



**FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION**

CONSTITUTION

PREAMBLE

We, the Student Body of Florida International University, in order to establish a student government that best represents the voice of our individual and collective interest, provide a responsible and accountable distribution of Activities & Service (A&S) fees and management thereof, create a body of representatives that acts as a fiduciary on our behalf, do hereby enable this constitution to be put into effect by the Student Government Association, hereafter called SGA.

AUTHORITY

I. Establishment of Power

SGA is established through the power of the president of the university under the direction of the Board of Regents which founded the first Student Government Senate in June 1973.

The powers and duties of Student Government are set forth by Florida Statutes, Title XLVIII, chapter 1004.26 and chapter 1009.24; these powers cannot be increased or decreased except by amendment to state or federal law.

II. Jurisdiction

All students by virtue of their registration at Florida International University are members of the Student Body and are granted all the rights and privileges of this constitution.

Members of the Student Body shall be subject to this constitution, University-Wide and SGC Statutes, SGA rules and procedures, and all university rules & regulations.

III. Sovereignty

This Constitution is governed by, and therefore must not contradict, federal laws and Florida State Statutes & Administrative Code that provide for its establishment. In conformance with the aforementioned laws and codes, this constitution is the supreme law of SGA. Only the Vice President of Student Affairs has the power to alter this constitution outside the means for amendment it provides.

Section headings of this constitution are not law and are only meant to aid the reader in understanding the structure of this document.

ARTICLE I STUDENTS RIGHTS

Section 1 Guarantee of Rights

SGA shall guarantee students the following rights, to be exercised in accordance to the laws of this constitution, University-Wide Statutes, and SGC Statutes.

Section 2 Limits

- A. SGA is limited by, and shall therefore not conflict with, the rights guaranteed by the United States and Florida Constitutions.
- B. SGA is limited by, and shall therefore not conflict with, the rights guaranteed by the FIU Student Handbook, including the rights to freedom of expression and assembly, freedom of association, freedom in the classroom, freedom from improper disclosure, freedom from discrimination, freedom from sexual harassment, and the right to due process.

Section 3 Rights

- A. Students shall have the right to:
 - 1. Vote for elected officials.
 - 2. Apply for and run for office.
 - 3. Submit writs of certiorari to be considered by the Supreme Court; these shall include both grievances against SGA officials and/or petitions for legal review.
 - 4. Request meetings with any SGA official.
 - 5. Petition for the formation of a Governing Council.
- B. Students shall have the right to petition their Senators for the following reasons:
 - 1. To express suggestions and/or concerns regarding student affairs.
 - 2. To request SGA monies to fund academic, professional, and/or personal advancement.

3. To request SGA monies to fund university-wide, and/or campus-specific improvements.
4. To issue complaints regarding the unfair treatment by faculty, including professors and/or administration.
5. Students shall have the right to call for a university-wide or campus-specific initiative, referendum, and/or recall. The petition shall require a justification statement regarding the cause for the initiative, referendum, and/or recall; the petition must be signed by at least fifteen (15) percent of the number of votes cast in the previous university-wide general election or campus specific election, and must be properly filed with the Registrar's Office to determine validity of signatures. The petition must then be submitted to the Supreme Court. Validity of the initiative, referendum, and/or recall shall be determined by the Supreme Court within five (5) business days. If the petition is ruled valid, the initiative, referendum, and/or recall shall be held within three (3) active school weeks. If the petition is found invalid it shall be ruled closed without further action.

ARTICLE II ORGANIZATION

Section 1 Student Body

The Student Body is composed of the students of Modesto Maidique Campus (MMC), the Engineering Center, Biscayne Bay Campus (BBC), and the Broward Pines Center.

Section 2 Governing Bodies

- A. This Constitution creates two (2) autonomous Student Government Councils (SGC) such that representation for the Student Body shall be divided into two (2) SGCs. One (1) to represent the interests of students at the Modesto Maidique Campus and Engineering Center hereinafter referred to as SGC-MMC, and one (1) to represent the interests of Biscayne Bay Campus and Broward Pines Center hereinafter referred to as SGC-BBC. Together, SGC-MMC and SGC-BBC shall constitute SGA.
- B. Persons belonging to SGC-MMC shall not exercise any powers appertaining to SGC-BBC and vice versa.
- C. The University-Wide Council (UWC) shall act as a forum for all issues that are not campus-specific.

