

**TITLE 1
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH**

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SECTION 1. OATH OF OFFICE:

Before the Senators and Officers of the Student Government Association shall enter upon the execution of their offices; they shall take the following oath, given by the Senate Speaker or a member of the Supreme Court:

I, (repeat name), do solemnly affirm, that I will discharge to the best of my ability, the responsibilities entrusted to me, as an officer of the Student Government Association of Oklahoma State University.

SECTION 2. SENATORS-DEFINED

2.1 A Senator is a student elected or appointed by their constituency or the SGA Steering committee to represent the constituency of which they must be a member: Senate constituencies designate the group of students who are eligible to either vote or run for a senate seat of an organization. Organizations include the Residence Halls Association, Off Campus Student Association, the International Student Organization, and Greek Life.

2.1.1. Greek Life Constituency: By default, membership of this group shall include all members and new members of the social fraternities and sororities who are on the membership rolls of approved Greek councils.

2.1.1.1. Approved Greek Councils are as follows: Interfraternity Council, Panhellenic Council, National Pan-Hellenic Council, and Multicultural Greek Council.

2.1.1.2 Each of the approved Greek Councils as defined in Title I Section 2.1.1.1 shall be allocated at least one (1) senate seat. (Section 2.1.1.2 of this Title shall not go into effect until Fall 2024)

2.1.2. Residence Hall Association Constituency: By default, membership of this group shall include all residents of the campus residence halls who are not on the membership of approved Greek councils.

2.1.2.1 University Apartments-membership of this group shall include all students in university approved family housing and, for senatorial representation only, this group shall be included under the Residence Halls Association.

- 2.1.4. Off Campus Student Association Constituency: By default, this group shall include all students living in non-university sponsored housing not on the membership rolls of approved Greek Councils.
 - 2.1.5. International Student Organization Constituency (ISO): By default, membership of this group shall include students of Oklahoma State University who are not permanent residents or hold citizenship in the United State of America at the time they are admitted.
- 2.2 Students whose living affiliation memberships overlap (e.g. Greek and RHA, Greek and Off-Campus) will be defaulted to the Greek constituency, but may choose to run for the second constituency instead by the following actions. This section shall not apply to members of the International Student Organization living group.
 - 2.2.1. Specifying the second constituency as their choice on the original application.
 - 2.2.2. Obtaining confirmation of their membership in that group from that constituency's council, to be included in the time of filing.
- 2.3 Students whose memberships overlap (e.g. Greek and RHA, Greek and Off-Campus) will be defaulted to the Greek constituency or ISO constituency, may choose to vote for the second constituency instead by taking the following actions.
 - 2.3.1. Notifying the Coordinator of SGA Programs in writing 12 school days before the election of their preference.
- 2.4 Students who are members of the International Student Organization Constituency, whose membership overlaps with Greek life will be defaulted to the Greek Constituency, but may choose to run for an ISO senate seat by following the steps provided in section 2.5.1 and 2.5.2. Students who are members of both the ISO and Greek life constituency are not eligible to run for a senate seat for the RHA or Off-Campus constituencies.
- 2.5 Students who are members of the International Student Organization Constituency, whose membership overlaps with RHA or Off Campus, but not Greek life, will be defaulted to the ISO constituency, but may choose to run for the second constituency instead by the following actions.
 - 2.5.1. Specifying the second constituency as their choice on the original application.
 - 2.5.2. Obtaining confirmation of their membership in that group from that constituency's council, to be included in the time of filing.
- 2.6 Students are eligible to vote and run for a senate seat only in one (1) of the living group constituencies.
 - 2.6.1. A student cannot run for a senate seat in one living group and vote in another.
- 2.7 College constituencies are defined as follows: Membership of this group shall include all students enrolled in the college in which they are enrolled before, during, and after the elections.
 - 2.7.1. Colleges having senatorial representation are the:
 - Ferguson College of Agriculture;
 - College of Arts and Sciences;
 - College of Education and Human Sciences;
 - College of Engineering, Architecture, and Technology;
 - William S. Spears School of Business;
 - 2.7.2 The Graduate College and College of Veterinary Medicine shall not hold seats per their request. Should a time arise when they request their Senate Seats back, they shall be included in the next election and this section of the Bylaws shall reflect those changes.
- 2.8 TERMS OF OFFICE
 - 2.8.1. SGA Senators shall be elected for a term of one academic year by general election.
 - 2.8.2. College Senators shall be elected in the fall semester in accordance with Title X. They shall be installed at the first regular meeting of the Senate in the spring semester.

- 2.8.3. SGA Officers and Living Group Senators shall be elected in the spring semester in accordance with Title X. They shall be installed at the first regular meeting of the Senate in the fall semester.
- 2.8.4. Senators-elect shall receive the duties and responsibilities of their office on the first day of the semester, which begins the term of office to which they were elected.
- 2.8.5. Senators-elect appointed by their constituency council or elected by special election shall receive the duties and responsibilities of their office when the Senate Speaker receives their names.

SECTION 3. REGULAR MEETINGS AND MAIN MOTIONS

- 3.1 The SGA shall assemble at least twice in every full school month. The first meeting of SGA Senate each semester shall be a joint meeting with members of the Executive, Legislative, and Judicial Branches of the Association. This meeting should have time allowed where all parties are able to discuss a comprehensive agenda or the semester
- 3.2 Quorum to conduct business shall be one-half (1/2) of the current sworn Senators.
- 3.3 Amendments to these bylaws shall be made when two-thirds (2/3) of the Senators present concur; provided that quorum is present.
 - 3.3.1. Emergency Suspension of the Bylaws:

