UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA
Student Government Association

Statutes

of the

Student Government Association

Amended this 23rd day of September 2026

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TITLE I – General Administration

CHAPTER 100: SYSTEM OF THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION STATUTES

100.1 The Statutes, Generally

All Student Government Association (SGA) laws of permanent effect and general public interest shall be compiled in a codification known as the Student Government Association Statutes, hereinafter referred to as the SGA Statutes.

100.2 Organization

The SGA Statutes shall be arranged by subject matter within titles, each composed of numerically designated chapters, cataloged in the Table of Contents.

100.3 Constitutional Authority

The SGA Statutes shall at all times be subordinate to the Constitution of the Student Government Association.

100.4 Citation Style

The citation style of a Statute shall follow a format of naming the section, followed by the subsection, paragraph, and subparagraph identified in parentheses, such that a provision might be known as "Statute 100.7(a)(ii)(1)(b)" or so.

100.5 Authority

Subordinate to the Constitution alone, the Statutes shall bind and constrain all Governing Documents other than the Constitution, all procedures, rules, and other orders, and shall hold precedence in the interpretation and enforcement of all Governing Documents other than the Constitution.

CHAPTER 101: DEFINITIONS

101.1 Authority of Definitions

All definitions contained within this chapter shall be considered binding on all words used within the Statutes or in other legislation for the purposes of interpretation, implementation, and enforcement.

101.2 Plain Meaning Rule

Where not defined in these Statutes or the Constitution, the plain meaning of the term shall be understood to be the actual meaning of the term, as defined in *Merriam Webster's Collegiate Dictionary Twelfth Edition*, unless that application of that definition would render the relevant provision to be illogical or in opposition to the Constitution.

101.3 Definitions (A-G)

a. "Absolute majority" means fifty percent (50%) of a given body, plus one additional vote, of those present and voting. Prior to any vote being taken, a quorum must be established.

b. The Academic Calendar is the official calendar published by the Office of the Registrar that lists the days of the semesters and other important dates, as most recently published, including any subsequent revisions made by the University. In all instances of words like "semester", "midterm", or "commencement," it shall be assumed that the bounds of that term fall within the defined Academic Calendar.

c. "Administer" refers to the active work of an individual or body in enforcing or carrying out a duty or obligation under the Governing Documents.

d. "Appropriate documentation" means written or photographic evidence that verifies an absence as fulfilling the requirements for excuse. This includes, but is not limited to, emails from faculty or any UGA or University official, doctors' notes, course schedules or transcripts, or other documentation that has been approved by the Attorney General.

e. "Casual business attire" or "business casual" is a form of dress code requiring collared shirts and slacks, or casual dresses or blouses, and comparable shoes.

f. "Dollars" or the "$" symbol, in any instance where a specific monetary value is mentioned, shall be assumed to mean the value is in United States dollars.

g. "Governing Documents" refers to the SGA Constitution and Statutes in their collective authority.

101.4 Definitions (H-N)

a. "Legislation" refers to, but is not limited to, bills, resolutions, proclamations, and constitutional amendments.

b. "Non-Discrimination and Anti-Harassment Policy" or "NDAH" refers to the University of Georgia's Non-Discrimination and Anti-Harassment Policy, applicable University System of Georgia policies and regulations, and further includes applicable laws including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Title IX, and non-discrimination clauses within the Constitution of the Student Government Association.

101.5 Definitions (O-T)

a. "Oversee" refers to the action of supervising a person(s) or process(es) in an official capacity, and being ultimately accountable for the thing or the work of the person overseen. Multiple individuals may be engaged in oversight of some number of persons

or processes.

b. "Professional business attire" or "business professional" is a form of dress code requiring a suit with a tie, a pantsuit, a dress, or a skirt paired with a dress shirt and dress jacket, and dress shoes.

c. The "Professional Clothing Closet", "SGA Professional Clothing Closet", or "PCC" refers to the Professional Clothing Closet established by the Student Government in 2019, and any successors it may have, to provide free professional attire to students. The Professional Clothing Closet and any successors it may have are subject to applicable SGA Governing Documents.

d. "Proportionally" as it refers to formulas of the Senate, means keeping the ratio of representation as equal as possible to the ratio of students within the student body, such that no segment of the population is overrepresented or underrepresented unduly.

e. "Publication" of records requires, at minimum, the publication of records in a manner such that they can be easily accessed on the official SGA website, through social media accounts, and/or by other available mediums.

f. "Records" includes, but is not limited to, voting records, legislation, the Official Archive of the Senate, meeting minutes, meeting times and dates, meeting locations, and initiatives.

g. "Statements" with regard to prohibited comments about SGA or individuals therein, refers to a clear expression of something in an oral or written public or private setting. Public settings include, but are not limited to, social media outlets like Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, TikTok, Snapchat, GroupMe, or YikYak, Google accounts, or public or private media outlets. Private settings include, but are not limited to, Google account conversations, social media DMs, speeches, or private conversations.

h. A"Statement of Intent", as required under the Constitution and elsewhere, is a form or document that includes the name, phone number, UGA email address, and other identifiable information for the purposes of declaring intent or candidacy for a role in SGA.

    i. For appointed or nominated positions, the nominating official or confirming committee may detail further requirements for what is to be included in the Statement of Intent. Statements of Intent for persons requiring confirmation by the Senate shall be made available to Senators for review, subject to appropriate

redaction for the protection of personal or sensitive information.

ii. For the elected positions, the Elections Committee may detail further requirements for what is to be included in the Statement of Intent for candidates.

101.6 Definitions (U-Z)

a. A person acts "willfully" with respect to the material element of an offense under the Governing Documents of SGA when the person is aware that their conduct or the potential results of their conduct is contrary to the Governing Documents.

TITLE II
The Legislative Branch

CHAPTER 200: OFFICERS

200.1 The President of the Senate shall preside over the Senate as the presiding officer and shall be addressed as Mister/Madam President while in Senate sessions.

a. In the absence of the President of the Senate, the presiding officer shall be addressed as Mister/Madam President while in Senate sessions.

b. The President of the Senate shall be elected by the members of each newly inaugurated Senate during the first Senate session of the new term.

i. This election shall be administered by the highest-ranking Senator from the previous term so long as said Senator has also been inaugurated as a Senator for the new term.

1. The rank-order of individuals eligible to administer the aforementioned election shall be: President of the Senate; President Pro Tempore; Legislative Committee chairs, in order of their listing in Chapter 204.4 of these Statutes); the Legislative Committee vice chairs, in order of their listing in Section 204.4 of these Statutes.

2. Senators who are candidates for the office of President of the Senate shall be excluded from the aforementioned rank-order.

ii. If there no individual in the new term satisfies eligibility requirements, as established by Chapter 200.1.b.i.1 of these Statutes, to administer the election for President of the Senate, the aforementioned election shall be administered by the newly inaugurated At-Large Senator that received the greatest number of votes in the Student Body Election immediately preceding the first Senate session of the new term.

200.2 The President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall, conformant with Article V, Section 1, Paragraph B, Sub-Section ii of the Constitution, “fulfill the duties and obligations of the President of the Senate, including acting as the presiding officer of the Senate, in the absence of the President of the Senate.”

200.3 The Secretary of Senate shall record attendance, ensure quorum, record votes, and record minutes, and the Secretary shall prepare all such documentation for interested parties responsible for distributing said information to the student body. Minutes must be approved at the beginning of

the next Senate meeting.

200.4 The Parliamentarian shall assist the Secretary of the Senate and the Presiding Officer of the Senate in managing and presiding over Senate sessions by ensuring accordance with all policies that govern and relate to the Legislative Branch.

CHAPTER 201: RESPONSIBILITIES

201.1 Senators shall attend all Senate meetings, legislative committee meetings, University Council meetings, and any other mandatory event, as determined by the Student Government Association President, under the advice of the President of the Senate.

201.2 Senators shall uphold their taken oath of office and strive to fulfill their promises to the student body.

201.3 All members of the Legislative Branch shall abide by the Constitution, Statutes, Code of Ethics, and/or any other SGA governing documents.

CHAPTER 202: SENATE

202.1 The structure of the Senate, including agenda and seating arrangements, shall be set by the President of the Senate. The President of the Senate reserves the right to set meeting times.

a. All Senate sessions and legislative committee meetings shall be open to the public.

b. The President of the Senate may call emergency Senate sessions with the approval of the Legislative Cabinet.

i. The President of the Senate must notify all Senators, through UGA email, of emergency sessions no later than 24 hours in advance.

ii. Information regarding emergency sessions must be made public to the student body.

c. The President of the Senate must make public an accurate and up-to- date calendar of all Senate sessions and legislative committee meetings.

CHAPTER 203: ABSENCES

203.1 Senators shall be allotted four (4) absences for the duration of their term in office. Senators must notify the President of the Senate or President Pro Tempore of the Senate of an absence as soon as

practically possible.

203.2 University tests, including those through Accessibility and Testing occurring during the time of a Senate session, Committee meeting, or other required meeting shall not count as an absence against a Senator.

a. Senators must inform the President of the Senate or President Pro Tempore of the Senate in writing 72 hours before the Senate session, Committee meeting, or other required meeting they are going to miss under this clause.

b. Senators must inform the Chair of their Committee in writing 72 hours before the Committee meeting they are going to miss under this clause.

c. The Secretary of the Senate shall record the arrival time of the Senator if tardy. Tardiness exceeding 15 minutes shall be considered an absence.

d. Consecutive absences in a single day shall be considered to be one (1) absence.

203.3 If a Senator reaches the maximum allowable absences as defined above, the President of the Senate shall inform the Senator and the Attorney General in writing. If the Senator exceeds the maximum allowable absences the Senator shall be allowed until the next Senate session to address the absentee issue. If no action has been taken, the Attorney General shall initiate impeachment proceedings for the Senator failing to perform the duties of office.

203.4 The President of the Senate may make optional the attendance of certain members of the Legislative Branch at certain meetings, events, and functions.

a. Legislative-Branch members shall be notified of optional attendance by the President of the Senate no later than 24 hours before the date and time of the event except in extenuating circumstances at the discretion of the President of the Senate.

203.5 The committee chairs shall be responsible for providing the President of the Senate a list of absent Senators from Committee meetings after each Committee meeting.

203.6 The President of the Senate shall make public an updated list of absences of the Legislative Branch.

203.7 The President of the Senate may waive absences of active members of the Legislative Branch retroactively under special circumstances (such as, but not limited to, incentives programs, the emergence of new evidence or information that supports the case of an absentee

Legislative-Branch member, etc.).

CHAPTER 204: LEGISLATIVE CABINET AND STANDING COMMITTEES

204.1 Conformant with Article V, Section 5, Paragraph D of the Constitution, the Legislative Cabinet shall consist of the chairs of each legislative committee.

a. The President of the Senate shall serve as the Chair of the Legislative Cabinet, and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall serve as Vice-Chair.

b. The Chair(s) of the First-Year Senators shall also serve as ex officio, non-voting members.

204.2 For each new term, the President of the Senate shall outline a number of legislative committees for the new term.

a. Conformant with Article V, Section 5, Paragraph B of the Constitution, "the President of the Senate shall establish the number, subjects, and all further details of the legislative committees as the President of the Senate thinks proper."

i. Every Senator shall serve on at least one (1) legislative committee.

ii. First-Year Senators as an entity shall be considered a legislative committee.

b. The President of the Senate shall submit to the Senate the name of each legislative committee, as well as an outline of the goals and responsibilities of each Committee and an application for Senators who would like to chair each new legislative committee.

c. The President of the Senate and the President Pro Tempore shall conduct interviews with Senators interested in serving as a legislative committee chair.

d. The President of the Senate shall submit nominations to the Senate no later than the first Senate of the fall semester.

204.3 The Rules Committee, in addition to its responsibility to review legislation for formatting, structural, and grammatical errors, shall place legislation in the appropriate legislative committee based on the legislation's content and its relevance to a given legislative committee as established by Chapter 207.5 of these Statutes.

a. Composition

i. Shall be chaired by the President Pro Tempore and consist of the President of the Senate, who is an ex officio, non-voting member, and the chair of each legislative standing committee and the committee shall be approved by an absolute majority vote of the Senate.

ii. 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.

b. Duties

i. Shall correct all semantic errors in proposed legislation.

ii. Shall catalog 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.

204.4 In addition to the Rules Committee, the standing committees and their corresponding responsibilities shall be as follows for the term:

a. Committee on Campus Safety — Charged with prioritizing the importance of student safety on campus including the physical, mental, and emotional safety of all students. Conducts initiatives and programs in accordance with campus administrators and police revolving around student safety.

b. Committee on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion — Charged with fostering, enhancing, and maintaining a diverse and inclusive culture for all stakeholders in the UGA community. Not only will this committee review legislation pertaining to multicultural services and programs as well as diversity and inclusion; this committee will also be responsible to establish and define strategic partnerships between SGA and different communities on the UGA Campus.

c. Committee on Student Experience — Charged with improving the livelihood of students and their UGA experiences, Conducts research on student opinions to inform the Committee, the Senate, and the entire Student Government Association.

d. Committee on Campus Services — Charged with focusing on issues and concerns related to the services that students utilize. This will include but not be limited to parking and

transportation, dining services, and housing.

e. Committee on Educational Affairs — Charged with considering educational policies that will affect the University, such as registration, course scheduling, class times and periods, or academic advising. This committee will work closely with the University Council's Educational Affairs and Curriculum Committees to write and hear proposals passed through SGA and its implementation university wide.

f. Committee on Budget and Oversight — Charged with overseeing the legislative process for promoting SGA allocations and ensuring adherence to governing documents by working closely with the One-Time Allocation Fund Committee and the administration.

g. Committee on External Engagement — Charged with promoting external affairs, relationships, and opportunities beyond typical university operations and internal affairs. This committee shall foster partnerships between the Student Government Association and entities such as Athens-Clarke County Unified Government, alumni networks, employers, and student-run organizations, and promote professional, entrepreneurial, civic, and extracurricular opportunities for students.

CHAPTER 205: LEGISLATIVE STAFF

205.1 The President of the Senate shall define and oversee the Senate Staff.

205.2 Members of the Senate Staff shall be considered active members of SGA, as well as members of the Legislative Branch, but they shall not be considered Senators and shall neither hold voting power reserved for Senators nor serve as a member of a legislative committee.

205.3 The Legislative Cabinet shall have the power to appoint or remove any individual(s) to or from the Senate Staff at any time, but the Senate Staff may not consist of any elected or appointed member of any other branch of government.

205.4 The Legislative Cabinet shall make public the appointment of any Senate Staff member(s) upon the appointment of said individual(s).

205.5 The President of the Senate, in consultation with the Legislative Cabinet, enforces positional descriptions, duties, and expectations for each Senate Staff position.

205.6 Senate-Staff members shall be required to attend meetings and obligations as instructed by the President of the Senate. Senate-Staff members shall follow the procedure established by Chapter 203 of these Statutes for submitting any absences to be considered for excusal.

a. The excusal process for Senate-Staff members shall follow the same process outlined in Chapter 203 of these Statutes.

b. Upon accumulation of the third (3) excused or third (3) unexcused absence by a Senate-Staff member, said member shall be notified by the Attorney General. The Staff member in question must next meet with the Attorney General and the President of the Senate to address the absence issue. The Attorney General and President of the Senate shall make a determination if the absences warrant removal by the President of the Senate. If the Attorney General and President of the Senate find that the absences do warrant removal, the President of the Senate may exercise his or her right to remove said member as per Chapter 205.3 of these Statutes.

CHAPTER 206: SENATE APPOINTMENTS

206.1 Any seat not filled through the process of election, or a seat that is no longer occupied due to the resignation or removal of its previous occupant, shall be considered vacant, and the process for filling such a vacancy shall be established by Article IX, Section 6 of the Constitution.

206.2 Following the election of the President of the Senate and the President Pro Tempore, applications for all vacant seats shall be made public by the President of the Senate.

a. Applicants may be asked to fill out an application and be interviewed by the Legislative Cabinet.

i. Applications must be made public and open for a minimum of a week.

ii. Seats that are considered vacant shall have applications that close following the certification of the spring student body election results for the next Senate.

iii. Said applications will constitute a “statement of intent,” as required by Article IX, Section vi, Subsection i.

iv. Interviews shall be held on a rolling basis, and any and all individuals appointed to fill a vacancy shall have their appointment considered by the Senate during the next immediate Senate session.

206.3 Individuals appointed to fill a vacancy shall require confirmation by a two-thirds vote of the Senate in order to assume office. A successfully confirmed individual shall be sworn in immediately after said confirmation, and this individual shall assume office upon administration of the Oath of Office by the Presiding Officer.

CHAPTER 207: SENATE RULES

207.1 Legislation shall refer to, but is not limited to, bills, resolutions, proclamations, and constitutional amendments.

207.2 Legislation serves as a position statement by the Student Government Association on the subject of the given piece of legislation or on behalf of the student body.

a. Any student of the University of Georgia can write legislation; however, each piece of legislation must be sponsored by a member of the Senate.

b. Only members of the Senate may sponsor legislation.

