



Georgia Southwestern State University Student Body Constitution

We, the students of Georgia Southwestern State University, in order to promote a college-wide atmosphere for intellectual growth, high standards of conduct, university spirit, to stimulate common understanding and cooperation between the students and faculty/administration, to protect the rights and principles of the individual students, and to govern the student body, do establish and submit this constitution.

Name:

The name and location of this student government shall be: Student Government Association, Georgia Southwestern State University, Americus, Georgia 31709.

Objectives:

The objectives of the Student Government Association shall include interaction with the university administration concerning the student campus environment, assisting students in dealing with campus issues, making recommendations to the President of Georgia Southwestern State University concerning the dispensation of student activity funds, authorization of the Student Conduct Board, and vetting of funding proposals for campus activities.

ARTICLE I
DECLARATION OF RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Section 1. Political power. – All political power granted by authorities authorized under the constitution, laws, and regulations of the State of Georgia is inherent in the Student Body.

Section 2. Basic rights. – Every student is guaranteed certain rights under the constitutions and laws of the United States and State of Georgia. The Student Government recognizes these rights.

Additionally, students are guaranteed:

- (a) The right to vote in Student Government elections.
- (b) The right to submit initiatives and referendums for ratification by the electorate.
- (c) The right to recall and remove.
- (d) The right to address Student Government officials at regularly scheduled times and places.

Section 3. Honor Code. –All Students are bound by the Honor Code and shall be held accountable to it. The Honor Code states:

We, the members of the Georgia Southwestern State University (GSW) community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.

Section 4. Discrimination Prohibited. --- Recognizing that the University of Georgia and the United States, it should be incumbent upon every member to participate in activities that contribute to overall community wellbeing. Active members shall:

- i. Uphold the laws of the United States of America, the State of Georgia, and their respective communities.
- ii. Respect all members of the community regardless of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, gender, sexual orientation, age, veteran status, gender identity or disability in compliance with the University of Georgia's non-discrimination and anti-harassment policy:
 - a. Membership and all privileges, including voting and officer positions, must be extended to all students without regard to race, color, sex (including sexual harassment and pregnancy), sexual orientation, gender identity, ethnicity or national origin, religion, age, genetic information, disability, or veteran status.
 - b. Membership and all privileges, including voting and officer positions, must be extended to all students as stated in the University of Georgia Non-Discrimination and Anti-Harassment Policy. Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 protects

people from discrimination based on race, color or national origin in programs or activities that receive Federal financial assistance. Title IX states that: No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.

ARTICLE II
GENERAL PROVISIONS

Section 1. Student Body. – Every student is a member of the Student Body and shall be subject to the constitution and laws of the Student Body.

Section 2. Student government. –Student Government governs and represents the Student Body. Its actions not otherwise limited by Student body law supersede those of all other student organizations.

Section 3. Student Government Officials- All Student Government officials shall be students.

Section 4. Branches of Government. – Student Government shall be divided into a Legislative, an Executive, and a Judicial branch.

A. Exercise of Powers. No person belonging to one branch shall exercise any powers appertaining to either of the other branches unless expressly provided by the constitution.

B. Exclusionary of Powers. The Student Senate may provide by Student Body law for Student Government offices considered exclusionary, but the following positions shall always be exclusionary: Student Body President, Student Body Vice President, Student Body Treasurer, Principal Advisor of Elections and Cabinets, and the Assistant to the President for Communications (Communications Director) for the executive branch; Student Senator, and all Student Government offices of the Judicial Branch, including that of Justice of the Student Supreme Court.

Accepting an exclusionary position while holding another exclusionary position constitutes automatic resignation from the former office.

C. Offices Explicitly Non-exclusionary. Nothing in this Constitution shall be construed to prohibit any student from holding an exclusionary office and simultaneously holding as a member of the Judiciary, a member of an independent body having

only advisory powers created by Student Body Statutes, or a member of a committee or commission created by the Student Body President.

ARTICLE III
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

Section 1. Legislative powers. – All legislative powers of the Student Body shall be vested in a Student Senate.

