

KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION CONSTITUTION

I. Preamble

a. Name

The name of the organization is The Student Government Association (hereinafter referred to as SGA) of Kennesaw State University (hereinafter referred to as KSU).

b. Purpose

The purpose of the Student Government Association is to: represent the students of Kennesaw State University; serve as a liaison between students and members of the University community within the shared governance structure; actively strive to enhance student success; foster an environment of campus engagement; and advocate on behalf of the students' welfare in accordance with KSU statutes, student codes of conduct, and the policies of the Board of Regents.

II. Membership

- a. All currently enrolled students at Kennesaw State University shall automatically be members of the SGA and subject to this Constitution, its Amendments, Bylaws, and the Student Code of Conduct and Policies as they appear in on-campus publications. Senators, Justices, Staff, and Officers of the Executive Board are considered Active members of the organization.

III. Student Government Officer Composition

a. Senate

- i. The Senate will be comprised of Senators representing both campuses (Marietta and Kennesaw). The distribution of Senators will be determined prior to elections as follows:
- 1 College Senators are determined by the formula outlined in Article III, a, ii.
 - 2 Commission and Identity Senators will constitute the number of standing commissions and identity groups on campus.
- ii. College Senators
- College Senators shall be comprised of one senator for each three-thousand (3,000) students within each of the following colleges. The number of students in each college, per the official enrollment, shall be referenced prior to the election annually. There shall be a minimum of two senators per college or school as follows:
- 1 Bagwell College of Education (Kennesaw)
 - 2 College of the Arts (Kennesaw)
 - 3 College of Architecture and Construction Management (Marietta)
 - 4 Coles College of Business (Kennesaw)
 - 5 College of Computing and Software Engineering (Marietta)

- 6 Radow College of Humanities and Social Sciences (Kennesaw)
- 7 College of Science and Mathematics (Kennesaw)
- 8 Graduate College (Kennesaw)
- 9 Honors College (Both Campuses)
- 10 Southern Polytechnic College of Engineering and Engineering Technology (Marietta)
- 11 University College (Kennesaw)
- 12 WellStar College of Health and Human Services (Kennesaw)

iii. Commission and Identity Senators

The Commission and Identity Senators shall have two per seat as follows:

- 1 International Students
- 2 First-Year Students
- 3 Fraternity and Sorority Life
- 4 LGBTQ+ Affairs
- 5 Non-Traditional Students
- 6 Racial and Ethnic Minorities
- 7 Religious Minorities
- 8 Registered Student Organizations
- 9 Residence Life
- 10 Student Athletics
- 11 Students with Disabilities
- 12 Military and Student Veterans
- 13 Student Workers
- 14 Women and Gender Issues
- 15 First Year (0-29 credit hours earned)
- 161 Sophomore (30-59 credit hours earned)
- 17 Junior (60-89 credit hours earned)
- 18 Senior (90+ credit hours earned)

iv. The officers of the Executive Board shall also serve on the Senate.

- 1 All officers, with the exception of the President or chairman of the meeting, have voting rights.

v. The elected senate positions are College Senators and Commission and Identity Senators.

b. Executive Board

- i.** The officers on the Executive Board include: President, Vice President, Chief of Staff, Attorney General, Treasurer, Director of Student Life, Director of Academic Affairs Kennesaw, Director of Academic Affairs Marietta, Director of Information Technology, Director of Public Relations Director of Sustainability, and Director of Diversity and Inclusion,
- ii.** The elected officers of the Executive Board are the President, Vice President, and Treasurer. The President and Vice President are jointly

elected at the General Elections held during the spring semester. The Treasurer is singularly elected at the General Elections held during the spring semester. Candidates for both the President and Vice President positions must run together on a single ticket and must have served as voting members in Kennesaw State University's SGA for at least one full semester prior to elections.

