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The Bylaws of the Oklahoma Student Government Association

(As amended by the OSGA Congress, Fall 2013)

Section 1: TITLE

This document shall be known and may be cited as The Bylaws of the Oklahoma Student Government Association.

Section 2: INDEX

This act shall be organized as follows:

Section 3	Function of the Bylaws
Section 4	Congressional Officers
Section 5	Committees
Section 6	Legislative Sessions
Section 7	Statutory and Parliamentary Authority
Section 8	OSGA Regions
Section 9	Legislation

Section 3.1: APPLICATION

From the time of their adoption, the following Bylaws shall govern the conduct of the Oklahoma Student Government Association Congress (hereafter “Congress”) and the association as a whole.

Section 3.2: PURPOSE

These Bylaws shall provide the Oklahoma Student Government Association Congress with uniform, reasonable, and easily understood procedures. They shall balance the need to expedite business with the individual representative’s responsibility to adequately represent constituents. They shall seek to be as economical, clear, and useful as possible within their purpose.

Section 3.3: AMENDMENT

The Bylaws may be amended by an act of procedure upon a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the representatives voting and present by the legislative body. The original and all subsequently amended editions of these Bylaws shall be preserved by the President of the Oklahoma Student Government Association. Authors of amendments to these Bylaws shall adapt the form and structure of any amendment to the existing form and structure of these Bylaws, as to avoid conflict or complication of the substance, structure, interpretation, or use of these Bylaws.

Section 3.4: SUSPENSION

Any individual Bylaw or group of related Bylaws shall be suspended temporarily upon a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the representatives voting and present.

Section 4.1: OFFICERS OF THE CONGRESS

A) CHAIR OF THE CONGRESS.

The Chair is the highest-ranking officer of the Congress.

The Chair shall strive to facilitate the execution of the Oklahoma Student Government Association Congress’ mission.

The Chair shall preside over all sessions of the Congress.

The Chair shall not vote, except as necessary to break a tie. The Chair is entitled to vote when the Chair’s vote would change the result. The Chair may only vote when chairing the meeting at the time the motion is being discussed and voted on.

56 The Chair of the Congress shall be the Vice President of the OSGA or designee.
57

58
59 B) VICE-CHAIR OF THE CONGRESS.

60 The Vice-Chair is the second-highest ranking officer of the Congress.

61 The Vice-Chair shall strive to facilitate the execution of Oklahoma Student Government
62 Association Congress' mission.

63 The Vice-Chair shall preside at meetings in the absence of the Chair and shall preside over the
64 Committee of the Whole. The Vice-Chair shall also preside at the discretion of the Chair.

65 The Vice-Chair shall be a voting ex-officio member of all committees. The Vice-Chair shall
66 oversee the performance and guidance of committees. The Vice-Chair shall report on committees
67 as necessary to the Chair of Oklahoma Student Government Association Congress.

68 The Vice-Chair of the Congress shall be appointed by the Chair of the OSGA Congress and serve
69 at his or her pleasure.
70

71 C) SECRETARY OF THE CONGRESS.

72 The Secretary is the third-highest ranking officer of the Congress.

73 The Secretary shall strive to facilitate the execution of Oklahoma Student Government
74 Association Congress' mission.

75 The Secretary shall preside at meetings in the absence of the Chair and Vice-Chair.

76 The Secretary shall take minutes at all meetings.

77 The Secretary shall be responsible for recording and reading all submitted amendments to
78 legislation pending before the Congress.

79 The Secretary shall be responsible for calling of the roll of the Congress and for taking roll call
80 votes.

81 The Secretary shall keep a record of all votes cast in general meetings by all representatives.

82 The Secretary shall post a record of all votes cast in meetings on legislation, amendments to
83 legislation, or on any other questions deemed appropriate by the Secretary or higher-ranking
84 officer of the Congress. These records shall be provided to the Oklahoma Student Government
85 Association Secretary to be included in the Congress reports.

86 The Secretary of the Congress shall be appointed by the Chair of the OSGA Congress and serve at
87 his or her pleasure.
88

89 D) PARLIAMENTARIAN OF THE CONGRESS

90 The Parliamentarian shall be well versed in Roberts Rules of Order, Newly Revised and shall
91 answer questions on parliamentary inquiry and assist the Chair as needed.

