The Constitution
of the

Student Government of Ursinus College

*The Students of Ursinus College, aware of the need of good student governance for good student life, with the intent of establishing a new student government which is active, inclusive, ethical, independent, permanent, and supreme, have created this new Constitution of the Student Government of Ursinus College, and hereby enact it with immediate effect.*

# Article I: Definition and Purpose

## Section 1:

The Ursinus College Student Government, hereafter UCSG, is the governing and representative institution of the student body. It seeks to foster student unity, establish better student-faculty and student-administration cooperation, pursue and defend students’ interests, and develop and maintain the quality of student life on campus.

## Section 2:

All full-time students of Ursinus College are full and equal member of the Ursinus College community, and are thus afforded the full rights and privileges of an Ursinus Student.

# Article II: The Executive Board

## Section 1: Definition and Purpose

The Executive Board is the primary decision making and executive body of UCSG. It is responsible for ensuring the successful execution of the responsibilities and actions in pursuit of the goals outlined in this Constitution.

## Section 2: Composition

The Executive Board is composed of 9 voting members: a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Social Chair, and four Class Representatives.

## Section 3: Powers and Duties

**3A:** **President**

1: The President shall be the chief executive officer of UCSG, and may direct the actions of the UCSG when direction from the Executive Committee as a whole is not available.

2: The President, with the approval of the Executive Board, directs the budget of UCSG.

3: The President, with the approval of the Executive Board, sets the agenda of the UCSG for the upcoming term.

4: The president is responsible for directing the UCSG to satisfy all requirements and pursue all goals outlined by this Constitution and the Bylaws.

5: The President may direct the other members of the Executive Board as needed to complete tasks necessary to the functioning of the UCSG in accordance with decisions made by the Executive Board, except in matters of debate and voting, wherein each elected officer is entitled to maintain independent stances.

**3B: Vice-President**

1: The Vice-President shall assume the duties of the President should the President be temporarily unavailable or indisposed, and should the office become vacant, shall serve as Interim President with all the powers of the President until a special election can be held as directed in this Constitution.

2: The Vice-President will have a current copy of the constitution and its bylaws and will serve as parliamentarian for the Executive Committee.

3: The Vice-President will serve as the President’s Chief of Staff, and will manage the administrative functions of the UCSG, including but not limited to:

a: ensuring that all Executive Board members are fulfilling their responsibilities as specified in this Constitution and the Bylaws,

b: ensuring that class council members are faithfully fulfilling their responsibilities as specified in this Constitution and the Bylaws, and

c: communicating with and overseeing UCSG committees and student-representatives to Student-Faculty Committees.

4: The Vice-President will be the default chairperson of the Student Senate unless he/she delegates the responsibility to an individual or delegates the responsibility of selecting a chair to the Senate. The Vice President will not vote on substantive matters in the Student Senate except in the event of a tie.

5: The Vice-President will perform other duties as directed by the President.

**3C: Secretary**

1: The Secretary will serve as the UCSG’s clerk and historian, and thus shall keep records of all agendas, meeting notes, communications, and attendance records.2: The Secretary will maintain schedules of UCSG events and ensure that the necessary information is available to UCSG officers and associates and the student body.

3: The Secretary shall be responsible for managing the correspondences of UCSG and the upkeep of the UCSG email account.

4: The Secretary will perform other duties as directed by the President

**3E: The Treasurer**

1: The Treasurer will manage the finances, financial plans, and fundraising activities of the UCSG, and will at all times remain knowledgeable about the UCSG’s financial situation.

2: The Treasurer shall prepare a monthly report containing a list of all receipts and disbursements to the Executive Board.

3: The Treasurer shall audit clubs which receive AFAC funding at least once per year, and will submit a report to the Executive Board each semester with the results of that semester’s audits.

4: The Treasurer shall be the Chairperson of the Activities Fee Allocation Committee (AFAC).

5: The Treasurer will perform other duties as directed by the President.

**3F: The Social Chair**

1: The Social Chair is responsible for organizing any UCSG sponsored events on campus.

2: The Social Chair will serve as a member of the Campus Activities Board, hereafter CAB, and is responsible for giving a monthly report to the Executive Committee detailing CAB programs and planning updates.

3: The Social Chair will oversee and coordinate action with the CAB, and may, if so ordered by the Executive Committee, assume the Presidency of CAB

4: The Social Chair shall be responsible for keeping a photographic record of all events sponsored by UCSG.

5: The Social chair will perform other duties as directed by the President.

**3G:** Class Representatives

1: Class Representatives will faithfully represent the interests of their constituents to the Executive Board, and act as trustees of those interests.

2: Class Representatives will perform other duties as assigned by the President.

## Section 4: Elections

**4A:** An election will be held each year for:

1: UCSG President and Vice President, for which candidates will run on a two person ticket, and

2: UCSG Secretary, Treasurer, Social Chair, and four Class Representatives.

**4B:** The term of office for Executive Board Officers shall be from April 1st to April 1st of the following year. Elections will take place no earlier than the tenth day of March, and no later than the twentieth day of March.

**4C:** During the period one month after elections, the old and new officers will attend executive board events, and the outgoing officers will instruct the new officers in the performance of their roles.

**4D:** During February of each year, the Student Senate will create an Elections Committee to oversee the logistics of the elections and to ensure that the process is handled fairly. The Senate will appoint three students who are not candidates for election to the Committee, which will work with a professional staff representative from the Student Activities Office to execute the election. This committee will create rules as necessary for the election, ensure that candidates are eligible for office and complying with all rules and constitutional stipulations, and will arbitrate any disputes which arise regarding the election process.

