

The Constitution of Butler University's Student Government Association

Revised March 2008

Article I. NAME

The governing organization of the Butler University student body shall be the Butler University Student Government Association (SGA).

Article II. MISSION

The Student Government Association is the governing body for student life at Butler University. As representatives, members are responsible for making sound and ethical decisions to best represent their constituencies. SGA promotes campus unity and diversity, represents the voice of all students, addresses important issues and encourages student involvement.

Article III. OFFICERS

- A. The officers of the Student Government Association shall be the President, Vice President of Administration, Vice President of Programming, Vice President of Finance, Vice President of Public Relations, Vice President of Diversity, and the Parliamentarian.
- B. The President of the Student Government Association shall be elected by a simple majority (50% + 1 vote) of all the full time students voting in the general student election; the Parliamentarian, the Vice President of Administration and the Vice President of Finance shall be nominated and elected by the SGA House floor by a simple majority vote (50% + 1 vote). The Vice President of Administration must have served on Council on Presidential Affairs for at least one semester. The Vice President of Programming, Vice President of Communications, Vice President of Diversity, and Executive Assistant shall be nominated by the newly elected President of SGA and approved by the representatives of SGA by a simple majority approval vote (50% + 1 vote). The Vice President of Programming must have been a Program Board Chairperson for at least one semester, the Vice President of Diversity must have served for at least one semester on the R.E.A.C.H. executive board, the Vice President of Finance must have served for at least one semester on the Grants Committee, and the Vice President of Public Relations must have served for at least one semester on the Public Relations committee (excluding the candidates for 2008-2009 school year).
- C. The officers of SGA shall be full time undergraduate students not on disciplinary probation and shall have a cumulative grade point average at Butler of not less than 2.500.
- D. The duties of the officers shall be enumerated below:
 1. The President shall act as the official representative of the Student Government Association, shall preside at the meetings of SGA Assembly, and shall perform those duties assigned to him/her by the Constitution and By-laws of the Student Government Association.
 2. The Vice President of Administration shall, in the event of the vacancy of the office of the President, assume the duties of the office of the President for the remainder of the term. The Vice President of Administration shall also chair the Council on Presidential Affairs committee (CPA) and oversee committee appointments made by the SGA.

He/She shall follow other duties as defined in the By-laws of the SGA Constitution.

3. The Vice President of Programming shall oversee the entire Program Board, strive to provide diverse programming, and follow other duties as outlined in the By-laws of the SGA Constitution.
 4. The Vice President of Finance shall keep an accurate account of the disbursements and receipts, oversee the Finance executive board, Grants Committee, Fundraising committee and grant distributions from SGA allocated funds. He/she shall make a monthly report at SGA house meetings. He/She shall follow other duties as outlined in the By-laws of the SGA Constitution.
 5. The Vice President of Public Relations shall help to communicate and promote the causes and proceedings of SGA by written and oral communication to all SGA constituents. He/she shall keep an accurate record of the SGA proceedings, copies of which shall be made available to representatives and to other persons as SGA directs. In addition, he/she will oversee the Public Relations committee and follow other duties as outlined in the By-laws of the SGA Constitution.
 6. The Vice President of Diversity shall oversee and work within the Butler Community to promote diverse opportunities. He/She shall oversee the R.E.A.C.H. executive board and follow all other duties as outlined in the By-laws of the SGA Constitution.
 8. The Parliamentarian shall insure that Parliamentary Procedure is followed as described in the current edition of "Robert's Rule of Order, Newly Revised." He/She shall also be responsible for monitoring and ensuring that all committee members, clubs, and the SGA adhere to the SGA constitution and by-laws. He/She shall follow other duties as outlined in the By-laws of the SGA Constitution.
- E. The SGA Executive Board members reserve the right to speak on issues before the SGA Assembly. While the SGA Executive Board members have the right to participate in parliamentary procedure, they may not vote on any issue brought before the SGA Assembly.
- F. The Student Government Association may remove from office, with the concurrence of two-thirds of the members present at any quorum meeting, any officer for gross negligence or incompetence, after giving him/her both one week's written notice and an opportunity to defend himself/herself before the SGA representatives.
- G. Vacancies in all offices other than that of President shall be filled by the Student Government Association President and be confirmed by SGA Assembly within a period of fourteen days.

Article IV. REPRESENTATIVES

- A. The Student Government Association shall be composed of representatives (*collectively the "Assembly"*) who are elected each semester according to the By-laws, and who are full time students on neither disciplinary nor academic probation.
- B. Though methods of representatives apportionment shall be decided by the Assembly, each member shall be elected by his/her representative unit, or according to the methods of election of commuter representatives prescribed in the By-Laws of SGA.

- C. With the exception of expulsion for reasons of non-attendance, the Student Government Association may expel with the concurrence of two-thirds of the members present at any quorum meeting any member for gross negligence or incompetence, after giving him/her one week's written notice of the charges and an opportunity to defend himself/herself before the SGA representatives.

Article V. MEETINGS

SGA, whose Assembly meetings shall at all times be open to all students, shall at the end of each semester set the time and the place for meetings of the following semester. SGA Assembly meetings must be once a week. Special meetings may be called by the President of SGA and will operate as regularly scheduled meetings if quorum is met.

Article VI. COMMITTEES

The Student Government Association shall create those committees that it deems necessary to carry out its functions. SGA Assembly shall directly select student members and note who will be representatives on each committee in the minutes for the meeting wherein they are nominated.

Article VII. FINANCES

- A. The student activity fee monies and all other monies received by the Student Government Association shall be administered by the Executive Officers and approved by SGA Assembly by a simple majority vote (50% + 1 vote).
- B. The newly elected Executive Board of SGA shall prepare the annual budget for SGA. The annual budget will be brought to the SGA Assembly on the first business meeting of the fall semester.

Article VIII. BY-LAWS

The By-laws of SGA shall be adopted by a simple majority vote (50% + 1 vote) of the members present at a regularly scheduled SGA Assembly meeting where a quorum is present.

Article IX. AMENDMENTS AND RATIFICATION

- A. Amendments to this Constitution proposed by the executive board of SGA, may be made and documented prior to the beginning of and throughout the academic year.
- B. The revised Constitution must then be distributed to SGA Assembly for two-thirds approval by the end of the third regularly scheduled meeting of the academic year. Following SGA Assembly approval, the proposed amendments become effective immediately.
- C. Any amendments proposed by anyone other than an executive board member shall be submitted to SGA in writing and voted on not less than two weeks later at a regularly scheduled meeting.
- D. Following two-thirds SGA Assembly approval the proposed amendment(s) shall take effect immediately.