92 The Parliamentarian shall be appointed by the Chair of the OSGA Congress and serve at his or her
93 pleasure.
94

95 E) FLOOR LEADER OF THE CONGRESS

96 The Floor Leader shall be the liaison between members of the Congress and the Chair of Congress
97 with regards to legislation. The Floor Leader shall set an "Orders of the Day", in consultation
98 with the Chair of Congress, for bills and resolutions to be heard in Congress sessions.

99 The Floor Leader shall work in consultation with Committee Chairs established by the Bylaws of
100 the OSGA in preparing bills and resolutions to be heard in general sessions.

101 The Floor Leader shall be appointed by the Chair of the OSGA Congress and serve at his or her
102 pleasure.
103

104 **Section 4.2: IMPEACHMENT OF OFFICERS**

105
106 A) IMPEACHMENT.

107 Any officer of the Congress may be impeached by a majority of representatives present and voting
108 at congress.
109

110 B) DEFENSE.

111 An impeached officer shall answer all questions and accusations presented, and may give such
112 defense as said officer desires.

113
114 C) CONVICTION.
115 It shall require a two-thirds (2/3) vote of representatives to convict an impeached officer of fraud,
116 corruption, abuse of power, or other violations of the Oklahoma Student Government Association
117 Constitution or higher document. Judgment in such cases shall not extend further than removal
118 from office and disbarment from future office holding.

119
120 D) REMOVAL.
121 Upon impeachment and conviction, an officer shall be removed from office. Said office shall
122 become vacant, and nominations for that office shall be opened immediately.

123
124 E) RESTRICTION.
125 No officer may preside or vote during his or her impeachment proceedings, except in the case of
126 officers who are also representatives and shall be allowed to vote.

127
128 **Section 5.1: MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES**

129
130 The membership of a committee shall consist of duly appointed members of the Congress, officers, and delegates.

131
132 A) MEMBERS.
133 Each member of the Congress shall be appointed to one standing committee. A member may
134 belong to the membership of additional committees only in the context of being a delegate to the
135 additional committees. A member shall have voting and motion-making privileges within the
136 single committee to which he or she has been appointed.

137
138 B) OFFICERS.
139 Committee officers shall have the right to make motions in committee. Appointment to a
140 committee office will not, in and of itself, grant the office-holder the right to vote in committee.

141
142 C) DELEGATES. Delegates of committees shall be duly appointed participants of a committee who
143 do not have voting privileges. Delegates may be members already possessing voting and motion-
144 making privileges in another committee, or they may be non-members of the Congress who seek
145 to formally participate in committee activities.

146
147 **Section 5.2: OFFICERS OF COMMITTEES**

148
149 A) OFFICERS ESTABLISHED.
150 Each committee shall have a Chair and Vice-Chair as its officers. Committee officers shall be
151 required to hold membership in the Congress, but are not eligible for representation in the
152 Congress.

153
154 B) RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE COMMITTEE CHAIR
155 The Committee Chair shall be the presiding officer of the committee during committee meetings.
156 The Committee Chair shall represent the committee in official business and during meetings.
157 The Committee Chair shall be responsible for bringing to the attention of the committee those
158 duties and responsibilities entrusted to it.
159 Provided that he or she is a member of the Congress, the Committee Chair may exercise voting
160 privileges at his or her discretion.

161
162 C) RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE COMMITTEE VICE-CHAIR
163 The Committee Vice-Chair shall preside over the committee during committee meetings in the
164 absence of the Committee Chair.

165 The Committee Vice-Chair shall submit to the Vice-Chair of the Congress a report of attendance
166 and action on business following each committee meeting. The Vice-Chair of the Congress may
167 further regulate the submission of these reports.
168 The Committee Vice-Chair shall assist the Committee Chair in bringing to the attention of the
169 committee those duties and responsibilities entrusted to it.

170
171 D) REMOVAL
172 Any committee officer may be removed from office upon a two-thirds (2/3) vote of
173 representatives present and voting at a meeting. Any committee officers may also be removed
174 upon a two-thirds (2/3) vote of all members of a committee, including those absent or abstaining
175 from such a vote.

176
177 F) RESIGNATION
178 Should a committee officer choose to resign from service in this office, he or she shall submit to
179 the Chair of the Congress a signed and written resignation. Resignation from a committee office
180 shall not imply resignation from membership, nor shall resignation from membership imply
181 resignation from committee office.

182
183 G) VACANCY
184 The Chair of the Congress shall appoint a replacement officer as soon as is practicably possible
185 following the removal or resignation of any officer.