Section 2 Composition. –The Student Senate shall be composed of:

- (a) General Election. Fifteen (15) to thirty (30) members elected Senators in the spring general election as apportioned by law from on-campus area governments as defined by law.
- (b) Registered Student Organizations (RSOs). Each organization in good standing, according to University standards, shall appoint one (1) selective voting representative to Student government. There shall be one (1) alternative representative in place for each organization. Refer to the Rules and Procedures of the Senate for more details.
- (c) Freshman Representatives. Any freshman in good standing, according to the University standards, may apply or be appointed by the Senate President or Student Body President to be a selective voting member of the senate. Refer to the Rules and Procedures of the Senate for more details.

Section 3. Apportionment. – The Student Senate shall reapportion itself once per year during the spring academic term to be effective for the academic term. The Student Senate shall determine the number of senators per class within the constitutional limits, provided that the spring and fall classes must have the same number of Senators during each apportionment year.

Section 4. Student Senate during the summer term. –

The Student Senate during the summer term shall have the same authority as it does during the fall and spring terms. All senators shall uphold all their duties and responsibilities within the summer term.

Section 5. Officers of the Student Senate There shall be a Student Senate President who shall act as the chief administrative officer of the legislative branch and presiding officer of the Student Senate. The Student Senate President shall be elected by the Senate from among its members according to its Rules and Procedures. The student body President shall act as the Student Senate President until membership of the senate

reaches twenty (20) or above. See Rules and Procedures of the Senate.

Section 6. Powers of the Student Senate. —The Student Senate shall have the power to: (refer to Rules and Procedures of the Senate)

- (a) Determine its rules of procedures;
- (b) Compel the attendance of absent members;
- (c) Censure or expel a member by a two-thirds vote of the membership, provided the affected student senator has received prior written notice;
- (d) Determine the time and place of its meetings, provided that it meets once every two school weeks;
- (e) Shall sit on committees for the elections of the Student Body and be the sole judge of the validity of election results;
- (f) Shall sit on committees to decide all tie elections at its first meeting following validation;
- (g) Provide for the replacement of its members upon a vacancy in office;
- (h) Approve appointments and recommendations of the student body president to Student Government administrative agencies and university committees;
- (i) Contract on behalf of the Student Body, provided the contract is executed as a Student Body law;
- (j) provide for the control and disbursement of Student Body funds;
- (k) require information and appearance from any Student Government official or officer of any organization receiving Student Body funds;
- (l) approve, by resolution, affiliations between Student Government and any university, regional, or national organization;
- (m) Enact all laws necessary and proper for the general wellbeing of the Student Body; and
- (n) Exercise any other power or duty provided for in the constitution or laws of the Student Body.

Section 7. Prohibitions. —The Student Senate shall not:

- (a) Enact any law that abridges its powers delegated by the constitution;
- (b) appropriate funds for a period of more than one year; (c) increase or decrease a Student Government official's salary, except as specifically detailed in section 9 of this article; (d) infringe the secrecy of the ballot in any Student Body election;
- (e) deny speaking privileges in the Student Senate to the student body president, student body vice president, student body treasurer, Principal Advisor of Elections and Cabinets, Communication Director, chief justice or any justice of the supreme court, or any university administrative officer or college dean;
- (f) Meet in a closed session;
- (g) Conduct any vote by secret ballot;
- (h) Change the dates of Student Body elections in the nine weeks before the scheduled election;

(i) Change the election laws during the five weeks before the scheduled election to be effective for that election; or

(j) Enact any law embracing more than one subject and matter properly connected to that subject.

Section 8. Procedures. -

(a) No bill shall become law unless a student senator introduces the bill, the bill is read, approved by the judiciary, and passes by majority vote during two meetings of the Student Senate.

(b) No bill shall become law without the signature of the student body president, except when the student body president has not vetoed the bill within ten days after presentation, in which case the bill shall become law.

(c) The student body president may veto a proposed law. The student body president must notify the senate president in writing detailing the reasons for the veto. This is null and void when the Student Body President is acting as Senate President.

(d) The university president or the university president's designee may veto a proposed law. The student body president must notify the senate president in writing no later than ten days after receiving the veto stating the reasons for the university president's veto.

(e) The Treasurer of the Student Body shall have veto equal to that of the President of the Student Body in all matters concerning Budget approval and revisions to said budget. The Treasurer of the Student Body shall have exclusive veto in matters concerning appropriations from Special Request Funds.

(f) Any Bill which the President of the Student Body and the Treasurer of the Student Body shall choose to veto, shall be considered as having been vetoed once.