D. All governing bodies subject to this constitution are also subject to Sunshine State Laws.

Section 3 Branches of Government

- A. The powers of each SGC shall be divided into Legislative, Executive, and Judicial branches.
- B. Persons belonging to one branch shall not exercise any powers appertaining to any of the other branches unless otherwise stated herein.

ARTICLE III LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

Section 1 Purpose

The Legislative powers of the Student Body in MMC and Engineering Center shall be vested in the SGC-MMC Senate. The Legislative powers of the Student Body in BBC and Broward Pines Center shall be vested in the SGC-BBC Senate.

Section 2 Composition & Apportionment

- A. The SGC-MMC Senate shall be composed of thirty (32) Senators which shall be elected at MMC. The allocation of representation is listed within the parenthesis below:
 - 1. Architecture and the Arts (1)
 - 2. Arts and Sciences (5)
 - 3. Business Administration (3)
 - 4. Education (2)
 - 5. Engineering and Computing (2)
 - 6. Nursing & Health Sciences (2)
 - 7. Public Health (1)
 - 8. Honors College (1)
 - 9. Law (1)
 - 10. Medicine (1)
 - 11. Four (4) Graduate Student Senators

12. Four (4) Lower Division Undergraduate Senators
 13. Two (2) Housing Senators
 14. Three (3) Senators at Large
- B. The SGC-BBC Senate shall be composed of twenty (21) Senators which shall be elected at BBC. The allocation of representation is listed within parenthesis below:
1. Arts and Sciences (3)
 2. Business Administration (1)
 3. Education (1)
 4. Honors College (1)
 5. Hospitality and Tourism Management (2)
 6. Journalism and Mass Communication (2)
 7. Nursing & Health Sciences (1)
 8. One (1) Graduate Student Senator
 9. Four (4) Lower Divisions Undergraduate Senators
 10. One (1) Housing Senator
 11. One (1) Broward Pines Center Senator
 12. Three (3) Senators at Large
- C. Each college, school, campus, and housing sector shall be apportioned at least one Senator.
- D. If a new college is created with its own Dean or Associate Dean, a new Senate seat shall be created within the SGC of the corresponding college/school; the seat shall be open for election.
- E. If an additional facility is created, such as a new campus, housing sector, or any other facility in which students participate and require representation, then a Senate seat may be created within the SGC of the corresponding campus. The seat shall be open for election.

Section 3 Senate Sessions

- A. Each Senate shall convene regularly as prescribed in their statutes.
- B. Summer Senate sessions shall begin on the first day of Summer and shall end at the close of the Summer semester as delineated by the university calendar.
- C. Fall Senate sessions shall begin on the first day of Fall semester and close on the last day of Fall semester as delineated by the university calendar.
- D. Spring Senate sessions shall begin on the first day of Spring and close on the last day of Spring as delineated by the university calendar.
- E. Senate sessions shall not be called during holidays, breaks, or when the university is closed.
- F. Provided the Senate is given forty-eight (48) hours notice, the Speaker of the Senate or a majority of the Senate may call for a special session.

Section 4 Duties & Procedures

- A. The Vice President of each SGC shall be the ex-officio President of the Senate, but shall have no vote unless there is a tie.
- B. The Senate shall choose a Speaker of the Senate at the beginning of every term.
- C. The Vice President shall chair the Senate until it chooses the Speaker, at which point the Vice President shall permanently relinquish the chair to the Speaker.
- D. The Speaker, as chair of the Senate, shall retain his/her voting power.
- E. The Senate shall choose a Speaker Pro Tempore to assist the Speaker in all administrative duties of the Legislative branch who shall be second in line in Senate leadership.
- F. The Senate shall choose the Chair of the Finance Committee, who shall be third in line in Senate leadership.
- G. The positions of Speaker, Speaker Pro Tempore, and Chair of the Finance Committee shall be filled by three different Senators.
- H. The Senate shall, at all times, keep up-to-date compilations, both written and digital, of all SGC Statutes; these shall be available to the public.
- I. SGC Statutes shall be composed of the Elections Code, Finance Code, and all other laws passed by the SGC Senate; statutes concerning elections shall require a majority vote of the entire Senate membership.