186
187 **Section 6: LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

188
189 A) DURATION
190 A legislative session shall begin with the Call to Order of the Fall Conference Congress of the
191 Oklahoma Student Government Association Congress and shall end at adjournment of the Spring
192 Conference Congress of the Oklahoma Student Government Association Congress.

193
194 B) HANDBOOK.
195 The Oklahoma Student Government Association Board of Directors shall compile a member
196 handbook prior to the beginning of each legislative session. A copy of this book shall be provided
197 to all members. The handbook shall include at minimum:

198 The Oklahoma Student Government Association Constitution.
199 The Oklahoma Student Government Association Bylaws.
200 Any pending legislation to be seen
201

202
203 C) BILL BOOK
204 The Congress shall compile a bill book at the conclusion of each legislative session that shall
205 include copies of all legislation considered during that session and the amendments, motions, and
206 votes on the measure. It shall also include committee reports and summary of business. This book
207 shall be accessible in the Oklahoma Student Government Association offices and sent to the
208 Student Body President of each member institution.

209
210 **Section 7: STATUTORY AND PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY**

211
212 The Congress shall act in accordance with all federal, state, and local guidelines, as well as any policy of the
213 Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education and the Oklahoma Student Government Association Constitution.

214
215 If any Bylaw or group of related Bylaws is for any reason in conflict with any higher authority, said Bylaw or group
216 of related Bylaws shall be deemed separate, distinct, and independent from the rest of the Bylaws.

217
218 The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised shall govern the Congress in
219 all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws, any Standing Rules,
220 and any duly passed legislation.

221 **Section 8: OSGA REGIONS**

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- A) The State of Oklahoma shall be divided into five (5) regions: Northwest, Southwest, Northeast, Southeast, and Central.
- B) Institutions in the Northwest Regions shall include: Langston University, Northern Oklahoma College, Northern Oklahoma College-Enid, Northern Oklahoma College-Stillwater, Northwestern Oklahoma State University-Alva, Northwestern Oklahoma State University-Enid, Northwestern Oklahoma State University-Woodward, Oklahoma Panhandle State University, and Oklahoma State University.
- C) Institutions in the Southwest Region shall include: Cameron University, Cameron University-Duncan, Redlands Community College, Southwestern Oklahoma State University, Southwestern Oklahoma State University-Sayre, University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma, Wayland Baptist University-Altus, and Western Oklahoma State College.
- D) Institutions in the Northeast Regions shall include: Bacone University, Connors State College-Muskogee Downtown, Connors State College-Port of Muskogee, Connors State College, Langston University-Tulsa, Northeastern Oklahoma A&M, Northeastern Oklahoma State University-Broken Arrow, Northeastern Oklahoma State University-Muskogee, Northeastern State University, Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences, Oklahoma State University-Okmulgee, Oklahoma State University-Tulsa, Oklahoma Wesleyan University, Oral Roberts University, Phillips Theological Seminary, Rogers State University, Rogers State University-Bartlesville, Rogers State University-Pryor, Tulsa Community College-Metro, Tulsa Community College-Northeast, Tulsa Community College-Southeast, Tulsa Community College-West, University of Tulsa, and University of Oklahoma-Tulsa.
- E) Institutions in the Southeast Region shall include: Carl Albert State College-Poteau, Carl Albert State College-Sallisaw, East Central University, Eastern Oklahoma State College, Eastern Oklahoma State College-McAlester, McCurtain County Higher Education Program, Murray State College, Oklahoma Baptist University, Seminole State College, Southeastern Oklahoma State University, and St. Gregory's University.
- F) Institutions in the Central Region shall include: Langston University-Oklahoma City, Mid-America Christian University, Oklahoma Christian University of Science and Arts, Oklahoma City Community College, Oklahoma City University, Oklahoma State University-Oklahoma City, Rose State College, Southern Nazarene University, Southwestern Christian University, University of Central Oklahoma, University of Oklahoma, and University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center.

Section 9: Legislation

- A) Bills shall be defined as legislation that shall establish policy; Bills can propose new OSGA Bylaws or amend existing OSGA Bylaws; or establish when issues need to have long-term applicability to the OSGA. Bills must be passed by a two-thirds (2/3's) majority of the OSGA Congress.
 - i. All acts related to the appropriation of funds shall be classified as Bills.
- B) Resolutions shall be defined as legislation that shall not establish policy; shall be used to express the will or opinion of the OSGA. May be passed by either the OSGA Congress by simple majority; or by the Council of Student Body Presidents by simple majority.