(g) A vetoed bill may be enacted notwithstanding the veto of the President or Treasurer of the Student Body if it is read a third time in full and passed by a two-thirds vote of the members of the Student Senate present and voting at a regular meeting.

(h) Quorum necessary to conduct business shall be a majority of the total membership of the Student Senate; however, a lesser number, as determined by the Student Senate's rules of procedure, may compel the attendance of absent members.

(i) Legislation of the Student Senate shall only be classified as a (n):

(1) Bill of law which is subject to veto;

(2) Primary or subsidiary budgets, of which all budgets shall be considered bills of law and subject to veto as described in this section;

(3) Special request authorization - an appropriation from special request funds requiring a two-thirds vote for enactment subject to veto as described in this section;

(4) authorization - a directive requiring a two-thirds vote for enactment that advises, orders, or prescribes the method for an officer to fulfill a duty provided for in the constitution and is not subject to veto;

(5) Resolution - an expression of the sentiment of the Student Senate requiring a two-thirds vote for passage and not subject to veto.

Section 9. Budget Restrictions. -

(a) Budget Funding. - The Administration of Georgia Southwestern hereby administers and distributes the funding of this Student Government every academic year. However, This Student Government shall have full authority to access and use these funds in accordance with the provisions of this constitution and statutes.

(b) STUDENT BODY Executive Powers' SALARIES. - The Executive Powers; Vice-President, Treasurer, Principal Advisor of Elections and Cabinets, Communications Director, excluding the Student Body President, shall be stipend five-hundred dollars a full term, two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250) a semester. The Student Body President shall be given a scholarship from this University for tuition, one thousand, two hundred and fifty dollars (\$1250). The senate shall by a majority vote change the amount or remove reward, with just cause, based on the criteria below;

1. Misuse of position
2. Failed to accomplish duties and responsibilities
3. and /or Member is no longer qualified to hold office

**Article IV:
Executive Branch**

Section 1. Executive Power. -All executive powers of the Student Body shall be vested in a Student Body President, Student Body Vice President, Student Body Treasurer, Principal Advisor of Elections and Cabinets, and Assistant to the President for Communications.

Section 2. Election. -The Student Body President, Student Body Vice President, Student Body Treasurer, Principal Advisor of Elections and Cabinets, Assistant to the President for Communications shall be chosen in the spring general election by a majority of the Student Body voting in the election, and shall serve for one-year terms as provided for by Student Body law. The Student Body President and Student Body Vice President shall be elected jointly, and the Student Body Treasurer, Principal Advisor of Elections and Cabinets, and Communications Director shall be elected separately. In the event that no candidate receives a majority, there shall be a run-off as provided for by Student Body law.

Section 3. Vacancy in Executive Offices. - Upon vacancy in the office of Student Body President, the Student Body Vice President shall become Student Body President. Further succession to the office of Student Body President and succession upon vacancy in the offices of Student Body Vice President, Student Body Treasurer,

Principal Advisor of Elections and Cabinets, and Communications Director shall be prescribed by law. A successor shall serve for the remainder of the term.

Section 4. Powers of the Student Body President. —The Student Body President shall:

- (a) Act as the chief executive officer of the Student Body;
- (b) Take care that Student Body law is faithfully executed;
- (c) Have the power to veto legislation as provided for by Student Body law;
- (d) Present to the Student Senate each university term a State of the Campus message;
- (e) Create and appoint committees or commissions not provided in this Constitution, if deemed necessary, provided that these bodies do not contravene Student Body law;
- (f) Convene special meetings of the Student Senate, if deemed necessary;
- (g) Appoint aides or other officials not provided for by Student Body law, if deemed necessary; and
- (h) May appoint freshman representatives with senates approval of majority.
- (i) Shall appoint the Chief justice of the Supreme Court with approval from the senate, a majority vote. In the case of low membership, less twenty (20), the Vice-president shall act as Chief Justice. (See Article V)
- (j) Exercise all other powers and duties provided by Student Body law.
- (K) Shall serve as Senate President when senate membership is below twenty (20) members.

Section 5. Cabinet. — There shall be a Cabinet, consisting of the heads of the executive departments and other Student Government officials that the Student Senate shall provide by law to be Cabinet-level. This will take effect when senate membership rises twenty (20) and above.