A suspension of these bylaws shall require a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the senators and executive approval. The motion must be submitted in writing to the President after passage for approval. If executive approval is not obtained within two (2) school days of passage, the motion shall become effective. If the motion is rejected by the executive, it may only be passed as an amendment at the following Senate meeting. In the event the suspension is restricted to Title I of these bylaws, executive approval shall not be required, except in cases involving section 3.3.1 Title I.
- 3.4 MAIN MOTIONS
 - 3.4.1. Bills are legislation concerning areas in which the SGA has final authority - appropriation of funds, amendments to the Bylaws, and all other powers granted by the SGA Constitution. Bills shall be passed by the Senate and signed by the president (or have an overridden presidential veto) to be valid.
 - 3.4.1.1. Senators who may benefit in any manner, whether directly or indirectly, from a bill under Senate consideration shall be prohibited from voting on such measures.
 - 3.4.1.2. Such Senators shall be permitted to abstain from voting on bills that may confer upon Senators(s) a direct or indirect benefit.
 - 3.4.2. Recommendations are legislation expressing the general opinions of the SGA, including, but not limited to, legislation regarding clubs, organizational charters and regulation of student organizations. Recommendations shall be passed by the Senate and signed by the president (or have an overridden presidential veto) to be valid.
 - 3.4.3. Resolutions are legislation or committee reports that express the sentiments of the Senate, including articles of impeachment, confirmation of executive appointments, amendments to the Constitution and amendments to the Senate Rules. Resolutions shall be passed by the Senate to be valid.
 - 3.4.3.1. Senators who may benefit in any manner, whether directly or indirectly, from a recommendation or resolution under Senate consideration shall be prohibited from voting on such measures
 - 3.4.3.2. Such Senators shall be permitted to abstain from voting on recommendations or resolutions that may confer upon the Senator(s) a direct or indirect benefit.

3.4.4. OFFICIAL COPIES OF MAIN MOTIONS

3.4.4.1. Each official legislation shall have the official vote recorded at the bottom of the page under the president's signature.

3.4.4.2. The SGA Secretary is authorized to correct errors of spelling and/or form in legislation before the President signs said legislation, provided there be no objection from the chairman or author of the legislation.

SECTION 4. SENATOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES

4.1 KNOWLEDGE OF RULES – All Senators shall be expected to have a workable knowledge of the SGA Constitution, the SGA By-laws, the SGA Senate Rules, and parliamentary procedures, how to write legislation, and the Oklahoma Open Meeting and Open Records Acts.

4.1.1. A training workshop/orientation shall be held within the first week of each, session for the whole Senate Body called "Senate Orientation"

4.1.1.1. The training workshop shall be conducted by the SGA Senate Speaker with the assistance of the Vice Speaker.

4.1.1.2. "Senate Orientation" can consist of committee assignments and goals, team building, or any other activities the Senate Speaker/Vice Speaker sees as important for the orientation of the Senate Body.

4.1.1.2.1. All members of the Senate shall be required to attend the portion of orientation outlined in section 4.1.1.3. of this title.

4.1.2. A training workshop/ orientation shall be held within the first three weeks of each session for the new Senators called "New Senator Orientation"

4.1.2.1. A new Senator shall be defined as a member of SGA Student Senate who has never held an official seat in the Senate previously

4.1.2.2. "New Senator Orientation" shall consist of the following: A review of Parliamentary Procedure, Senate Rules, and responsibilities of each Senator, SGA Bylaws, and the legislation creation process. Any further material, and when it is covered, shall be provided and discussed at the discretion of the Senate Speaker and Vice Speaker.

4.1.2.3. The Senate Speaker shall have discretion on how to break up the learning process for "New Senator Orientation." The Senate Speaker must remain in contact with the new Senators throughout this process to ensure the smooth transition into the body as a whole.

4.1.3. If a Senator is unable to attend the required training, they need to review the materials with one member of SGA leadership including but not limited to the Student Body President, Vice President, Senate Speaker, Senate Vice Speaker, or Chief Justice within six (6) weeks of being sworn in.

4.1.4. Failure of a senator to complete the required training within six (6) weeks of being sworn in will result in removal from office. If the removed Senator wishes to go through a reinstatement process, the following procedure will take place:

4.1.4.1. A tentative date for a trial of reinstatement will be scheduled for the next regular Senate meeting as the first order of Unfinished Business.

4.1.4.2. The Senate Vice Speaker shall be responsible for contacting the removed Senator to see if they wish to pursue reinstatement.

4.1.4.3. The reinstatement procedure shall require the removed senator to stand before the Senate body to state their case for reinstatement after which a period for

questions shall be allowed. The vote shall be by roll call and the senator must receive a two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) vote in the affirmative for reinstatement.

4.1.4.4. If the Senator is reinstated it shall be at (2) absences and they will need to complete the training within one week.

4.2. OTHER OFFICERS – No Senator shall, during their term of office, concurrently hold their senator position and be appointed to any Executive, Supreme Court, or other office under the direct authority of SGA.

4.3. RESPONSIBILITIES AND RELATIONSHIP WITH THEIR CONSTITUENCY.

4.3.1. It is the responsibility of each senator to attend at least one (1) Constituency Council meeting per month. For Greek Senators, each senator shall be tasked with attending one of four constituencies.

4.3.2. At least one SGA Senator should be present at all required meetings of their respective constituency groups for their delegation. Senators from a given constituency group may appoint a single senator from their delegation to represent them at those meetings.

4.3.2.1. Definitions:

4.3.2.1.1. A delegation of senators shall be defined as all of the senators representing the same constituency group.

4.3.2.1.2. A Constituency Council shall be defined as the umbrella organization or governing body of a college or living group

4.3.2.1.3. A Constituency Group shall be defined as the body of students registered as belonging to a particular college or living group.

4.3.2.2. Required meetings shall be as follows:

4.3.2.2.1. The academic college senators shall attend the general meetings of their respective college councils;

4.3.2.2.2. The Greek senators shall attend the general meetings of all of the approved Greek councils as defined in section 2.1.1.1. of this title.

4.3.2.2.3. The residential hall senators shall attend the Residence Halls Association Senate.

4.3.2.2.4. The off-campus senators shall attend the Off-Campus Student Association Assembly.

4.3.2.3. The failure of any delegation of senators to send one delegate to represent SGA at any of the required meetings as outlined in section 4.3.1.2. shall result in one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) absence being awarded to each senator within that constituency group.

4.3.2.3.1. It is the responsibility of each delegation of senators to inform their respective constituency councils of important events and legislative action within the Student Government Association.

