



# UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

## *Student Government Association*

### **CODE OF ETHICS OF THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA**

#### CHAPTER 503: CODE OF ETHICS

503.1 This Code of Ethics is established in order to define guidelines of behavior and conduct to which all members should adhere, as it includes a partial list of the character qualities and expectations each member should exhibit and to which each member shall be held accountable.

503.2 The following expectations apply to all members of the Student Government Association. Active members shall:

- a. Conduct themselves at all times in a manner that shall reflect positively on the Student Government Association and the University of Georgia.
- b. Be loyal to the highest ethical principles and to the Student Government Association oath of office.
- c. Uphold the Oath of Office, Constitution, Statutes, and all governing documents of the Student Government Association, in addition to the University of Georgia Student Code of Conduct.
- d. Neither receive or dispense any favors that undermine their ability to uphold their responsibilities.
- e. Maintain the appropriate attitude and level of professionalism regarding their duties and to perform them with the best interests of the students in mind.
- f. Not maliciously make erroneous or uninformed statements about the Student Government Association or the University of Georgia.
- g. Never discriminate unfairly by the dispensing of special favors or privileges to anyone, and never accept for themselves favors or benefits under circumstances



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which might be interpreted by reasonable persons as influencing the performance of their governmental duties.

h. Uphold the principles, ever conscious that a Student Government Association office is a public trust of the student body, of the University of Georgia.

503.3 Recognizing that the University of Georgia is an important part of Athens-Clarke County, Georgia, and the United States, it should be incumbent upon every member to participate in activities that contribute to overall community well being. Active members shall:

- a. Uphold the laws of the United States of America, the State of Georgia, and their respective communities.
- b. 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:
  - i. 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.
  - ii. 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.



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503.4 Each member has a responsibility to the administrators, staff, and faculty members to maintain appropriate respect for the policies and actions of the University of Georgia. Active members shall:

- a. Conduct themselves in accordance with University policy at all times.
- b. Uphold the University Student Code of conduct.
- c. Not intentionally make erroneous or unsubstantiated statements about the University in or to public or private media outlets.
- d. Show respect for the University administration, faculty, and staff.
- e. Address faculty and administrative concerns with Student Government Association business in a timely and appropriate manner.

503.5 All Active Student Government Association members have a responsibility to their fellow Active members and the student body to maintain the appropriate attitude and level of professionalism regarding their duties and to perform them with the best interests of the students in mind. Active members shall:

- a. Consult with constituents on matters that are to be voted on in the Senate.
- b. Endeavor to keep their constituents and the student body informed about the purpose, goals, and actions of the Student Government Association.
- c. Take their duties seriously, in accordance to the expectations of the student body.
- d. Represent their constituents to the best of their ability.



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503.6 Each member has a responsibility to uphold the Constitution, Bylaws, Codes, procedures, and regulations adopted and performed by the Student Government Association. Active members:

- a. Will not, at any time, make, directly or indirectly, any oral or written public or private statements that are false and disparaging of the Student Government Association of the University of Georgia, any of its present or former officers, or its Constitution, Bylaws, Codes, procedures, and regulations.
  - i. Public or private platforms include, but are not limited to: Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat, GroupMe, Google accounts, and public or private media outlets.