



DRURY
UNIVERSITY



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The Constitution of the Student Government Association of Drury University

Preamble

The Student Government Association of Drury University (SGA) is established as the organization through which the values and ideals of Drury University students are implemented. The structure of the Student Government Association is designed to safeguard and enhance key areas directly contributing to the student experience and to the Drury community.

Mission Statement

The Student Government Association of Drury University is established to address the rights and concerns of the entire student body. We constantly strive to enhance the student experience within the Drury University Community.

Article I: The Structure of the Student Government Association

Section A: Executive Council

1. The Executive Council (EC) shall be comprised of The President, Vice President of Student Life, Vice President of Institutional Affairs, Vice President of Finance, Vice President of Marketing & Communications, and Vice President of Campus Connection.
2. Each EC member will be elected by the student body to a one-year term.
3. EC shall be responsible for visionary and student focused strategy, direction, and operation of the Student Government Association.
4. EC shall work with the student body through a variety of standing, campus, and ad-hoc committees.

Section B: General Assembly

1. The General Assembly shall be composed of student senators from each academic class, including a secretary at the President's discretion and overseen by the EC.
2. Senators are elected to one-year terms by their respective classmates. The number of class representatives elected will be as defined in the bylaws.
3. Senators shall represent their constituents and work to better the student experience in all aspects of university life.

4. The General Assembly shall meet as a collective group at times determined by the body. The General Assembly shall have the ability to enact legislation and pass resolutions to officially represent the student body.
5. Senators shall serve on various standing committees, as well as additional campus and ad-hoc committees.

Section C: Freshman Interns

1. The Freshman Interns shall be comprised of student representatives from the first-year class.
2. Interns are appointed by the President and an additional member of the EC. The number of interns appointed will be such as defined in the bylaws.
3. Interns shall represent their constituents and work to better the student experience in all aspects of Drury University life.
4. The Interns shall meet with the SGA General Assembly for regular meetings. The Interns shall have the ability to vote on procedural motions at the discretion of the President but may not vote on formal business.
5. Interns shall serve on various standing committees and may serve on additional campus and ad-hoc committees. Interns shall be voting members of these committees when applicable.
6. Interns shall hold their positions from the beginning of the academic year through the time of the Freshman Senator election.

Section D: University-wide Committees

1. SGA will be represented on various campus committees and councils including but not limited to:
 - a. President's Council on Student Success and Support
 - b. President's Council on Sustainability
 - c. Honorary Degree Committee
 - d. Faculty Awards Committee
 - e. Student Affairs Committee
 - f. Academic Affairs Committee
 - g. Student Health and Public Safety

Section E: Constituency

1. The Student Body is recognized as the organizations sanctioned by the Student Affairs Committee, the individuals who make up these organizations, and all other Drury University Day School students.
2. SGA recognizes Drury University Day School students and represents those students to the best of their ability given the representation held within the General Assembly.

Article II: Roles of SGA Members

Section A: Roles of the President of SGA

1. The President shall oversee and chair the SGA General Assembly; and
2. shall oversee the Executive Council and may appoint a Secretary to assist with operations; and
3. shall act as the official spokesperson and have the signature of authority for SGA; and
4. shall communicate consistently with the Advisor, Dean of Students, Board of Trustees, University President, and other University personnel as directed; and
5. shall always represent SGA and Drury University in a professional manner and will not enter situations that would compromise the integrity of SGA or the University; and
6. shall be visionary and proactive in all their assigned duties.

Section B: Roles of the Vice Presidents

1. The Vice Presidents (VPs) shall be equal voting members of the SGA General Assembly, except when presiding in the absence of the President; and
2. shall serve on EC and attend all EC meetings as directed by the President; and
3. shall chair and oversee their designated committee; and
4. shall be responsible to meet with the SGA Advisor and other University personnel as directed; and
5. shall always represent SGA and Drury University in a professional manner and will not enter situations that would compromise the integrity of the SGA or the University; and
6. shall be visionary and proactive in all their assigned duties.

Section C: Roles of the Senators

1. Each Senator shall represent the student body on issues of student concern; and
2. shall serve on at least one SGA standing committee; and
3. shall have the right to introduce resolutions and legislation to the General Assembly on matters of student concern; and
4. shall interact and/or serve with campus committees as directed by EC and/or the bylaws; and
5. shall complete all tasks in a period predetermined by their respective committee; and
6. shall have an equal vote; and
7. shall always represent SGA and Drury University in a professional manner and will not enter situations that would compromise the integrity of the SGA or the University; and
8. shall be visionary and proactive in all their assigned duties.

Section D: Roles of the Advisor

1. The advisor shall advise and guide the executive council, senators, and interns in conducting SGA business; and
2. shall be a resource for the General Assembly, committee, and executive council meetings; and
3. shall assist in the maintaining and monitoring SGA documents and accounts; and
4. shall, on behalf of the SGA executive council, submit requests for payment of and purchasing of SGA supplies, materials, and expenditures; and
5. shall oversee elections to ensure a fair process that adheres to the rules and regulations laid out in the SGA Bylaws.