- iii. The appointed officers of the Executive Board are the Chief of Staff, Director of Student Life, Director of Academic Affairs Kennesaw, Director of Academic Affairs Marietta, Diversity and Inclusion, Director of Information Technology, Director of Public Relations, and the Director of Sustainability. These positions are appointed by the President and approved by the Senate with a 2/3rds vote.
- iv. The Chief of Staff, Treasurer, Director of Public Relations, and Attorney General report to the President.
- v. The Director of Student Life, Director of Academic Affairs Kennesaw, Director of Affairs Marietta, Director of Diversity and Inclusion, and the Director of Sustainability. report to the Vice President.

c. Staff

- i. Staff shall be nonvoting members of SGA.
- ii. Staff shall be under the purview of the Chief of Staff.
- iii. Staff shall serve under the President, Vice President, SGA Directors and Treasurer.
- iv. Staff shall not count towards quorum.
- vi. The Chief of Staff reserves the right to remove staff from the Student Government Association.

d. Faculty/Staff Advisor

- i. The Dean of Students, Associate Dean of Students for Student Life, or their designee shall serve as the SGA Advisor.

IV. Elections

- a. Refer to Article XIV of the Bylaws and the Elections Policy.

V. Vacancies

- a. Refer to Article XV of the Bylaws.

VI. Removal from Office

a. Resignation

- i. Any SGA officer may resign from his/her position with a written or verbal statement issued to the SGA President, if for any reason he/she cannot fulfill the duties stated within this Constitution and the Bylaws. This written or verbal resignation must be reflected in the official SGA minutes.
- ii. An officer who resigns shall not be eligible for a stipend, unless he/she has completed more than half of the term of office that semester, in which case

that officer shall be eligible for a prorated stipend amount. In such a case, the former officer's stipend shall still be evaluated by the procedure listed in the Bylaws.

VII. Impeachment

- a.** Meeting Times
 - i.** Meeting times shall be established through process defined in Article II of the Bylaws.
- b.** Number of meetings
 - i.** The Senate shall meet no fewer than five times per semester, and no more than fifteen times per semester. The only exception shall be Summer term when the SGA Senate shall meet as needed.
- c.** Special Meeting
 - i.** Special meetings may be called by the President or Vice President by email stating the time, place, and purpose of the meeting.
 - ii.** The Chair of the special meeting shall be the member who called the meeting.
- d.** Quorum
 - i.** Quorum is defined as 50% + 1 of the SGA voting members who have been duly sworn into office. Quorum is necessary to conduct a meeting of the Senate. Non-voting members shall not count towards the quorum.

VIII. Committees

- a.** Senatorial Committees and Executive Committees
 - i.** The list of Senatorial Committees and Executive Committees is located in Article XII of the Bylaws.
 - 1** Creation and/or Removal of Senatorial Committees and Executive Committees.
 - a.** Deletion and/or addition of Senatorial Committees shall be approved by a majority vote of the SGA Senate with prior notice, or 2/3 vote without prior notice.
 - b.** Deletion and/or addition of Executive Committees shall be approved by a majority vote of the SGA with prior notice or 2/3 vote without prior notice.
- b.** Ad-Hoc Committees
 - i.** The President may create or dissolve Ad-Hoc committees during their term in office.
 - ii.** The appointed chair of an Ad-Hoc committee shall come from the Senate and is appointed by the President.

IX. Rules of Order

- a.** Parliamentary authority
 - i.** The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order,

Newly Revised shall govern the Senate in all cases in which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the Constitution, Bylaws, and any other rules of order that the Senate may wish to adopt. Non-voting members shall not be permitted to make motions.

- b.** Speaker's Rights
 - i.** Members of the Senate and visitors requesting the floor shall speak no longer than three minutes per turn, per subject unless the chair of the meeting extends the debate, or unless a proper motion to end debate, otherwise limit discussion, or to suspend the rules on debate has passed the Senate.
- c.** Presidential Rights
 - i.** Before a bill or resolution, or other official vote (legislation) is considered official, the President shall sign said legislation. In the event of a presidential veto of the legislation, it becomes the first order of old business at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Senate. A 2/3 vote of the Senate Membership is required to override said veto. Failure to sign legislation within two (2) weeks of its passage by the Senate shall result in a veto of said legislation and it shall be brought back to the Senate to consider an override of said veto.
- d.** Email voting
 - i.** If an order of business is deemed an emergency by the President, Vice President, and at least 2/3 of the Executive Board and a special meeting is not possible, an Email vote may take place in the absence of a meeting. The following policy shall be followed: a copy of said legislation shall be sent to each officer, who shall return said legislation to the Secretary with a vote of yea or nay. After 72 hours, voting shall be closed and votes shall be tallied. A quorum is required for votes to be official.