207.3 When coming before the Senate for consideration, all legislation shall be subject to the process established by these Statutes.

207.4 Following the drafting of a piece of legislation, and following the legislation's having received a sponsor, said piece of legislation shall be sent to the President Pro Tempore via UGA email.

a. The President Pro Tempore will then catalog the legislation with the Senate number followed by the chronological numbering of the legislation for the year.

207.5 The President Pro Tempore shall send a piece of legislation to the Rules Committee, which shall review all legislation for formatting, structural, and grammatical errors prior to remanding said legislation to a legislative committee.

a. Should the Rules Committee fail to identify a legislative committee that has the purview to review a piece of legislation, the Rules Committee has the ability to review legislation and to remand said legislation to the full Senate.

207.6 By a two-thirds vote, the Senate may allow legislation to bypass the committee process and proceed directly to the Senate floor for consideration.

207.7 After legislation is discharged from the Rules Committee to a legislative committee, the chair of said legislative committee shall invite the author(s) to present the legislation and pertinent research to said legislative committee.

a. During this process, the legislative committee may offer friendly amendments, edits, and suggestions to the proposed legislation.

i. If a piece of legislation is approved by its assigned legislative committee to move to the full Senate for a final vote, the chair of said Legislative must contact the

President of the Senate and the President Pro Tempore to inform these individuals of said passage.

ii. It is the responsibility of the author to seek and secure sponsors for the author's legislation.

1. Only the author has the ability to add and remove sponsors.

207.8 The President Pro Tempore must send all legislation which has been approved by a legislative committee to all Senators via UGA email.

a. The President Pro Tempore must make public the proposed legislation.

b. Proposed legislation must then be sent to all Senators and made public for review no later than four (4) days prior to the beginning of the Senate session where the piece of legislation will be considered.

i. Failure by any party to adhere to this timetable shall postpone the proposed legislation for full-Senate debate and voting until the next Senate session unless such debate and voting is proposed by the President of the Senate with the approval of two-thirds of the Legislative Cabinet.

207.9 All votes on all legislation, passed or failed, shall be made public no later than 24 hours after a vote has occurred.

a. All legislation, passed or failed, must be signed upon passage by the President of the Senate, certifying the vote.

b. All passed legislation must be sent, in writing, to the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court and the President of the Student Government Association by the President Pro Tempore within 24 hours of passage.

c. The Supreme Court shall review the constitutionality of all passed legislation. Such review must be completed within 48 hours of reception of the legislation by the Chief Justice. Upon reaching a decision, the Chief Justice must convey such a decision, in writing, to the SGA President and President of the Senate within 24 hours.

d. If ruled constitutional by the Supreme Court, all passed legislation shall be signed or vetoed by the SGA President. Presidential assent or veto must be delivered, in writing, to the President of the Senate no later than one (1) week after passage through the Senate of

the legislation in question.

i. Legislation that has passed the Senate, has been ruled constitutional by the Supreme Court, and has been signed by the SGA President shall be considered to have received final passage, and the effects of or positions expressed by such legislation shall take effect immediately (or shall take effect upon a separate timeline established by the passed legislation).

ii. Legislation that has both passed the Senate and been ruled constitutional by the Supreme Court, but which has been vetoed by the SGA President, shall be considered failed or defeated. Such a presidential veto may be overridden by a two-thirds vote of the Senate.

iii. Legislation that has both passed the Senate and been ruled constitutional by the Supreme Court, but which has received neither assent nor a veto by the SGA President shall take effect one week after the SGA President is presented with the legislation in question.

e. All passed legislation must be made public once approved by the Supreme Court.

f. Each piece of legislation must include the vote of each Senator, including each Senator's name and whether or not they voted in the affirmative, in the negative, or if they abstained. If a Senator is absent, the voting record shall reflect such an absence and whether or not it was excused or unexcused.

i. Such record shall not be included if a roll-call vote was not conducted.

g. Original copies of passed, signed, or vetoed legislation, as well as each accompanying voting record must be kept for the public archive.

CHAPTER 208: SENATE PROCEEDINGS

208.1 The Senate shall operate under a modified version of Robert's Rules of Order in conjunction with the procedures outlined within the constitution and Statutes.

208.2 The general format of Senate sessions shall be as follows: Call to Order, Roll Call, Open Forum, Officer reports, Old Business, New Business, Good of the Order, Adjournment.

208.3 The President of the Senate, in consultation with the Legislative Cabinet, shall set the agenda for each meeting.

208.4 When legislation is put before the Senate, and if the author of said legislation is a Senator, the author shall be entitled to the floor before any other Senator. If the author is not a Senator, then a sponsor should seek recognition by the presiding officer and yield the floor to the author.

208.5 Once the author's presentation has concluded, the floor shall be open for questions and subsequent debate.

208.6 If Senators do not seek recognition, the presiding officer has the discretion to end debate and move to a roll call vote on final passage of the legislation or on final approval of a given matter before the Senate.

208.7 If a Senator motions to end debate from the floor, and if said motion receives a second, then the presiding officer shall ask if there is an objection. If there is no objection, the Senate shall consider amendments. If there is an objection, the Senate shall move immediately into a voice vote on the motion.

208.8 Unless a Senator motions to approve by another means, the default voting procedure for final passage on legislation, or final approval of a given matter before the Senate, shall be a roll-call vote.

208.9 Amendments to legislation may be proposed during committee consideration and/or during floor debate. Amendments may only be offered by Senators.

a. Amendments beyond a second-degree amendment are out of order and shall not be considered.

208.10 Amendments should be presented to the Secretary of the Senate during debate and should include the amendment author's name and explain, in detail, exactly what the Senator is attempting to amend in the underlying legislation.

a. Following the offering of the amendment, but before the final vote on passage, the presiding officer shall instruct the Secretary of the Senate to read the amendments. No more amendments should be accepted by the Secretary after debate has concluded.

b. After the Secretary has read the amendments, the presiding officer shall recognize the author of the amendment to speak to his or her amendment. After the amendment author yields the floor, the presiding officer shall recognize the author of the underlying legislation for remarks on the amendment. Once the author of the legislation yields the floor, the floor shall be open for debate on the amendment.

c. If Senators do not seek recognition, the presiding officer has the discretion to end debate on the amendment and move to a vote on adopting the amendment.

d. Unless a Senator motions to approve by other means, the default voting procedure for adopting an amendment shall be a voice vote.

208.11 Unless otherwise stated in this section, all motions shall be voted on by voice vote.

208.12 Senators may move to adopt or approve issues before the Senate by unanimous consent. When this motion is made, the presiding officer shall ask if there is an objection to the motion. If there is no objection, then the motion carries. If there is objection, the motion fails.

208.13 In the event that a Senator disagrees with the ruling of the presiding officer on the results of a voice vote, Senators may call out "division," at which point the Senate shall move into a roll-call vote on the issue that previously just received a voice vote.

a. A call for a division must be made immediately following a voice vote, otherwise such a call shall be considered out of order and shall not be recognized.

208.14 All votes shall require a simple majority to pass, unless stated otherwise. Votes that fail to reach said threshold shall be considered failed.

a. As a sitting Senator, the President of the Senate retains the right to cast a vote.

208.15 The Secretary of the Senate shall keep detailed minutes of all Senate sessions, which shall be made public no later than 24 hours after approval.

208.16 Each legislative committee chair shall keep detailed minutes including attendance and voting records, for all legislative committee meetings over which these chairs preside. Minutes must be sent to the President Pro Tempore after a legislative committee meeting, which shall be made public following legislative committee approval.

208.17 All nominations received and made by the Senate shall be sent by a formal nomination letter signed by the appointer.

a. All nomination letters must be delivered to the President of the Senate and President Pro Tempore.

b. All nomination letters must be received by the Senate according to Chapter 208 titled Senate Proceedings.

208.18 The Committee on Budget and Oversight shall receive all nomination letters from the President of the Senate and President Pro Tempore prior to the regularly scheduled committee meeting.

208.19 The Committee on Budget and Oversight shall hold hearings of nominees during regularly scheduled committee meetings, or a mutual time established by the committee and all parties involved.

a. Only nominees of explicitly defined positions in the Constitutions shall receive hearings. Nominees with no hearings shall have the confirmation added to the Senate Meeting Agenda.

b. Nominees for positions not explicitly defined in the Constitution do not require hearings.

c. If there is any confusion as regards to explicitly defined positions, the nominee shall receive a hearing.

d. Hearings must take place before nominees can come to the floor or be added to the Senate agenda.

208.20 Hearings shall serve as the committee's formal process of reviewing nominees in order to present a recommendation to the full Senate during a regularly scheduled Senate Session.

a. Multiple nominees may receive a hearing, as long as the nominees are all part of the same nomination letter and positions.

b. During the hearing, committee members reserve the right to ask questions of the nominee(s) regarding, but not limited to, campus experience, future plans if confirmed, and position knowledge.

c. Hearings are formally concluded by a simple majority vote of the committee.

d. The committee shall recess to a closed meeting and hold a vote on whether to recommend the nominee to the Senate.

208.21 The Committee on Budget and Oversight does not vote on the passage of the nominees but votes on whether to recommend the nominee's appointment to the full Senate.

a. The Chair of the Committee on Budget and Oversight shall deliver the official recommendation, whether positive or negative, to the full Senate during committee updates.

b. Only the full Senate reserves the right to confirm or deny a nominee.

208.22 Upon the completion of hearings, the Chair of the Committee on Budget and Oversight shall notify the President of the Senate and President Pro- Tempore so it can be added to the Senate Meeting Agenda.

208.23 Nominees for which the Committee on Budget and Oversight does not conduct hearings shall create a brief introduction video and/or statement of intent for their desired position to be shared with the full Senate.

208.24 Nominees, Confirmation, and Oath Administration

Individuals appointed to fill a vacancy that requires confirmation, and who are successfull confirmed, shall be sworn in immediately after said confirmation, and those individuals sh assume office upon administration of the Oath of Office by the Presiding Officer.

a. No nominee to any position requiring Senate confirmation may claim Senate or S(approval, title, rank, or privilege of that position.

i. Usage of that title, or any other title not actually held by the individual, to any privilege or exercise any authority under the same, prior to confirmati the Senate and administration of the Oath of Office, shall be disqualifying position in front of the Senate committee and floor.

ii. If evidence is found after the confirmation of an individual that suggests tl violated these provisions, such a violation shall be grounds for impeachme

iii. Individuals may, however, identify themselves by the status of their confir such that they may be a “candidate” or “nominee” or “confirmed” individ

b. No person may exercise any authority prior to the administration of their Oath of (if that position requires such an Oath.

TITLE III
The Executive Branch

CHAPTER 300: EXECUTIVE CABINET

300.1 The Executive Cabinet shall be responsible to the Student Government Association President, in whose name each member of the Executive Cabinet acts.

300.2 The Executive Board, under the direction of the Student Government Association President, shall define and oversee the Executive Cabinet.

300.3 Elected Executive Officers shall automatically occupy a seat on the Executive Board unless otherwise denoted by the SGA President.

300.4 Members of the Executive Board shall be considered members of the Executive Cabinet, unless otherwise denoted by the SGA President, and shall therein receive all rights and privileges, including voting rights, associated with Executive Cabinet membership. Not all members of the Executive Cabinet shall be considered members of the Executive Board, unless otherwise denoted by the SGA President, and non-Executive Board members of the Executive Cabinet are not entitled to any additional rights or privileges given exclusively to members of the Executive Board.

300.5 Constitutional Executive Branch members shall assume office upon fulfillment of the requirements established by the Constitution.

300.6 A non-constitutional Executive Branch member shall assume office upon appointment by the Student Government Association President.

300.7 The Student Government Association President reserves the right to remove from office any Executive Branch member, who did not require Senate confirmation. All constitutional Executive Branch officers must be removed by the Supreme Court via the process defined by Article VIII of the Constitution of the Student Government Association of the University of Georgia.

300.8 The Student Government Association President shall have the power to appoint or remove any individual(s) to or from the Executive Board and/or Cabinet. The SGA President shall also have the power to establish or abolish any non-constitutional Executive Branch position(s).

300.9 Student Government Association advisors are encouraged to attend Executive Cabinet meetings but do not hold voting rights.

300.10 The SGA President shall have the power to forgo the formation or designation of an Executive Board and/or Cabinet. In the event that the President chooses to take this action, the President shall assume any obligations assigned to the Executive Board/Cabinet by these Statutes (that are

not already assigned to a specific individual(s) by the Constitution), or he or she may designate an officer(s) to fulfill these obligations.

a. The SGA President shall also have the power to form or designate an alternative structure in place of the Executive Board and/or Cabinet to fulfill the duties assigned to these bodies by these Statutes.

300.11 The SGA President shall publicly disseminate the appointment of any Executive Cabinet member(s) upon the appointment of said individual(s).

300.12 The Executive Board and Senate President must interview and appoint a nonpartisan SGA-ACC (Athens-Clarke County) Liaison.

a. The purpose of this position is to track initiatives on the Athens-Clarke County Commissioners' agenda that directly affect the student body, assist with the planning of the Annual Mayoral and Commissioners' Breakfast, attend one monthly check in with a city assistant manager, and attend commissioner meetings as needed. The liaison is encouraged to create special initiatives that benefit the Athens community, foster an active line of communication between SGA and ACC, and give a report at SGA Org-Wide meetings.

b. The requirements of the position are someone who is interested in government relations and public policy, has characteristics of open-mindness and objectivity, and understands the importance of understanding initiatives before giving their own input. The SGA-ACC Liaison will report to the Chief of Staff of the SGA President.

c. The liaison may be removed by the Supreme Court via the process defined by Article VIII of the Constitution of the Student Government Association of the University of Georgia.

CHAPTER 301: EXECUTIVE CABINET OPERATIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

301.1 The Executive Cabinet shall meet at the discretion of the Student Government Association President during the school year.

301.2 Each Executive Cabinet member shall submit updates on tasks and ongoing projects to their assigned Executive Board member, to whom these Cabinet members report, prior to Cabinet meetings. These updates shall be collected by the SGA Deputy Chief of Staff, or another designated officer, and shall be reported to the Senate during Open Forum by the SGA President as needed.

301.3 The Student Government Association President may set any formal or informal structures or reporting techniques that they deem appropriate for the efficient and productive operation of the Executive Cabinet.

301.4 Each Executive Cabinet officer shall formulate projects and programs relating to their position that will benefit the student body. Each program and project shall comply with all SGA Statutes and Codes and shall be executed as determined by the Student Government Association President through the direction of the Executive Board.

CHAPTER 302: EXECUTIVE STAFF

302.1 The Student Government Association President, through the direction of designated members of the Executive Cabinet, shall oversee the Executive Staff.

302.2 The Student Government Association President shall have the power to designate a member of the Executive Cabinet or Executive Staff to act on his or her behalf in the appointment of specific Executive Branch members.

302.3 The Student Government Association President shall have the power to appoint or remove any individual(s) to or from the Executive Staff, but the Executive Staff may not consist of any elected or appointed member of any other branch of government.

302.4 The SGA President shall have the power to forgo the formation or designation of the Executive Staff. In the event that the President chooses to take this action, he or she shall assume for himself or herself any obligations assigned to the Executive Staff by these Statutes (that are not already assigned to a specific individual(s) by the Constitution), or he or she may designate an officer(s) to fulfill these obligations.

a. The SGA President shall also have the power to form or designate an alternative structure in place of the Executive Staff to fulfill the duties assigned to this body by these Statutes.

302.5 The SGA President shall publicly disseminate the appointment of any Executive Staff member(s) upon the appointment of said individual(s).

CHAPTER 303: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES

303.1 The Student Government Association President shall have the power to create Executive Committees in order to complete specific tasks and goals or to perform a specific function of the Executive Branch. These Executive Committees can be Standing or Ad-Hoc.

303.2 The Student Government Association President shall appoint a committee chair and who shall assume office as chair immediately upon appointment. These chairs shall report to the Vice President.

303.3 The Student Government Association Vice President shall oversee the management and progress of all Executive Committees.

303.4 All members of an Executive Committee shall report to their committee chairs.

303.5 The committee chair, in consultation with and, at times, under the direction of the Student Government Association President and Vice President, shall be empowered to appoint and dismiss committee members.

303.6 Any member, either active or inactive, of the Student Government Association of the University of Georgia, as defined by Article III, Section 1 of the Constitution of the Student Government Association of the University of Georgia, shall be eligible to serve on an Executive Committee.