4.3.2.3.2. In the event that a scheduling conflict prevents a senator from attending one of their required constituency meetings a written report may be presented to the Senate Vice Speaker and their respective constituency council president.

4.3.2.4. Senators shall, within a timely manner after attending a constituency council meeting, give an oral report to Senate describing any issues or concerns of that organization. Senators shall also include in this report the steps they have taken or intend to take in addressing these concerns.

4.3.3. When a constituency group has a special interest in SGA Senate legislation being considered in committee, at least one senator from that constituency group should be present at the committee meeting to represent the constituency group.

- 4.3.4. All SGA Senators are responsible for being accessible to their constituents and seeking input from them on relevant issues.
- 4.3.5. It is the responsibility of SGA Senators to inform themselves on issues that affect their constituency groups.
- 4.3.6. The Senate Speaker shall designate two days each semester as constituency days.
 - 4.3.6.1 Constituency days can consist of, but not be limited to, tabling for student concerns.
 - 4.3.6.2. The chair of the University Committee along with the Steering Committee shall set up constituency days in a manner appropriate to each semester. During the designated constituency days, the chair of the University Committee along with the Steering Committee shall set up a survey to record students' concerns, students' questions, what students wish to see changed on campus, and anything else at the discretion of the University Chair and Steering Committee.
 - 4.3.6.3. The survey shall be present at the location(s) of the constituency days.
 - 4.3.6.4. Handouts, such as marketing materials, food, or t-shirts, may only be given to the students once they have answered the survey.
 - 4.3.6.5. Students shall be encouraged to leave their contact information, but are not required.
- 4.3.7. It is the responsibility of the Senate Vice Speaker to ensure all senators' compliance with section 4.3 and all sections of this title unless otherwise provided for. The Vice Speaker shall maintain an open dialogue with all senators and constituency council presidents to ensure the adequate representation of each constituency's interests in SGA and SGA's interests in each constituency council.
- 4.3.8. All Senators shall be required to submit at least one (1) bill, recommendation, or resolution per semester that they have either authored or co-authored.
 - 4.3.8.1. Senators who do not meet the requirements of section 4.2.8 will be put on a probationary period of one month during the following semester.
 - 4.3.8.2. Senators who fail to produce a bill during their probationary period shall be removed from their seat at the conclusion of the probationary period at the discretion of the speaker.
- 4.4. RESPONSIBILITIES TO OTHER CONSTITUENCIES:
 - 4.4.1. A senator shall report any and all upcoming large and campus-wide events, programs, and concerns of each assigned group.
- 4.5. OFFICE HOUR POLICY
 - 4.5.1. The number of office hours a senator is required to complete shall be decided by the Senate Speaker and Vice Speaker at their discretion. These office hours shall be held in the Student Government Association offices unless otherwise agreed upon by the Senate Speaker. These hours shall be recorded as they are completed at the discretion of the Senate Vice Speaker.
 - 4.5.1.1 The number of office hours a senator is required to complete must not exceed four (4) office hours a month, with a minimum of one (1) office hour a month.
 - 4.5.2. If a senator fails to hold the required office hours, they will be assessed one half (0.5) of an absence for every hour uncompleted.
- 4.6. ABSENCE POLICY
 - 4.6.1. All Senators shall attend all Senate meetings and all committee meetings of which they are members. An absence from a Senate Meeting shall be assigned if a Senator misses more than 50 percent of the roll call votes conducted during a meeting.

petition within three (3) days of the final decision. The Vice Speaker's decision may be appealed to the SGA Supreme Court within one (1) week after receiving the decision letter.

4.9. SHORT TERM APPOINTMENT - Definitions and Specific Requirements

4.9.1. Short Term Appointment - shall be defined as the process by which a senator takes an extended leave of absence and is, through the process outlined herein, replaced by another individual appointed by the Senator's constituency. Considerations for this process shall be assessed for any senator who is going to be absent for any amount of time greater than four senate meetings and less than or equal to a semester.

4.9.1.1. Before the appointee receives their commission of office, the appointment must be approved on a case-by-case basis by the majority of the Steering Committee on Rules and Administration.

4.9.1.2. The constituency will provide an appointee for the short-term appointee.

4.9.1.3. Senators shall be able to take only one short-term appointment during their time at Oklahoma State University, and only after previously serving at least one term in the Senate

4.9.1.4. Any appointee to be appointed must originate from the Senator's constituency.

4.9.1.5. All appointees serving in the place of a Senator shall be required to meet the requirements set forth in sections 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.5, and 4.6 of this title and shall be governed by the procedure provided therein.

4.9.1.6. When considering approval of the appointment, full discretion shall be given to the Senate Speaker in their decision determining the validity of a Senator's reasoning pertaining to the prolonged absence.

4.9.1.6.1. Examples that shall warrant an application for a short-term appointment are, but are not limited to: study abroad, internships, co-ops, and medical leave. It is recognized that this list is not exhaustive.

4.9.2. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

4.9.2.1. Senators utilizing short-term appointment:

4.9.2.2. Senators must provide proper documentation.

4.9.2.3. The senator utilizing short-term appointments must stay in contact with their appointee. The failure of the Senator to remain in contact for two consecutive weeks will cause the Senator to step down for the remainder of that term. The Senate Vice Speaker must be blind carbon copied on the email correspondence.

4.9.2.3.1. Upon the removal of the senator and appointee from the short term appointment process, the open seat shall be filled in accordance with section 6 of this title.

4.9.2.4. Should the lines of communication and the attendance of the appointee be nonexistent, it is the job of the senator to notify the Senate Speaker of the need for a new appointment to be made in order to maintain their position within the Senate body.

4.9.3. SHORT TERM APPOINTMENT:

4.9.3.1. The appointee must stay in contact with their senator. Failure of the appointee to remain in contact for two consecutive weeks will cause the appointee to step down for the remainder of that term.

4.9.3.2. The appointee must attend an info session on parliamentary procedure and bill writing in order to obtain a position of short-term appointment.