X. Amendments and Revisions

- a.** This Constitution shall be amended or revised at a Senate meeting at which quorum is met and with 2/3 approval. The President shall sign the amendments and they will henceforth take effect in the Constitution.

XI. Bylaws

- a.** The SGA shall establish a set of bylaws that shall further clarify the policies and procedures of the SGA as well as specify the duties and privileges of each officer. Amendments or revisions of said Bylaws shall require majority approval of the SGA Senate with prior notice or 2/3 approval without prior notice.

XII. Affiliations

- a.** Kennesaw State University
 - i.** This organization falls under the purview of the Office of the Dean of Students and the Division of Student Activities at Kennesaw State

University.

- ii. SGA accepts full financial and production responsibility for all activities it sponsors.
- iii. SGA agrees to abide by all pertinent Kennesaw State University policies and regulations, including the most current Student Codes of Conduct. Where Kennesaw State University policies and regulations and those of SGA differ, the policies and regulations of Kennesaw State University will take precedence.
- iv. SGA recognizes and understands that the University assumes no legal liability for the actions of the organization.
- v. SGA is a nonpartisan organization and shall not take sides in partisan issues. SGA supports all KSU students no matter their political leanings. SGA members may not act in a partisan way while representing SGA.
 - 1 This shall not restrict Active SGA members from participating in political causes, events, etc in their personal time.

XIII. Non-Discrimination Policy

- a. Membership and all privileges, including voting and officer positions, must be extended to all students without regard to race, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, ethnicity or national origin, religion, age, genetic information, disability, or veteran status. Membership and all privileges, including voting and officer positions, must be extended to all students as stated in the Kennesaw State University Non-Discrimination Statement. Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 protects people from discrimination based on race, color or national origin in programs or activities that receive Federal financial assistance. Title IX states that: No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.

XIV. Non-Hazing Policy

- a. SGA will not practice any physical or psychological forms of hazing, and our members are free to discontinue their membership without undue pressure or interference.

XV. Judicial Branch

- a. The judicial power of the KSU SGA shall be vested in a Supreme Court. The Justices, both Supreme Court and inferior officers of the branch therein, will hold their offices in respectable behavior exemplary of the charge vested to the KSU SGA. The Justices are non-voting members in the KSU SGA and do not count towards quorum.
- b. The judicial power shall comprise all cases relating to the KSU SGA Constitution, governing documents, and policies. The Supreme Court shall consist of a Chief Justice, Deputy Chief Justice, and Associate Justices, totaling no more than seven. Quorum for the Supreme Court to operate will be defined as 50% + 1 the total of

confirmed Justices. All cases thereof, except in cases of impeachment, shall be tried in the manner prescribed in the governing Bylaws.

- c.** No member of the Judicial Branch shall serve concurrently on any other branch of the KSU SGA. The Chief Justice is appointed by the President. The Chief Justice will subsequently nominate individuals to fill the roles of Associate Justice. Those candidates will be brought to the President for placement on the next General Body Meeting's agenda and confirmed in the Senate by a super majority (2/3). The term of office will be one calendar year beginning in December and ending the following December with no term limits.
- d.** The Judicial Branch, and all members therein, are bound by the exclusive responsibility to maintain the integrity of the Constitution by virtue of the impartial exercise of the powers enumerated thereof.
- e.** Members will execute their duties in good faith and respect to the rightful doctrines and procedures inherent in the American judicial system, which is bestowed to all citizens.