- J. Senators shall serve on at least one (1) legislative committee.
- K. Senate meetings shall be conducted according to the latest version of Robert's Rules of Order. By two thirds (2/3) vote, the Senate may alter meeting procedures according to how it deems necessary.

Section 5 Powers of the Senate

- A. Senators shall have the power to:
 - 1. Enact and diligently carryout all legislation necessary and proper for the general welfare of the Student Body.
 - 2. Enact statutes, in accordance with this constitution.
 - 3. Approve and allocate Activity & Service expenditures, subject to the provisions of the Chapter 1009.24 of the Florida Statutes; by two thirds (2/3) vote, each SGC Senate shall approve their budget.
 - 4. Approve or deny all appointments and recommendations that the President presents to the Senate body.
 - 5. Overturn a Presidential veto by two thirds (2/3) vote of the Senate.
 - 6. Create any ad hoc committee deemed necessary and proper to the operation of their duties. These may include, but shall not be limited to, any form of investigation committee necessary for the update and/or follow up of a bill or resolution brought to the Senate floor.
 - 7. Audit student organizations and entities directly funded by SGA through A&S fees.
 - 8. Expand the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court, expand the number of Justices of the Supreme Court, and create lower courts for the Judicial Branch; the number of Justices on any court shall be an odd number.
- B. The Senate shall have the power to impeach any SGC official.
 - 1. Impeachment shall be instigated by three fifths (3/5) vote of the entire Senate membership.
 - 2. The Chief Justice from the same SGC as the impeached official shall preside over impeachment proceedings. Should the Chief Justice from one SGC be impeached, the Chief Justice from the other SGC shall preside. Should both Chief Justices be impeached, the Senate shall choose a member of either Supreme Court to preside over the proceedings.

3. The Senate, during impeachment, shall be the acting jury; a two thirds (2/3) vote of the entire Senate membership shall remove the impeached official from office.

Section 6 Terms & Vacancies

- A. Senators shall be elected by plurality vote for a one (1) year term, starting the second to last week of the Spring semester and ending the third to last week of the Spring Semester.
- B. In the case of a vacant Senate seat, the Senate may appoint a substitute to fill the seat until the next election.

ARTICLE IV EXECUTIVE BRANCH

Section 1 Purpose

The power to ensure that laws of the legislature are executed, and to uphold Supreme Court decisions in MMC and Engineering Center, shall be vested in the SGC-MMC Executive Branch. The power to ensure that the laws of the legislature are executed, and to uphold Supreme Court decisions in BBC and Broward Pines Center is vested in the SGC-BBC Executive Branch.

Section 2 Composition

The Executive Branch shall be composed of a President, Vice President, Comptroller, Executive Cabinet, and Elections Board.

Section 3 Duties and Procedures

- A. The President shall:
 1. Act as chief executive and chief administrator of the executive branch. As such, the President shall ensure that the laws of the Legislature are executed.
 2. Set an agenda and conduct the business of executive meetings while presiding as chair of those meetings.
 3. Represent the interests of the students to the administration and faculty.
 4. Convene meetings of the full SGC Council at the beginning of each semester to provide a report stating his/her major objectives and projects for the term year.
 5. Attend or send a designee to Senate meetings.
- B. The Vice President shall:

1. Fulfill the duties of the SGC President in the absence of the President.
2. Act as the ex-officio President of the Senate, but shall have no vote unless there is a tie.
3. Chair the Senate until it chooses the Speaker, at which point the Vice President shall permanently relinquish the chair to the Speaker.
4. Serve as liaison between the executive and legislative branch.
5. Have any other power or duty as prescribed by SGC Statutes.

C. The Comptroller shall:

1. Serve as the Chief Financial Officer of SGC and SGC funded entities.
2. Become knowledgeable of and abide by the SGC Finance Code.
3. Assist the Vice President of Student Affairs, or his/her designee, in the management and disbursement of SGC funds
4. Serve as a non-voting member of the Finance Committee.
5. Have any other power or duty as prescribed by the SGC Statutes.
6. Receive student petitions for monies and reject those that violate laws regarding the administration of A&S funds as detailed in Florida and SGC Statutes.