4.9.3.3. The appointee must also meet the requirements any senator is held to in order to obtain this position.

4.10. FORWARDING LEGISLATION TO CONSTITUENCIES

4.10.1. The committee chairs or committee vice chairs of each of the standing committees shall forward legislation that passed their respective committee as well as the committee meeting minutes to the Senate Vice Speaker and SGA Secretary by twelve (12) pm on the Friday of any week of which their committee held a regular meeting and passed any legislation.

4.10.2. The SGA Secretary shall then be responsible for forwarding the legislation which passed committee to each of the constituencies by five (5) p.m. on any Friday of which at least one (1) standing committee holds a meeting and passed legislation that week.

4.10.2.1. Exceptions for forwarding legislation to constituencies shall be granted for emergency meetings, which are held after the deadline, and for time-sensitive legislation which has passed a committee and is heard the same week in Senate.

SECTION 5. REMOVAL FROM OFFICE FOR ABSENCES

5.1 If a Senator reached the maximum allowable absences as defined in Title 1 Section 4.6, the Senator shall be notified by the Senate Vice Speaker. If the senator exceeds the maximum allowable absences the Senator shall be allowed one week (up until the next senate meeting) to address the absentee issue. If no action has been taken, the senator shall be removed effective immediately. If the removed Senator wishes to go through a reinstatement process, the following procedure will take place:

5.1.1 A tentative date for a trial of reinstatement will be scheduled for the next regular Senate meeting as the first order of Unfinished Business.

5.1.2 The Senate Vice Speaker shall be responsible for contacting the removed Senator to see if they wish to pursue reinstatement.

5.1.3 The reinstatement procedure shall require the removed senator to stand before the Senate body to state their case for reinstatement after which a period for questions shall be allowed. The vote shall be by roll call and the senator must receive a two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) vote in the affirmative for reinstatement.

5.1.4 If the Senator is reinstated it shall be at two (2) absences.

SECTION 6. FILLING VACANCIES— Constituency Councils shall be responsible for filling vacant seats by appointments of an interim senator of that constituency within two (2) school weeks during which a Senate meeting is held after the Senate Speaker has announced a vacancy in the seat. The interim senator can be a different person each week as long as they are of that respective constituency until the constituency council selects an appointee to permanently fill the vacant seat. In the event that no constituency council exists, or that the constituency council fails to select an appointee within four (4) school weeks of the vacancy, the Steering Committee shall appoint a qualified student from the respective council.

SECTION 7. PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS — The method of presenting a petition to the SGA Senate:

7.1 Initiative petitions function only for bills and recommendations, not resolutions or procedural motions of the SGA Senate. (Such as selecting Supreme Court Justices, Committee Chairs, etc.)

7.2 A petition must be typed at the top of each page of the petition. All pages of the petition should be uniform.

- 7.3 Only students shall be allowed to sign the petition. This technicality shall be printed at the top of each page of the petition.
- 7.4 The students signing the petition must print their name and CWID. All signatures must be handwritten.
- 7.5 Each signature must be numbered with the first signature of each page to be numbered one (1).
- 7.6 The Attorney General shall determine the validity of the petitions.
- 7.7 Petitions calling for the reversal of some action of the SGA shall not be allowed if the original decision was made more than ten (10) regular Senate meetings previous to the submission of the petition.
- 7.8 Repetitions and invalid signatures will be invalidated and not counted.
- 7.9 The petition should be presented to the Student Body President.

SECTION 8. SENATE COMMITTEES

8.1 COMMITTEE CHAIRS

8.1.1. Committee chairs shall

- 8.1.1.1.** Set and post a committee agenda within 24 hours of a meeting in compliance with the Open Meetings Law
- 8.1.1.2.** Make new Senators on the committee familiar with parliamentary procedure, the SGA Constitution, the SGA By-Laws, and the Senate Standing Rules.
- 8.1.1.3.** Vote in matters before the committee only to break or create a tie.
- 8.1.1.4.** Serve at least one (1) office hour per week while the senate is in session. This hour will be posted and served within the SGA office. If the committee chair fails to do their office hour, that will result in a half (1/2) absence for each week the hour was not served. Office hours must be held separately from committee meetings.
- 8.1.1.5.** To serve as budget chair it is required that you should have served at least one semester on the budget committee as a voting member, giving you a basic knowledge of the budget committee and its processes.

8.1.2. Length of Term

- 8.1.2.1.** All Committee Chair Lengths of Term shall be one academic year in length, at the end of the Spring semester to begin their term in the subsequent Fall semester.
- 8.1.2.2.** In the case that a Committee Chair position needs to be reconsidered, a vote of a two-thirds majority by the Senate will call the position into question and therefore open nominations for a reconsideration of that particular Committee Chair position.
 - 8.1.2.2.1.** If a Committee Chairmanship becomes vacant, the Vice Chair shall become acting Chair until a new Chair is elected by the Senate to serve for the remainder of the term according to the Senate Standing Rules Section 3.

8.2 COMMITTEE VICE-CHAIRS

- 8.2.1.** Shall be elected by the committee each semester.
 - 8.2.1.1** Only the primary voting members of the committee shall be permitted to vote for a Vice Chair.
- 8.2.2.** Shall assist the Chair when necessary and act as Chair in the Chair's absence.

8.3 COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

- 8.3.1** All Senators shall serve on one (1) standing committee as a primary voting member. A primary voting member's attendance shall count towards quorum.
 - 8.3.1.1** All senators are able to serve on one (1) additional standing committee as a secondary voting member. Once a senator declares their secondary voting rights within a

committee they are unable to declare in or vote as a secondary voting member within any other standing committee.

8.3.1.2 All Senators are only allowed voting privileges in a maximum of two (2) standing committees either as a primary voting member or secondary voting member.

8.3.1.3 A secondary voting member's absence shall not count against quorum.

8.3.1.4 Primary and Secondary voting members shall have the same privileges within their respective committee except where numerated.

8.3.1.5 The Vice Speaker shall be the sole exception to the rule outlined in Section 8.3.1 and shall serve as a primary voting member in all standing committees. Their absence from a committee meeting shall not count against quorum.