Section 6. Powers of the Student Body vice President. —The Student Body Vice President shall:

- (a) Assist the Student Body President in the conduct of government;
- (b) Exercise the powers and duties of the Student Body President in his/her absence;
- (c) Appoint aides or other officials not provided for by Student Body law, if deemed necessary; and
- (d) Exercise all other powers and duties provided by Student Body law.
- (e) Shall serve as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court when senate membership is lower than twenty (20).

Section 7. Powers of the Student Body Treasurer. —The Student Body Treasurer shall:

(a) Act as the chief financial officer of the Student Body;
(b) Keep complete and accurate accounts of all Student Body funds on deposit with the University Controller;

(c) Have the power to veto legislation as provided for by Student Body law;

(d) Sign all requisitions on Student Body funds on order of the Student Senate;

(e) Assist the Student Body President and Student Body Vice President in the conduct of government;

(f) Appoint aides or other officials not provided for by Student Body law, if deemed necessary; and

(g) Exercise all other powers and duties provided by Student Body law.

(h) Shall serve as Senate Secretary when membership is lower than twenty (20).

Section 8. Powers of the Student Body Principal Advisor of Elections and Cabinets. — The Student Body Principal Advisor of Elections and Cabinets:

(a) Shall preside over and create committees for the elections of the Student Body and be the sole judge of the validity of election results;

(b) Shall preside over and create committees to decide all tie elections at its first meeting following validation;

(c) Shall preside at all meetings with all Liaisons for all committees

(d) Shall act as an executive Liaison between University administrations and Student Government.

(e) Appoint aides or other officials not provided for by Student Body law, if deemed necessary; and

(f) Exercise all other powers and duties provided by Student Body law;

(g) Shall be Ex-Officio Member of all Student Government Committees and Subcommittees;

(h) Assist all other Executive heads in the conduct of government.

Section 9. Powers of the Student Body Communications Director. — The Student Body Communications Director Shall:

(a) The Communications Director shall organize Senate social events.

(b) Shall preside over orientation sessions for all new Senators, Senators-elect, and Replacement and Agenda Committee nominees to vacant seats.

- (c) Shall govern over and meet with the chair of the Information and Communications Committee.
- (d) Shall oversee all social media accounts and official email for the Student Government Association.
- (e) Shall meet with the University's Communications and Web Specialist to update and post public documents on the SGA website.
- (f) Appoint aides or other officials not provided for by Student Body law, if deemed necessary; and
- (g) Exercise all other powers and duties provided by Student Body law;
- (h) Assist all other Executive heads in the conduct of government.

Section 10. Executive Departments. —Executive departments may be established by Student Body law, with the head of each department to be appointed by the Student Body President and confirmed with at least a concurrence of a majority of the Student Senate. Officers of the executive departments shall be responsible to the Student Body President for the execution of their duties and shall be subject to removal by the Student Body President. The heads of the executive departments may appoint subordinate aides or other officials not provided for by Student Body law, if deemed necessary. This will take effect when senate membership rises twenty (20) and above.

ARTICLE V
JUDICIAL BRANCH

Section 1. Judicial Powers. -All judicial power of the Student Body shall be vested in the Supreme Court and the committees within; Appeals Committee, Rules and Ethics Committee, Judiciary, and Parking Ticket Committee and such other tribunals as are established by law.

Section 2. Administration; practice and procedure. -

(a) The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court shall be the chief administrative officer of the judicial system. This shall be the Vice-President when membership of the senate is lower than twenty (20).

(b) The Supreme Court and the committees within shall adopt its own internal rules of practice and procedure for itself. (Refer to Procedures of Supreme Court)

Section 3. Supreme Court. -

(a) ORGANIZATION. - The Supreme Court shall consist of the Chief Justice and eight (8) justices. They shall be appointed senators by the chief Justice with approval of the senate, with a majority vote. The justices shall be the co-chairs of each of the committees within the Supreme Court. The Chief Justice shall preside over the Supreme Court. Six members shall constitute a quorum. The concurrence in judgment of four members shall be necessary for a decision. The Chief Justice shall be responsible for selecting temporary Justices and shall assign an Associate Justice this duty if the Chief Justice is subject to recusal.

(b) JURISDICTION. -The Supreme Court:

1. Shall interpret any provision of the constitution or any law upon written:

- A. petition of three-fourths members of the Student Body; or
- B. request of the Student Body President.