D. The Executive Cabinet shall:

1. Assist and advise the executive leadership.
2. Be appointed by the President and approved by the Senate.

E. The Elections Board shall:

1. Be composed of one (1) Elections Board Commissioner and a number of board members as determined by SGC Statutes; these shall be appointed by the President and approved by the Senate.
2. Be headed by the Elections Board Commissioner who shall serve as the chief administrator of the Elections Board.
3. Be approved by the end of the Summer A semester, as delineated by the university calendar.

4. Be in charge of running free and fair general and special elections, making the results available to the public.
5. Ensure that all provisions of the Elections Code are executed.

Section 4 Powers of the President

- A. The SGC President from SGC-MMC shall, as a student trustee, serve as an active voting member on the Board of Trustees.
- B. The SGC President from SGC-BBC shall serve on the FIU Board of Directors.
- C. The President shall have the power to:
 1. Sign or veto bills passed by the Senate. Bills failing to acquire the President's signature within five (5) business days shall become law. A two thirds (2/3) vote of the Senate shall be required to overturn a presidential veto. The President shall give written explanation of vetoed legislation within five (5) business days to the Senate; should the President fail to give written explanation to the Senate within the allotted time, the bill shall become law.
 2. Create and dissolve Cabinet positions as he/she deems necessary to perform the duties of the executive branch.
 3. Remove, at his/her discretion, any member of the Executive Cabinet without Senate approval.
 4. Convene special executive meetings at his/her discretion.

Section 5 Terms & Vacancies

- A. Members of the Executive Branch shall serve for a term of one (1) year.
- B. No person shall hold the office of President for more than two (2) terms. In the case that a person succeeds or is appointed to the presidency and serves for more than half (1/2) a term, he/she may hold the office of the President for exactly one (1) additional term.
- C. In the case of resignation or removal of the President, the order of the succession shall be as follows:
 1. Vice President
 2. Speaker of the Senate
 3. Speaker Pro Tempore

4. The Finance Chair

- D. In the case of resignation or removal of the Vice President, the President shall appoint a Vice president to be confirmed by the Senate. This appointment must be confirmed by a two thirds (2/3) vote of the Senate.
- E. In the event that order of succession is exhausted, the Senate shall convene to select a President until special elections are called. The selection of this President shall require two thirds (2/3) votes of the Senate. The new President shall appoint a Vice President. This appointment must be approved by a two thirds (2/3) vote of the Senate.

ARTICLE V JUDICIAL BRANCH

Section 1 Purpose

Judicial power of the Student Body in MMC and Engineering Center shall be vested in the SGC-MMC Supreme Court. Judicial power of the Student Body in BBC and Broward Pines Center shall be vested in the SGC-BBC Supreme Court.

Section 2 Composition

The Supreme Court shall be composed of one (1) Chief Justice, four (4) justices and two (2) Court Clerks.

Section 3 Duties & Procedures

- A. The Chief Justice shall be the chief administrative officer of the Supreme Court.
- B. The Supreme Court shall meet at least once a month and when deemed necessary by the Chief Justice.
- C. The Supreme Court shall remove existing statutes that conflict with or violate federal law and Florida State Statutes & Administrative Code.
- D. All cases heard by the Supreme Court shall be initiated by a writ of certiorari to be submitted to a Court Clerk. Once a writ of certiorari has been filed, the Court shall review it and determine its validity. Should a writ of certiorari be deemed valid, the Court shall set a reasonable date for the hearing. The Court shall not disclose deliberations that lead to its rulings.

- E. Any member of the Student Body may file a writ of certiorari, which shall be one of the following:
 - 1. A grievance, to be defined as a charge against any SGA official, group of officials, or body of government, with misfeasance, malfeasance, or nonfeasance of any SGA laws.
 - 2. A petition for legal review, to be defined as a request for the evaluation of SGA laws to determine constitutionality and/or consistency with other laws.
- F. Members of the Court are required to attend training via the department of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution.