8.3.2. Determination of committee membership is at the discretion of the Senate Speaker.

8.3.3. Interested students who are not Senators may serve as non-voting committee members.

8.3.4. Each committee must have at least four (4) primary voting members plus a committee Chair.

8.4 SPECIAL COMMITTEES - Special committees, sub-committees of standing committees, commissions, or task forces may be established by the Student Body President with the majority consent of the Senate, or by the Senate Speaker by majority consent of the Senate, or by the Senate by majority consent.

8.5 REPORTING - All Standing Committees shall be required to give a report at every regular Senate meeting concerning committee meetings, committee work, and committee proposed legislation.

8.6 All committees shall meet weekly at the discretion of the committee chair.

8.6.1. A committee chair will be assigned one (1) absence, at the discretion of the Senate Speaker, every time they fail to hold a regularly scheduled committee meeting.

SECTION 9. STANDING COMMITTEES DEFINED

9.1 INTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

9.1.1. Definitions

9.1.1.1. Evidence- Shall be defined as only physical evidence (email, texts, documents, photos, etc.). Testimony evidence may only be gathered from individuals during the hearing process.

9.1.1.2. Testimony Evidence- Shall be defined as evidence that is made verbally through a statement in a committee hearing after an oath of honesty is taken.

9.1.1.3. Verbal Warning- Shall be defined as a respectful warning that is intended to address a violation that may be unknown to the individual violating it or as a means to encourage an individual to begin doing a duty that is not being performed. A verbal warning may only be given in good faith.

9.1.1.4. SGA Member- Shall be defined as any member in the Student Government Association that is associated with any of the SGA Constitution, Bylaws, or Senate Rules.

9.1.1.5. Written Warning- Shall be defined as a statement made by the Internal Affairs Committee Chair that expresses the violation the individual was found to have committed and that the individual is being warned to not commit the violation again.

9.1.1.6. Discovered Violation- Shall be defined as a violation that is found by any member of the Internal Affairs Committee and brought to the attention of the chair during a general committee meeting.

- 9.1.1.7.** Reported Violation- Shall be defined as a violation reported via email to the Internal Affairs Committee Chair
- 9.1.2.** The committee shall review legislation affecting the structure of the Student Government Association, which includes the SGA Bylaws and Constitution.
- 9.1.3.** The committee shall review nominations and appointments for SGA executive positions, Supreme Court Justice positions and University and Administrative Committees and provide a recommendation regarding these nominations to the Senate.
- 9.1.4.** The committee shall be responsible for investigating alleged or discovered violations of these Bylaws and Constitution and shall recommend solutions to remedy violations. Alleged violations may be reported to the Internal Affairs Chair via email or written statement by any OSU student, faculty, or staff member.
 - 9.1.4.1.** In the event of a minor or first-time violation, a verbal warning may be given by the Internal Affairs Committee chair for reported or discovered violations without a committee majority vote. A verbal warning shall be the first course of action taken by the Internal Affairs Committee unless the violation is deemed above the level of a verbal warning by the Committee Chair.
 - 9.1.4.1.1.** If a violation is deemed above a verbal warning, or the verbal warning was ignored by the recipient, the Committee Chair shall then bring the reported or discovered violation attention of the Internal Affairs Committee in the new business section of the agenda by the next meeting.
 - 9.1.4.1.2.** A verbal warning given by the Internal Affairs Committee Chair shall be reported to the Internal Affairs Committee in the new business section of the meeting agenda and also recorded in the minutes.
 - 9.1.4.2.** Upon the Internal Affairs Committee discovering or receiving information/report of a violation of these Bylaws and/or Constitution by an SGA member, the Internal Affairs Committee shall appoint two (2) committee members, to be led by the Committee Vice Chair, to act as a sub-committee that will investigate the alleged or discovered violation. This vote shall take place in the new business section of the agenda.
 - 9.1.4.2.1.** Internal Affairs Sub-Committee
 - 9.1.4.2.1.1.** The Internal Affairs Investigative Sub-Committee shall be compiled of the Internal Affairs Vice Chair and two (2) Internal Affairs Committee members that will be appointed by the Internal Affairs Committee and approved through a majority vote.
 - 9.1.4.2.1.2.** The Vice-Chair shall be the head of the Investigative SubCommittee and shall gather evidence, along with the assistance of the two appointed committee members, to present to the entire Internal Affairs Committee.
 - 9.1.4.2.1.3.** Testimony evidence may not be gathered by the Internal Affairs Investigative Sub-Committee.
 - 9.1.4.2.1.4.** The members of the Investigative Sub-Committee shall be compiled of members who have a negligible bias against the alleged individual(s).
 - 9.1.4.2.1.5.** The members of the Investigative Sub-Committee shall not discuss their investigation with other individuals outside the SubCommittee until it is presented to the Internal Affairs Committee as a whole.

9.1.4.3. After the conclusion of the investigation, the Committee Vice-Chair shall then present the discovered or reported alleged violation and investigated known facts to the members of the Internal Affairs Committee within the next two (2) committee meetings that the sub-committee was formed. The members of the committee shall then discuss the alleged violation and begin planning a committee hearing to gather statements.

9.1.4.3.1. Internal Affairs Committee Hearings

9.1.4.3.1.1. The hearing shall be conducted by the Internal Affairs Committee Chair. The committee as a whole shall ask questions pertaining only to the alleged violation to help in establishing if the individual(s) did or did not commit a violation. Only senators on the original roll of the committee when the investigative sub-committee was formed may ask questions during a committee hearing.

9.1.4.3.1.2. The SGA member(s) that shall be questioned in the committee hearing must be summoned and notified of the hearing via email within a minimum of seven days' notice of their hearing by the Internal Affairs Committee Chair. The hearing must occur within three of the following committee meetings after the investigative subcommittee presented the known evidence to the Internal Affairs Committee.

9.1.4.3.1.3. If the SGA member(s) alleged of a violation are unable to attend their hearing, the alleged individual(s) may send a representative in their stead. Failure of the alleged SGA member(s) to attend, or send a representative to the hearing, will result in the Internal Affairs Committee determining whether a violation was or was not committed without the testimony of the alleged individual(s).

9.1.4.3.1.4. Upon the end of the hearing, the Internal Affairs committee shall vote on whether the individual(s) in question did or did not commit a violation of these Bylaws and/or Constitution with a two-thirds vote.