303.7 Minutes and attendance shall be taken at all Executive Committee meetings by committee chairs. Committee minutes shall be recorded and submitted to the Student Government Association Vice President, and Committee attendance shall be recorded and submitted to the SGA Attorney General and Vice President no later than 24 hours after the conclusion of any Committee meetings.

a. Absences from planned Committee or subcommittee meetings must be submitted, in writing, to the Attorney General no less than 48 hours prior to these meetings to be considered for an excused absence. Committee or subcommittee members must also submit this absence, in writing, to the chair of their designated Committee and/or subcommittee. If a Committee chair plans to be absent, he or she must send their notice of absence to the Vice President, as well as the Attorney General, and this Committee/subcommittee chair must designate an acting chair to perform the duties of the chair temporarily. Aside from the requirements established in this Section, the Executive-Committee absence policy shall otherwise follow the procedure established by Chapter 305 of these Statutes.

303.8 At each Executive Cabinet meeting, the Student Government Association Vice President shall deliver a report of ongoing, completed, and upcoming Executive-Committee work as needed.

303.9 Members of Executive Committees and sub-committees shall be considered members of the Executive Staff (if they are not already members of the Executive Cabinet/Staff), and these members must herein follow all policies associated with membership as explained in these Statutes.

a. Members of Executive Committees and subcommittees who were previously non-active members of SGA shall be exempt from tabling requirements and from attendance at all events other than their Committee and subcommittee meetings. Furthermore, these members shall not hold any privileges, including voting privileges, outside of their respective Committees and subcommittees if they are not already members of the Cabinet/Staff.

303.10 Committee chairs shall have the ability to establish subcommittees to fulfill the purpose of the larger Executive Committee in consultation with, and, at times, under the direction of, the Student Government Association Vice President.

a. Each sub-committee shall be led by a sub-committee chair appointed by the larger Executive Committee chair in consultation with the SGA Vice President.

b. Anyone appointed to chair a sub-committee shall report sub- committee progress and future plans to the chair of the larger Executive Committee at least weekly, but the larger Executive Committee chair may establish a system of more frequent reporting if desired.

c. Minutes and attendance shall be taken at all sub-committee meetings by sub-committee chairs. Sub-committee minutes shall be recorded, filed, and submitted to the larger Executive Committee chair, who shall then report these minutes to the Student Government Association Vice President following the procedures described in Chapter 303.7 of these Statutes. The Vice President shall include any sub-committee updates in his or her report to the Executive Cabinet as described in Chapter 303.8 of these Statutes.

303.11 Committees and subcommittees shall only be relieved of meeting on a scheduled meeting night if both the Committee chair and/or acting Committee chair(s) are unable to lead the Committee, or unless the SGA Vice President, in consultation with the SGA Attorney General, excuses a Committee or subcommittee from meeting.

303.12 Executive Committees shall dissolve after the completion of certain task or function, including all necessary implementational procedures, for which the Committee was originally formed, or upon dissolution by the Student Government Association President, or upon the expiration of the executive term during which the Executive Committee was originally constituted.

CHAPTER 304: UNIVERSITY AND PRESIDENTIAL COMMITTEES

304.1 University committees are not limited to the Student Government Association President and Vice President, and with proper notifications, the SGA President and Vice President may appoint an individual to serve on these committees in place of the SGA President and/or Vice President.

304.2 Appointments to University committees shall be made by the Student Government Association President and Vice President, as per Article VI, Section 2, Paragraphs A and B of the Constitution, in consultation with the Executive Board.

304.3 All appointees shall attend all meetings of committees to which they have been appointed.

a. If any designated appointee(s) is unable to attend any such meeting, said appointee(s) shall take necessary actions as specified by the attendance policy of said University and/or Presidential Committee, as well as the attendance policy outlined in Chapter 305 of these Statutes.

b. Failure to attend a meeting of a University/Presidential Committee without providing proper notification and documentation to, and without receiving excusal from the Attorney General, shall result in the accumulation of an unexcused absence as per Chapter 305 of these Statutes.

TITLE IV – The Judicial Branch

CHAPTER 400: JURISDICTION

400.1 Personal Jurisdiction

a. The Supreme Court has personal jurisdiction over:

i. Any active member of SGA;

ii. Any inactive member involved in an election or campaign through participation as a candidate, member of campaign staff, or in campaign activity of any kind;

iii. Any inactive member involved in any Executive Committee or official function of the Student Government Association; or

iv. Any inactive member that is subject of or party to any investigation of SGA in any way.

b. The Supreme Court shall have subpoena power over any individuals subject to its personal jurisdiction.

i. Failure to appear before the Supreme Court after receiving a subpoena shall result in the status of being in contempt of the Supreme Court, which shall result in disciplinary action against the offending individual.

400.2 Subject-Matter Jurisdiction

a. The Supreme Court shall determine the constitutionality of any legislation passed by the Senate, and the manner in which the legislation is passed.

b. The Supreme Court shall hear alleged violations of the Constitution or any other Governing Documents by any person under the personal jurisdiction of the Court, as presented by a member of the student body.

c. The Supreme Court shall hear cases that arise as disputes between members of different branches, as a matter of diversity jurisdiction.

400.3 Original Jurisdiction

The Supreme Court has original jurisdiction over any case alleging violations of the Constitution or other Governing Documents by an individual under the personal jurisdiction of the Court, or any other case that demonstrates that the Court has both personal and subject-matter jurisdiction.

a. The Supreme Court does not have original jurisdiction over disputes related to elections or the Elections Committee, except those cases to which the Elections Committee itself is the complainant.

400.4 Appellate Jurisdiction

The Supreme Court exercises exclusive appellate jurisdiction over sanctions and verdicts delivered by the Elections Committee should a ticket or candidate contest its decision. When exercising appellate jurisdiction, the Supreme Court may only make findings with regard to the law, and shall, unless there is new evidence, assume true all material facts determined by the Elections Committee as fact-finders.

400.6 Determination of Jurisdiction

The Supreme Court must, prior to hearing any case or issuing any ruling, decide whether it has the jurisdiction to hear the case. If the Court lacks jurisdiction, it cannot hear the case.

a. When submitting initial complaints to the Court, the complainant must explain to the Court whether and through what means it has jurisdiction.

b. Responses to complaints drafted by opposing parties may include arguments about jurisdiction.

c. The Supreme Court may choose to convene a hearing at which all parties must attend to determine jurisdiction if it is a contested matter or, if material facts are not in contention and the Court feels confident in its claim to jurisdiction, the Court may vote on whether it has jurisdiction by a majority rule in a closed meeting. Votes must be recorded and the written opinion on jurisdiction delivered to all parties to the matter.

400.7 Standing

a. The Supreme Court may only hear cases presented by:

i. The Attorney General;

ii. The Elections Committee;

iii. A petition by five (5) Senators, in a case argued by one of the Senators or by the Chief Legal Counsel of the Senate;

iv. A petition by the President of the Senate or the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, in a case argued by the Chief Legal Counsel of the Senate;

v. Any other individual(s), having paid their Student Activity Fee, who are not active members, and who can demonstrate standing and actual injury suffered or likely to be suffered as a consequence of the alleged actions of the accused, and

who can demonstrate that, as an inactive member, they are involved with SGA through an election, investigative procedure, or participation in an official function of SGA.

b. For a case to be brought to the Supreme Court, the individual(s) bringing the matter to the Court must prove standing.

i. The complainant must show that the alleged actions of the accused individual violated the Constitution or other Governing Documents in some way that brings the action and individual within the personal and subject-matter jurisdiction of the Court.

ii. The complainant must show that a favorable decision by the Court will be likely to resolve the issue and ensure adherence to the Constitution and Governing Documents.

CHAPTER 401: JUDICIAL PROCEDURE

401.1 Policy

The Supreme Court, in accordance with the Constitution of the Student Government Association, shall make its internal rules of practice and procedure by a majority vote of the Justices and shall make these rules and procedures publicly accessible.

401.2 Complaints and Briefs

a. To bring a case to the Supreme Court, the lead counsel on the case (either for the complainant or the appellant, depending on the type of case), shall submit a written document outlining the case and argument, including evidence (either a complaint or a petition for review, depending on the type of case).

i. This document shall be shared with the Chief Justice, the Attorney General, and any other opposing parties to the case.

b. Written briefs must contain the names of all relevant parties to the case, including counsel.

c. Opposing parties shall have the opportunity to send responses to written briefs prior to the hearing, subject to the same requirements of all briefs.

401.2 Arguments and Trial

a. Those accused in a case shall be notified of the charges being brought against them no less than one (1) week prior to the date of the hearing.

b. The Attorney General shall serve as counsel for the Student Government Association.

    i. The Attorney General, or whoever serves as complainant, shall bear the burden of proof; the accused is presumed innocent until proven guilty. The standard of proof in cases of original jurisdiction is that of clear and convincing evidence, that the claim alleged is highly and substantially more likely to be true than untrue. The standard of proof applies only to factual, not legal, questions, including both whether the alleged conduct occurred and whether the accused individual was responsible for or participated in that conduct.

    ii. The Attorney General shall inquire, investigate, and gather evidence, testimony or written statements relevant to alleged violations to be brought to the Supreme Court, and shall serve as custodian of the same.

c. The accused individual may seek legal counsel from an active member of SGA in the Legislative or Executive Branches. Such an individual must have approval from the head of their branch to provide representation to the accused individual.

d. In the event that the case deals with a dispute between members of different branches, the complainant or their counsel, shall lead the case. The Attorney General shall act as counsel for the Student Government Association or the Executive Branch, if the complaint is lodged by members of the Senate.

e. Trial (Original Jurisdiction)

    i. Counsel for the complainant shall make an opening statement outlining the charges; the accused or their counsel shall then deliver an opening defense.

    ii. Counsel for the complainant shall present any evidence or witnesses, who may be cross-examined by the accused or their counsel.

    iii. The accused may then present evidence or witnesses for their defense, who may be cross-examined by the counsel for the complainant.

    iv. If the Attorney General is not counsel to either party to the case, that is, neither representing the Student Government Association or the Executive Branch in the matter, they shall present the view of the Student Government Association at-large on the case, and the implications of the Court's ruling on SGA operations.

v. Counsel for the complainant shall deliver a closing argument and recommend a sentence and verdict to the Supreme Court; the accused or their counsel shall deliver their own closing argument and offer recommendations to the Supreme Court.

vi. The Supreme Court may question either party on matters of fact and law after closing arguments.

f. Oral Argument (On Appeal)

i. Counsel for the appellant shall deliver information on matters of fact and deliver arguments on matters of law named in appeal. The Justices may interrupt counsel with questions. Questions of fact shall be answered at the original trial stage by the Elections Committee and may not be litigated at the appeal stage.

ii. The Attorney General shall deliver arguments on behalf of the Elections Committee in response to the appeal. The Justices may interrupt the Attorney General with questions.

1. If the Attorney General voted against the decision of the Elections Committee being appealed, or may otherwise be considered as having a conflict of interest in representing the Elections Committee in appeal, the Elections Committee shall vote to designate one of its members as the counsel for the Committee in that appeal.

iii. Counsel for the appellant may be granted a rebuttal by the Justices.

401.3 Deliberation

a. When exercising its original jurisdiction as a trial court, the Supreme Court shall deliberate as to whether the accused individual(s) committed the alleged act(s) and whether that act(s) constitute a violation of the Constitution or applicable Governing Documents according to the charges presented.

b. Deliberation shall take place in a sequestered environment with only the Supreme Court present.

c. A majority vote is required to reach a decision.

d. The Supreme Court can penalize the accused with a valid penalty, with consideration of the recommendation of the Attorney General.

e. A majority opinion must be written by the Court and delivered to the accused, the Senate, and the Student Government Association Attorney General as soon as possible.

   i. Concurring or dissenting opinions may accompany the majority opinion and must also be delivered to the relevant parties.

401.4 Remedy

a. The Supreme Court may impose the following penalties against active members of the Student Government Association:

   i. Written reprimand

   ii. University or community service hours

   iii. Probation

   iv. Suspension from active membership

   v. Other remedies as approved by the Court.

b. If a piece of legislation and/or the way in which a piece of legislation is passed is found to be unconstitutional by the Court, the decision and explanation of the Court shall be delivered to the Senate both orally and in writing. The Senate shall then conduct a review of the legislation and its procedure to ensure adherence to the Constitution, and shall determine whether to attempt to pass the legislation again in adherence to the Governing Documents.

401.5 Court of Last Resort

As the highest authority in the interpretation of the Constitution, Statutes, Governing Documents, and legislation of the Supreme Court, the decision of the Court is binding unless reviewed internally by the Court in the future.

CHAPTER 402: JUDICIAL RECUSALS

402.1 Voluntary Recusal

Any member(s) of the Court may voluntarily recuse themselves if they believe they meet any of the grounds for suggestion of recusal.

402.2 Motion to Recuse

Alternatively, any party to any case before the Court may, at any time before final judgment, file a motion requesting the recusal of any members of the Court.

a. Should a request be filed, a majority of the Supreme Court may require the recusal of one of its members. The member in question shall not have the ability to vote on whether they must recuse themselves.

402.3 Reasons for Recusal

Grounds for recusal of a Justice may include but are not limited to interest in the outcome of a case or any relationship with, partiality toward, or prejudice against a party to the case that would compromise the objectivity of the Justice.

CHAPTER 403: OFFICERS OF THE COURT

403.1 Definition

The members of the Elections Committee, Attorney General, Chief Legal Counsel of the Senate, Chief and Associate Legal Counsels of any campaign standing for an SGA election, and any other active member representing a party to a case before the Supreme Court or Elections Committee shall be considered Officers of the Court for regulatory purposes.

403.2 Obligation

Officers of the Court are obligated to promote justice and uphold the Constitution and Governing Documents of the Student Government Association, and to obey the rules and procedures of the Supreme Court.

403.3 Adherence to the Rules of the Court

Officers of the Court:

a. Shall not lie, intentionally misstate fact, nor make any false statement or representation to the Court or Elections Committee;

b. Shall not create, present, or use any false, altered, or doctored evidence or document(s) knowing said evidence or document(s) to contain any false statement or representation;

c. Shall not falsify, conceal, or cover up any fact via the usage of any trick, device, or deception;

d. Shall not influence, obstruct, or impede (or endeavor to do the same) any investigation, operation, or proceedings of the Elections Committee and/or the Supreme Court, or of any other official vehicle or apparatus designed for the purpose of the administration, or potential administration, of justice;

e. Shall not influence, obstruct, or impede (or endeavor to do the same) any disciplinary action or penalty imposed;

f. Shall zealously advocate on behalf of those whom they represent;

g. Shall obey all rules, procedures, and decisions of the Supreme Court; and

h. Shall not provide advice on how to disobey or break the Governing Documents, only on how to properly follow them.

TITLE V – General Statutes

CHAPTER 500: ATTENDANCE

500.1 Mandatory Organizational-Wide Events

a. A mandatory organizational-wide event shall be an event at which the presence and participation of the Student Government Association and its members would benefit the student population and further the ongoing mission of the Student Government Association.

b. The dates, times, and locations of mandatory organizational-wide events shall be determined jointly by the SGA President, the President of the Senate, and the Chief Justice.

c. Members of the Student Government Association shall be given two (2) weeks' notice of any mandatory event.

500.2 Regular Attendance of Active Members

a. Active members shall be required to attend:

i. Mandatory organizational-wide meetings;

ii. Meetings of their respective branch, as required by the head of that branch or by a provision of a governing document of SGA;

iii. Meetings of any committees or subcommittees of which they are a member;

iv. Meetings of any University or Presidential Committees of which they are a member; and

v. Additional meetings at which their attendance is required by the head of their branch.

b. The SGA President, Vice President, Treasurer, Attorney General, Chief Justice, and Associate Justices shall attend Senate sessions, excluding Senate committee meetings, in addition to those members and staff of the Senate who are required to be present.

c. Any meetings or events organized for the members of a particular branch, not including those required by the Constitution, may have their attendance requirements waived by the head of that respective branch, in consultation with the Attorney General.

d. The head of a branch may cancel any meeting or event organized for the members of their branch for any reason.

    i. The Chief Justice may not cancel a scheduled hearing without establishing an alternative date and time for the hearing that is later than the originally schedule hearing, in consultation with the Attorney General.

e. Notice of meeting cancellation or optional attendance under Statutes 500.2(c) or 500.2(d) shall be provided in writing to all affected parties within 24 hours of the originally scheduled time of the meeting; this required timeline for notice may be waived by the Attorney General in light of extenuating circumstances.

    i. The Chief Justice may waive the required timeline for notice of a canceled meeting of the Supreme Court in light of extenuating circumstances; the Attorney General shall have no bearing on the timeline for notice in the event of a cancellation of a Supreme Court hearing.

500.3 Absences

a. Absences of members of the Executive Branch or Judicial Branch shall be submitted, in writing, to the Attorney General, and other relevant direct supervisors, no less than 48 hours prior to the expected absence.

    i. Absences of members of the Judicial Branch shall also be submitted, in writing, to the Chief Justice.

    ii. The Chief Justice shall take attendance at meetings of the Supreme Court and report absences to the Attorney General within 24 hours of the conclusion of each meeting.

b. Members of the Executive Branch or Judicial Branch shall be allotted two (2) unexcused absences for the duration of the Administration.

    i. Excuses for absence shall be granted by the Attorney General with the advice of the SGA President upon appropriate documentation demonstrating one of the following excuses:

        1. Immediate family death or illness;

        2. Religious holidays;

3. Personal medical emergencies;

4. University tests, including those through Accessibility and Testing, that occur during a required meeting or event; or

5. Another extenuating circumstance identified by the Attorney General as warranting an excuse.

ii. Upon accumulation of a third (3rd) unexcused absence by any member of the Judicial Branch, or Principal Staff or General Staff of the Executive Branch, the individual shall meet with the Attorney General and the head of their branch to address the attendance issue.