2. Shall, upon written petition of any member of the Student Body and for good cause shown, order any Student Government official or any officer of a student organization that receives Student Body funds to perform any lawful act or refrain or desist from an unlawful act.

3. Shall hear appeals from tribunals established by law. 4. May issue any writ necessary to the complete exercise of its jurisdiction.

5. Shall maintain a permanent election result file of every student body election.

(c) SUBPOENA POWER. - The Supreme Court shall have the power to issue subpoenas and subpoena duces tecum directed at any Student Government official or any officer of a student organization that receives Student Body funds, returnable before the Supreme Court or any tribunal it designates.

(d) VACANCY IN OFFICE. - Whenever a vacancy occurs in the office of the Chief Justice or Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, the Student Body President shall fill the vacancy by appointment, subject to

a two thirds confirmation vote by the Student Senate.

(e) CLERK AND MARSHAL. - The Chief Justice may appoint a clerk and a marshal for the Supreme Court who shall hold office during the pleasure of the Chief Justice and perform such duties as the Chief Justice directs.

Section 4. Supreme Court Committees. -

(a) The Appeals Committee shall be classified as a higher body Committee. They shall preside over all appeals within Student Government. Refer to Rules and Procedures of the Senate for more details.

(b) The Rules and Ethics Committee shall be classified as a lower body committee. This committee shall preside over all cases regarding ethics, attendance, and misconduct etc. Refer to Rules and Procedures of the Senate for details.

(c) The Judiciary shall be classified as a lower body committee. This committee shall preside over all reforms and resolutions to the constitution, statues, and laws. Refer to the Rules and Procedures of the Senate.

(d) The Parking Ticket Committee shall be classified as a lower body committee. This committee shall preside over all parking ticket appeals. Refer to the Rules and Procedures of the Senate.

(e) All these committees shall be governed by co-chairs, two justices.

(f) All Justices shall uphold the laws and constitution.

(g) All Justices shall maintain good standing, a GPA of 2.75, and no misconduct within the university and Student Government.

ARTICLE VI
ELECTIONS

Section 1. Qualifications to vote. -The Student Body, as defined by Article II Section 1, shall comprise the electorate. Each member of the electorate shall be entitled to vote in Student Body elections.

Section 2. Spring general election. - The first day of the spring general election shall be the second Monday in April and the last for five calendar days, Monday through Friday.

Section 4. run-off election. - If no one (1) candidate receives a majority of votes in the first election, a runoff election shall be held not later than eight (8) class days from the original election between the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes.

Section 5. Election conflicts. - If any hour of any day of a general or run-off election conflicts with a religious or school holiday or if any other conflict exists, the Student Senate shall, by resolution, designate different days for the affected election or elections.

Section 6. Validation of election results. -The Principal Advisor of Elections and Cabinets shall validate general and run-off elections in the next regularly scheduled senate meeting.

Section 7. Time of assuming office. -

(a) Campus wide officers elected in the spring general election in races requiring a majority vote shall assume office on the last regularly scheduled class day and shall serve one year.

(b) Student senators shall assume office at the first meeting following validation by the Student Senate.

Section 8. Qualifications for Office. -Unless a more restrictive standard is stated in the constitution, to be eligible for an office within student government, a student must have and maintain an overall 2.75 grade point average, cumulative, on all work attempted as a member of the Student Body and conform to all requirements imposed by the Office of Student Activities. Candidates for the offices of student body president, student body vice president, student body treasurer, Student body Principal Advisor of Elections and Cabinets, and Communications Director shall have completed a minimum of three academic semesters, excluding summer semesters, at the Georgia Southwestern State University.

ARTICLE VII
IMPEACHMENT

Section 1. Persons who may be impeached.—The student body president, student body vice president, student body treasurer, Principal Advisor of Elections and Cabinets, Communications Director, President's cabinet (secretaries, Agency chairs, and executive directors), vice president's cabinet (chair and directors), chief justice of the supreme court, and justices of the supreme court may be impeached for misfeasance, malfeasance, nonfeasance, abuse of power, or conviction of a criminal offense while in office.

Section 2. Filing of impeachment resolution. —The Student Senate shall provide in its rules of procedure the definition of the filing date of an impeachment resolution, provided that a minimum of one student senator must co-file the impeachment resolution and that the affected person must receive a true copy of the impeachment resolution. This must be sent and due processed by the Rules and Ethics Committee before moving to the Senate. Refer to Rules and Procedures of the Senate.