9.1.4.3.1.5. A committee hearing is not required to establish guilt of a violation of these SGA Bylaws and/or Constitution and may be used to summon witnesses and alleged individuals for questioning.

9.1.4.3.1.6. Though a violation may have been clearly committed, the Internal Affairs Committee shall still have a committee hearing to allow for an explanation of the alleged individual(s).

9.1.4.4. If the Internal Affairs Committee members find an SGA member(s) to have committed a violation of these Bylaws and/or Constitution through a two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) vote, the Internal Affairs Committee shall then recommend an action to be taken in response to the violation. The Committee shall decide to either issue a written warning, file a petition with the Supreme Court, recommend a writ to be issued by the Supreme Court, or invoke articles of impeachment against the individual(s). The decision of the Internal Affairs Committee shall be through a majority vote and carried out by the Committee Chair.

9.1.4.5. The Internal Affairs Committee Chair shall present the decision of the committee on whether a violation was or not committed by an SGA Member(s) to the SGA Senate during their committee chair report the following meeting after the decision was made.

9.1.4.6. In the event the violation is committed by the Internal Affairs Chair or Vice Chair, a petition may be filed with the SGA Supreme Court by any member of the Senate.

9.1.4.7. The Internal Affairs Committee may only examine reported/discovered violations in the semester they occurred. In the event the process of determining if a

violation was or was not committed is interrupted by the ending of the semester, that process shall carry into the next semester.

9.1.4.8. Only SGA Senators on the agenda roll call at the time the investigative subcommittee was formed may vote in determining if a violation was or was not committed.

9.1.4.9. In the event a member of the committee, not the Internal Affairs Chair or Internal Affairs Vice Chair, is the individual reported or discovered to have committed a violation, the member shall be excluded from the investigation and decision of action process.

9.2 UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE

9.2.1. The committee shall to the best of their ability effectively communicate the wants, needs, ideas, experiences, and concerns of everyone and everything involved with OSU, to heighten the visibility of SGA and its activities, to promote the exchange of information among committees and SGA, to stimulate cooperation between faculty, staff, and students, and to recognize outstanding programs on and off campus and the individuals who promoted them.

9.2.1.1. The committee shall be responsible for utilizing the Public Relations and Communication executives when needed to effectively execute the tasks previously stated in section 9.2.1 of Title 1 of the Student Government Association bylaws.

9.2.2. The committee shall review all legislation pertaining to matters within the university and shall investigate the administrative policies of OSU in order to protect the well-being of the students.

9.2.3. The committee shall be responsible for organizing and facilitating any community service activities that the SGA Senate deems appropriate for SGA sponsorship or participation.

9.2.4. The committee shall be responsible for working with the Freshman Representative Council on the projects they develop for the students of OSU if needed by the FRC and deemed appropriate by the committee.

9.2.5. The committee shall be responsible for organizing any open forums pertaining to any student concerns and/or community concerns.

9.2.6. The committee shall be responsible for organizing the Senate Constituency Days as described in Title 1, Section 4.3.6.

9.2.7. The committee shall meet weekly regarding University related matters in an effort to investigate and report both upcoming University based events, pertinent issues, and any legislation-worthy topics.

9.2.8. The committee shall be responsible for polling university students, faculty, and/or staff on relevant and important issues.

9.2.8.1. The committee shall encourage the senator's office hours to be spent facilitating polling stations when polling is necessary.

9.2.9. The committee shall be responsible for advertising for both the fall and spring elections.

9.2.9.1. The committee shall be responsible for planning the Presidential and Vice Presidential debate.

9.2.10. The chair shall be responsible for creating and updating a file including specific details about events the committee planned and suggestions for the next committee. This folder will be passed on to the subsequent University Chair.

9.3 COMMITTEE ON STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

9.3.1. The Committee on Student Organizations (CSO) shall serve in an advisory position to the Assistant Director of Campus Life for policy related to student organizations; shall report the issuance or rejection of charters of student organizations and groups to the SGA

Senate; shall have the power to place an organization in violation of its charter on probation or under extreme circumstances to revoke its charter, shall make public all its decisions concerning registration or recognition of groups; and shall serve as the hearing panel for complaints against student groups.

- 9.3.2.** CSO shall review the files of student groups in Campus Life. Every group needs up-to-date information on the group constitution, Officer Cards, Campus Link, advisor, signature authorization sheet, audit report, affirmation of compliance, and year-end reports. The CSO chair will present a calling list to the committee and each member will be required to call a number of advisors for groups. If the group still has not made an effort to update their information file or contact CSO., the group shall be declared inactive. Inactivation will be done whenever CSO and Campus Life agree that groups need to be assessed and updated.
- 9.3.3** The CSO Committee Chair shall coordinate with the AFAP Director to ensure that a newley “sponsored” organization falls under the correct AFAP Allocation Committee as designated on CampusLink.
- 9.3.4.** Meeting Procedures
 - 9.3.4.1.** The Chairperson and Secretary will meet before the formal meetings to discuss and prepare an agenda to be distributed to all voting members at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the meeting.
 - 9.3.4.2.** Formal committee meetings will be held at least every two (2) weeks; the frequency may be increased at the chairperson's discretion.
 - 9.3.4.3.** The CSO Chair shall be responsible for notifying the group wishing to obtain registered or recognized status, that at least one member from the group must be present at the CSO Committee meeting in which their status will be voted upon.
- 9.3.5.** Committee Recommendations
 - 9.3.5.1.** Any registered organization seeking sponsored status shall not be afforded unless at least sixteen (16) full school weeks, excluding summer sessions, have passed since the granting of registered status to said organization.
 - 9.3.5.2.** Constitutional revisions and other business shall be brought before the SGA Senate in the Committee on Student Organizations report.
 - 9.3.5.3.** The placing of student organizations on probation shall occur in committee and all charges shall be drawn up in committee with the approval of a majority of the members present, provided quorum is present. The terms of probation shall include, but not be limited to the following guidelines shown and updated regularly in the Student Rights and Responsibilities.
- 9.3.6.** The organization must move to correct any violation or violations of charter and/or university policy while on probation.
- 9.3.7.** After an organization has served its term of probation the Committee on Student Organizations shall review it to determine its compliance with the probation terms. The organization will be returned to normal status if compliance was met, otherwise, the Committee on Student Organizations may extend probation or move to revoke the charter of the organization.
 - 9.3.7.1.** If any discrepancy develops between the SGA Bylaws and the Student's Rights and Responsibilities document in regard to CSO, the document shall be followed until a correction in the Bylaws can be made or the document is changed.
- 9.3.8.** The committee’s Senators shall also serve to represent the interests and concerns of all registered, sponsored, and ad-hoc groups to the Senate.

