for the purpose of ensuring that the student body is informed on the happenings in the BAC.

Section 2. Student Government's relationship with BAC

Subsection i. External regulations

Any matter regarding Student Government's relationship with BAC not provided for here is governed by the Budget Policy Book. This section does not contain the BAC charter and may be amended as normal.

Subsection ii. Withdrawal from BAC

As long as BAC is the means by which American University distributes Student Activity Fee revenue, Student Government may not withdraw from it by any means other than an amendment to the BAC Charter as described in Article II, section 6 of that Charter. Student Government may not propose any amendments to the Charter to withdraw Student Government from the BAC as long as BAC is the means by which American University distributes Student Activity Fee revenue. If any legislation is put on the agenda of an Undergraduate Senate meeting that may result in Student Government's withdrawal from BAC, the Speaker shall notify the Senate's advisor from the Student Activities office of the legislation and invite them to speak at that Senate meeting and advise the Senate on that legislation.

Subsection iii. Senate oversight

Any actions taken by Student Government in relation to the BAC must be in conformity with Senate policy and the Budget Policy Book.

ARTICLE XI. FINANCIAL RULES

Section 1. External regulations

Any matter relating to the administration of Student Government finances not regulated here is governed by the Finance Policy Book.

Section 2. Accounts

Subsection i. List

The Finance Policy Book shall maintain a current list of the different Student Government financial accounts and their respective purposes.

Subsection ii. Student Government Reserved

The Student Government Reserved account shall be used for the purpose of additional budgetary allocations and payment of previous fiscal year expenses. Funds from SG Reserved shall be available for disbursement through legislative act of the Undergraduate Senate. Such legislation shall require a majority vote to pass. All current fiscal year budgets unspent, excepting class council accounts, shall be automatically placed into SG Reserved. There shall always be a minimum of twenty-five thousand dollar in the SG Reserved unless a state of exception is declared in accordance with procedures outlined in these Bylaws.

Section 3. Non-disclosure forms

The Speaker and all members of the Senate Finance Committee must sign non-disclosure forms relating to Student Government finances as provided by the Comptroller.

ARTICLE XII. REMOVAL FROM OFFICE

Section 1. General provisions

Subsection i. Removal by the Undergraduate Senate

All Student Government members may be removed from their position by standard removal procedures from the Undergraduate Senate, except for the Speaker of the Undergraduate Senate, Senate committee chairs, and senate committee vice chairs, who are subject to votes of no confidence.

Subsection ii. Dismissal of a department director

Any appointed Department Director may be dismissed from office by the appointing executive. The dismissed of any Department Director may be overturned by the Senate with a majority vote.

Section 2. Censure and the removal process

Subsection i. Censure and removal

A censure, as defined by the Senate's Rules of Debate and Decorum, shall be a method of punishment that the Senate may choose to pursue if it feels that removal is not currently warranted by the circumstances at hand. If a censure is passed, it must be given to the offending officer by the Speaker within one business day of the passed motion. Once an individual has been censured, they must appear at the next meeting of the full Undergraduate Senate to be questioned by the Senate. If the Senate chooses to pursue removal after it has censured the offending officer, it must wait seven days before filing removal charges. The Senate is not required to censure an officer before removing them.

Subsection ii. Removal charge

Any member of the Senate may file a removal charge against a Legislative, Executive, or Judicial Branch member. Such charges must be filled with the Speaker, and co-sponsored, as amended by at least four other members of the Undergraduate Senate in good standing. The written

statement of charges must include: (1) Name of the accused and office held; (2) specific reasons for removal (3) the five signatures of current Senators, the members filing the charge and the four co-sponsors. The signatures are encouraged, but if sent along in an email, simply listing the names of those who support removal will be allowed. Parties to the charge shall be notified within twenty-four hours.

Subsection ii. Review of charges

The Speaker shall convene a special meeting of the Committee of Rules and Privileges in order to review the validity of the removal charge. The committee shall deal with the charges as follows: the lead sponsor shall have five minutes to present his or her case, followed by a period of questioning. Then, the accused officer(s) shall have the same amount of time for rebuttal, followed again by a period of questioning. A period of debate will then be entered. After debate, a roll-call vote shall be taken. A majority vote of the committee shall sustain the charge. If the charge is sustained, the Senate shall convene in a special meeting within one week of the Committee's decision.

Subsection iii. Evidence

Prior to convening the Senate, the Speaker shall establish a deadline for when all evidence, both of the complainant and respondent, must be received; also subject to the deadline set by the Speaker will be submittal of a witness list, not to exceed three people per side. The depositions of and any witnesses who are members of the Judicial Board shall not be admissible as evidence. The admissibility of any other evidence shall be determined at the discretion of the Speaker, whose rulings shall be final.

Subsection iii. Briefs

Considering the vast amount of evidence that may be collected, the complainant and respondent must each provide members of the Senate and the Speaker with a brief document outlining their case, the evidence, and their respective opinions on the issue. In addition, the respondent reserves the right to have another individual represent them, as long as their representative is not a member of the Judicial Board. Prior to or at the submission of evidence, each side must list indicate the presenters of their argument, if any.

