

# **THE STEVENSON UNIVERSITY STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION CONSTITUTION**

## **PREAMBLE**

We, the students at Stevenson University, in order to protect and preserve the values of our student body, do hereby establish the Stevenson University Student Government Association (SGA), and this Constitution as its governing document.

## **ARTICLE I LEGISLATIVE BRANCH**

### **Section I. Structure of The Legislature**

- I.** All legislative powers & authority shall be vested in the Senate & House of Representatives.
- II.** Members of the Senate shall consist of one representative from every student club/organization that is active with SGA.
- III.** Members of the House of Representatives shall consist of elected students from each resident hall, apartment hall, academic school, and the commuter student population, in accordance with the SGA bylaws.
- IV.** The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall be the presiding officer of all House meetings, in accordance with the SGA bylaws.
- V.** The Vice President shall serve as the presiding officer of the Senate and all of its meetings, in accordance with the SGA bylaws.

### **Section II. Powers & Responsibilities**

- I.** The Senate shall approve all funding requests for student clubs/organizations after approval of the Executive Board by a majority vote.
- II.** The House of Representatives shall take action on issues affecting students by enacting and passing appropriate legislation.
- III.** The House of Representatives shall have the authority to create committees, as well as ad hoc committees, under its purview, in accordance with SGA bylaws.
- IV.** The House of Representatives, by a two-thirds (2/3) majority, will approve all Vice-Presidential & Judicial appointments in the event of a vacancy.
- V.** The House of Representatives, by a two-thirds (2/3) majority, may override any vetoes from the President.

- VI.** The House of Representatives, by a three-fourths (3/4) vote, may bring forth (an) article(s) of impeachment(s) to the Judicial Board for desertion of duty against appointed or elected officers of any branch of SGA.
- VII.** The responsibilities of the Senate and House of Representatives shall be designated in the SGA bylaws.

## **ARTICLE II**

### **EXECUTIVE BRANCH**

#### **Section I. Structure of the Executive Branch**

- I.** All executive powers & authority shall be vested in the officers of the Executive Branch of the Student Government Association, elected annually, and in the appointed Executive Cabinet members as specified in the SGA bylaws or as delegated to them by the President.
- II.** The President shall be elected annually and serve as the presiding officer of the Executive Cabinet, in accordance with the SGA bylaws.
- III.** The Vice President shall be elected annually, in accordance with the SGA bylaws.
- IV.** The Class Representatives shall serve on the Executive Cabinet.
- V.** The appointed Directors of the Executive Cabinet shall be the Director of Finance, Director of Philanthropy, Director of Public Relations & Alumni Outreach, and the Director of Diversity & Inclusion, in accordance with the SGA bylaws.

#### **Section II. Powers & Responsibilities**

- I.** The Executive Branch shall be charged with implementing and adhering to all resolutions/legislation passed by the Senate.
- II.** Executive Board members shall be ex-officio, non-voting members of the Legislature and only the President shall the power to introduce legislation through the House of Representatives.
- III.** Directors of the Executive Cabinet shall be appointed by the President and approved by a majority vote of the House of Representatives.
- IV.** The SGA President shall have the authority to veto legislation/resolutions.
- V.** The responsibilities of the Executive Branch shall be designated in the SGA bylaws.

**ARTICLE III**  
**JUDICIAL BRANCH**

**Section I. Structure of The Judicial Branch**

- I. All judicial powers granted herein shall be vested in the Judicial Branch of the Student Government Association with appellate jurisdiction vested in the Judicial Board.

**Sub-Section II. Duties & Responsibilities**

- I. The Judicial Board shall have original jurisdiction over the constitutionality of any action taken by the SGA, any affiliates, and members in accordance with the SGA Constitution.
- II. The Judicial Board shall have original jurisdiction over constitutional conflicts between two or more SGA recognized student groups and governing organizations.

**Sub-Section III. Protocol**

- I. The Judicial Board shall review all impeachment articles brought forth by the Senate and render a final decision.
- II. When the Judicial Board is considering a case, the decision must be voted by a majority of the members present.
- III. All rules & procedures will be followed and established in the SGA bylaws.

**ARTICLE IV**  
**ADVISORS**

Section I. (A) Representative(s) of the Office of Student Affairs shall serve as the advisor(s) of the SGA.

**ARTICLE V**  
**AUTHORITY**

**Section I.** This document shall take precedence over all student instruments governing the undergraduate student body of Stevenson University.

**Section II.** All recognized student clubs/organizations that are active or in good standing with SGA shall be under the authority of the Senate of SGA. To satisfy requirements for allocation of funds and/or to remain in good standing with SGA, each club/organization needs to be represented in the Senate only. This authority shall be original and final.

**Section III.** All meetings of any branch shall be governed in accordance with Roberts Rules of Order, Newly Revised.

**Section III.** Internal documents/rules that govern each branch may not interfere with the Constitution and SGA bylaws.

## **ARTICLE VI ELECTIONS**

**Section I.** No registered undergraduate student at Stevenson University shall be denied the right to vote.

**Section II.** Elections for all SGA positions shall be conducted in accordance with the SGA bylaws.

## **ARTICLE VII AMENDMENTS & BYLAWS**

**Section I.** This Constitution may be amended by a three-fourths (3/4) majority of the entire membership of the House of Representatives, including 150 signatures of registered undergraduate students.

**Section II.** The SGA bylaws may be amended by a three-fourths (3/4) majority of the entire membership of the House of Representatives, including 50 signatures of registered undergraduate students.

**Section III.** The process of gathering of gathering shall lie with the Judicial Board, and must impartially verify written signatures of students and determine whether the required threshold of signatures has been met.