9.4. BUDGET COMMITTEE

9.4.1. The committee shall review the budget, as submitted by the executive branch, and then introduce the budget to the Senate along with committee recommendations.

9.4.2. The committee shall review any legislation involving the appropriation of funds and after considering the SGA financial status, shall make a recommendation to the SGA Senate concerning the appropriation. Co-sponsorship shall only be increased by the budget committee.

9.4.2.1. The Budget Committee shall follow these guidelines regarding the allocation of co-sponsorship funds to sponsored and registered student groups:

9.4.2.1.1. SGA co-sponsorship shall be available to Registered student groups.

9.4.2.1.1.1. Registered student groups shall be limited to \$500 per semester. Co-Sponsorship shall not exceed 50% of the total event budget.

9.4.2.1.2. SGA co-sponsorship shall be available to Sponsored student groups.

9.4.2.1.2.1. Sponsored student groups may receive funds for events and travel activities. Student groups shall be limited to \$1,000.00 of cosponsorship per semester. Co-sponsorship shall not exceed 50% of the total event budget.

9.4.2.1.2.2. Co-Sponsorship funds allocated to Sponsored groups for travel activities shall not exceed \$300 per person per co-sponsorship.

9.4.2.1.2.3. SGA co-sponsorship shall be available to groups sponsored by the University.

9.4.2.1.2.4. SGA co-sponsorship shall not be available to SGA-operated organizations, committees, or entities, directed by or encompassed within the executive branch.

9.4.2.1.2.4.1. Examples of SGA-operated organizations, committees, or entities, directed by or encompassed within the executive branch include but are not limited to: Cowboy Cousins. Into the Streets, Speakers Board, CowboyThon, First Year Representative Council (FRC), and Oklahoma Intercollegiate Legislature (OIL).

9.4.2.1.2.4.2. Title I Section 9.4.2.1.2.4. shall not be construed to prohibit former SGA-operated organizations, committees, or entities, directed by or encompassed within the executive branch, from being eligible to receive SGA co-sponsorship funds.

9.4.2.1.3. For the purposes of co-sponsorship, the fall semester shall be defined as July 1 through December 31, and the spring semester from January 1 through June 30. The academic year is defined as July 1 to June 30.

9.4.2.1.4. Eligibility shall be determined based on the date of the beginning of the activity or event. If the application for co-sponsorship is received after the final meeting of the semester of the event, then the group may be allowed to receive funds for the event in the following semester. These funds will count toward their previous semester limit on funds per semester.

9.4.2.1.4.1 Groups shall not receive co-sponsorships for events occurring in a different semester as the one in which they applied.

9.4.2.1.5. Funds allocated for activities/events but not used shall be paid back to the co-sponsorship account within 30 (thirty) days of using the allocation or the event's conclusion, whichever is later.

9.4.2.1.6. Co-sponsorship funds shall not be allocated for the purpose of paying for food or drink, clothing or apparel.

9.4.2.1.7. Co-sponsorship funds shall not be allocated for the purpose of paying for debt and/or the reimbursement of funds already spent by the club or organization.

9.4.2.1.8. Requests for co-sponsorship must be received by the ~~SGA~~ Budget Committee prior to the beginning of the event.

9.4.2.1.9. All groups receiving co-sponsorship must mention SGA's sponsorship in advertising or promotional materials for the event before, during, or up to one month after the event.

9.4.2.1.10. All groups applying for co-sponsorship funds must be in good standing with Campus Life, the Committee on Student Organizations, and their umbrella organization. The forms provided by the Budget Committee shall include measures to ensure good standing with umbrella organizations. The Budget Committee chair shall be responsible for ensuring the organization's good standing with Campus Life.

9.4.2.1.11. When allocating funds, the Budget Committee shall not take into account a group's ideology.

9.4.2.2. The following procedures will be followed by student groups requesting cosponsorship:

9.4.2.2.1. A group requesting co-sponsorship will be required to apply using forms as outlined by the Budget Committee. Information provided by a group must include the name and account number of the group; an attached itemized budget for the said activity/event; a list of funds received from other sources; and current balances for all accounts used by the group.

9.4.2.2.2. An organization must have approached its umbrella organization as designated on a group's signed Intent to Sponsor form before requesting cosponsorship. The forms provided by the Budget Committee shall include measures to ensure this request has been made.

9.4.2.2.3. A group receiving co-sponsorship will provide the Budget Committee and the SGA Senior Administrative Assistant with an itemized expenditure report of the total event budget as outlined by the committee. The report shall include duplicates of itemized receipts and, if any, advertising and/or promotional materials for the co-sponsored activity/event and will be given to the budget committee within thirty (30) days of using the allocation or the event's conclusion, whichever is later.

9.4.2.2.4. If a group requesting co-sponsorship shows that they have the ability to fully sponsor the project expenditure of the event the group shall not be given the co-sponsorship.

9.4.2.2.4.1. No language in Section 9.4.2.2.4 of this Title shall prohibit the Senate from allocating funds for the purpose of advertising or otherwise spreading information about the Oklahoma State University Student Government Association.

9.4.2.2.5. The accounts of the student group requesting for co-sponsorship shall be presented for examination after the forwarding of the application by the budget committee. The materials of examining the student organization shall be obtained from the SGA Senior Administrative Assistant.

9.4.2.2.6. All co-sponsorship applications should be submitted electronically, at least one business day prior to the beginning of the event.