Section 4 Jurisdiction

- A. The Supreme Court shall have jurisdiction over cases or conflicts dealing with:
 - 1. Violations of this constitution.
 - 2. Violations of any constitutions or laws within the sovereignty of SGA.
 - 3. Misfeasance, malfeasance, nonfeasance by an SGA official as defined by the laws of SGA.
 - 4. Misfeasance, malfeasance, nonfeasance pertaining to the appropriation of A&S funds, including the university-wide and SGC-specific budgets.
 - 5. Questions regarding the constitutionality or legality of the actions of governing councils receiving A&S funds.
 - 6. Interpretation of any provision of the constitution and governing councils' constitutions and/or any written law.
 - 7. Conflicts arising within Governing Councils concerning the violations of its laws and concerning the censure and/or removal of its members.
- B. Supreme Court jurisdiction shall not extend to cases regarding violations of the Student Code of Conduct not pursuant to matters of SGA law; such cases should be referred to Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution for review.
- C. The Senate shall have the power to expand the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court.

Section 5 Powers of the Supreme Court

- A. The Supreme Court shall have the power to:

1. Interpret any provision of constitutions, and statutes within the sovereignty of SGA.
 2. Create an ad hoc court to address university-wide cases, as become necessary; this court shall be composed of an odd number of justices, no less than four (4), from both SGC Courts.
 3. Repeal statutes which conflict with the provisions of this constitution.
 4. Hear cases that fall under its jurisdiction.
 5. Subpoena students or pertinent information for the purpose of testimony during hearings.
 6. Rule to censure or remove SGC officials and/or group(s) of officials upon the outcome of a hearing.
- B. Justices shall have the power and duty to recues themselves from participating in hearings for the following reasons:
1. If they are active, non-active, or former members of an organization the accused is a member of.
 2. If they are siblings of the accused.
 3. If the SGA Advisor validates a request of the accused to prevent a justice from participating in the hearing due to conflict of interest, or bias that would impair a justice's impartiality.

Section 6 Terms & Vacancy

- A. The Chief Justice of each Supreme Court shall be appointed by the SGA President of their respective campus and confirmed by the Senate.
- B. Associate justices shall be nominated by the Chief Justice and confirmed by the Senate.
- C. Justices shall be appointed for one (1) two-year term, starting at the date of confirmation and ending two years after that date. Justices are not limited to a number of terms, but must re-apply after every two-year term.
- D. Justices shall not hold an SGC office until he/she has ceased to be a Justice for at least one semester.
- E. Clerks are appointed by the Chief Justice and serve a one-year term. They must re-apply after every term.

- F. In the case of a vacancy in the Court, the Chief Justice shall immediately appoint a new justice to be confirmed by the Senate.

ARTICLE VI DUE PROCESS

Section 1 Due Process Rights

- A. Cases against SGC officials, group(s) of officials and bodies of government are initiated by a grievance, filed as a writ of certiorari with the Supreme Court; the accused shall have the right to due process. The right to due process shall include the following rights:
1. To a speedy and public hearing.
 2. To be informed, prior to the hearing, by the Chief Justice and SGC Advisor of the charges and hearing process.
 3. To be given a reasonable date for the hearing.
 4. To challenge the participation of any Justice to sit on the panel presiding over the hearing. The challenge shall be in writing and provide evidence of a conflict of interest or bias that may impair a fair and impartial hearing.
 5. To refrain from providing self-incriminating testimony.
 6. To provide witnesses.
 7. To receive written notification from the Court regarding the outcome of the case.
 8. To appeal the decision in writing within seven business days of the receipt of the hearing decision. The process for appeal shall be outlined in the SGC Statutes.
- B. SGC officials, group(s) of officials and bodies of government shall not be censured and/or removed except for malfeasance, misfeasance, nonfeasance, permanent inability to perform official duties, conviction of a Federal or State felony, and/or violations of the SGA Constitution or Statutes.

ARTICLE VII QUALIFICATIONS

Section 1 Purpose

The following qualifications shall be required of appointed and elected positions in order to run for and/or apply for office. SGA officials shall continue to meet the requirements of their respective positions in order to hold office.

Section 2 Qualifications for SGA Officials

The following qualifications shall be required of all SGA officials; each SGA official shall:

- A. Be a registered FIU student.
- B. Run for and hold only one office at a time.
- C. Be under no academic or disciplinary sanctions as detailed in the Student Code of Conduct.
- D. Maintain no less than a 2.5 cumulative undergraduate grade point average and a 2.0 term grade point average.
- E. Be registered, during Fall and Spring semesters, for no less than fifty (50) percent of his/her classes at the campus he/she represents.