1. If, after this meeting, no action has been taken to rectify the issue, the Attorney General and the head of the involved member's branch shall determine whether the absences warrant removal of the individual. If it is warranted, the Attorney General shall inform the Senate and request the initiation of removal proceedings by the Senate.

c. Absences accrued within 24 hours of each other shall only count as one absence toward the maximum allowable absences.

d. The Attorney General may waive absences retroactively under extenuating circumstances.

CHAPTER 501: ORGANIZATION-BASED INVOLVEMENT HOURS

501.1 Requirement

a. Each active member of the Student Government Association, including members of the Executive Cabinet, the Executive Staff, the Senate, the Judicial Branch, and the First-Year Programs, shall complete a minimum of four (4) approved involvement hours each semester.

b. Every member who assumes active membership after the fourth week of instruction of a semester shall complete two (2) approved involvement hours for that semester.

c. A member of the First-Year Programs shall complete two (2) approved involvement hours in the first semester of their active membership.

d. No meeting, session, mandatory event, or other time obligation already required of an individual under the Governing Documents may qualify for involvement hours, unless explicitly designated as hours-eligible in this Chapter.

501.2 Qualifying Involvement

a. No later than the second Senate session of each semester, the Attorney General shall publish a list of the events and opportunities, and opportunity dates and times qualifying for involvement hours under this Chapter on the official SGA website.

i. The Attorney General may at their discretion approve additional events and opportunities for involvement-hour credit at any point throughout the year, including previously unscheduled events or opportunities, and shall update the published list within one (1) week of any such approval.
SGA

ii. A member shall be credited for a qualifying event or opportunity only upon their genuine and complete participation, as defined by the Attorney General for that opportunity on the public list, or, absent a definition, the member shall be given credit proportionate to their engagement with that opportunity, as specified in this Chapter.

b. Involvement Opportunities

i. Awarded in one-half (1/2) hour increments, actual time served at a volunteer opportunity promoted by the Attorney General on the published list may count if effectively served, which shall be awarded pursuant to the procedures enumerated in this Chapter.

ii. One-half (1/2) to a maximum of two (2) hours of involvement, awarded in one-half (1/2) hour increments, may be awarded based on actual time served tabling on behalf of SGA, which shall be awarded pursuant to the procedures enumerated in this Chapter.

iii. One (1) hour of involvement may be earned by serving on an interview panel for First-Year Programs, for a maximum of one (1) hour; this hour may not be awarded to individuals who, by virtue of their position, are required to be at interviews.

iv. One-half (1/2) or one (1) hour of involvement may be awarded based on whether the head of branch of SGA recognizes extraordinary effort and energy spent on an initiative that produces a tangible benefit to SGA, UGA, and/or the student body.

c. No member shall receive credit toward the requirement for more than two (2) involvement hours earned within any single twenty-four (24) hour period, regardless of the number of qualifying events attended or the number of hours accrued within that period.

501.3 Submission and Approval

All involvement hours must be submitted to the Attorney General in a manner they prescribe in advance of the relevant opportunities.

a. For involvement hours earned as a result of volunteering at an event, the procedure shall be the following:

i. The individual in charge of the approved event shall note the time that individuals arrive for service and the time that they depart, in addition to their involvement and work ethic during the event.

ii. If the individual in charge of the event finds that an individual was severely deficient in the expected involvement for the event, they may reduce or deny that volunteer their involvement hours. This decision is subject to appeal by the volunteer to the Attorney General and/or the Supreme Court.

iii. No later than twenty-four (24) hours after the involvement opportunity, the individual in charge of the event shall communicate the volunteer timelogs to the Attorney General including the recommended involvement hours to be awarded. If the hours awarded are less than expected, the Attorney General shall inform the volunteer so they can determine whether to appeal; appeals must be submitted within twenty-four (24) hours of learning of one's hours status.

b. All other hours earned shall be submitted to the Attorney General including the event or opportunity, the date of the event or opportunity, the duration of service, involvement hours earned, and appropriate documentation providing the veracity of the form. All hours are subject to the approval of the Attorney General, who may deny or reduce any hours not supported by appropriate documentation. This decision is able to be appealed to the Supreme Court.

c. Hours for a given semester are due no later than 11:59 p.m. on the day after Reading Day. Hours submitted after this deadline shall not be counted absent a waiver by the Attorney General.

d. The Attorney General reserves the ability to waive or reduce the involvement hour requirement, or to accept hours after the deadline, on appropriate grounds for absence and upon appropriate documentation.

e. The Attorney General shall keep track and make public, through the official SGA website, an update record of each member's approved involvement hours, updated no less than every two (2) weeks.

f. If an active member has completed fewer than one (1) approved involvement hour by 11:59 p.m. on the date of the midterm of the semester, the Attorney General shall inform the head of that member's branch. Failure to meet this requirement shall not alone constitute grounds for removal, but may be used as evidence for dereliction of duty, or to support a decision made to address an hours deficiency at the end of the semester.

501.4 Failure to Complete Required Service Hours

a. A member of the Executive Branch or First-Year Programs who fails to complete the involvement hours required of that member in a given semester shall be in violation of the Statutes and warranting impeachment. The Attorney General shall, in a session of the Senate, ask for a petition of senators to impeach the member.

b. A member of the Senate or a staff member of the Legislative Branch who fails to complete the service hours required of that member in a given semester shall be given strikes against them in the form of noted unexcused absences according to the proportion below:

i. For those who have earned less than half of the required hours completed: two (2) absences.

ii. For those who have earned one half, up to, but not including, the full amount of the required hours completed: one (1) absence.

c. A member of the Judicial Branch failing to complete the required hours for a semester shall, in the next semester, complete that semester's hours in addition to the incompleted hours of the prior semester in addition to two (2) additional involvement hours.

i. A member of the Judicial Branch who fails to complete the requirements established in (c) of this section shall be placed on probation from all non-essential SGA social events, including but not limited to tailgates, date nights, and formal, until the deficit is cured. Such probation shall not extend to any meeting, session, Mandatory Event, or other obligation the member is required to attend under these Statutes.

ii. Should a member of the Judicial branch complete fewer than two (2) approved involvement hours in total across two (2) consecutive semesters of active membership, the Attorney General shall notify said member, at which point the member shall meet with the Attorney General and Chief Justice to discuss a plan to rectify the issue. If unsatisfied with the plan or finding insufficient action, the Attorney General shall, in a session of the Senate, ask for a petition of senators to impeach the member.

CHAPTER 502: DRESS CODE

502.1 Senate Meetings

Members of the Legislative Branch or Judicial Branch shall wear professional business attire to Senate meetings unless otherwise noted by the President of the Senate. Members that attend in inappropriate attire shall be asked to leave by the President of the Senate or may be denied the right to speak in the session.

502.2 Cabinet Meetings

Members of the Executive Branch shall wear professional business attire to Cabinet meetings unless otherwise noted by the SGA President or Chief of Staff.

502.3 Organizational-Wide Meetings

Mandatory organizational-wide meetings and Executive Staff meetings will be casual business attire unless otherwise noted by the SGA President.

CHAPTER 503: CODE OF ETHICS

503.1 Establishment

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 Conduct in SGA

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 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 Conduct in General

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 everyone regardless of race, color, religion, ethnicity or national origin, sex (including pregnancy), genetic information, gender or gender identity, sexual orientation, age, veteran status, or disability in addition to complying with the University of Georgia's Non-Discrimination and Anti-Harassment policy (NDAH). Membership and all privileges, including voting and officer positions, must be extended to all students under Title VI, Title IX of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, other federal and state law, University System of Georgia (USG) and University of Georgia policies, and the NDAH 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.

i. 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.

503.4 Conduct in the University

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 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 Responsibility to Students

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.

503.6 Responsibility to SGA

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.

CHAPTER 504: COMMUNICATION PROCEDURES

504.1 Administration

The administration of this chapter shall be carried out by the Communications Director(s) from the Executive Branch and the Communication Director of the Legislative Branch, who shall be identified by the head of their respective branch.

504.2 Social Media Policy

a. The passwords for the official social media channels, including but not limited to Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram, shall be shared by both branches and overseen by the respective communication director or their designee.

b. New official social media channels may be created, outside of those named.

c. There shall be no separate accounts for each branch of SGA; all social media channels must be shared by both the Legislative and Executive branches. There may, however, be a separate social media channel maintained for the First-Year Programs, Professional Clothing Closet, or other auxiliary services related to SGA.

504.3 Required Notice

The Communications Directors for each branch, or their designee, shall be required to promote all of the following, but not limited to:

a. Passed legislation,

b. Official public meetings of SGA,

c. Applications for positions within SGA,

d. Surveys to gather data or student body input,

e. Events hosted or sponsored by SGA, and

f. All sections that indicate such promotion in these Statutes.

504.4 Rights to Communication

The Legislative and Executive branch shall have equal rights to promoting initiatives and events of the respective branches.

a. The Legislative and Executive branches shall agree to and sign a memorandum of understanding prior to the first Senate Session of the Fall Semester establishing guidelines, procedures, and all relevant details regarding communications policies and procedures involving the official SGA social media channels including, but not limited to, Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram, and all appropriate listserv or mailing lists. The President of the Senate shall notify the Senate of the memo and make it publicly available.

CHAPTER 505: TRANSPARENCY AND PUBLIC RECORDS

505.1 Public Nature of Records

All Student Government Association records shall be available to the public.

a. Any record that is not easily accessible must be provided on request by any individual. Such a record may be redacted by the Attorney General for the protection of private information including birthdate, medical information, sensitive identification numbers or information, personal financial information, and any contact information that isn't linked to the official work of UGA or SGA.

    i. An individual filing a records request under this provision shall submit this request to the Attorney General, who shall respond to the request in a timely manner. The process, as determined by the Attorney General within the bounds of these Statutes, for requesting records shall be publicly displayed on the SGA website for individuals to view.

b. If there is ambiguity or uncertainty in determining whether a record is to be made public, the Attorney General shall determine whether the record be made easily accessible, or merely available to the public.

i. This determination is subject to appeal to the Supreme Court.

c. The Attorney General shall be required to consult with the appropriate UGA advisors when determining whether a record may legally be released. If the advisors have determined that release of a record would be a violation of applicable University rules or policy, or applicable law, then that determination may not be appealed.

505.2 Records of the Legislative Branch

a. The Secretary of the Senate shall maintain an Official Archive of the Senate, which shall be made easily accessible to the student body. The Archive shall include:

i. Any and all legislation brought to the Senate floor;

ii. Meeting times, dates, and locations;

iii. Agendas, attendance records, tardiness records of Senators, minutes, and voting records from every session of the Senate;

1. If a Senator's absence is noted, the reason for the absence shall not be made public.

2. The minutes of the senate shall include the names of all senators and their respective points during debate.

3. In records of roll call votes, the record must include the votes of individual Senators; in the event that a vote is conducted by voice or unanimous consent, the votes of individual Senators shall not be noted.

4. The minutes of Senate sessions shall be made public no later than 24 hours after approval by the Senate, including the votes on all passed or failed legislation.

iv. Agenda, attendance records, minutes, and voting records from every meeting of a legislative committee, as filed by the Legislative Committee Chairs with the President Pro Tempore;

v. Notes and updates on Senate-sponsored initiatives;

vi. Evidence, files, reports, or other records pertaining to impeachment proceedings against any active member of SGA, unless those files have been sealed by order of the Supreme Court; and

vii. Any other pertinent information that is ordered by the President of the Senate into the Official Archive.

b. All passed and signed legislation with signature by the necessary parties shall be kept in the official SGA office and turned over to the Richard B. Russell Special Collections Library after each term in office is completed.

c. Vacant seats in the Senate, and the appointments of Senators or Senate Staff, shall be public.

d. The email address of the President of the Senate and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall be made easily accessible to the public, as well as other contact information for the general institution of the Senate.

505.3 Records of the Executive Branch

a. The Attorney General shall keep and make public an updated list of absences of members of the Executive Branch at meetings weekly, that shall be made easily accessible under the definition provided in Chapter 102.

i. The Attorney General shall maintain written documentation regarding the reasoning behind absences, but these reasons shall not be made public to any individual. The documentation is for the purposes of the Attorney General and SGA President only.

b. The SGA President shall make the information regarding the appointment of members of the Executive Branch, including the process to apply and the names of those ultimately appointed, easily accessible.

505.4 Records of the Judicial Branch

a. The Attorney General shall keep and make public an updated list of absences of members of the Judicial Branch at meetings weekly, that shall be made easily accessible.

i. The Attorney General shall maintain written documentation regarding the reasoning behind absences, but these reasons shall not be made public to any individual. The documentation is for the purposes of the Attorney General and SGA President only.

b. All hearings and other meetings of the Supreme Court or Elections Committee that are, by statute or constitutional provision, required to be public shall have their information

made easily accessible to the public in advance of the hearing.

CHAPTER 506: COMMUNICATION WITH THE STUDENT BODY

506.1 Required Update

The SGA President, on behalf of the Student Government Association, shall provide information to students in a semi-annual update that shall be sent by email to their UGA accounts and shall be made easily accessible on the SGA website.

506.2 Timing

a. The first of these updates shall be released no earlier than the midterm of the fall semester and no later than the fall semester Commencement.

b. The second of these updates shall be released no earlier than the midterm of the spring semester and no later than the spring semester Commencement.

506.3 Information

These updates shall contain the following information:

a. All legislation passed and signed by the President since the previous update, added as a hyperlink to a folder containing all full legislative texts;

b. All financial reports and budgets released by the Treasurer since the previous update, which may be included as hyperlinks;

c. Any and all vacant positions within the Student Government Association, including links to apply and an explanation of the process for selection;

d. Meeting minutes, agendas, and attendance records from all Senate sessions, Senate committee meetings, Cabinet meetings, Organizational-Wide meetings, and other important meetings, which may be included as hyperlinks to folders;

e. Reports drafted by the Principal Staff of the Executive Branch on the activities of that branch and its impact on student affairs;

f. Reports drafted by Senate committees concerning the Legislative Branch and committee activities, including their impact on student affairs; and

g. Other information deemed necessary for inclusion by the Senate President, Senate President Pro Tempore, SGA President, SGA Vice President, or SGA Treasurer.

506.4 Continued Access

These updates shall be made available and easily accessible on the SGA website and from the SGA social media accounts for at least twelve (12) months after publication, and shall be maintained in the archives of SGA in perpetuity.

TITLE VI
Financial Codes

CHAPTER 600: PURPOSE

600.1 The purpose of the Student Government Association Financial Codes is to provide clear, concise policies for financial management and planning. This code, and other guides set forth in these Statutes, shall serve as the foundation for fiscal authorizations to allow the Student Government Association to serve the Student Body.

600.2 This code shall be administered by the Senate's Committee on Budget and Oversight in collaboration with the Treasurer and SGA Advisors. The Senate Committee on Budget and Oversight shall enforce this policy through oversight and authorizations of the receipt and disbursement of student activity fees and the SGA operating budget funds alongside the Treasurer and SGA Advisors.

a. Authorization refers to pieces of legislation that establishes the terms and conditions under which funds are disbursed and further delineates how appropriated funds are to be used, but do not empower the Senate to independently appropriate funds.

b. Allocation of funds remains the responsibility of the Treasurer, as stated in Article VI, Section 2, Paragraph C, Subsection ii.

600.3 The Finance Code shall accomplish these objectives by:

a. Assuring adherence to the spirit and stipulations of the University of Georgia Student Activity Fee Guidelines.

b. Facilitating effective interaction between University administrators and the Student Government Association in the allocation and disbursement of SGA funds.

c. Defining and outlining the standards of financial accountability and fiscal management.

d. Serving as a guide for the allocation of Student Activity Fee funds, as well as for the recipients and/or beneficiaries of said allocation, and for registered student organizations that are affiliated with the Student Government Association.

e. Allowing for the authorization of funds from the SGA Allocated Budget provided by Student Affairs for the purpose of SGA initiatives, programming, and overall operations.

f. Ensuring that the allocation of any and all funds distributed by SGA and/or any of its associated accounts adheres to the procedure defined in this Code.

CHAPTER 601: RESPONSIBILITY IN THE FINANCIAL PROCESS

601.1 The Senate Committee on Budget and Oversight shall review, assist in the drafting of, and conduct research for legislation submitted to the committee for consideration, in the form of legislation.