9.4.2.2.7 Co-sponsorships shall not be awarded for events that took place prior to a group submitting their application. Any exceptions shall be at the discretion of the Coordinator of SGA Programs

9.4.2.3. Groups not complying with the rules described herein shall be placed on probation, during which time they will be ineligible to receive co-sponsorship funds, for the remainder of the semester in which the event occurred and the two full semesters following.

9.4.2.3.1. Shall a group rectify the violation prior to the end of the probationary period; the probation shall be considered completed.

9.4.3. The committee shall, with the Treasurer, be responsible for maintaining consistent guidelines for both the maintenance and reporting of SGA financial records.

9.4.4. The committee shall refer any allegations of violations of the bylaws regarding budgetary matters and related documents to the Internal Affairs Committee.

9.4.5. A group seeking allocations must have at least one member from the group present at the Budget Committee meeting when the appropriation is considered by the committee and at least one member from the group must be present at the Senate meeting when the appropriation is considered by the Senate. The committee chairperson will be responsible for notifying a group of these requirements.

9.4.6. Should the Budget Committee find a discrepancy in any processes falling under its authority, it may, by majority vote, call for an ad hoc Audit Subcommittee.

9.4.6.1. The Audit subcommittee shall be composed of one (1) member of Budget, one (1) member of Internal Affairs, and the AFAP Director or Assistant AFAP Director.

9.4.6.2. The Vice-Chair of the Budget Committee shall chair the Audit.

9.4.6.3. Audit shall be responsible for requesting said information and providing a written report of its findings to AFAP, Senate, and the group and/or individual in question.

9.4.6.4. Audit shall be dissolved immediately after a written report has been distributed to said parties

9.5 PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

9.5.1. The committee shall be known as the Public Affairs Committee (PAC).

9.5.2. The Committee will be responsible for voicing student concerns when necessary with the laws and actions made by the local, state, and federal governments.

9.5.2.1. The Committee will further be responsible for voicing student concern on any actions made by advisory, governing, or regulatory bodies found in the constitutions, codes, statutes, or ordinances of the aforementioned governments.

9.5.2.2. The Committee shall voice these concerns as either resolutions or recommendations.

9.5.3. The Committee will meet regularly.

9.5.4. The Committee shall appoint two SGA City Council liaisons per semester. One liaison shall be a member of PAC, whether primary or secondary, while the other can be anyone. The committee will invite the SGA City Council liaison(s) no less than three times a semester.

9.5.4.1. At these meetings, pertinent city matters affecting the general welfare of students shall be discussed.

9.5.4.2. The SGA City Council liaisons shall have one representative at each of the city council meetings.

- 9.5.5.** The Committee shall report their findings to the Senate as well as their specific constituencies.

SECTION 10. SENATE REPRESENTATIVES

- 10.1** Senate representatives gather information for the SGA at their respective board meetings and present the approved recommendations and resolutions of the SGA at those meetings.
- 10.2** The standing representative positions are:
- 10.2.1.** Representative to the Board of Regents for the Oklahoma A&M Colleges and delegate to the Oklahoma A&M Board of Regents Member Institution Student Government Association Coalition (OBC).
- 10.2.2.** Representative to the Oklahoma Board of Regents for Higher Education
- 10.2.3.** Representative to the Oklahoma State University Faculty Advisory Council
- 10.3** Additional representative positions can be created by a majority vote of the Senate.
- 10.4** A senate representative must be a senator and appointed by a majority vote of the Student Senate.
- 10.5** Senate representatives will be appointed following guidelines as outlined in Student Senate Rules Section 3. for the election of committee chairs.
- 10.6** In the event a representative vacates their position as a recognized OSU SGA member, regardless of the reason, they must also immediately vacate this SGA Representative position.
- 10.7** These positions will attend at least two meetings of the SGA Senate each month. The purpose is to assist with any questions concerning the agenda (issues) of their respective board at any time in the past, present, or future. In the event of any absence the Senate Speaker shall determine the validity of any excuse. An excused absence shall not be a violation of any provision in this section.
- 10.8** These positions will provide a written report to the Senate Speaker, after each Regents meeting, regarding the past meeting of the Regents (any conclusions and recommendations) and future agenda concerns. The Speaker and/or any member of the Senate can at any time request an oral report to the Senate as a whole on agenda issues discussed at the immediate past meeting of the respective Board of Regents.
- 10.9** These positions will therefore be required to attend ALL meetings of their respective board. In the event they cannot attend, this person will be directly responsible for reporting to the Senate Speaker who will make arrangements for a replacement. Accordingly, the chair must have advanced notice (at least ONE WEEK) and a valid reason(s) for this absence to be forgiven.
- 10.10** Any expenses encumbered by these positions while attending such sessions will be reimbursed by the appropriate entity. Allowable expenses include those necessary to properly carry out the functions enumerated in this bill.
- 10.12** These positions will do investigative work (research) for any member of the OSU Senate on issues or topics requested that deal with the respective board and/or their activities.
- 10.12** The Senate, by two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) ~~2/3-rds~~ vote, may remove these representatives at any time.
- 10.13** These representative positions shall be filled by the Senate at which time their term of office will be indicated.

SECTION 11. SENATE LIAISONS

- 11.1** A senate liaison must be a senator and appointed by a majority vote of the Student Senate.
- 11.2** Senate liaisons will be appointed following guidelines as outlined in Student Senate Rules, Section 3., for the election of committee chairs.
- 11.3** Senate liaisons will establish and maintain contact with assigned groups – i.e., organizations, businesses, universities, etc.

- 11.4** Senate liaisons will provide a report to the Student Senate concerning group happenings, addressing issues and concerns.
- 11.5** Senate liaisons will conduct research and other investigative work pertaining to their respective group at the request of any member of the Student Senate. Findings must be presented in a typewritten report to the Student Senate as a whole.
- 11.6** Temporary Liaison Positions
 - 11.6.1.** Temporary Liaison positions may be created at any time by a majority vote of the Student Senate as a means to coordinate activities or to address issues with a group. Liaisons will be acting on the official business of the Student Senate.
 - 11.6.2.** Terms for temporary liaison positions will be determined at the time of appointment.
- 11.7** Senate liaisons may be removed from their positions by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Student Senate.