Section 3 Qualifications for Senators

- A. Each SGA Senator shall be registered to the specific school, college, class level, housing sector, or campus that his/her office represents.
- B. Each undergraduate student Senator shall maintain a minimum of nine (9) undergraduate credit hours; in their semester of graduation these Senators are exempt from these requirements, but shall maintain a minimum of three (3) credit hours.
- C. Each graduate student Senator shall:
 - 1. Maintain no less than a 3.0 cumulative graduate grade point average and a 2.5 term grade point average.
 - 2. Maintain, during Fall and Spring semesters, a minimum of six (6) graduate credit hours; in their semester of graduation, these Senators are exempt these requirements, but shall maintain a minimum of three (3) credit hours.
- D. Each law student Senator shall:
 - 1. Be under no academic or disciplinary sanctions as detailed in the College of Law Student Handbook.

2. Maintain, during Fall and Spring semesters, a minimum of seven (7) law school credit hours; in their semester of graduation, these Senators are exempt from these requirements, but shall maintain a minimum of three (3) credit hours.

Section 4 Qualifications for the Executive

A. The President and Vice President shall:

1. Have attended FIU for a minimum of one year and achieved at least sophomore standing.
2. Maintain, during Fall and Spring semesters, a minimum of nine (9) undergraduate or six (6) graduate credit hours for each semester in office; in their semester of graduation they are exempt from these requirements, but shall maintain a minimum of three (3) credit hours.

B. The President shall have held at least one SGA position for at least two (2) semesters or one hundred and fifty-four (154) consecutive days prior to the first day of campaigning in general elections, except in the case the President succeeds to office.

Section 5 Requirements of the Supreme Court

Each Justice shall maintain, during Fall and Spring semesters, a minimum of nine (9) undergraduate or six (6) graduate credit hours for each semester in office; in their semester of graduation Justices are exempt from these requirements, but shall maintain a minimum of (3) credit hours.

ARTICLE VIII UNIVERSITY-WIDE COUNCIL

Section 1 Purpose

It is the responsibility of the UWC to represent and address student needs on matters of university-wide concern.

Section 2 Composition

The UWC shall be composed of voting members and non-voting members. The President, Vice President, Speaker of the Senate, and Speaker Pro-Tempore from both SGC-MMC and SGC-BBC shall serve as voting members. The Comptroller and Chief Justice from both SGC-MMC and SGC-BBC shall serve as non-voting members.

Section 3 Duties & Procedures

- A. The UWC shall meet at least once a month, during the last academic week of every month, alternating between MMC and BBC campuses. The first meeting shall be at the SGA Retreat.
- B. The President of the hosting campus shall set the agenda and chair the meeting. The President from the non-hosting campus shall serve as vice chair of the meeting.
- C. The Chief Justice from the hosting campus shall act as parliamentarian. If absent, the Chief Justice from the non-hosting campus shall fulfill the duties of parliamentarian. If neither Chief Justice is present, the Supreme Court of the host campus shall send a designee to serve as Parliamentarian.
- D. The UWC shall at all times keep up-to-date compilations, both written and digital, of all University-Wide Statutes that shall be available to the public.
- E. UWC meetings shall be conducted in accordance to the latest edition of Roberts Rule's of Order.

Section 4 Powers of the University-Wide Council

- A. The UWC shall have the power to:
 - 1. Propose bills that are necessary and proper for the general welfare of the entire Student Body; these must be passed in each SGC Senate to become University-Wide Statutes. The University-Wide Statutes shall be consistent with the SGA constitution.
 - 2. Establish laws that apply to the entire Student Body.
 - 3. Create committees to address university-wide issues composed of Senators from each campus and appointed by the UWC. These shall be composed of an equal number of Senators from both campuses.
- B. The SGC-MMC and SGC-BBC executive branches shall ensure all University-Wide Statutes are carried out in the campuses that they represent.
- C. The Supreme Court of either SGC-MMC or SGC-BBC shall remove existing University-Wide Statutes that conflict with or violate federal law and Florida State Statutes & Administrative Code.
- D. The UWC shall not deny speaking privileges to any SGA member from discussing SGA business in UWC meetings.