601.2 The Chair of the Committee on Budget and Oversight shall reserve the right to call for the recusal of voting rights for members who have been deemed by the committee and/or Senate Leadership to have a conflict of interest in regard to an organization being considered for funds.

601.3 The Student Government Association Treasurer shall oversee allocations approved by the One-Time Allocation Fund Committee to registered student organizations and shall maintain an updated budget of all SGA funds and ensure the budget is public and available on the SGA Website. Within 72 hours of the One-Time Allocation Fund Committee's decision to allocate funds, the Treasurer may elect to write and present a Proclamation promoting the allocation and/or event to the full Senate.

a. This legislation must be sponsored by at least one (1) Senator on the One-Time Allocation Fund Committee.

b. The Senate is only evaluating the promotion of the allocation and connected event(s) not terms and conditions of the allocation itself.

c. The Treasurer shall follow the One-Time Allocation Fund guidelines defined by Chapter 504 of this Code.

601.4 The Student Government Association advisor(s), and/or any individual(s) designated by the advisor(s), shall be responsible for the disbursement of approved allocations by the Senate and One-Time Allocation Fund Committee and shall have the authority to act on behalf of the Budget and Oversight Committee and/or on behalf of the Treasurer when the Senate is unavailable to vote.

a. This advisor(s) shall have the authority or assign a designee to have the authority to act on behalf of the respective Committee on Budget and Oversight and/or the Treasurer during periods when the Senate is unavailable to vote.

b. In such an event, the Budget and Oversight Committee Chair and the Treasurer must be notified in writing via UGA email 48 hours prior to the action. If objections are made by the Budget and Oversight Committee Chair and the Treasurer, the use of SGA funds may not occur.

CHAPTER 602: THE ALLOCATIONS PROCESS

602.1 The authorization and expenditure of SGA funds over $600 USD shall be determined through the passage of legislation by an absolute majority of the Senate.

a. Any expense or allocation over $600 USD must be authorized by legislation by the Senate.

b. Recurring expenses paid by SGA or any of its associated accounts, even those expenses under $600 USD, must be approved by a two-thirds vote in the Senate.

i. The Treasurer shall have the power to authorize and disburse payments so long as the total disbursed amount for a single request is less than $600 USD.

c. Expenses or allocations under $600 USD may be promoted through the Senate, but such passage is not required, though notification is required for all allocations.

d. Expenses for room reservations within university facilities shall not require Senate approval.

e. Expenses related to food purchases for SGA programs shall not require Senate approval so long as the expenditure follows the Student Activity Fee General Guidelines.

f. Expenses in which students pay to SGA for a specific item, request, or event (i.e. First-Year Program Fees, T-Shirts/Attire, Name-Tags, or similar items) may be allocated by the Treasurer of the Student Government Association without Senate approval.

g. Should the President choose to charge dues, they must submit this request to the Senate for approval. The Senate has the power to approve a compulsion of payment, not the approval of the method, manner, or material through which this payment is made, through a simple majority vote.

i. Dues may not be charged sooner than two (2) weeks after the Senate approves this request.

ii. Dues may not exceed $25 USD, and if an item is chosen instead of a cash contribution, one (1) unit of said item may not exceed this dollar value after the calculation and inclusion of all taxes, fees, and other associated charges.

iii. If an individual is financially unable to pay a due as levied by the Senate, the advisors may grant a waiver, exempting the individual from paying dues.

h. All allocations approved by the One-Time Allocation Fund Committee shall not require the approval of the full Senate, rather only One-Time Allocation Fund Committee members must be approved by a majority vote. The Committee and Treasurer may elect to write and present a Proclamation promoting the allocation and/or event to the full Senate.

i. For any program or event hosted by SGA, or where SGA is a partner, and where the event's cost or SGA's financial contribution exceeds $600 USD, a single piece of legislation shall be written, detailing this cost or contribution.

i. Such an authorization shall only approve the appropriation funds. The duration, size, and/or other details surrounding the planning and/or execution of any program/event shall not limit an allocation so as it is dictated in the legislation.

j. An authorization bill shall follow the same process of any other legislation. The Rules Committee shall review authorization bills, and, after passing a formal formatting review, the Rules Committee shall assign it to the Senate Committee on Budget and Oversight.

i. The Student Government Association advisor(s), and/or their designee(s), is authorized to process the expenditures and these authorizations have undergone all necessary processes defined by this Code.

k. Upon passage and signing, the Treasurer shall be responsible for working with the advisor(s) or assigned designee(s), for the dispersion of approved allocations to the appropriate party(ies).

CHAPTER 603: PUBLIC DISCLOSURE

603.1 The Treasurer shall make budgets and appropriations available for viewing on the official Student Government Association website.

a. The First-Quarter Financial Report must be published by the midterm date of the first semester, as defined by the Academic Calendar.

b. The Second-Quarter Financial Report must be published by fall- semester Commencement, as defined by the Academic Calendar.

c. The Third-Quarter Financial Report must be published by the midterm date of the second semester, as defined by the Academic Calendar.

d. The Fourth-Quarter Financial Report must be published by the Inauguration of the next Administration, as defined by the Elections Timeline.

i. The newly inaugurated Treasurer shall be responsible for publishing an addendum to this Fourth-Quarter Financial Report that includes all additional expenditures made after Inauguration, and this addendum shall be published on the SGA website by spring-semester commencement, as defined by the academic calendar.

603.2 The Treasurer shall balance all accounts accurately and in a timely manner, and he or she shall provide records of these accounts to the Senate upon request.

CHAPTER 604: ONE-TIME ALLOCATIONS FUND COMMITTEE

604.1 Funds in the One-Time Allocation Fund Account shall be used to assist registered student organizations in holding programs or covering operational and/or start-up costs.

a. All funds disbursed from the One-Time Allocation Fund Account must abide by the Student Activity Fee General Guidelines and the One-Time Allocation Fund Guidelines listed on the Student Government Association website.

b. An organization or group requesting One-Time Allocation Funds must be a registered student organization on campus.

604.2 The Student Government Association Treasurer shall appoint the One-Time Allocation Fund Committee, consisting of two Senators and two other Student Government Association members, with the Treasurer serving as the voting chair of the Committee.

CHAPTER 605: LEADERSHIP STIPENDS

605.1 Due to the time commitment and responsibility associated with positions of trust within the Student Government Association are entitled to compensation.

605.2 In collaboration with the SGA Advisors, each year, leaders of the Executive and Legislative branches are entitled to stipends in the following amounts:

a. President of the Student Government Association: $6,000

b. Vice President of the Student Government Association: $4,500

c. Treasurer of the Student Government Association: $4,000

d. President of the Senate of the Student Government Association: $2,500

e. President Pro Tempore of the Senate of the Student Government Association: $2,000

605.3 These payments are calculated and discharged in increments throughout the year in accordance with the SGA Advisors and the administrative staff within the Engagement, Leadership, and Service office.

TITLE VII
The Elections Code

CHAPTER 700: CANDIDATES

700.1 Executive Candidates

a. Shall run as an Executive Ticket composed of a candidate for President, for Vice President, and for Treasurer.

b. May serve no more than two (2) terms as either President, Vice President, or Treasurer.

c. Must be capable of fulfilling obligations of the office during the summer term.

700.2 Senatorial Candidates

a. Senator of Schools and Colleges

i. Shall be ineligible for the ballot if they terminate their enrollment or fail to enroll in the school or college they seek to represent.

700.3 General Requirements and Restrictions

a. No person may cross-file for any two (2) or more offices.

b. All candidates for elected office must abide by the additional requirements and regulations listed in all governing documents of the Student Government Association. A candidate's failure to abide by these requirements shall result in disciplinary action up to and including disqualification.

CHAPTER 701: ELECTIONS TIMELINE

701.1 Definition

The Elections Timeline shall detail exact dates and times of all deadlines and restrictions outlined in the Elections Code.

701.2 Regulations

a. The Elections Timelines shall be adopted by an absolute majority of the Senate no later than the first scheduled Senate session of the spring semester.

b. The Elections Timeline shall be distributed to all candidates at the Candidate Seminars and made public on the SGA website.

701.3 Timeline Requirements

a. The Statement of Intent Form deadline shall be before the General Filing Deadline on a date determined by the Elections Timeline.

b. The Senatorial Ticket Affiliation Form shall be due at the same time as the Statement of Intent Form, as set by the Elections Committee under 701.3(a).

c. The General Filing Deadline (GFD) shall be set in the Timeline.

d. The voting period shall begin no later than ten (10) days after the beginning of the campaign period and shall last no longer than five (5) days, including a potential runoff election period.

e. The dates and times of all mandatory candidate events shall be in the Elections Timeline.

CHAPTER 702: CANDIDATE SEMINARS

702.1 Seminars

The Elections Committee shall inform potential candidates of all policies within the Elections Code, distribute the Elections Timeline, and answer questions from potential candidates during the Candidate Seminars.

702.2 Executive Candidate Seminar

a. The Elections Committee and the incumbent Student Government Association President, Vice President, and Treasurer shall thoroughly inform potential executive candidates of the duties of the office to which they seek election.

b. All potential Executive Candidates are required to attend the Executive Candidate seminar.

702.3 General Candidate Seminar

a. The Elections Committee and incumbent members of the Senate, including members of the Legislative Cabinet and other Senators designated to speak, shall thoroughly inform potential candidates of the duties of the office to which they seek election.

b. All potential Senatorial Candidates are required to attend the General Candidate Seminar prior to the start of the campaigning period.

702.4 Attendance Policy

a. Potential candidates who are unable to attend the Candidate Seminars must contact the Attorney General and request an excusal from the Elections Committee for the following reasons: immediate family death or illness, personal medical emergencies, a university test or mandatory class meeting scheduled during the Candidate Seminar, or a unique and extenuating circumstance evaluated at the discretion of the Elections Committee.

    i. An absence may only be excused after appropriate documentation has been presented to the Elections Committee.

    ii. Potential candidates who are absent must also designate an approved agent to attend in their place; this agent must be approved by the Elections Committee in advance.

b. Failure to attend a Candidate Seminar without proper excusal shall disqualify potential candidates from candidacy, even if other members of their Ticket are present.

CHAPTER 703: FILING OF REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION

703.1 Statement of Intent Form

a. All potential candidates shall file a Statement of Intent Form with the Elections Committee to run for office.

    i. Before the Elections Committee has approved the Statement of Intent Form for a potential candidate or Executive Ticket, the potential candidate or Ticket is considered a “potential candidate” for an office, and shall only represent themselves as such.

    ii. After the Elections Committee has approved the Statement of Intent Form for a potential candidate or Executive Ticket, the candidate or Ticket is considered to be “intending to run” for an office, and shall only represent themselves as such.

b. The Statement of Intent Form shall be posted on the organizational page of the Elections Committee on the University of Georgia Involvement Network.

    i. An electronic confirmation of receipt shall be sent to the candidate after they have submitted the form online. If no confirmation is received, the candidate must notify the Attorney General within twenty-four (24) hours of initial submission.

c. The Statement of Intent Form shall include:

   i. The name of the potential candidate

   ii. The contact information of the potential candidate including phone number and UGA email address

   iii. The position for which the candidates intends to run

   iv. The names and positions of Designated Staff Members

   v. The contact information of Designated Staff Members including phone number and UGA email addresses.

   vi. A signed grade-release statement enabling the Elections Committee to check grade qualifications of the potential candidates

   vii. All social media accounts or handles created for the purpose of campaigning.

d. A potential Executive Ticket shall only have one (1) Statement of Intent Form submitted on behalf of the entire potential Ticket; this form shall be submitted by the potential Presidential candidate of the Ticket.

e. The Elections Committee shall be permitted to request alterations to any Statement of Intent Form on the grounds that it conflicts with UGA copyright policy or contains purposefully inflammatory language or harmful messaging directed at any student, student organization, or group of students.

   i. If an adjustment to a Statement of Intent Form is requested by the Elections Committee, the potential candidate or Executive Ticket shall be given 72 hours to complete the requested adjustment, and shall be waived of penalties arising from the deadline to submit the Statement of Intent Form.

f. Failure by a potential candidate or Ticket to submit the Statement of Intent Form by the deadline defined in the Elections Timeline shall result in automatic disqualification of candidacy for the potential candidate or Ticket, unless the Elections Committee finds there to be an extenuating circumstance deserving of leniency.

703.2 Senatorial Ticket Affiliation Form

a. Two (2) or more individual Senatorial candidates wishing to form a Senatorial Ticket under Statute 706.3 must complete a Senatorial Ticket Affiliation Form.

    i. Before the Elections Committee has approved the Senatorial Ticket Affiliation Form for a potential Senatorial Ticket, the potential Ticket is considered a "potential Senatorial Ticket" for an office, and shall only represent themselves as such.

b. The Senatorial Ticket Affiliation Form shall include:

    i. The name of the potential Senatorial Ticket

    ii. The constituency in which the potential Senatorial Ticket plans to run

    iii. The names of each individual Senatorial candidate affiliated with the potential Senatorial Ticket

c. The Senatorial Ticket Affiliation Form shall be submitted by each potential Senatorial candidate in the potential Senatorial Ticket.

d. Failure by a member of a potential Senatorial Ticket to submit the Senatorial Ticket Affiliation Form by the deadline defined in the Elections Timeline shall preclude that individual from running on the Senatorial Ticket.

    i. Individuals who fail to file the Senatorial Ticket Affiliation Form in a proper or timely manner shall be permitted to campaign as individual candidates if their Statement of Intent Form has been approved by the Elections Committee.

703.3 Financial Disclosure Form

a. The Financial Liaison of each campaign, as identified in the Staff Roster, shall be required to file all Financial Disclosure Forms on behalf of the candidate or Ticket they represent.

b. Filing Deadlines

    i. Part I of the Financial Disclosure Form shall be due at the GFD, as defined in the Elections Timeline.

    ii. Part II of the Financial Disclosure Form shall be due prior to the start of the campaign period, at a time defined in the Elections Timeline.

iii. Part III of the Financial Disclosure Form shall be due prior to the start of the general election voting period, as defined in the Elections Timeline.

iv. Part IV of the Financial Disclosure Form shall be due no later than 24 hours after the certification of the results of the general election or, if a candidate or Ticket is involved in a runoff election, 24 hours after the certification of the results of the runoff election.

c. Copies of the Financial Disclosure Forms for each candidate and/or Ticket shall be available to the public.

d. Any discrepancy between receipts provided and expenditures listed may result in a hearing before the Elections Committee and possible disciplinary action. If a hearing is called regarding Senatorial ticket expenditures, tickets should be prepared to provide evidence of which candidate contributed funding for each item.

703.4 Endorsement Forms

a. No candidate or Ticket, nor any staff member acting on behalf of a candidate or Ticket, shall claim to be endorsed by any student organization unless the candidate or Ticket has secured a written statement of endorsement from the endorsing student organization and presented it to the Elections Committee by use of an official Endorsement Form.

b. The Endorsement Form shall include:

i. The name of the candidate or Ticket being endorsed

ii. The name of the student organization making the endorsement

iii. The information of the head of the student organization including the individual's name, title, phone number and UGA email address

iv. A declaration as to whether the candidate, Ticket, or campaign staff acting on behalf of a candidate or Ticket may use student organization resources for the purpose of campaigning, and what those resources may include

v. The signature of the head of the student organization making the endorsement, affirming they have read and followed the procedures required for endorsement.

c. Student organizations that are endorsing a candidate or Ticket without the candidate or Ticket advertising, discussing, or promoting the endorsement do not have to complete an Endorsement Form.

d. Only registered student organizations may endorse a candidate or Ticket, and may do so in accordance with that organization's bylaws.

   i. No organization or entity that is not a registered student organization, an approved Ticket, or group of registered campaign staff may attempt to influence the election, support a candidate, or engage in other campaign activity. If a Ticket, member of a Ticket, or member of a campaign staff seeks the support, monetary or otherwise, of an individual or entity not permitted to engage in electioneering, the campaign shall be held liable.

e. A student organization may rescind their endorsement of a candidate or Ticket at any time by notifying the Attorney General in writing, at which point the endorsement and the Endorsement Form in question shall be invalid.

   i. The Elections Committee shall notify the impacted candidate or Ticket of the retracted endorsement as soon as possible.

   ii. After the nullification of the Endorsement Form, the impacted candidate or Ticket must terminate all usage of the student organization's resources, all advertisement, discussion, or promotion of the endorsement by the individual or student organization, and shall delete or eliminate the endorsement in all campaign materials and posting in circulation, except where the Elections Committee identifies an extenuating circumstance deserving of leniency.

703.5 Staff Roster

a. An intended candidate or Executive Ticket shall, through the Primary Liaison, submit a full Staff Roster by the GFD.

b. The Staff Roster shall include:

   i. The information of the campaign's Primary Liaison, including name, phone number, and UGA email address.

   ii. The information of the campaign's Financial Liaison, including the name, phone number, and UGA email address.

iii. The information of the campaign's Chief Counsel, including name, phone number, and UGA email address; and the information of any additional Assistant Counsel who are assembled by the Chief Counsel to join the Legal Team of the campaign.

c. The Staff Roster does not need to be the final interaction of a campaign's staff, but it must truly and completely reflect the staff as of the GFD.

