



CONSTITUTION
OF THE
FLORIDA SOUTHERN COLLEGE
STUDENT
GOVERNMENT
ASSOCIATION

RATIFIED MARCH 2009

Student Government Association Constitution 2009-2010

Preamble

We, the Student Government Association of Florida Southern College, strive to empower, communicate, and promote unity through education and service in order to represent the Student Body. As members of the campus community, we are dedicated to developing relationships, facilitating changes which benefit students, and improving the quality of Student Life. We will accomplish these goals while upholding the values and integrity of our college.

Article I- Name

The name of this organization shall be the Student Government Association of Florida Southern College (SGA).

Article II- Executive Board

Section 1: Membership

- A. The SGA Executive Board shall consist of the following Executive Board Members:
1. President
 2. Executive Vice-President
 3. Academic Vice-President
 4. Vice-President of Finance
 5. Vice-President of Student Activities
 6. Vice-President of Community and Public Relations
 7. Secretary

Section 2: Duties of Executive Board Members

- A. Duties of the President.** The President shall chair all meetings of the Executive Board. He/She shall supervise the Executive Board Members function within their proper areas of responsibility. He/She shall chair all Presidents' Circle meetings. He/She shall serve as an ex-officio member of the Senate. He/She may be an ex-officio member on all SGA boards, councils, and committees. He/She shall oversee the implementation and follow through on all SGA legislation. He/she shall serve as the student delegate to the Board of Trustees of Florida Southern College. He/She shall report to the Senate and the *Presidents' Circle* on his/her activities. He/She shall serve as a non-voting member of the Executive Board except when a tie must be broken.
- B. Duties of the Executive Vice-President.** The Executive Vice-President shall assume all responsibilities assigned by the SGA President. He/She shall chair all meetings of the Organizational Advisory Committee. He/She will assume the duties of the President whenever the President is incapable of fulfilling them. He/She shall report to the Senate on his/her

activities. He/She shall serve as a member of the Executive Board and non-voting member of the Presidents' Circle except when a tie must be broken. He/She shall serve as an ex-officio member of the Senate. The Executive Vice-President would work one on one with the Organizational Coordinator to schedule one campus Leadership Seminar per full month.

- C. Duties of the Academic Vice-President.** The Academic Vice-President shall chair the Senate. He/She shall research and recommend improvements in the academic environment and supervise the senators as they do the same. He/She shall report to the Senate and Presidents' Circle on his/her activities. He/She shall serve as a non-voting member of the Senate except when a tie must be broken. He/She shall serve as a member of the Executive Board.
- D. Duties of the Vice-President of Student Activities.** The Vice-President of Student Activities shall be responsible for the planning, initiating, and administrating of student-oriented activities on the campus of Florida Southern College. It shall be the goal of the Vice-President of Student Activities to improve upon old programs and search out original programs that will provide entertainment, education, and social interaction for all segments of Florida Southern College. He/She shall report to the Senate and Presidents' Circle on his/her activities. He/She shall preside over the Association of Campus Entertainment. He/She shall serve as a member of the Executive Board. He/She shall serve as an ex-officio member of the Senate and Presidents' Circle.
- E. Duties of the Vice-President of Finance.** The Vice-President of Finance shall supervise the allocation of any money from the student activity fee. He/She shall serve as chair of the Finance Allocation Board. He/She shall report to the Senate and Presidents' Circle on his/her activities. He/She shall serve as a member of the Executive Board. He/She shall serve as an ex-officio member of the Senate.
- F. Duties of the Vice-President of Community and Public Relations.** The Vice-President of Community and Public Relations shall be responsible for all publicity of SGA. He/She shall be responsible of all community relations of SGA to Florida Southern College and Community. He/She shall be responsible for all notices and communication of SGA. He/She shall report to the Senate and Presidents' Circle on his/her activities. He/She shall serve as the chair of the Public Relations Committee. He/She shall work directly with Secretary to coordinate elections PR. He/She shall serve as a member of the Executive Board. He/She shall serve as an ex-officio member of the Senate.
- G. Duties of the Secretary.** The Secretary shall keep detailed minutes of Executive Board, Senate, and Presidents' Circle meetings. He/She shall keep a record of all past minutes and have them available on request. He/She shall be responsible for the notices and communications within SGA. He/She shall report to the Senate and the Presidents' Circle on his/her activities. He/She shall serve as the chair of any elections and/or Constitution/By-Laws committees. He/She shall serve as an ex-officio member of the Senate and the Presidents' Circle. He/she shall serve as a member of the Executive Board.

Article III- Senate

Section 1: Composition of the Senate

- A. Two (2) senators from the First-Year Division
- B. One (1) senator from the Humanities Division
- C. One (1) senator from the Natural Science and Mathematics Division
- D. One (1) senator from the Social Science and Behavioral Science Division
- E. One (1) senator from the Business and Economics Division
- F. One (1) senator from the Applied and Performing Arts Division
- G. One (1) senator from the Health Professions Division
- H. One (1) senator from the Undeclared Division
- I. Nine (9) senators to be assigned between the three (3) divisions based upon of percentage of students majoring in each division. The percentages shall be determined each year following enrollment records of the spring semester in which the main election is to be held
- J. Academic divisions listed in the most current edition of the Florida Southern College Academic Course Catalog will be used.