Section 5 University-Wide Budget Committee

- A. The purpose of the University-Wide Budget Committee (UWBC) shall be to draft the SGA university-wide budget and act as overseer of the SGA university reserve accounts.
- B. The UWBC shall be composed of each President, Vice President, Speaker of the Senate, and Comptroller from SGC-MMC and SGC-BBC, and the Speaker Pro Tempore from SGC-MMC.
- C. The university-wide budget is proposed by the UWBC.
- D. The university-wide budget shall be approved by two thirds (2/3) vote of the UWC and signed by the Vice President of Student Affairs.
- E. In the case the UWC does not approve the proposed budget, the budget shall be sent back to the UWBC. The UWBC shall edit and re-propose the budget until it is approved by the UWC and signed by the Vice President of Student Affairs.
- F. The BBC and Broward Pines Center shall be allocated annually a percentage not greater than 2.25 times of the percentage of revenue collected by the combination of the BBC and Broward Pines Center remaining after the allocation of fixed expenses SGA University-Wide accounts.
- G. The Broward Pines Center shall be funded from the total amount allocated to SGC-BBC and shall be at the sole discretion of the SGC-BBC.
- H. The Engineering Center shall be funded from the total amount allocated to SGC-MMC and shall be at the sole discretion of the SGC-MMC.
- I. The University Wide budget shall be approved by two thirds (2/3) vote of not less than quorum of the University Wide Council. Failure for the university-wide budget to secure the necessary votes shall go back to the University Wide Budget Committee until the budget is approved and then signed by the university President and/or designee

Section 6 Campus-Specific Budget Committees

- A. The purpose of the Campus-Specific Budget Committees shall be to draft the budget for their respective SGC.
- B. SGC-MMC Budget Committee shall be composed of the SGC President, Vice President, Speaker of the Senate, Comptroller, and Finance Chair. SGC-BBC Budget Committee shall be composed of the SGC-BBC President, Vice President, Speaker of the Senate, Comptroller, and Finance Chair.

- C. The budget for MMC and Engineering Center shall be proposed by the SGC-MMC Budget Committee; the budget for BBC and Broward Pines center shall be proposed by the SGC-BBC Budget Committee.
- D. The SGC-MMC budget shall be approved by two thirds (2/3) vote of the SGC-MMC Senate; the SGC-BBC budget shall be approved by two thirds (2/3) vote of the SGC-BBC Senate.
- E. In the case either Senate of SGC-MMC or SGC-BBC does not approve the proposed budget, the budget shall be sent back to the SGC-specific budget committee; the corresponding SGC budget committee shall edit and re-propose the budget until it is approved by the appropriate Senate and signed by the Vice President of Student Affairs.

Section 7SGA Budget

- A. The SGA budget shall be completed by the SGA currently in office for the succeeding SGA. The budget shall be completed and submitted to the University President no later than the first Monday following Spring Break of each year.
- B. Any funds left over from the SGA budget shall go into the Accumulated Cash Budget Account hereby referred to as ACBA.

ARTICLE IX GOVERNING COUNCILS

Section 1Purpose

Governing Councils shall dutifully expend A&S Fees appropriated to them by SGA in order to enhance the Student Body experience. Each Governing Councils shall be under the jurisdiction of either SGC-MMC or SGC-BBC.

Section 2Jurisdiction

Governing Councils shall fall under the jurisdiction of the governing body which approves and allocates their funding; these shall include the SGC-MMC and/or SGC-BBC Senate and/or the UWC. The process for the creation of new Governing Councils shall be determined by SGC and University-Wide Statutes, and FIU administrative rules and procedures.

Section 3Duties & Procedures

Each Governing Council shall:

- A. Be governed by a constitution. The provisions therein shall conflict with neither this constitution nor SGC Statutes.
- B. Elect a Chair to be the chief administrator of their administration.
- C. Submit to their respective governing body, at least once a semester, a detailed fiscal report of the management of funds allocated to them.
- D. Assign a designated representative to attend all SGC executive meetings; Governing Councils which fall under the jurisdiction of the UWC shall assign a representative to attend all UWC meetings.
- E. Abide by SGC and University-Wide Statutes.