703.6 Failure, Voiding, and Other Penalties

a. Failure by any campaign to submit any required paperwork or documentation by the deadline defined by the Elections Timeline shall be considered an incomplete submission.

i. Incomplete submissions shall result in disciplinary action by the Elections Committee against intended campaigns including, but not limited to, disqualification to run, sanctions, or other remedies deemed necessary and appropriate by the Elections Committee.

b. Any tampering of election documents shall result in the disqualification of the person engaged in tampering and the candidate or Ticket they represent.

c. Any forms or documents submitted by any candidate or Ticket through methods or mediums not approved by the Elections Committee shall be considered void and not properly submitted.

i. The Elections Committee reserves the ability to accept improperly filed documents in extenuating circumstances.

703.7 Accessibility and Transparency

a. Any member of the student body may request the identity of any other student(s) who have already filed any paperwork for any office or position at any time from the Elections Committee.

b. All forms submitted by any candidate, potential candidate, or intended candidate shall be made available for public inspection.

i. The phone numbers, email addresses, and other private contact information shall be redacted by the Elections Committee to maintain the personal privacy of the candidates and their staff members.

c. All forms and documents necessary to complete filing of required documentation shall be found and submitted on the Elections Committee's page on the UGA Involvement Network.

i. The Election Committee, if deeming it necessary and proper, may post or request any other forms or documents through other mediums and methods.

703.8 Eligibility Status

a. Upon approval by the Elections Committee of all GFD paperwork of an intended individual candidate or Ticket, the candidate(s) in question shall be considered official candidates for office, and may represent themselves as a "candidate," or as the "[insert Ticket name here] Ticket," that is "running for [insert office title]."

b. Intended candidates and Tickets shall be notified of their eligibility status following the GFD at least one (1) week before any schedule debate.

CHAPTER 704: CAMPAIGN STAFF

704.1 Responsibilities

a. All individuals who actively represent an individual or Ticket at any stage in the campaigning process are considered to be staff and must be registered with the official Staff Roster.

i. "Active representation" includes all methods of campaigning and representation outlined in these codes, but does not include individuals whose only involvement or participation has been through social media posts on person accounts.

b. Campaigns and candidates are responsible for the actions of their staff.

c. Campaign staff are bound by the Student Government Association Code of Ethics, Elections Code, and the University of Georgia Code of Conduct.

i. Campaign staff fall under the personal jurisdiction of the Supreme Court of the Judicial Branch.

704.2 Registration

a. All individuals participating as campaign staff must register with the Elections Committee prior to the beginning of the voting period.

b. No individual should be registered on the campaign staff of more than one (1) campaign.

c. The participation of unregistered staff members warrants disciplinary action by the Elections Committee.

i. "Unregistered staff members" are individuals not on any staff roster who are participating in campaign activities or otherwise campaigning as defined by this code.

704.3 Designated Staff Members

a. Each campaign shall designate three (3) specific staff members to submit certain forms and perform certain tasks or actions as defined by the Elections Committee.

i. The Elections Committee can only require or compel the submission of those specific forms or the performance of those specific tasks/actions that are explicitly stated in the Elections Code.

ii. The registered Designated Staff Member shall be the only person authorized to perform the tasks associated with that office, except where otherwise noted.

1. Performance of those specific tasks by anyone other than the registered Designated Staff Members shall be considered participation by an unregistered staff member and shall result in disciplinary action.

iii. Designated Staff Members can perform tasks in addition to those enumerated in this Code, but they must perform the requirements enumerated.

b. The Designated Staff Members of a campaign shall include the following officials:

i. Primary Liaison; who shall submit all Staff Rosters and Endorsement Forms on behalf of the campaign, and who shall perform the duties of the other Designated Staff Members in their absence.

1. The Primary Liaison shall be the sole member of the campaign staff responsible for interactions with Campus Reservations, Events, and Technical Services (CRETS) and shall make all reservations on behalf of the campaign. All candidates/Tickets, Primary Liaisons, and any other campaign staff must abide by all CRETS guidelines.

ii. Financial Liaison; who shall submit all financial disclosure forms on behalf of the campaign.

iii. Chief Counsel; who shall represent the campaign to the Elections Committee, submit complaints on behalf of the campaign, represent the campaign in hearings, appeals, and other appearances before the Elections Committee and Supreme Court, and lead the campaign's Legal Team.

c. A Senatorial Ticket shall not appoint any Designated Staff Members; the responsibilities of the Designated Staff Members shall lie with the individual candidates affiliated with a Senatorial Ticket and the staff of these individual candidates.

d. A candidate or members of a Ticket may list themselves as performing one (1) or several of these functions.

CHAPTER 705: CAMPAIGNS

705.1 General

Candidates and Tickets may begin campaigning at the date and time specified by the Elections Timeline, provided that the Elections Committee has notified the candidate or Ticket that they are eligible to campaign.

a. "Campaigning" includes any and all intentional actions to promote, publicize, and secure support for a candidate(s) and/or Ticket, including dissemination of campaign materials and social media posts, as defined by the Elections Committee.

b. Any form of campaign done prior to the date specified by the Elections Committee shall result in disciplinary action up to and including disqualification by the Elections Committee.

c. All candidates, Tickets, and staff members must adhere to the campaigning guidelines of this Code or other rules set by the Elections Committee, under penalty of disciplinary action by the Elections Committee.

705.2 Expenses

a. Individual Executive Tickets may spend a maximum of $1,200 on their campaigns.

b. Individual Senatorial candidates not affiliated with a Senatorial Ticket may spend a maximum of $200 on their campaigns.

c. Individual Senatorial candidates affiliated with a Senatorial Ticket shall coordinate their spending so that their combined expenditures do not exceed a ratio of $100 for every candidate on the Ticket, with a maximum of $500 allowable for the entire Ticket.

705.3 Materials

a. "Campaign material" includes advertisements, documents, or other mediums intentionally disseminated to promote the electoral prospect of a particular candidate, Ticket, or other electoral matter. Campaign material includes, but is not limited to:

i. Electoral advertisements

ii. Printed, handmade, or digital documents containing an electoral matter (e.g. a how-to-vote card, a posterboard, a candidate or Ticket platform, etc.)

iii. Social media or traditional media platform postings (e.g. privately acquired websites, Facebook, Twitter/X, Instagram, Snapchat, GroupMe, TikTok, etc.)

1. The term "posting" includes status updates, tweets, traditional posts, temporary stories, messages, or other forms of communication.

iv. Solicitation for financial contribution including, but not limited to, in-person or online fundraising systems (e.g. Venmo, GoFundMe, Kickstarter, canning, person-to-person money transfers), advertisements on social media, print advertisements, etc.

1. Solicitation for and receipt of financial contribution may only occur after the approval of a campaign's Statement of Intent Form.

2. Solicitation for financial contribution may only include the Ticket name, Campaign ID mark, and names of intended candidates and shall not contain any other form of campaign material.

b. All material purchased or otherwise acquired to distribute on behalf of a Ticket or candidate to the general population of UGA shall not exceed a per unit cost of $5.

i. Personalizations or adjustments to the item in question will be capitalized to the item.

ii. No food or drink can be distributed to the general population by a candidate or their staff.

iii. Multiple materials designed to be used together shall be considered one unit for the purposes of this section and their cost shall be determined by the individual materials' value collectively.

iv. "General population" refers to all eligible voters who are not actively registered on the staff roster for the respective campaign.

c. Campaigns may not engage in, administer, or otherwise promote raffles, lotteries, drawings, sweepstakes, prize pools, luck-based games resulting in material award, or similar concepts.

d. Materials disseminated by any registered staff member(s) shall be viewed as extensions of the campaign associated with the staff member(s); the campaign shall be held responsible for infractions resulting from campaign material regulation violations.

e. All campaign materials must abide by the regulations of this code, UGA policies, applicable governmental law and statutes, and the policies and regulations of the places where the material is posted.

f. Physical campaign materials must possess an identifying mark pre-approved by the Elections Committee; failure to include this mark shall result in removal of the offending material.

g. Candidates and Tickets shall ensure that their campaign materials and postings are removed within 24 hours after the certification of the General Election Results or, if the candidate or Ticket is involved in a runoff election, 24 hours after the certification of the Run-Off Election Results.

i. Posts on social media by individual staff members or candidates do not need to be deleted or removed, by official campaign accounts must be deleted or made private with highly visible notation that it is an archived account that no longer represents an active campaign.

705.4 General Regulations

a. A link to all applicable codes and governing documents must be made available on the Student Government Association website prior to the Executive and General Candidate Seminars.

b. No person other than a member of the Elections Committee, the respective candidate/members of the respective Executive Ticket, or a staff member of the respective campaign shall willfully destroy, deface, obscure, move, or remove campaign materials.

c. The Elections Committee shall only handle campaign materials in the case of a violation of this Code and shall alert the respective campaign within one (1) business day.

d. No candidate/no member of a Ticket or any campaign staff member may intentionally damage the character of another candidate, Ticket, staff member, or Elections Committee member with false information.

e. No candidate/no member of a Ticket or any campaign staff member may disseminate campaign materials or postings containing false or misleading information about a candidate/Ticket, staff member, or Elections Committee member.

f. Chalking and all other forms of defacing University property are prohibited.

    i. This provision does not include methods of permitted advertisement, such as but not limited to painting at the Tate Bus Stop, as long as the campaign completes all necessary requirements to obtain approval to paint or advertise.

g. Door-to-door campaigning in residence halls is prohibited.

h. Candidates/members of Tickets and staff may not hand out campaign materials inside university buildings.

    i. A "university building" shall be defined as any building owned or operated by the University of Georgia.

i. Candidates/members of Tickets and staff may:

    i. Wear T-shirts, stickers, buttons, or other forms of electoral advertisement inside campus dining areas, residence halls, and/or other university buildings.

    ii. Discuss the election and advocate for themselves/the campaign with which they are associated via person-to-person interaction and speaking to classes or other assembled groups.

        1. However, no campaign materials may be physically distributed person-to-person, and candidates/members of Tickets and staff may not stand in common areas (such as but not limited to hallways, bathrooms, entrances and exits, etc.) and/or block, impede, or otherwise disrupt the flow of foot traffic or harass occupants of a building/location in order to promote a candidate, Ticket, or other electoral matter.
        2. If applicable, such behavior will be determined to be in violation of the above provisions of this Code at the discretion of the Elections Committee.

j. When a candidate/member(s) of a Ticket or their staff are being interviewed by media outlets (including all print media, broadcast, and online outlets), or making campus reservations, or campaigning, it is their responsibility to present themselves as a candidate (or potential or intended candidate, or as a representative of the same) for office, and not as a member of the Student Government Association.

    i. Statements of prior or current active membership in the Student Government Association are permitted, but the candidate/members of a Ticket and their staff may not speak or behave in a way that would present themselves as active representatives or agents of the Student Government Association in their specific roles as candidates for office.

k. No candidate/member(s) of a Ticket or their staff shall use any live animal(s) as a means of campaigning or otherwise promoting a candidate, Ticket, or any other electoral matter via any means outside of social media posts, photographs, and/or videos.

    i. These posts, photographs, and/or videos may not be made or captured in real-time (such as, but not limited to, a photo booth with animals, a social media livestream with animals, and/or any related concept at the discretion of the Elections Committee).

    ii. It shall be permissible to use or stage animals in a campaign photo, video, or other similar medium that was pre-recorded, pre-photographed, or otherwise created before the date and time of release in a manner or location designed/used only for the purpose of content creation (and not active campaigning).

l. No candidate/member(s) of a Ticket or their staff shall use methods of campaigning not listed that damage the integrity of the election cycle and the Student Government Association. The Elections Committee reserves the right to analyze and use discretion when determining appropriateness of campaign methods.

    i. Methods of campaigning that damage the integrity of the election cycle will be defined as methods that are found in violation of section 706.1c of this code.

m. Absences by active members of the Student Government Association from their official governmental obligations for the purpose of campaigning shall be considered unexcused in all circumstances except for attendance at any mandatory Candidate Seminar, or at the Executive Debate, or at any hearing scheduled by the Elections Committee or the Supreme Court, or any extenuating circumstances at the discretion of the Elections Committee.

n. The Student Government Association as a registered student organization shall not endorse any candidate, Ticket, or any other electoral matter.

o. No Student Government Association resources and/or platforms may be used in the promotion of, advocacy for, or campaigning on behalf of or in coordination with any candidate, Ticket, or any other electoral matter on the ballot. General announcement, notification, or publication of an upcoming election is acceptable, and general statements of encouragement to vote in said election are also permissible.

CHAPTER 706: TICKET REGULATIONS

706.1 General Ticket Regulations

a. Individual Senatorial candidates, Executive Tickets, and Senatorial Tickets run independently of any other candidates and tickets, and shall not endorse any other campaign.

i. No candidate, nor member of a candidate's campaign staff, may provide contribution to any other candidate, ticket, or campaign not on the Ticket with which the candidate is formally affiliated. This includes, but is not limited to, financial contributions, volunteer work, non-monetary assistance, or any other contributions or assistance that would impact the campaign.

ii. General staff members who are not officially appointed to a position within a ticket may promote other tickets or candidates in different constituencies on personal social media platforms, provided such promotion is an explicit personal endorsement and does not represent the ticket itself.

iii. An individual Senatorial candidate shall be permitted to endorse other individual Senatorial candidates if they are affiliated with the same Senatorial Ticket.

706.2 Executive Ticket Regulations

a. Members of an Executive Ticket shall choose a name under which all three (3) candidates shall run as an entity.

b. Partial or non-complete Executive Tickets are not allowed.

c. Executive Tickets shall be accountable as a single entity, not as individual candidates, in instances of adjudication.

706.3 Senatorial Ticket Regulations

a. Two (2) or more individual Senatorial candidates running to represent the same constituency may form a Senatorial Ticket.

    i. No Senatorial Ticket shall have more candidates than available seats for the given constituency.

b. Members of a Senatorial Ticket shall choose a name with which all members of the Ticket shall affiliate.

    i. The Ticket may not share a name (or variation of a name) with any other Senatorial Ticket or any Executive Ticket.

c. An individual Senatorial candidate may only be affiliated with a maximum of one (1) Senatorial Ticket.

d. Members of a Senatorial Ticket shall be elected independently of one another.

    i. On the ballot, each candidate shall appear individually, but each member of a Senatorial Ticket shall be identified as member of their respective Ticket.

e. Members of a Senatorial Ticket shall be held accountable as an entity, when the Elections Committee deems it appropriate.

    i. The Elections Committee may reject the registration of or require the dissolution of a Senatorial Ticket without disqualifying the Ticket's individual members for failure to file appropriate documentation in a proper and timely manner, or for other violations of this Code.

CHAPTER 707: DEBATES

707.1 Time, Place, and Publicity

The Elections Committee shall set a time and place for an Executive Debate. One (1) debate is to be held during the week prior to the voting period in the General Election.

a. The time and place for the Executive Debate shall be made available in the Elections Timeline.

b. The Elections Committee shall publicize the Executive Debate.

707.2 Format and Moderation

a. The Executive Debate shall be managed, arranged, and conducted in a neutral manner so that no Executive Ticket receives any institutional or systematic advantage over another.

b. The format of the debates shall be determined by the Elections Committee.

c. The Elections Committee may select a third-party outlet(s) and/or moderator(s) to moderate the debate after a thorough vetting process to ensure neutrality.

i. No outlet or moderator that has endorsed any candidate, Executive Ticket, or electoral matter on the ballot for the current election cycle shall be considered.

ii. The Elections Committee shall not consider any moderator that is a registered staff member for any campaign, or has given monetary or non-monetary contribution to any campaign, or has otherwise participated in any campaign in any way that would create reasonable doubt as to the neutrality of the debate.

707.3 Attendance

Attendance at the Executive Debate is mandatory for all candidates on an Executive Ticket.

a. Any Executive Ticket unable to attend the debate must submit an excuse, in writing, with appropriate documentation, to the Attorney General pursuant to the rules of the Attorney General and Statutes.

b. Unexcused absences shall result in disciplinary action.

c. If an Executive Ticket candidate is unable to attend the debate, they will not be allowed a proxy.

CHAPTER 708: ELECTIONS

708.1 Voting Procedure

a. Voting shall be conducted by secret, online ballot through the elections feature of the UGA Involvement Network.

i. Senators who are currently serving in the Senate, who are in good standing by the time of the approval of the Statement of Intent, and who are campaigning for the same constituency they currently serve shall have the status of Incumbent placed by their name in all official SGA notices, and shall have "(I)" to placed on the ballot after their name and, if applicable, their ticket name, to mark their status as Incumbent.

ii. Instructions to vote shall include a brief description of the incumbent designation.

iii. An inactive voting link shall be sent to the candidates by the Attorney General via email at least 24 hours before the campaigning period begins. This link shall be made active when the voting period begins.

b. Each student shall be permitted to cast one (1) ballot during the election cycle.

i. Submission of a ballot using the identity of another student, regardless of the willingness or consent of either party, shall be prohibited.

c. No candidate, Ticket member, or staff member may exert any undue influence over any voter.

