

Preamble

We, the undergraduate students of Bowling Green State University, in order to effectively represent our needs, interests, and opinions as students, to ensure our rights as citizens of the University Community, and to promote unity, cooperation, goodwill, and equality among all students, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the Bowling Green State University Undergraduate Student Government.

ARTICLE I. THE UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT BODY

- Section 1. The name of the body shall be the Undergraduate Student Body of Bowling Green State University, hereafter referred to as the student body.
- Section 2. All registered undergraduate students at Bowling Green State University shall be members of the student body and follow the provisions within this Constitution.
- Section 3. All registered undergraduate students at Bowling Green State University have the right to vote, be heard by, and to be represented by the Undergraduate Student Government.

ARTICLE II. EXECUTIVE BRANCH

- Section 1. The executive branch shall exercise all administrative functions of the Undergraduate Student Government under the provisions of this Constitution. The proceedings and actions of the executive branch shall be valid only when authorized by the President or his/her designee. The actions of this branch shall be limited to executive functions in carrying out the provisions of this Constitution and implementing legislation enacted by the legislative branch.
- Section 2. The executive authority shall be vested in a President who shall hold the office for the term of one year beginning the last regularly scheduled meeting of the Spring Semester in which he/she is elected.
- Section 3. Both the President and Vice President must be full-time undergraduate students in good standing at Bowling Green State University, as outlined in the Bowling Green State University Student Handbook, for the duration of their terms.
- (1) Both the President and the Vice President must complete one full academic year at this institution prior to holding office.
- (2) The President and the Vice President shall be elected on the same ballot by a plurality of those members of the student body casting ballots.
- Section 4. The President shall be responsible for upholding the Undergraduate Student Government Constitution.

(1) The President shall execute the objectives of the Undergraduate Student Government as dictated by this Constitution and his/her administration as legislated by the Senate.

Section 5. The President may veto any legislation enacted by the Senate.

Section 6. The President shall be the official voice of the student body and shall work with the members of the University Community and all constituent bodies on all matters concerning student issues and concerns.

Section 7. The President shall nominate, with the advice and consent of the Senate, the following positions, which shall draw their authority from and report directly to the President:

(1) Cabinet members

(2) University Standing Committee representatives

(3) Chief Administrator of the Procedures and Appeals Board

Section 8. The Vice President shall assist the President in his/her administrative duties.

Section 9. In the event that the office of the President becomes vacant, the Vice President is to assume the duties of the President. In the event that the office of Vice President is currently vacated as well, then the Speaker of the Senate shall assume the duties of the President. In the event that there is neither a Vice President nor a Speaker then an election will be held among the members of the Senate for the purpose of electing a Senator for this position.

Section 10. In the event that the office of the Vice President becomes vacant, the President shall appoint a successor, within two weeks of the vacancy, who must be approved by a two-thirds (2/3)- majority vote of the Senate.

ARTICLE III. LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

Section 1. The legislative branch shall exercise all legislative functions of the Undergraduate Student Government under the provisions of this Constitution. The proceedings and actions of this branch shall be limited to legislative matters. Official actions and decisions of the legislative branch shall be valid only under the provisions of this Constitution.

Section 2. All legislative authorities herein granted shall be vested in a Senate.

(1) There shall be at least one Senate meeting held each month of the academic year.

(2) All members of the Senate shall have the authority to propose legislation.

(3) Any legislation passed through the Senate shall be forwarded to the President for his/her consideration.

(4) The legislative branch shall operate through a committee system, chaired by a Senator, through which all legislation shall pass. The Senate shall have the authority to establish and govern the activities of such committees of its own membership.

(5) The Senate shall elect from within its members a Speaker who shall preside over all meetings of the Senate, but shall have no vote unless the Assembly's votes are equally divided.

Section 3. The Senate shall be composed of Senators, elected by the student body as At-Large, Diversity Affairs, Population District, or Academic College Senators.

(1) Each Senator shall be granted one vote, and only one vote, in the Senate.

(2) A Senator must be a full-time undergraduate student in good standing, as outlined in the Bowling Green State University Student Handbook, for the duration of his/her term, as calculated at the beginning of each academic term.

Section 4. The Senate shall establish its by-laws by approval of a two-thirds (2/3)-majority vote no later than the fourth official meeting of the fall semester.

(1) The Senate shall have the authority to extend this deadline by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote.

ARTICLE IV. PROCEDURES AND APPEALS BRANCH

Section 1. The Procedures and Appeals Board shall exercise all review functions of the Undergraduate Student Government.

Section 2. Authority shall be vested in a Chief Administrator who shall hold the office for one academic year.

(1) The Chief Administrator must be appointed by the President and approved by a two-thirds (2/3)-majority vote of the Senate no later than the second formal meeting of the academic year.

(2) The Chief Administrator must be a member of the Procedures and Appeals Board and have completed one full academic year at Bowling Green State University prior to assuming office.

Section 3. Procedures and Appeals Board members must be appointed by the President and approved by a majority vote of the Senate.

Section 4. The Procedures and Appeals Board shall be responsible for the following:

(1) To act as an internal investigative board for the Undergraduate Student Government.

(2) To supervise the Undergraduate Student Government elections.

(3) To review and render decisions on all undergraduate parking violation appeals.