Article III: Accountability

Section A: Members

1. All members shall maintain a working understanding of the SGA governing documents.
2. All members must conduct themselves in accordance with Student Government Association Code of Ethics.
3. A violation of the Code of Ethics and/or failure to perform as mandated by applicable bylaws and/or -the Student Government Association Constitution will result in the initiation of Disciplinary Proceedings or Impeachment Proceedings, as governed by the Bylaws.

Section B: Governing Documents

1. SGA must regulate itself with a set of bylaws.
2. SGA shall engage with its governing documents to resolve improperly handled business.
3. Should two or more governing documents conflict, the SGA Constitution shall have primary authority and the SGA Bylaws shall have secondary authority.
4. Petitions against an SGA document will be heard during Special Orders of Student Government Association General Assembly meetings.

Section C: General Assembly

1. In the case that the entire General Assembly is petitioned as having failed to adhere to its bylaws and the Student Government Association Constitution, a special election will be held among the student body.
 - a. A petition against Student Government Association shall be comprised of one-fourth of the entire student body with one-fourth of each respective class represented.
2. If a two-thirds vote from the student body approves the measure against the General Assembly, the Executive Council and the General Assembly will

disband, and special elections will be held by the Dean of Students to fill these vacant Student Government Association components.

Article IV: Terms and Elections

Section A: Terms

1. Each seat shall run concurrent with the academic calendar of Drury University.
2. Extended definitions of term limits are located within the Bylaws.

Section B: Elections

1. Elections for all positions will be held on an annual basis.
2. All candidates must meet qualification criteria set forth in the bylaws.

Section C: Vacancies and Appointments

1. If an application for an empty seat on SGA is filled between election cycles, an interview of the applicant by the General Assembly will take place during a regularly scheduled meeting, followed by an allotted time for discussion and a vote within the same meeting.
2. To fill any vacant seat between election cycles, a majority vote in favor of the applicant must be cast by the General Assembly.
 - a. Executives shall recuse themselves from votes to fill vacant senator seats.
3. The outcome of such a vote must be formally disclosed via an email or letter to the applicant by the SGA no later than 5 days after the interview and no sooner than 1 hour immediately following the vote.
4. No single seat in the SGA may be appointed by the General Assembly to more than three persons within a single term.
 - a. After this limit of turnover has been reached, such a seat must remain vacant until the next natural election cycle, or
 - b. A special election must be held for the student body to vote on any further replacements until the next natural election cycle.

Article V: Rules of Treasury

Section A: Student Fees

1. The Student Government Association shall act as a trustee of the student fees treasury.

Section B: Allocations

1. The Student Government Association shall be responsible for all allocations from the student fee treasury.
2. The Finance Committee shall be responsible for assisting student organizations seeking an allocation of funds from the student fee treasury.
3. Allocation proposals shall be presented to the Student Government Association General Assembly to be considered to receive student fee monies as funding.

Section C: Stipulations of Student Fees

1. Student fees allocated must be used in a manner consistent with the guidelines set forth in the Student Organization Financial Handbook.
2. Allocation of student fees may only be made to student groups or organizations which have been approved by the Student Affairs Committee and are recognized as active groups by the Student Activities Office and special projects designated eligible by the SGA General Assembly.

Section D: Student Fee Accountability

1. SGA shall create and maintain an SGA Student Organizations Financial Handbook which dictates student fee and allocation guidelines.
2. Parties who have received student fee allocations shall maintain records and handle funds in a manner consistent with the guidelines set forth in the bylaws and SGA Student Organization Financial Handbook.

Article VI: Amendments to the Governing Documents

Section A: Amendments to Articles

1. Constitutional amendments shall be submitted one meeting prior to vote.
2. Constitutional amendments shall be approved by a two-thirds majority of the SGA General Assembly.
3. An approval vote of the student body must be obtained to ratify constitutional amendments.
4. The SGA General Assembly may only submit a constitutional amendment to the student body twice. After this point, it must be re-approved by the Student Government Association General Assembly to submit an amendment for student body vote again.

Section B: Amendments to Bylaws

1. Bylaw amendments must be submitted one meeting prior to vote.
2. Bylaw amendments must be passed by a two-thirds vote of the SGA General Assembly.

Section C: Amendments to Financial Handbook

1. The Financial Handbook may be overridden by a two-thirds vote of the SGA General Assembly.
2. Financial Handbook amendments must be passed by a two-thirds vote of the SGA General Assembly.

Section D: Ratification and Application

1. Ratified amendments to any governing document shall go into effect on the date previously agreed upon by the General Assembly.

2. The official date of application must be made public to the student body before they have submitted their votes to ratify or reject constitutional amendments.
3. If no date of application is agreed upon by the General Assembly before amendments to a governing document are approved, they shall become active immediately after ratification.