STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

**Code of Ethics**

Preamble

 We, the members of the Concord University Student Government Association, in order to establish guidelines of ethical behavior and conduct to which all members must adhere, do establish this Code of Ethics. We respect the dignity and rights of all people. We recognize that all people deserve respect regardless of their demographic(s).

**Article I – Responsibility to the SGA**

 The Student Government Association, for the purpose of this Code of Ethics, is considered to be the entirety of the Executive, Legislative, and Judicial Branches that are elected, appointed, or otherwise placed into their positions, as part of Concord University’s Student Government Association. All Student Government Association members have a responsibility to their fellow members of the Student Government Association to maintain the appropriate attitude, professionalism, and fulfill their duties as is due their office.

1. Recognizing that student input is of paramount importance, we will maintain an environment that promotes freedom of expression and the free exchange of ideas.
2. Recognizing that personal relationships between members of the Student Government Association are unavoidable, we will not demonstrate favoritism or differential treatment.
3. Recognizing that maintaining a professional environment is vital to the Student Government Association, we will not persecute fellow members in anyway. We will be accepting of others and their personal endeavors in the Student Government Association. Furthermore, members will not be motivated by selfish motives or engage in vendettas.
4. In order to ensure personal beliefs are not imposed and to encourage debate without penalty, we will remain open minded, intellectually resilient, and willing to entertain and evaluate positions other than our own.
5. In order to protect and maintain the integrity of the Student Government Association as a whole, we will not accept or offer any monetary or tangible incentives, with the exception of officer pay.
6. In order to keep the Student Government Association working as efficiently as possible, each member should strive to have a working knowledge of Robert’s Rules of Order as well as the Student Government Association Constitution and Bylaws. Furthermore, each member will abide by afore mentioned Constitution and Bylaws as well as this Code of Ethics effective immediately upon taking the Oath of Office.

**Article II – Responsibility to the Student Body**

 The Student Body is considered to be every student currently enrolled in any course or program at this University. As officials of this student body, Student Government Association members must stay in constant contact and communication with those whom they represent. The constituents rely on representatives in the Student Government Association to inform them of the events and issues so that they may be involved and vote in their best interests.

1. In order to ensure that actions taken by the Student Government Association are in best interest of the Student Body, we will always consider the consequences of our actions and guard against anything that might compromise our ability to complete those tasks which we were put into position to accomplish.
2. Recognizing that informing the Student Body is a major role for Student Government Association members, when speaking or acting on behalf of the Student Government Association we will ensure that anything we say or do accurately reflects the opinions of the Student Government Association. Furthermore, when speaking or acting as private individuals, we will avoid creating the impression that we speak or act with the authority of the entire Student Government Association.
3. Recognizing that we are in our respective positions to represent the entirety of the Student Body, we will consult our constituents on pressing issues and cast our votes to creditably reflect their best interests. Furthermore, we will take our positions seriously, as our constituents will expect as much.

**Article III – Responsibility to the Community**

 The Community of Athens, West Virginia is an important part of Concord University, as is the University to the community of Athens, so it should be incumbent upon every member of this body to participate in activities that contribute to the overall community’s well-being. Community involvement should be to the extent that the experiences enrich and contribute to the overall scope and educational goals of the student.

1. Recognizing the law is of utmost importance, Student Government Association members should uphold the laws of the United States of America, the State of West Virginia, and the community of Athens.
2. Recognizing that community involvement is important to the University as well as the surrounding communities, Student Government Association members are encouraged to be involved in community activities as well as charitable work benefiting the community.
3. Recognizing we represent the university and the student body, Student Government Association members should respect all members of the community regardless of their demographic(s).

**Article IV – Responsibility to Self**

 Each member of the Student Government Association should strive to be a good example to their peers to preserve and promote the integrity and respect of the Student Government Association as a whole. Student Government Association members should also avoid actions that prevent them from performing their duties of their position.

1. In order to ensure that all opinions are heard, Student Government Association members should not be afraid to voice their opinion or to speak up, especially if it is pertinent to the topic at hand.
2. Student Government Association members should strive to do their best in classes, act with integrity and confidence, as well as maintain good personal health practices.

Student Government Association President’s Name

 Date:

Student Government Association President’s Signature

Student Government Association Parliamentarian’s Name

 Date:

Student Government Association Parliamentarian’s Signature

Student Government Association Commissioner’s Name

 Date:

Student Government Association Commissioner’s Signature