

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION CONSTITUTION

Preamble

We, the Students of Ball State University, in order to insure a university community and a community at large responsive to the present and future welfare of students, do organize ourselves for the purpose of governance and hereby establish the Ball State Government association and its governing body, the Ball State Executive Council, the Ball State Student Senate, the Ball State Judicial Court Student Government Association; and the philosophy pertaining thereto.

Since students, the sine qua non necessity of higher education, have intimate and life-oriented interests in the University and are affected by at a most crucial juncture, their career orientations, by any of its policies we, the students of Ball State University, deem it necessary and proper that policy decisions of the University should be reached only with the advice and consent of elected student representatives and their appointees at every level of policy formulation. Our goal is to give and to preserve for students the power of effective choice at Ball State University.

Membership in the Student Government Association will be limited to Ball State University students. Membership shall not be based on race, gender, religion, color, sexual orientation, national origin, physical or mental disability, age, or status as Vietnam era Veteran.

Article I Executive Function

- Section 1. The officers of the Student Government Association (SGA) shall consist of President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary.
- Section 2. The above-mentioned officers shall be elected annually by the direct vote of the Student Association. The term, Student Association, hereafter will be defined as the student body of Ball State University in accordance with the Student Government Association Elections Code.
- Section 3. In the case that the President or Vice President of the Student Government Association is removed from office or relinquishes his/her office, the line of succession shall be: President of the Student Government Association; Vice President of the Student Government Association; President Pro Tempore of Student Senate.
- Section 4. The executive function of the Student Government Association shall be performed by the President and shall be empowered to appoint with the approval of the Student Senate all official aides, who shall constitute the Executive Council.
- Section 5. The Treasurer of the Student Government Association shall present to the

Student Senate the annual budget and manage all monies of the Student Government Association as approved by Student Senate.

Article II Legislative Function

- Section 1. The Student Senate shall perform the legislative function of the Student Government Association and shall be composed of representatives elected annually by a direct vote of the Student Government Association.
- Section 2. Representation within the Student Senate shall be distributed in a manner determined by the Student Senate.
- Section 3. Each representative of the Student Senate shall be elected by those members of the Student Government Association within the respective district of said representative.
- Section 4. The election and all matters pertaining to the election of representatives to the Student Senate shall be regulated by the Student Senate.
- Section 5. Qualifications for the election and membership of the officers and members within the Student Government Association shall be determined by the Student Senate.
- Section 6. The Vice President of the Student Government Association shall act as President of Student Senate, but shall have no vote except in the case of a tie within the said body.
- Section 7. The following members shall constitute ex-officio non-voting members of Student Senate:
- a) The President of Student Government Association
 - b) The Secretary of Student Government Association
 - c) The Treasurer of Student Government Association
 - d) The Advisor of Student Government Association
 - e) The Dean of Students
 - f) Members of Judicial Court
 - g) The Student Member of the Board of Trustees
 - h) Directors of Executive Departments
- Section 8. The Student Senate shall hold at least twenty (20) weekly meetings per academic year, all of which shall be open to the public.
- Section 9. Any individual shall have the privilege of the floor upon recognition by the presiding officer.

Article III

Judicial Function

- Section 1. The judicial function of the Student Government Association shall be performed by a body to be known as the Judicial Court.
- Section 2. The membership of the Judicial Court shall be composed of the following individuals:
- a) The Vice President of the Student Government Association, who shall serve as Chair, and will not have voting privileges at any time
 - b) The President Pro Tempore of the Student Senate who shall serve as Chair in the absence of the Vice President of the Student Government Association and will not have voting privileges at any time
 - c) Five voting justices elected at large from and by the Student Government Association who shall be at least a second semester freshman
- Section 3. The Chair of Judicial Court Shall hold meetings of the Judicial Court as the business of the Court demands, or meetings may be called upon the request of three members of said body. Such meetings may be public at the discretion of the membership.

Article IV Amendments

- Section 1. Amendments to the main body of the Constitution of the Student Government Association may be proposed by either of the following procedures:
- a) By petition signed by twenty-five (25) percent of the Student Government Association;
 - b) By a majority vote of the membership of the Student Senate.
- Section 2. Amendments shall become a part of this Constitution upon ratification by one of the following means:
- a) A majority affirmative vote of the Student Government Association.
 - b) A two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote of the Student Senate.

Article V Ratification

This constitution shall be in effect upon ratification according to ratification of the Student Government Association Constitutional amendments.