Section 3. Impeachment body. —The senate class, either the fall or spring elected and appointed senators, that has served the greater amount of time on the filing date of an impeachment resolution shall be the body that impeaches. The Student Senate president, alongside the Supreme Court to clarify the laws that were breached, shall preside over the impeachment body and may vote if the Student Senate president is a member of that senate class. A two-thirds vote of the membership of the impeachment body shall be required in order to impeach.

Section 4. Suspension upon impeachment. —A person impeached by the impeachment body shall be suspended from office until acquitted or found guilty by the trial body. The student bodies President, unless impeached, may, by appointment, fill the office until completion of the trial. If the student body president is impeached, the student body vice president shall act as president.

Section 5. Trial body. — All impeachments by the impeachment body shall be tried by the trial body which shall be the senate class that has served the least amount of time on the filing date of an impeachment resolution. The chief justice of the Supreme Court shall preside unless a member of the judiciary is being impeached, in which event the student body president shall preside. The presiding officer shall have no vote. A three-fourths vote of the membership of the trial body shall be

required for conviction.

Section 6. Effect of conviction. —Judgment of conviction in cases of impeachment shall remove the offender from office and, at the discretion of the trial body, may include disqualification to hold any elected or appointed Student Government office in the future. Conviction or acquittal shall not affect the civil or criminal responsibility of the person.

ARTICLE VIII
AMENDMENTS

Section 1. Proposal by the Student Senate. —The Student Senate may propose amendments to the constitution by a two-thirds vote in regular meetings occurring no later than twenty-eight days before the ratification election. Each amendment proposed shall embrace only one subject and matter directly connected to that subject.

Section 2. Proposal by initiative. —Students may propose amendments to the constitution upon a submission of a petition to the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court joined by ten percent of the electorate not later than twenty-eight days before the ratification election. Each amendment Proposed shall embrace only one subject and matter directly connected to that subject.

Section 4. Requirement for ratification. — A three-fifths approval vote of those voting in the spring general election is necessary to ratify all constitutional amendments. Unless otherwise specified in the amendment, a ratified amendment shall be effective at the end of the meeting.

Section 5. Publication requirement. — The text of all amendments and the ballot summary shall be published in a campus-wide print media publication one week before and on both days of the election.

Article IX

MISCELLANEOUS

Section 1. Rules of construction. — Unless otherwise qualified in the text, the following rules of construction shall apply to the constitution:

(a) References to a specific university department or position shall also include the successor department or position; (b) in situations where different provisions of this constitution conflict, the more specific provision applies to the extent of the conflict.

(c) The first week of an academic term means the week that the drop/add period for undergraduate students ends.

(d) "Days" means calendar days;

(e) "Funding fee" means the revenue generating fee from which the Student Government makes appropriations. Currently, the funding fee is known as the activity and service fee.

(f) "Of the membership" means the total number of authorized seats in the body.

(g) "Primary budget" means the budget from which the Student Government appropriates revenue generated by the funding fee for a fiscal year. Currently, the primary budget is known as the activity and service fee budget.

(h) "Student body officer-elect" means a person elected who has not yet assumed office. A person that a student body officer-elect has appointed may not assume office until the student body officer-elect assumes office, even if the appointed person has been confirmed by the Student Senate.

(i) "Student body official" means any person who holds a position within Student Government.

(j) "Subsidiary budget" means all budgets, excluding the primary budget. Currently, the subsidiary budgets are the organizational budget and the special events budget, but shall also include all future budgets except the primary budget.

Section 2. Vacancy in office. —Vacancy in office shall occur upon the creation of an office, graduation without immediate re-matriculation, death, removal from office, resignation, failure To maintain the required residency or classification, or failure to qualify by the first day of the term of office.

Section 3. Laws preserved. — All laws enacted under the provisions of

this constitution, as subsequently amended, and not contrary to the provisions of this constitution, shall remain in full effect until they expire by their terms or are repealed under the provisions of this constitution.

Section 4. Hierarchy of laws. — The provisions of the student body constitution are governed by and subordinate to the constitution as well as the policies of the Board of Regents and the University rules as set forth in the Georgia Administrative Code.