

Label: SGAB 52005

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The SGA Bylaw Update of 2016

Whereas, the bylaws are in need of an update to eliminate redundancy and conflict with the SGA Constitution.

Therefore be it enacted by the 52nd Administration of the Student Government Association that,

The bylaws of the Student Government Association be amended to add a clause to Title 1(3)(1) to read, "Senators shall be required to attend SGA functions, as determined by the Speaker to promote SGA and its functions. If a Senator has an excused absence from attending a function pursuant to this clause, that absence shall not be applied toward the total count of excused absences for expulsion."

Further be it enacted, to add a Clause 9 to Title 1(3)(3) to read, "In the case of extraordinary circumstances, where a senator is in violation of the attendance policy due to excused absences, their removal from the senate shall be subject discretion of the Speaker."

Further be it enacted, to amend Title 1(7)(2)(8): "Responsibilities of the Committee on Internal Affairs shall include but is not limited to: Senate appropriations, enforcement of the Student Government Association Constitution, Bylaws, Statutes, and Rules, amendments of the Student Government Association Constitution, Bylaws, Statutes and Rules, impeachment proceedings, validity of petitions presented to the Senate and advice for Senate appointments."

Further be it enacted, to amend Title 2(1)(1)(5) to read:

- I: "Report of the President.
- II: Report of the Vice-President.
- III: Report of the Chief of Staff.
- IV: Report of the Director of External Affairs.
- V: Report of the Director of Public Relations.
- VI: Report of the Associate Director of Marketing
- VII: Report of the Director of Finance
- VIII: Report of the Attorney General.
- IX: Report of the Chief Justice.
- X: Report of the Speaker."

Further be it enacted, to amend the bylaws wherever the ‘Senate Journal’ is referred to and rename it to “Senate Minutes”

Further be it enacted, to add a clause to Title 2(3)(1) to read, “Minutes and accompanying entries will be posted to the SGA website within seven (7) business days of approval by the Senate.”

Further be it enacted, to amend Title 2(3)(1) to add a clause between Clause 2 and Clause 3 to read, “A copy of all legislation that has become law since the previous Senate meeting.”

Further be it enacted, to amend Title 2(3)(1)(4) to read, “The final form of all legislation considered or passed during the meeting.”

Further be it enacted, to amend the bylaws wherever the ‘Court of Appeals’ is referred to and rename it to “Supreme Court”

Further be it enacted, to repeal Title 4(2)(5)

Further be it enacted, to repeal Title 4(2)(6)

Further be it enacted, to amend Title 4(2)(7)(1) to read, “The Student Government Association Supreme Court shall assemble at any time the Chief Justice convenes the Court. The Chief Justice shall preside over all the sessions of the Student Government Association Supreme Court. In case of a temporary absence of the Chief Justice (at the most four weeks), the Student Government Association President shall name an acting Chief Justice amongst the current justices of the court.”

Further be it enacted, to amend Title 4(2)(7)(2) to read, “For any case to be heard, seven (7) justices must be present. If one of the seven (7) justices cannot hear a case, then the Chief Justice will place an alternate on the court. If the Chief Justice is the justice who cannot hear a case, then the most senior justice shall preside over the case.”

Further be it enacted, to amend Title 4(2)(7)(4) to read, “All Student Government Association Court of Appeals sessions will be open to the public unless the Chief Justice decides to have a closed session.”

Further be it enacted, to repeal Title 4(2)(8)(1)

Further be it enacted, to add a clause to Title 4(2)(9) to read: “The Chief Justice and Associate Justices shall automatically be named to fill the seats given to SGA for the University Hearing Board, Appellate Board, and Traffic Court. In the case where there are more Justices than seats available, seniority will determine who is a primary and who is an alternate member.”

Further be it enacted, to amend Title 4(2)(9)(1) to read, "The Justices of the Student Government Association Supreme Court will have the power of judicial review: the power to interpret the meaning on context of the Student Government Association Constitution and Bylaws and any additional documents as specified by law"

Further be it enacted, to add a clause to Title 4(2)(11) to read, "Justices shall be required to attend SGA functions, as determined by the Chief Justice to promote SGA and its functions. If a Justice has an excused absence from attending a function pursuant to this clause, that absence shall not be applied toward the total count of excused absences for expulsion."

Further be it enacted, to repeal Title 5(1)(4)(2).

Further be it enacted, to repeal Title 5(2)(1)(2).

Further be it enacted, to amend Title 5(2)(3)(1) to read, "A brief is a document filed with the Supreme Court that consists of arguments under relevant authority that a party intends to argue before the court"

Further be it enacted, to amend Title 5(3) to read:

"Article 3: Hearings

"Section 1: All trial and court proceedings and orders of the court shall be established by the Chief Justice and published prior to the court session.

"Section 2: All parties shall be given equal opportunity to review the orders, rules, and to present their case"

Further be it enacted, to amend Title 5(4)(1)(2) to read, "When a decision has been reached the court shall post it publicly within three business days."

Further be it enacted, to amend Title 5(4)(1)(3) to read, "The Chief Justice shall chose who writes the opinion of the court among himself or the Associate Justices."

Further be it enacted, to repeal Title 5(6)(1)(2)

Further be it enacted, to amend Title 7(3)(1) to read:

"Section 1: General Impeachment Trial Procedure

"Clause 1: The Attorney General shall serve as the prosecutor representing the Student Government Association. The accused shall be represented by the Public Defender, a current student in good standing with the University of Houston, or may choose to represent himself as preferred by the accused.

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"Clause 2: The Chief Justice of the SGA Supreme Court, or next highest based on seniority if the Chief Justice cannot fulfill the duties, shall serve as the presiding officer during the impeachment trial.

"Clause 3: Provided the Supreme Court exonerates the accused, the accused shall retain all the rights and privileges of the office to which they were elected or appointed, and the Student Government Association shall not place the accused in double jeopardy."

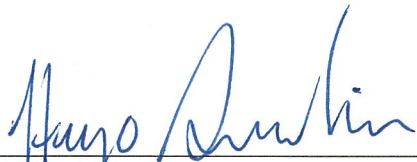
Finally be it enacted, to renumber all articles, sections, or clauses whenever necessary.

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Student Government Association



Hugo Salinas
Speaker of the Senate
University of Houston – Main Campus

Date of Senate Approval: 3-23-16



Shaun Smith
Student Body President
University of Houston – Main Campus

Date of President's Approval: 3-24-16

APPROVED

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