708.2 Results

a. Upon poll closure, the Elections Committee shall review the results of the General Election. The Attorney General, acting as Chair of the Elections Committee, shall then certify the General Election Results and disseminate the results publicly.

b. An Executive Ticket shall be elected when the Ticket achieves an absolute majority of the votes cast for the election the Ticket contests.

c. A Senatorial candidate contesting a constituency with a singular Senate seat shall be elected when the candidate achieves an absolute majority of the votes cast for the election the Senatorial candidate contests.

d. A Senatorial candidate contesting in a constituency with multiple Senate seats shall be elected if they receive enough votes to rank within the number of seats available for that constituency. For example, if a constituency has five (5) seats, the five candidates with the highest number of votes shall be elected.

e. The outgoing Senate must ratify the General Election Results in the next immediate Senate session following the certification of these results.

i. If the Senate chooses not to ratify the results, then the Elections Committee shall carry out appropriate remedies.

708.3 Irregularities

a. The Elections Committee shall have the power to withhold certification of the General or Runoff Election Results, should the Elections Committee find substantial evidence that irregularities may have occurred, and that such irregularities may have influence the outcome or results of the election.

b. The Elections Committee shall have 48 hours after the initial compilation of the results in question to investigate and rule on the irregularity.

c. The Elections Committee may, if it deems necessary, call a new election to be held within the limits of this Elections Code at the earliest convenient time.

708.4 Runoff Elections

a. If no individual or Ticket achieves an absolute majority of votes in the elections for a single seat or set of seats under Statutes 708.2(b) and 708.2(c), a runoff shall occur between the candidates or Tickets that receive the highest and second-highest number of votes in that contested race.

b. The threshold for election under Statutes 708.2(b) and 708.2(c) applies to runoff elections.

c. The Runoff Election Results shall undergo the same processes of certification, ratification, and rules regarding irregularities as the General Election Results.

d. In the case of a runoff election, the Financial Disclosure Form for the candidates in the runoff election shall be due within 24 hours of the end of the extended voting period.

CHAPTER 709: REFERENDUMS, RECALL ELECTIONS, AND CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

709.1 Applicability of Rules

Votes on referendums and constitutional amendments, as well as recall elections, shall be subject to the rules and regulations found in this Code and in the Constitution of the Student Government Association.

709.2 Proactive Enforcement

No amendment to the Constitution may apply to the ballot on which it is placed for ratification, nor may any amendment to the Constitution, prior to ratification, affect the processes, procedures, or language of the election.

CHAPTER 710: ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

710.1 Authority

The Elections Committee shall enforce the Elections Code of the Student Government Association of the University of Georgia.

a. The Elections Committee shall dissolve 96 hours after the certification and ratification of the General Election Results or, if applicable, the certification and ratification of the Runoff Election Results.

710.2 Impartiality

The Elections Committee and its members shall act in good faith, without bias.

a. Neither the Elections Committee nor any of its members shall, upon confirmation, render aid, assistance, help, or contribution to any candidate, Ticket, or electoral matter in any way.

b. No member of the Elections Committee shall, upon confirmation, stand for election or function as a registered staff member of any campaign, or perform any campaigning for any candidate, Ticket, or electoral matter, or advertise, promote, advocate for, or otherwise support any candidate, Ticket, or electoral matter.

c. Should the Attorney General stand for election to office, or otherwise be deemed incapable of impartiality by the Elections Committee, the Elections Committee shall submit a nominee to the President of the Student Government Association to fulfill the Attorney General's duties on the Election Committee. This nominee must be confirmed by a two-thirds vote of the Senate.

710.3 Duties

The Elections Committee shall:

a. Interpret, execute, and enforce all election laws provided in this Elections Code.

b. Supervise all campaigns for Student Government Association offices, as well as elections related to referendum issues, proposed Constitutional amendments, and other questions appearing on the official ballot.

c. Assess and execute the remedies and sanctions provided in this Elections Code if it finds violations of provisions of this Code or of Elections Committee rulings.

d. Have the authority to submit news items and election results to campus or community news organizations.

e. Take all minutes of meetings and hearings, and keep records of all opinions, rulings, and filings required of candidates and Tickets under this Elections Code, and shall make these records public under applicable transparency procedures and rules of the Student Government Association.

CHAPTER 711: COMPLAINTS, HEARINGS, AND APPEALS

711.1 Complaints

a. Any student may submit complaints about Elections Code violations to the Attorney General, and shall be responsible for representing their position in any possible resulting hearing.

   i. Only the Chief Counsel of a campaign may submit a complaint on behalf of their respective campaign.

b. The Elections Committee shall act on all complaints within two (2) weekdays after receipt, or by any deadline for action otherwise assigned by this Code, either by dismissing them or by calling a hearing.

c. If a complainant filed a complaint two (2) weekdays after the alleged violation took place, the complainant must include an explanation for their delayed submission in their complaint.

   i. Complainants should make a reasonable effort to file complaints as soon as possible.

   ii. If a complaint cites multiple instances of an Elections Code violation, the complainant should file within two (2) weekdays from the most recent violation, though the Elections Committee shall consider all violations when deliberating on sanctions and their severity.

d. All hearings and deliberations must be completed, and all sanctions and remedies assigned, before the certification of the General Election Results or, if applicable to the candidates or Tickets involved, before the certification of the Runoff Election Results.

   i. If the Elections Committee finds substantial evidence of electoral irregularities under Statute 708.3, the time constraint of the above provision is nullified.

711.2 Dismissal

The Elections Committee may by majority vote dismiss a complaint if:

a. The complaint does not adhere to the deadline requirements established under Statute 711.1.

b. The Elections Committee, in its judgement, lacks jurisdiction over the subject or a party in the dispute.

c. The complaint fails to state a cause of action for which the relief may be granted.

d. The complaint is not submitted in good faith and is primarily for the purpose of harassment.

e. There is a lack of evidence or refusal of the complainant to testify or elaborate to the claim via a hearing.

f. The Elections Committee determines the complaint was withheld with strategic intent in violation of Statute 711.1(c).

711.3 Hearings

a. The Elections Committee shall determine the format for hearings to ensure all parties are represented fairly and where all the information necessary to make a decision is provided.

b. The Elections Committee shall set the time and place for hearings and shall notify involved parties of the time and place of the hearing in advance.

c. Hearing proceedings shall be open to the public; however, deliberations of the Elections Committee shall be in a closed session.

d. Decisions by the Elections Committee must be clearly reasoned and explained using citations from the Elections Code, the established fact pattern, and/or the Constitution.

e. A quorum shall be required to hold a hearing.

f. Any person who files a complaint shall be required to attend any resulting hearings.

    i. The attendance of a campaign's Chief Counsel shall serve to fulfill this requirement in instances in which a campaign in the complainant.

g. The presentation of witnesses or testimonies is allowed.

i. All witnesses can be cross-examined by opposing parties.

h. The complainant bears the burden of proof.

i. Ignorance of the Elections Code, either by candidates, members of a Ticket, staff members, or by members of the Elections Committee, shall not be an acceptable defense in response to any offense committed in any election governed by this Code.

j. For the purposes of maintaining decorum and civility, the Attorney General may eject unruly or otherwise disruptive individuals from any Elections Committee hearing at any time.

711.4 Legal Representation

a. The Chief Counsel shall be the primary representative of any campaign while said campaign is involved as a complainant or defendant in a case or hearing or appeal before the Elections Committee and/or the Supreme Court.

b. The Chief Counsel may assemble a Legal Team to assist in representing the campaign with which the Chief Counsel is associated.

i. Members of a campaign Legal Team who are not the Chief Counsel and who are not the candidates themselves shall hold the title of Associate Counsel.

ii. A Legal Team shall not consist of more than one (1) Chief Counsel and two (2) Associate Counsel.

iii. Members of the Legal Team must be registered with the Elections Committee on the Staff Roster specifically as members of the Legal Team, and these Legal Team members shall be the only people, besides the candidates and/or members of a Ticket, authorized to represent their respective campaigns in hearings and/or proceedings of the Elections Committee and/or the Supreme Court.

iv. Performance of legal representation by anyone other than registered members of the Legal Team or candidates shall be considered participation by an unregistered staff member(s) and will result in disciplinary action.

c. The Chief Counsel shall attend all hearings and appeals in which the campaign that they represent is named as a complainant or defendant.

i. If the Chief Counsel is unable to attend a hearing, the Chief Counsel must notify the body in which the hearing takes place before, and must designate another member of the campaign's Legal Team to act as Chief Counsel.

d. No person appearing before the Elections Committee or Supreme Court shall knowingly or willfully:

i. Make any false statement or representation; or,

ii. Create, present, or use any false, altered, or doctored evidence or document(s) knowing said evidence or document(s) to contain any false statement or representation; or,

iii. Falsify, conceal, or cover up any fact via the usage of any trick, device, or deception; or,

iv. Influence, obstruct, or impede (or endeavor to influence, obstruct, or impede) any investigation, operation, or proceedings of the Elections Committee and/or the Supreme Court, of any other official vehicle or apparatus designated for the purpose of the administration, or potential administration, of justice; or

v. Influence, obstruct, or impede (or endeavor to influence, obstruct, or impede) any disciplinary action or penalty imposed.

711.5 Ability of the Elections Committee to Serve as Complainant

a. In cases in which the Elections Committee brings a charge against a candidate or Ticket to address a matter originated by a complainant party other than the Elections Committee, all normal rules of procedure shall be followed.

b. The Elections Committee may only bring a case against a candidate or Ticket if the Elections Committee has verifiable, concrete evidence that a violation has occurred.

i. The Supreme Court shall be the ultimate arbiter in the question of whether the evidence is verifiable and concrete; failure to meet that threshold warrants dismissal of the case.

c. The Elections Committee may only bring a case against a candidate or Ticket:

i. If a candidate or Ticket places the Election Committee or any of its members in a compromising position by offering, requesting, or attempting to offer or request any favor, bribe, inducement, or other form of improper compensation.

ii. If a candidate or Ticket applies or endeavors to apply undue pressure on the Elections Committee or any of its members to persuade or influence the duties of the Elections Committee or its members in an inappropriate or unethical way.

iii. If it a candidate or Ticket potentially violated the Elections Code, Code of Ethics, or other governing documents.

d. When the Elections Committee is the original complainant:

i. The Supreme Court shall have original jurisdiction, and their decision shall be final with no avenue for further review.

ii. The Supreme Court shall determine the format for hearings to ensure all parties are represented equitably and where all the information necessary to make a decision is provided.

iii. The Supreme Court shall set the time and place for hearings and shall notify involved parties of the time and place of the hearing in advance.

iv. The Elections Committee shall be the official complainant, and all complaints, evidence, and supporting documents shall be submitted by the Attorney General on behalf of the Elections Committee to the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.

v. The Elections Committee shall bear the burden of proof.

vi. The Attorney General shall argue on behalf of the Committee and shall be required to attend the hearing. If the Attorney General cannot attend, he or she is responsible for designating a member of the Elections Committee to represent the Committee in place of the Attorney General.

vii. Hearing proceedings shall be open to the public; however, deliberations of the Supreme Court shall be in a closed session.

viii. All rules under Statutes 710.3(d), 710.3(e), 710.3(g), and 710.3(i) apply in these hearings.

711.6 Decisions

a. Decisions, order, and rulings of the Elections Committee shall be announced as soon as possible after hearing and deliberations, and must have the support of a majority of the Elections Committee.

b. The Attorney General shall write the decisions of the Elections Committee and shall deliver it to all relevant parties and to the public as soon as possible after the decision is made.

i. In the event that the Supreme Court has original jurisdiction, the Supreme Court shall follow its own procedures under the governing documents to issue its ruling, but must deliver the decision to the parties to the hearing and to the public as soon as possible after the conclusion of deliberations.

711.7 Remedies, Sanctions, and Regulations

a. Possible remedies and sanctions available to the Elections Committee include:

i. Disqualification from office or from candidacy

ii. Removal from the ballot

iii. Suspension from campaigning

iv. Probation

v. Removal of campaign materials

vi. Formal reprimand

b. The list outlined in Statute 710.7(a) is not exhaustive and, should the Elections Committee, or the Supreme Court on appeal, deem it necessary, additional remedies and sanctions may be assigned up to and including disqualification.

c. Additional Rules

i. No candidate or Ticket may receive multiple sanctions for the same incident; this does not preclude the assignment of steeper sanctions for continued violation.

ii. Accumulation of a third (3rd) sanction shall result in automatic probation, the definition and terms of which shall be established on a case-by-case basis by the

Elections Committee.

iii. Accumulation of a fourth (4th) sanction, or the accumulation of a sanction while on probation regardless of the number of previous sanctions, shall result in the automatic suspension of campaigning by the affected party.

iv. Accumulation of a fifth (5th) sanction, or the accumulation of a second (2nd) sanction while on probation regardless of the number of previous sanctions, or the accumulation of a sanction while suspended from campaigning regardless of the number of previous sanction, will automatically disqualify the affected party from the election.

v. Willful violation of the ruling or orders of the Elections Committee shall warrant disciplinary action.

vi. Any decision by the Elections Committee other than a formal reprimand against a candidate or Ticket shall be considered a sanction.

vii. The Elections Committee has the discretion to take any action that is deemed appropriate with regard to any complaint.

711.8 Appeal

The decisions, orders, and rulings of the Elections Committee may be appealed to the Supreme Court.

a. Complainants or defendants of an initial hearing before the Elections Committee may appeal the decision of the Elections Committee to the Supreme Court, provided this appeal occurs within 24 hours of the release of the Election Committee's decision to the relevant parties.

i. Appeals may only be made on the grounds that the Elections Committee failed to adhere to the Elections Code or other governing documents of the Student Government Association in making its decision. Appeals may not be made on factual grounds, only on matters of law.

ii. In making an appeal, the appellant(s) must clearly indicate the provisions of the Elections Code or governing document that the appellant(s) believe the Elections Committee to have violated.

iii. Appeals must be submitted, in writing, to the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court by the Chief Counsel of a campaign or the other appropriate legal representation

as prescribed by this Code.

iv. The Supreme Court shall not consider appeals that are filed after the 24-hour period; in dismissing an appeal, the decision of the Elections Committee stands.

b. The Supreme Court shall choose either to hear properly filed appeals or to deny it outright for improper filing, failure to state an issue of law, lack of standing, or lack of jurisdiction.

c. Should the appeal be accepted by the Supreme Court, the Supreme Court shall contact all relevant parties as soon as possible in order to schedule an appeal hearing, within 36 hours of the Court's agreement to consider the appeal.

i. Appeal hearings shall be open to the public.

ii. The Chief Counsel of the involved parties, the Attorney General, at least one (1) additional representative of the Elections Committee shall attend the appeal hearing. Witnesses may be called by either party and required to attend. The candidate(s) or member(s) of the Ticket appealing the decision of the Elections Committee may be compelled to attend by the Supreme Court, if necessary for fact-finding.

d. The structure of an appeals hearing shall be as follows:

i. The appellant shall make an opening statement outlining their grievances; the Attorney General shall then deliver an opening statement defending the decision of the Elections Committee.

ii. The appellant shall present any evidence or witnesses. The Supreme Court Justices shall ask clarifying questions of witnesses or the appellant's legal representation at any time during this presentation; the Justices may interrupt statements to ask these questions.

iii. The appellant shall make a closing argument and recommend an altered verdict to the Supreme Court to overrule the decision by the Elections Committee; the Attorney General shall make a closing argument to defend the Elections Committee and argue for the upholding of its decision.

iv. The Supreme Court may question either party on matters of fact and law after closing arguments before choosing to leave for sequestered deliberation.

e. Deliberation and Decisions

i. The Supreme Court shall deliberate as to the validity of the ruling of the Elections Committee and the appealed decision in a sequestered environment.

ii. A majority of the Supreme Court may overturn the decision of the Elections Committee. If it does so, pursuant to Statute 400.4, the Supreme Court shall determine an appropriate sanction and/or severity of punishment under the governing documents of the Student Government Association.

iii. The majority opinion of the Court, any concurring or dissenting opinions drafted, shall be delivered in writing to the appellant(s), Elections Committee, Senate, and other relevant parties.

iv. All decisions by the Supreme Court on appeal from the Elections Committee shall be made public within 48 hours of the ruling.

v. For the purposes of maintaining decorum and civility, the Chief Justice may eject unruly or otherwise disruptive individuals from any Supreme Court hearing at any time.

CHAPTER 712: TRANSITION

712.1 Transition Period

The transition period shall begin immediately following the ratification of the General Elections Results (and the Run-Off Election Results if necessary) by the outgoing Senate and will end with the inauguration of the incoming Student Government Association Administration.