**4E:** All students who are in good academic and disciplinary standing with the College and who plan to be present at Ursinus for the entirety of the following academic year are eligible to be a candidate for office.

**4F:** No student may run for more than one position on the Executive Committee.

**4G:** To be on the ballot for election, potential candidates must submit an application to the Elections Committee which includes their name and a short biography.

**4H:** The dates of the election and candidacy deadline must be announced at least one week before they occur. There must be between 72 hours and one week of time between the candidacy deadline and the elections opening.

# Article III: The Student Senate

## Section 1: Definition and Purpose

The Student Senate is the primary deliberative and advisory body within the UCSG. It is responsible for debating issues, serving as an open forum at which students can voice concerns.

## Section 2: Composition

The Student Senate will be composed of representatives from various campus entities which meet certain significance requirements, as stipulated by the UCSG bylaws.

## Section 3: Powers and Duties

**3A:** The Senate may select its own agenda items and schedule meetings beyond those requested by the executive board.

**3C:** The Senate may direct its operational budget as needed.

**3D:** The Senate may appoint subcommittees of its members and delegate its authority as needed.

**3E:** The Senate may overturn bylaws and decisions passed by the executive board by a vote of two-thirds of the Senate.

**3F:** The Senate may initiate and decide impeachments and constitutional amendments as outlined in this Constitution.

# Article IV: Bylaws and Acts

**Section 1:** The Executive Board may govern the actions of the UCSG through the passage of Bylaws Acts.

**Section 2:** The passage of a Bylaw is required for: the creation of any new standing committee or any committee to which specific authorities of the executive board are delegated.

**Section 4:** All parts of the USGA Constitution supersede the Bylaws and Acts in authority. Any member of the Executive Board or any group of 5 Senators may request that the Committee of the Student Judiciary examine a Bylaw or Act for constitutionality.

# Article V: Committees

**Section 1:** The Executive Board may create student committees at its discretion.

**Section 2:** The Executive Board is responsible for appointing student representatives to Student-Faculty committees.

**Section 3:** All students in good academic and disciplinary standing are eligible to serve on committees. If during any point of the academic year a student is placed on academic or disciplinary probation they will be automatically removed from the committee and the UCSG Executive board will appoint another student after the conclusion of all parts of the judicial process. The Executive Board may appoint ineligible representatives by a vote of seven of nine members

**Section 4:** All committee appointees may be removed from office by a seven-of-nine vote of the Executive Board.

# Article VI: Class Councils

**Section 1:**

UCSG is responsible for overseeing the elections and activities of all Class Council Elections to these boards are permanent unless one is removed by the USGA or resigns from the position.

**Section 2:**

All Class Councils will be comprised of a Chair, Secretary of Communications, Secretary of Records, Treasurer, and Social Event Coordinator.

**Section 3:**

Responsibilities of Council members will be stipulated by UCSG bylaws.

**Section 4:**

Class Council members may be removed by a seven-of-nine vote of the UCSG Executive Board for malfeasance, misfeasance, or nonfeasance. Those considered for impeachment may present evidence and state their case at an Executive Board meeting prior to the group voting. The Executive Board will then host an election to fill the seat.

# Article VII: The Student Judiciary

**Section 1:**

The Executive Board is responsible for nominating student members of the Judicial Board and Academic Discipline Committee. The Senate must approve these appointments.

**Section 2:**

The student members of these two committees are automatically also members of the Committee of the Student Judiciary, which is responsible for handling constitutional disputes and impeachments as outlined in this Constitution.

**Section 3:**

Appointments to these judicial committees are permanent unless the student resigns, leaves campus for more than 60 days, or is impeached. Impeachment of Judicial committee members follows the same requirements and procedures for Executive officer impeachments specified in this Constitution, except that the Senate may choose to send the hearing to the Executive Board, and may not delegate the hearing to the Committee of the Student Judiciary.

# Article VII: Impeachment

**Section 1:**

If a UCSG elected officer is placed on disciplinary or academic probation, they will be immediately suspended from office, and after the conclusion of any pending appeals, will be automatically removed from office if the probation stands unless the Senate votes by two-thirds to prevent the officer’s removal.

**Section 2:**

**2A:** A motion to remove an elected officer from their position may be brought before the Executive Board or the Student Senate on the grounds that the officer has willfully violated this Constitution or the UCSG Bylaws, or that the officer has consistently neglected the requirements of their position as outlined in the Constitution and Bylaws, or that the officer has violated school policy significantly enough that he/she cannot be a trustee of the interests of the student body, or that the officer is no longer fit for office for health reasons.

**2B:** Whichever body receives the motion for impeachment must forward it and all associated records to the other body. Both bodies must then debate whether the motion merits consideration. If either body decides that the motion merits consideration, then the Senate will decide whether the case should be handled by the Student Judicial Committee or Senate. The officer under consideration may not be present at any of the discussions listed in this subsection.

**2C:** The officer under consideration must be presented with the accusations against them and all associated evidence one week in advance of their hearing. The officer will be given an opportunity to defend themselves at a meeting of the

**Section 2:**

A special election shall be held to fill the positions if more than 60 days of the term remain, or multiple positions on the Executive Board are vacant simultaneously, or the vacant position is that of President.

# Article VIII: Amendment

**Section 1:** This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the Student Senate.

**Section 2:** Upon an amendment being accepted for debate by the Senate, amendments must be emailed to the Student Body by the Executive Board. At least one week must pass between an amendment being introduced for debate and the vote on the amendment.