Subsection iv. Hearing

Upon convening, the Senate shall hear formally the charges of removal. The complainant shall have a period of ten minutes to present his or her case to the Senate, which will immediately be followed by a period of ten minutes for questioning. After the period of questioning of the complainant, the respondent shall present their case for ten minutes and will be questioned by the members of the Senate for a period of ten minutes. After the questioning of the respondent, the complainant is allowed to call up to three witnesses, who automatically receive speaking privileges during their time before the Senate, to receive questions for a period not to exceed ten minutes in length each, with five minutes reserved for the complainant and five minutes reserved for the members of the Senate. Following the presentation and questioning of the complainant's witnesses, the respondent may present and have questioned their own three witnesses in the same manner as the complainant. After the presentation and questioning of each side's witnesses, each party may make a closing statement, each of which may not exceed three minutes. The presenters of each side's argument shall not be able to question the witnesses of the other side. After the period of questioning has expired the Senate shall move into a twenty minute period of debate, which can be ended at any time should the Speaker entertain such a motion.

Subsection v. Voting

At the close of the period of debate, a vote by secret ballot will automatically be taken, with the votes tallied by the Speaker of the Undergraduate Senate, the Speaker Pro-Tempore of the Undergraduate Senate, the Chair of the Judicial Board, and the President of the Student Government, in the presence of the lead complainant and the respondent. A two-thirds majority of Senators present and voting shall be required to find the respondent guilty of the charges presented. Should the Senate find the respondent guilty, he or she will automatically be removed from office. Should the Senate find the respondent not-guilty, he or she shall remain in office and not be subject to an impeachment hearing on the same charges for the remainder of the academic year.

Subsection vi. Procedural rights

Throughout the entire impeachment process the respondent will have the right to not only have representation, but also time rights. There must be forty-eight hours between each meeting in the impeachment process, which will allow both sides to compile evidence, and engage in a fair process.

Section 3. Motions of no confidence

Subsection i. Purpose

Committee Chairs, deputy Chairs, and the Speaker may be subject to a motion of no-confidence to the remove them from those positions. Such a motion may be made at any time during normal business by a member of the Undergraduate Senate.

Subsection ii. Presiding officer

Should the Speaker of the Undergraduate Senate be the one subject to the motion of no-confidence, he or she shall, for the purposes of the proceedings, relinquish the chair to the Speaker Pro-Tempore.

Subsection iii. Debate

Upon such a motion, the Senate or the Committee will resolve into Committee of the Whole for the purposes of debate. First the member of the Senate making the motion, and then the official against whom the motion is made, shall have the right to explain their positions. Such a period shall last no longer than five minutes per speaker. After the close of this period, the Senate shall engage in a period of debate. The period of debate will not be limited, though it may be concluded in the usual manner.

Subsection iv. Vote

At the close of the period of debate, a vote will automatically be taken. A simple majority will be sufficient to sustain the motion.

Subsection v. Replacement

If a position is vacated due to a motion of no-confidence, it shall be filled in the usual manner.

ARTICLE XIII. GENERAL GOVERNANCE

Section 1. Governing document amendments

Subsection i. The Bylaws

These Bylaws may be amended by the Undergraduate Senate through the passage of bills, with the bills being reviewed by the Committee on Rules and Privileges for first reading.

Subsection ii. The Constitution and policy books

The Constitution and policy books may be amended as they provide.

Section 2. Jurisdiction of Student Government

The preamble of the Constitution of Student Government is nonbinding. The passage in the preamble stating that “the Student Government shall consist of all undergraduate students who have paid their student activity fee” is meant to express the fact that Student Government represents all undergraduate students universally, not that the rules of Student Government apply to all undergraduate students. The rules of Student Government, as provided in the governing documents and related binding policies, apply only to individuals who hold offices in Student Government and no one else. In addition to this, the Elections Policy Book shall apply to individuals participating in Student Government campaigns, as it provides, whether or not those people hold office in Student Government.

Section 3. States of exception

Subsection i. Rationale

Should there at any time be a situation of such exceptional nature that it requires measures not accounted for in the governing documents, the President of the Student Government, with the concurrence of the Speaker, may declare a state of exception.

Subsection ii. Prohibited activity

During a state of exception, the Bylaws may be superseded by executive order if they deal with that branch or legislative order if they deal with that branch, at the discretion of the President or the Speaker, respectively. This includes to authorization of special elections to replace vacancies in either branch. However, provisions of the Bylaws related to removal from office, votes of no confidence, and the basic structure of the Student Government may not be compromised.

Subsection iii. Special Senate meeting

A state of exception will trigger a special meeting of the Senate within forty-eight hours. Quorum of the Senators must be present. The Senate must either approve or terminate the state of exception. If the Senate is unable to gather sufficient members to attain quorum, the state of exception shall stand until the next general meeting of that body, at which point it shall be debated in the usual manner.

Subsection iv. Termination

The President of the Student Government may terminate a state of exception at any time.

Subsection v. Removal

If a state of exception lasts longer than fourteen days, removal proceedings shall be opened against the President of the Student Government. A motion of no confidence will be brought against the Speaker.

Section 4. Summer legislative authority

Subsection i. Executive Board interim authority

The Executive Board shall be the interim policy-making body for the Student Government during the Undergraduate Senate’s summer recess. This includes the ability to authorize expenses from the Reserved account. Decisions shall be made by a majority of the Executives with the President breaking any ties.

Subsection ii. Restrictions

At no time in this capacities shall the Executive Board contradict standing legislation of the Undergraduate Senate or amend the governing documents of the Student Government. The Executive Board may not use funds from the Reserved account to pay for expenses of a greater amount than the amount approved by the Undergraduate Senate for that specific purpose in the current budget.

Last updated: March 24, 2019
By: the Fourteenth Undergraduate Senate
Speaker Trevor Pugh