712.2 Vacancies

Outgoing Senators of a college whose seat remains vacant after elections have the responsibility of informing their academic advisors and Dean of the vacancy.

CHAPTER 713: INAUGURATION

713.1 Oath of Office

The President-elect, Vice President-elect, and Treasurer-elect shall be administered the Oath of Office by the Chief Justice of the Student Government Association at a time, date, and location set by the Elections Timeline.

713.2 Appointments

Any newly appointed Constitutional officers shall be administered the Oath of Office by an oath-bound official upon confirmation by the newly inaugurated Senate.

TITLE VIII
SGA Professional Clothing Closet

CHAPTER 800: PURPOSE

800.1 In 2019 the Student Government Association established a Professional Clothing Closet that shall be known as the SGA Professional Clothing Closet.

800.2 The SGA Professional Clothing Closet shall be located on campus and provide free, gently used professional attire to students in need and other opportunities for professional development.

800.3 All students at the University of Georgia, undergraduate and graduate, are eligible to receive one free professional outfit per academic year or as determined by the SGA Professional Clothing Closet Executive Director.

a. A professional outfit may be categorized as (1) blazer and a dress or (2) a blazer, top, and slacks or (3) a blazer, top, and skirt or (4) a blazer, shirt, slacks, and tie.

800.4 The SGA Professional Clothing Closet shall be accessible to students by pick up through an online order, a scheduled appointment, or organized events on campus.

CHAPTER 801: GOVERNANCE AND LEADERSHIP

801.1 The SGA Professional Clothing Closet shall be governed by a single Executive Director and board of directors which shall define and oversee teams of volunteers.

801.2 The SGA Professional Clothing Closet Executive Director shall be chosen by the Vice President with advisement from the outgoing Executive Director, and shall serve for the length of a full administration.

a. The Executive Director shall be a student at the University of Georgia and be chosen upon the vacancy of the Executive Director position.

b. The Vice President shall gauge the interest of the previous board, and shall prioritize Executive Director applicants with over one full academic year of service as a director or volunteer in the SGA Professional Clothing Closet.

801.3 The Executive Director shall attend weekly Cabinet meetings and report the progress of the SGA Professional Clothing Closet to the full Cabinet through a weekly report.

a. The Executive Director shall attend all Executive Director meetings outside of weekly Cabinet meetings.

b. The Executive Director shall report the progress of the SGA Professional Clothing Closet at SGA organization wide meetings.

801.4 The Executive Director shall report to the Vice President and meet with the Vice President no less than once a month outside of Cabinet meetings.

a. The Executive Director shall also meet regularly with the SGA faculty advisor.

801.5 The Executive Director shall define the director and volunteer positions of the SGA Professional Clothing Closet and make an application public to the student body for a period of no less than one week.

a. The director selection process should begin with an application period and be followed by a round of interviews.

b. The Directors shall report to the Executive Director and attend all board of director meetings as scheduled by the Executive Director.

c. Directors shall also attend SGA organization wide meetings and adhere to the SGA Code of Ethics, as outlined in Chapter 500 of these statutes.

801.6 Neither the Executive Director nor Directors shall be permitted to hold any other Student Government Association position.

a. Exceptions to this rule are limited to: Elections Committee, All Campus Allocations, or One Time Allocations.

CHAPTER 802: OPERATIONS

802.1 The Executive Director shall oversee the directors and operations of the SGA Professional Clothing Closet.

802.2 The directors and volunteers shall assist in the operations of the SGA Professional Clothing Closet including but not limited to fulfilling orders, promotional outreach, taking appointments professional development, and special events.

802.3 The directors and volunteers shall take proper care of all SGA Professional Clothing Closet property and keep the closet organized at all times.

802.4 Volunteers should be accepted at the beginning of the Fall and Spring Semesters, with the expectation that the SGA Professional Clothing Closet is a semester long commitment.

a. Current volunteers in good standing at the end of each semester are to be guaranteed a volunteering spot for the next semester without reapplication.

b. Volunteers are not considered active members of SGA and are not required to attend SGA organization wide meetings, unless holding another position within SGA.

i. While serving, volunteers must adhere to the SGA Code of Ethics as outlined in Chapter 500 of these statutes.

802.5 All volunteers must complete virtual or in person training before officially starting to volunteer.

a. Volunteers must have two weeks experience before taking appointments.

802.6 Each volunteer shall be assigned a role in either Student Relations, Communications, Operations, or Events.

a. Responsibilities of Student Relations volunteers include, but are not limited to, taking appointments, keeping the closet organized, and volunteering a minimum of two hours per week.

b. Responsibilities of Communications volunteers include, but are not limited to, helping run all relevant social media designing graphics, updating websites, and volunteering a minimum of one hour per week.

c. Responsibilities of Operations volunteers include, but are not limited to, fulfilling orders, restocking inventory, tagging items, sorting through donations, and volunteering a minimum of two hours per week.

d. Responsibilities of Event volunteers include, but are not limited to, helping plan outreach events, attending weekly meetings, and staffing at least one event per month.

802.7 The SGA Professional Clothing Closet shall maintain a Shopify or similar online order system for students.

a. Directors shall be provided admin access to the online order system through their individual accounts.

b. Volunteers may be provided limited access to the online system through a shared account.

802.8 Pursuant to Chapter 503 of this Code, all SGA Professional Clothing Closet social media and media channels are subject to the same rules and guidelines as the Student Government Association.

a. The passwords for the official social media channels, including but not limited to Facebook, TikTok, and Instagram, shall be given to the Executive Director and overseen by the respective communication director of their designee.

CHAPTER 803: FINANCES AND DONATIONS

803.1 Members of the SGA Professional Clothing Closet shall actively seek and accept donations of gently used professional clothing and accessories.

a. Clothing donation bins should be placed in strategic locations and checked regularly by SGA Professional Clothing Closet staff.

803.2 Any donated items deemed below the SGA Professional Clothing Closet standards shall be donated to local nonprofits, including but not limited to Project Safe, Fair Fashion, Goodwill, or local shelters.

a. The SGA Professional Clothing Closet standards shall be decided by the Executive Director and communicated to volunteers.

b. On occasion and at the discretion of the Executive Director, the SGA Professional Clothing Closet may offer non-professional clothing to students and volunteers if supplies allow.

803.3 The Executive Director shall work with the SGA Advisor(s) and appropriate outlets to apply for and utilize funding for the SGA Professional Clothing Closet.

803.4 Additional funding may come from money raised through outside sources and campus events.

803.5 All purchases must be pre-approved by the Executive Director and will be reimbursed by the ELS faculty.

TITLE IX
Fresh Express

CHAPTER 900: PURPOSE

900.1 In 2021 the Student Government Association established a Fresh Express Food Pantry that shall be known as SGA Fresh Express.

900.2 SGA Fresh Express shall be located on campus and provide students with free access to fresh produce and essential dry goods.

900.3 SGA Fresh Express shall promote healthy sustainable practices and engage the student body through volunteer opportunities.

900.4 All students, undergraduate and graduate, are eligible to receive up to two dry goods and two fresh produce bundles per visit.

a. At the discretion of the executive director, students may be limited to one produce bundle per student when the produce supply is limited.

900.5 Students may access the pantry during designated hours, which should be published on the SGA website and all other communications.

CHAPTER 901: GOVERNANCE AND LEADERSHIP

901.1 SGA Fresh Express shall be governed by a single Executive Director and board of directors which shall define and oversee a team of volunteers.

901.2 The SGA Fresh Express Executive Director shall be chosen by the Vice President with advisement from the outgoing Executive Director, and shall serve for the length of a full administration.

a. The Executive Director shall be a student at the University of Georgia and be chosen upon the vacancy of the Executive Director position.

b. The Vice President shall gauge the interest of the previous board, and shall prioritize Executive Director applicants with over one full academic year of service as a director or volunteer in SGA Fresh Express.

901.3 The Executive Director shall attend weekly Cabinet meetings and report the progress of SGA Fresh Express to the full Cabinet through a weekly report.

a. The Executive Director shall attend all Executive Director meetings outside of weekly Cabinet meetings.

b. The Executive Director shall report the progress of SGA Fresh Express at SGA organization wide meetings.

901.4 The Executive Director shall report to the Vice President and meet with the Vice President no less than once a month outside of Cabinet meetings.

a. The Executive Director shall also meet regularly with the SGA faculty advisor.

901.5 The Executive Director shall define the director and volunteer positions of SGA Fresh Express and make an application public to the student body for a period of no less than one week.

a. The director selection process should begin with an application period and be followed by a round of interviews.

b. The Directors shall report to the Executive Director and attend all board of director meetings as scheduled by the Executive Director.

c. Directors shall also attend SGA organization wide meetings and adhere to the SGA Code of Ethics, as outlined in Chapter 500 of these statutes.

901.6 Neither the Executive Director nor Directors shall be permitted to hold any other Student Government Association position.

a. Exceptions to this rule are limited to: Elections Committee, All Campus Allocations, or One Time Allocations.

CHAPTER 902: OPERATIONS

902.1 The Executive Director shall oversee the directors and operations of SGA Fresh Express.

902.2 The directors and volunteers shall assist in the operations of SGA Fresh Express, including but not limited to logging orders, stocking the food pantry, promotional outreach, volunteer recruitment, and special events.

902.3 Volunteers shall familiarize themselves with and follow the established rules and procedures of SGA Fresh Express.

a. Volunteers are not considered active members of SGA and are not required to attend SGA organization wide meetings, unless holding another position within SGA.

b. While serving, volunteers must also adhere to the SGA Code of Ethics as outlined in Chapter 500 of these statutes.

902.4 Volunteers are required to watch the SGA Fresh Express instructional video prior to beginning any volunteer service.

902.5 All student orders should be logged with the student name, email, date, and items taken.

a. Volunteers shall ensure that all students visiting the pantry properly check out and log their orders.

i. When volunteers are not present, students are expected to check out and log their items before leaving the pantry.

902.6 Volunteers must enforce the item limit policy to ensure equitable distribution of resources to all students in need.

902.7 The SGA Fresh Express pantry shall be kept well-maintained at all times, and all spoiled items shall be disposed of as timely as possible.

a. Any items unable to be given to students shall be composted when possible, or otherwise dealt with as environmentally cautious as possible.

b. The pantry shall be thoroughly cleaned no less than once each semester.

902.8 Pursuant to Chapter 503 of this Code, all SGA Fresh Express social media and media channels are subject to the same rules and guidelines as the Student Government Association.

a. The passwords for the official social media channels, including but not limited to Facebook, TikTok, and Instagram, shall be given to the Executive Director and overseen by the respective communication director or their designee.

CHAPTER 903: FINANCES AND DONATIONS

903.1 During the academic year, members of SGA Fresh Express shall pick up and restock the pantry with fresh produce donations from the UGArden each week.

903.2 SGA Fresh Express shall also seek fresh produce and dry good donations from other people, organizations, or entities.

903.3 Primary funding for SGA Fresh Express shall come from the SGA annual budget, which is reimbursed by the ELS faculty.

903.4 Additional funding may come from money raised through outside sources and campus events.

903.5 All purchases must be pre-approved by the Executive Director of Fresh Express.

TITLE X
First-Year Programs

CHAPTER 1000: FIRST-YEAR PROGRAMS, GENERALLY

1000.1 Purpose

The First-Year Programs shall:

a. Serve as a gateway to enriching the experience of first-year and transfer students at the University of Georgia;

b. Cultivate leadership skills, foster a strong sense of community, and connect students with the full range of resources on campus; and

c. Ensure participants emerge as leaders across campus, equipped to empower others to lead, serve, and explore new ideas.

1000.2 Executive Directors

The Executive Directors of First-Year Programs shall:

a. Oversee all First-Year Programs;

b. Provide strategic leadership across the First-Year Programs initiative;

c. Lead the selection process for the Directors of the First-Year Programs of Connect, Engage, and Forum

d. Assist the Senate in selecting the First-Year Senate Directors

e. Meet regularly with the Directors of Connect, Engage, Forum, and First-Year Senate to guide decision-making and support the selection of Peer Leaders, first-year students, and transfer students for the programs;

f. Ensure clear communication and alignment across the leadership of Senate and Cabinet as they relate to the First-Year Programs;

g. Lead FYP-Wide meetings every month;

h. Coordinate events that foster community and connection across all First-Year Programs; and

i. Determine the number of Program Directors per each First-Year Program.

1000.3 Program Directors

The Directors of Connect, Engage, Forum, and First-Year Senate shall:

a. Be collectively known as the "Program Directors" within this Title;

b. Lead weekly meetings each week;

c. Support and maintain clear communication with their Peer Leaders;

d. Build meaningful relationships with first-year students in the program to ensure a strong and engaging experience;

e. Work closely with the First-Year Program Directors, maintaining consistent communication and meeting regularly to ensure success across the Connect Program.

1000.4 Peer Leaders

a. Peer Leaders shall be second-years and above who are appointed by Program Directors under the supervision of the Executive Directors of First-Year Programs.

b. Peer Leaders shall provide mentorship to individuals in their assigned Program, facilitate service projects and activities, and foster community among the first-years in their Program.

c. Peer Leaders shall be directly accountable to their Program Directors, and shall meet with them on a regular basis to ensure Program success.

CHAPTER 1001: CONNECT

1001.1 Mission

Connect shall foster a strong sense of community while giving first-year students the opportunity to explore the inner workings of the Student Government Association through shadowing the Executive Cabinet. The program shall emphasize building meaningful connections and helping first-year students engage directly with SGA, developing a deeper understanding of its structure, roles, and impact on campus.

1001.2 Directors of Connect

The Directors of Connect shall:

a. Coordinate the Cabinet shadowing experience between members of the Cabinet in the Executive Branch and Connect participants;

b. Provide first-year students with experiences and meetings to learn more about the internal workings of the Student Government Association.

1001.3 Structure

Participants shall be placed in small groups by the Directors of Connect, which shall be led by Peer Leaders who support and guide them throughout their first year.

CHAPTER 1002: ENGAGE

1002.1 Mission

Engage shall be suited for first-year and transfer students who are new to the University of Georgia, offering two application cycles in the fall and spring semesters. The program shall emphasize professionalism within and meaningful engagement with the broader UGA community. Participants shall work within different sectors of campus to better understand student needs and concerns, and they shall communicate these insights to the Senate and the Executive Cabinet's Outreach Team. Through this process, Engage shall empower students to contribute to impactful initiatives within the Student Government Association.

1002.2 Directors of Engage

The Directors of Engage shall:

a. Facilitate communication between participants, the Senate, and the Outreach Team; and

b. Guide students in developing and implementing their initiatives.

1002.3 Structure

Participants shall be placed in small groups by the Directors of Engage, which shall be led by Peer Leaders who support and guide them during their first year.

CHAPTER 1003: FORUM

1003.1 Mission

Forum shall bridge the gap between the University of Georgia and the Athens-Clarke County community by connecting students with meaningful service opportunities. Through these experiences, first-year students gain a deeper understanding of the importance of service and become more connected to the local community. Forum shall attempt to foster a strong sense of community among like-minded individuals who are passionate about giving back, while also encouraging broader involvement in service across the Student Government Association.

1003.2 Directors of Forum

The Directors of Forum shall:

a. Communicate with service sites and community organizations; and

b. Help small groups remain consistent and committed to their service efforts.

1003.3 Structure

a. Participants shall be placed in small groups by the Directors of Forum, which shall be led by Peer Leaders who support and guide them throughout their first year.

b. Participants shall engage in a designated service initiative within the Athens area.

CHAPTER 1004: SENATE

1004.1 Mission

The First-Year Senate shall allow a cohort of first-year students to serve as representatives of the freshman class, advocating on behalf of their peers to craft and review legislation. First-Year Senators shall be tasked with researching prominent concerns or questions presented by their peers, and shall use that information to create positive changes on campus.

1004.2 Directors of First-Year Senate

The Directors of the First-Year Senate shall:

a. Provide programming to First-Year Senators focused on pre-professional development, involvement opportunities on campus, and leadership development; and

b. Educate First-Year Senators, in collaboration with other individuals in the Legislative Branch, on the drafting and presentation of legislation, the Senate Rules of Order and Roberts' Rules of Order, and skills needed for being an effective Senator and leader.

1004.3 First-Year Senators

a. First-Year Senators shall strive to engage the first-year student community and represent their concerns in the Senate.

b. First-Year Senators are encouraged to collaborate with campus partners around UGA, as well as the greater Athens/Clarke-County community.

c. First-Year Senators shall be given all privileges afforded them under the Governing Documents and the rules of the Senate to present, debate, and vote on legislation brought to the Senate floor.

d. First-Year Senators meeting collectively, being chaired by the Directors of First-Year Senate, shall be considered a select legislative committee, bound by the same reporting requirements as other committees but not considered a standing committee of the Senate.

e. First-Year Senators shall be given a seat on a standing committee of the Senate in addition to their seat on the Committee of First-Year Senators.

TITLE X – First-Year Programs