ARTICLE X ELECTIONS

Section 1 Process

- A. General and special elections shall be decided by plurality vote.
- B. General elections of SGC-MMC and SGC-BBC shall run concurrently for the offices of President, Vice President, and the Senate on the Tuesday and Wednesday of the third week following Spring Break. This date may be changed with two thirds (2/3) majority approval of the UWC and the consent of the Vice President of Student Affairs.
- C. SGC-MMC President and Vice President shall run on one ticket and be elected by the student body of MMC and Engineering center. SGC-BBC President and Vice President shall run on one ticket and be elected by the student body of BBC and the Broward Pines Center.
- D. SGC-MMC Senators shall be elected by the MMC and Engineering Center membership of the campus, school, college, or housing sector which they are elected to represent. SGC-BBC Senators shall be elected by the BBC and Broward Pines membership of the campus, school, college, or housing sector which they are elected to represent.

Section 2 Elections Code

- A. SGC Statutes shall include an Elections Code. Changes to the Elections Code shall be passed by majority vote of the entire Senate membership.
- B. Elections shall be run according to the Elections Code.

- C. Elections Board shall enforce the Elections Code and ensure that all its provisions are executed.
- D. Changes to the Elections Code during the six (6) week period prior to the general elections date shall require a two thirds (2/3) vote in a special session of the Senate to pass.

ARTICLE XI REMUNERATION

Section 1 Remuneration

- A. SGC Presidents shall receive annually a payment amount distributed bi-weekly, determined by the SGA budget.
- B. SGC Vice Presidents and Comptrollers shall receive annually an amount up to seventy-five percent (75%) of the President's pay, distributed bi-weekly.
- C. SGC Speakers of the Senate and Chiefs of Staffs shall receive annually an amount up to thirty-two percent (32%) of the President's pay, distributed bi-weekly.
- D. SGC Senators, excluding the Speaker, shall receive annually an amount up to twenty-five percent (25%) of the President's pay.
- E. Salaries for other appointed or elected positions of each SGC, including such positions as Director of Student Legislative Affairs, Chief Justice, and Elections Commissioner; shall be left to the discretion of the individual executive council of each campus, but cannot exceed the annual salary of the Speaker of the Senate.
- F. Members or appointed individuals of each SGC holding more than one (1) position shall receive remuneration for only one (1) position, whichever is highest.
- G. Remuneration will be through a payroll method.
- H. Hours and wages for appointed elected positions will be distributed according to the allocation of funds to each SGC's emolument account.
- I. Each SGC shall assist in the selection, appointment, evaluation, and termination of personnel who perform professional and/or administrative functions in the SGC office. When appropriate, the SGC President and the SGC Advisor(s) will confer in the determination of job descriptions and compensation.
- J. Remuneration for SGA officials shall not be decreased during their term in office.

ARTICLE XII
AMENDMENT PROCESS

Section 1 Amendment Proposals

- A. All amendment proposals shall be submitted to the UWC and shall then be put on the ballot for the next election; the UWC shall not have veto power over amendment proposals.
- B. Amendment proposals may only be submitted to the UWC in the following ways:
 - 1. A petition signed by a number of students totaling fifteen (15) percent of the number of votes cast in the previous university-wide general election. This petition shall then be brought before the UWC as an amendment proposal.
 - 2. An amendment bill initiated by either the SGC-MMC or SGC-BBC Senate. If an amendment bill is initiated at SGC-MMC, it must then be approved by majority of the SGC-BBC Senate. If an amendment bill is initiated at SGC-BBC, it must then be approved by majority of the SGC-MMC Senate. This bill shall then be brought before the UWC as an amendment proposal.
- C. Amendment proposals must be ratified by the student body in a university-wide general or special elections by a three fifth (3/5) majority of those voting.
- D. Amendments ratified by the student body shall be submitted for the approval of the Vice President of Student Affairs.
- E. Amendments approved by the Vice President of Student Affairs shall be added to this constitution and listed at the end of this document.
- F. This constitution and its original content shall not be deleted or replaced except by the power of the Vice President of Student Affairs.