



UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

Student Government Association

Amendment 31-01

An Amendment Regarding the Presiding Officer of the Senate

Authored by: Senator Patrick Femia, Franklin College of Arts and Sciences

Sponsored by: Senator Nadav Ribak, Franklin College of Arts and Science; Senator Anderson Felt, At-Large for Student Affairs; Senator Sabina Ashurova, First-Year; Senator William Allen, Franklin College of Arts and Sciences; Senator Braden Meadows, College of Environment + Design; Senator Grant Mitchell, At-Large for Student Affairs; Senator Allison Fine, Access and Opportunity; Senator Spencer Sumner, First-Year; Senator Matthew McDaniel, Terry College of Business; Senator Josh Palgon, At-Large for Student-Affairs; Senator Todd Greenberg, Terry College of Business; Senator Landon Smith, Terry College of Business; Senator Vinu Eranezath, Franklin College of Arts and Sciences; Senator Tony Thawanyarat, Terry College of Business; Senator Jan Joho, At-Large for Student Affairs; Senator Samuel Bryant, At-Large for Student Affairs; Senator Huzefa Husain, College of Engineering; Senator Rachel Flowers, Franklin College of Arts and Sciences; Senator Johanna Mercurio, At-Large for Student Affairs; Senator Jess Meaders, School of Public and International Affairs

Article: V

Section: 1

Paragraph A. ~~President Pro-Tempore~~ **President of the Senate**

- I. The ~~President Pro-Tempore~~ **President of the Senate** must have been elected and served a full term as a senator or served a full term as a First: Year Senator in order to qualify to run as a candidate for ~~President Pro-Tempore~~ **President of the Senate**. If fewer than two senators fulfill this requirement, then any regularly elected senator may run for ~~President Pro-Tempore~~ **President of the Senate**.
- II. Shall be elected by a majority vote (50% +1 vote): hereafter referred to as absolute majority of the Senate at the first meeting of the new Senate.
- III. Shall be the presiding officer of the Senate.
- IV. Shall have the power to call meetings of the Senate.
- V. ~~Shall act in full capacity of the Vice President when the Vice President is unable to fulfill the duties of the office.~~
- VI. **“Shall communicate any veto delivered by the President of the Student Government Association to the Senate and the student body.”**

- VII. ~~Shall serve as the primary liaison between the Rules Committee and the Senate and act as chair of Senate committee meetings.~~
- VIII. Shall serve as the Chair of the Legislative Cabinet.
- IX. Shall serve as an ex-officio, non-voting member of the Rules Committee.
- X. Shall serve as the chair of the First-Year Senator Selection Committee.
- XI. Shall serve on the Elections Committee.

Paragraph B. President Pro-Tempore

- I. “The President Pro-Tempore ~~must~~ shall be elected by a majority vote (50% +1 vote). ~~hereafter referred to as absolute majority of the Senate at the first meeting of the new Senate.~~ To be elected President Pro-Tempore requires no prerequisite.”
- II. Shall be the presiding officer of the Senate in the absence of the President of the Senate.
- III. Shall serve as Vice-Chair of Legislative Cabinet.
- IV. Shall serve as Chair of the Rules Committee.

Paragraph C. Additional Officers

- I. Additional officers may be defined in the statutes.

Article: V Section: 2

Paragraph A. Purpose

- I. All legislative powers of the University of Georgia ~~Student Body~~ student body shall be vested in the Senate.

Paragraph B. Composition

- I. Shall be composed of Senators and voting members of the First-Year Senators.

Paragraph C. Duties

- I. Senators shall attend Senate meetings as scheduled by the presiding officer.
- II. Senators shall not be required to attend Senate meetings between the Spring and Fall terms.
- III. Senators with voting rights must be present in order to vote on any item or issue; there shall be no voting by proxy.
- IV. A quorum of the Senate: considered to be two-thirds of all members of Senate on the roll, including Senators and the proportional numbers of voting First-Year Senators, following their appointment and subsequent confirmation, must be present in order to conduct official business.

Article: V Section: 5

Paragraph A. Purpose

- I. Legislative Cabinet shall serve to coordinate and implement the initiatives of **the** Senate through the use of Legislative Committees.

Paragraph B. Purpose

- I. The ~~President Pro-Tempore~~ **President of the Senate** shall establish the number, subjects, and all further details of the legislative committees as the ~~President Pro-Tempore~~ **President of the Senate** thinks proper and defined in the statutes.
- II. All Senators shall serve on one of a number of legislative committees.
- III. First-Year Senators are a standing Legislative committee.

Paragraph C. Chairs of Legislative Committees

- I. Shall be appointed by the ~~Vice President and President Pro-Tempore~~ **President of the Senate** before the second meeting of the Senate.
- II. Shall be confirmed with an absolute majority approval of **the** Senate.

Paragraph D. Legislative Cabinet Membership

- I. The Chairs of Legislative Committees shall serve on the Legislative Cabinet, chaired by the ~~President Pro-Tempore~~ **President of the Senate**, which shall meet regularly as determined by the statutes.
- II. The ~~Vice President and the~~ Chair(s) of the First-Year Senators shall also serve as ex-officio, non-voting members.