ARTICLE V. AMENDMENTS TO THIS CONSTITUTION

Section 1. Proposed Amendments to the Constitution must be approved by a three-fourths (3/4)-majority of the Senate. The Vice President for Student Affairs must also approve all amendments to this document before the Constitution shall be considered amended.

ARTICLE VI. UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS

Section 1. Any member of the student body who is in good standing at Bowling Green State University, as outlined in the Bowling Green State University Student Handbook, is eligible to run for an elected position on the Undergraduate Student Government.

Section 2. A student may be a candidate for only one position in each election.

Section 3. A student may hold only one position, either elected or appointed, at any time.

ARTICLE VII. INITIATIVE, REFERENDUM, AND RECALL

Section 1. The undergraduate student body shall have the right to initiate any action within the power of the Senate according to the following process:

(1) A petition bearing the written signature and student identification number of at least five-percent (5%) of the undergraduate student body, stating the proposed action, shall be presented to the Chief Administrator of the Procedures and Appeals Board to put the issue on the ballot.

(2) After final approval of a senate resolution, the student(s) that prepare a petition must schedule a meeting with the Procedures and Appeals Board within ten (10) academic days. This public meeting will be focused on the language and supporting text of the petition.

(3) The Chairperson of the Internal Affairs Committee, the Legislative Secretary, and the Chief Administrator must be present at this meeting. The Internal Affairs Chairman will act as the moderator of this meeting. The Legislative Secretary will take notes during the meeting and prepare the minutes as a public record. The Chief Administrator will not vote on any decision unless there is a tie among the present members of the Procedures and Appeals Board.

(4) After the petition is approved by a majority vote of the present members of the Procedures and Appeals Board, the student(s) will have ten (10) academic days to collect the necessary signatures. The petition must then be submitted to the Chief Administrator for the validation of the signatures and student identification numbers.

(5) The ballot shall state the proposed action and ask; "Shall the above action be adopted?" The issue shall go to the undergraduate student body for a vote within fifteen (15) academic days of the submission of the final petition.

(6) A minimum of ten percent (10%) of the undergraduate student body must vote, with a majority in favor of the adoption, for the initiative to be considered valid.

(7) No action approved under this section shall be replaced during that term of office, except upon subsequent initiative petition.

Section 2. Any formal action taken by the Senate may be put to a vote of the undergraduate student body under the following provisions:

(1) A petition bearing the written signatures and student identification numbers of at least five-percent (5%) of the undergraduate student body stating the actions in question shall be presented to the Chief Administrator of the Procedures and Appeals Board to be put on a ballot.

(2) After final approval of a senate resolution, the student(s) that prepare a petition must schedule a meeting with the Procedures and Appeals Board within ten (10) academic days. This public meeting will be focused on the language and supporting text of the petition.

(3) The Chairperson of the Internal Affairs Committee, the Legislative Secretary, and the Chief Administrator must be present at this meeting. The Internal Affairs Chairman will act as the moderator of this meeting. The Legislative Secretary will take notes during the meeting and prepare the minutes as a public record. The Chief Administrator will not vote on any decision unless there is a tie among the present members of the Procedures and Appeals Board.

(4) After the petition is approved by a majority vote of the present members of the Procedures and Appeals Board, the student(s) will have ten (10) academic days to collect the necessary signatures. The petition must then be submitted to the Chief Administrator for the validation of the signatures and student identification numbers.

(5) The ballot shall state the action taken by the Senate and ask; "Shall the above action be repealed?" The issue shall go to the undergraduate student body for a vote within fifteen (15) academic days of the submission of the final petition.

(6) A minimum of ten percent (10%) of the undergraduate student body must vote, with a majority in favor of the repeal, for the referendum to be considered approved.

(7) The result of the referendum shall take effect immediately.

Section 3. His/her constituents may recall any Senator or Officer, for valid reasons, from his/her service to the Undergraduate Student Government.

(1) A petition bearing the signatures of at least five-percent (5%) of the Senator or Officer's constituency shall be presented to the Chief Administrator of the Procedures and Appeals Board.

(2) The Chief Administrator will prepare a memorandum that shall state the cause of the recall and ask; "Shall the person named in the petition be recalled for the above reasons?" The memorandum shall be presented to the Senate of the Undergraduate Student Government for a vote within fifteen (15) academic days.

(3) The question shall be voted on by the Senate and if the question receives a three-fourths (3/4)-majority vote within the Senate the Senator or Officer shall be removed from office.

(4) No recalled person shall be appointed to any vacancy during that particular term of office.

ARTICLE VIII. CENSURE OR REMOVAL FROM OFFICE

Section 1. Any Senator or Officer may be given censure by a three-fourths (3/4)-majority vote within the Senate. Censure shall serve as a resolution of disapproval by the Senate where such action does not merit removal from office.

Section 2. When an action is judged to merit removal from office any Senator or Officer may be removed from office by a three-fourths (3/4)-majority vote within the Senate.

AMENDMENTS

Amendment 1: Before any elected or appointed member of the Undergraduate Student Government begins execution of his/her respective office, the elect shall take the following oath to be administered by the Speaker, or acting Speaker, of the Undergraduate Student Government:

I (name) do solemnly swear (affirm or promise) that I will support and uphold the Constitution of the Undergraduate Student Government, and that I will faithfully perform the duties of the office

Amendment 2: The President, Vice President, and the Speaker of the Senate shall not have the authority to propose legislation to the Senate.