Section 2: Academic Major Change of the Senate

- A. Any Senator changing majors in the middle of his/her term of office shall hold his/her position until a new election has been held.

Section 3: Duties of the Senate.

- A. Senators will serve on the academic and student life committees as assigned to them by the Academic Vice-President and complete other duties as assigned.
- B. Each senator will be responsible for serving on a committee in the Senate.
- C. Each senator will be responsible for completing projects as assigned by the Executive Board.

Section 4: Responsibilities and Powers of the Senate

- A. The Senate shall concentrate on improving the college in its academic reputation.
- B. To originate and pass legislation necessary for the well-being of the Student Body.
- C. To act on any legislation necessary for the well-being of the Student Body.
- D. To act on any legislation that has been originated and passed by the House.
- E. To carry out SGA elections.
- F. To impeach SGA Executive Board members and senators.

Section 5: Meetings of the Senate.

- A. The Academic Vice-President shall chair the meetings of the Senate and in his/her absence, the President shall chair the meetings.
- B. Meetings will be run according to Robert's Rules of Order except where the Constitution or By-laws state otherwise.
- C. Two-thirds of the entire sitting Senate membership will constitute a quorum.
- D. Meetings will be held no less than five times per academic semester.
- E. The Academic Vice-President or the Student Government President may call special meetings of the Senate. All members must receive no less than two business days notice.
- F. All meetings will be open to any member of the student body, faculty, and advisors except those which are declared to be an Executive Session by a majority vote of the Senate.

Article IV- Presidents' Circle

Section 1: Composition of the Presidents' Circle

- A. The Presidents' Circle will be composed of the Presidents from each recognized organization on the campus of Florida Southern College.
- B. The organization recognition process is outlined in the "Organization Recognition Process" addendum to the by-laws.

Section 2: Responsibilities and Powers of the Presidents' Circle

- A. The Presidents' Circle shall recognize the various student organizations on campus with the approval of the Senate and Vice President of Student Development. Recognized organizations on campus shall keep their recognition as long as they remain in good standing with the college and SGA. Organizations must also keep a current list of officers and their GPA on record with the Student Activities Office. Any organizations failing to comply with the above standards will lose their recognition.

Section 3: Meetings of the Presidents' Circle

- A. The President of SGA shall chair the meetings of the Presidents' Circle and in his/her absence; the Executive Vice-President shall chair the meetings.
- B. Meetings will run according to Robert's Rules of Order except where the Constitution or By-laws state otherwise.
- C. Two-thirds of the entire Presidents' Circle membership will constitute a quorum.
- D. Meetings will be held once a month or no less than three times a semester.
- E. The Executive Vice-President or the President of SGA may call special meetings of the Presidents' Circle. All members must receive no less than three days notice.
- F. All Presidents' Circle meetings may be closed based on judgment of the SGA President.

Section 4: Meetings of the Finance Allocation Board (F.A.B.)

- A. The Vice President of Finance shall chair the meetings of the Finance Allocation Board and in his/her absence; an appointed F.A.B. member shall chair the meetings.
- B. Meetings will run according to Robert's Rules of Order except where the Constitution or By-laws state otherwise.
- C. Two-thirds of the entire F.A.B. membership will constitute a quorum.
- D. Meeting may be held weekly; proposals to be reviewed will be due at a day and time as established by the Vice President of Finance.
- E. The Vice President of Finance may call special meetings of the Finance Allocation Board. All members must receive no less than three business days notice.
- F. All F.A.B. meetings are closed.

Article V- Jurisdiction

Section 1: Approval of Actions

- A. All actions of SGA are subject to the approval of the President of the College, or other such officials as may be designated by the President of the college and the President of SGA and at all times to the actions of the Board of Trustees of Florida Southern College.

Section 2: Vice President of Student Development

- A. The Dean of Student Life of Florida Southern College will serve as an advisor to SGA. All SGA actions are subject to his/her approval.

Section 3: Advisor to SGA

- A. At least one advisor shall be appointed by the President of the College with the approval of the Executive Board to advise SGA. He/She will share his/her findings with the Presidents' Circle and Senate and may speak during meetings on a point of order or to clarify any ambiguities.

Article VII- By-Laws

Section 1: By-Laws

- A. The Senate shall be empowered to adopt and amend such By-Laws as deemed necessary and convenient for carrying out its functions provided said By-Laws and regulations do not conflict with the articles of this Constitution and have the approval of the President of the College.

Section 2: By-Laws amendments

- A. Any amendments to the By-Laws will require a simply majority affirmative vote of the Senate in order to pass.

Article VIII- Ratification

Section 1: Amendment Proposal

- A. An amendment must be proposed on the Senate floor.
- B. One week must elapse before the Senate may vote on the proposed amendment.
- C. Prior to submitting an amendment to the student body, the amendment must be approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the voting membership of the Senate.
- D. The President of the College must approve the proposed amendment.
- E. The proposed amendment must be presented to the student body in written form in a campus wide publication at least two weeks prior to the election.

Section 2: Amendment Ratification

- A. A vote of the student body must be held to ratify an amendment
- B. Two-thirds (2/3) of those voting must cast an affirmative vote for ratification of an amendment.

Section 3: Adoption

- A. Upon final ratification, the Constitution shall nullify all SGA Constitutions preceding it and take effect immediately.