Article: V

Section: 6

Paragraph A. Purpose

- I. The purpose of the Rules Committee is to ensure the legitimacy of the Legislative process.

Paragraph B. Composition

- I. Shall be chaired by the President Pro-Tempore and consist of the ~~Vice President~~ **President of the Senate**, who is an ex-officio, non-voting member, and the proportional number of Senators who shall be appointed by the President Pro-Tempore and approved by an absolute majority vote of the Senate.
- II. ~~In the case of an absence of one member of the Rules Committee, the President Pro-Tempore will cast any necessary tie-breaking votes.~~ **Votes require a majority of the committee members present to adopt the motion; motions failing to secure a majority are not to advance beyond the committee.**
- III. ~~Quorum shall consist of four of the five Senators and the President Pro-Tempore.~~

Paragraph C. Duties

- I. Shall correct all semantic errors in proposed legislation.
- II. Shall catalogue all legislation presented before the Senate.

- III. Shall rectify any code in accordance with approved bills.
- IV. Shall rectify the Constitution in accordance with approved constitutional amendments.

Article: VI

Section: 2

Paragraph A. President

- I. Must be registered as a full time student as defined by the President's degree or program of study, and must maintain an institutional GPA of 2.75 on a 4.0 scale throughout the term.
- II. Shall speak on behalf of SGA.
- III. Shall maintain a working relationship with the President of the Graduate-Professional Student Association to inform and collaborate on initiatives affecting all students.
- IV. Shall make appointments to University: wide committees and governing bodies that have student representation and shall select students to represent the student body outside the University.
- V. Shall serve as the University delegate to the Student Advisory Council of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia and shall have the authority to appoint Student Advisory Council delegates.
- VI. Shall have the ability to create committees that expire at the end of each term.
- VII. May veto legislation passed by the Senate within a week of passage. Such a veto must be in writing and delivered to the President Pro-Tempore.
- VIII. Shall present to the student body a report on SGA activities at the end of each academic term.
- IX. Shall establish rules and procedures in accordance with the Constitution of SGA.
- X. Shall run as a ticket with the Vice President and Treasurer.
- XI. Shall be elected by the student body in a secret ballot and inaugurated no later than three weeks before the end of the Spring term as defined by the academic calendar.
- XII. Must attend all senate meetings
- XIII. Must give an officer report at every official SGA meeting

Paragraph B. Vice President

- I. Must be registered as a full time student as defined by the Vice President's degree or program of study, and must maintain an institutional GPA of 2.75 on a 4.0 scale throughout the term.
- II. Shall assist the President in the fulfillment of presidential duties and oversight of special projects.
- ~~III. Shall have the power to call meetings of the Senate.~~
- ~~IV. Shall be the presiding officer of the Senate.~~
- ~~V. Shall vote in the case of a tie in the Senate.~~
- ~~VI. Shall serve as a non-voting member of the Rules Committee.~~
- ~~VII. Shall serve as a non-voting member of the Legislative Cabinet.~~
- VIII. Shall act in full capacity of the President should the President be unable to fulfill the duties of office.
- IX. Shall establish rules and procedures in accordance with the Constitution of SGA.
- X. Shall run as a ticket with the President and Treasurer.

- XI. Shall be elected by the student body in a secret ballot and inaugurated no later than three weeks before the end of the Spring term as defined by the academic calendar.
- XII. Shall make appointments to University Council committees that require undergraduate representatives.
- XIII. Shall ensure all undergraduate seats on University Council are filled with an appropriate undergraduate representative in accordance with bylaws and statutes of University Council.
- XIV. Must attend all senate meetings
- XV. Must give an officer report at every official SGA meeting

Paragraph C. Treasurer

- I. Must be registered as a full time student as defined by the Treasurer's degree or program of study, and must maintain an institutional G.P.A. of 2.75 on a 4.0 scale throughout the term.
- II. Shall be responsible for the finances, financial records, and financial transactions of SGA.
- III. Shall give a report on the current state of the budget at each Senate meeting.
- IV. Shall establish rules and procedures in accordance with the Constitution of SGA.
- V. Shall run as a ticket with the President and Vice President.
- VI. Shall be elected by the student body in a secret ballot and inaugurated no later than three weeks before the end of the Spring term as defined by the academic calendar.
- VII. Must attend all senate meetings
- VIII. Must give an officer report at every official SGA meeting

Paragraph D. Attorney General

- I. Shall be a non-Senator appointed by the President with an absolute majority approval of the Senate.
- II. Shall act as a liaison between the Executive and Judicial Branches.
- III. Shall make eligibility checks each academic term on all active SGA members.
- IV. Shall inquire, investigate, and gather evidence, testimony, or written statements relevant to possible or alleged violations of the Constitution and all other governing documents by any elected or appointed official.
- V. Shall serve as the Chair of the Elections Committee.

Article: IX

Section: 2

Paragraph A. Vacancy in the Office of the Vice President

- I. **“The President of the Student Government Association shall have the power to make an appointment to the position of Vice President of the Student Government Association. The appointment must be confirmed by an absolute majority of the senate (50% + 1 vote) before role can be assumed by appointee.”**