

Revised December 2008

**CONSTITUTION OF THE
STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION
OF MURRAY STATE UNIVERSITY**

PURPOSE: The purposes of the Student Government Association are to promote the welfare, growth, and development of student life in an environment of academic excellence, to represent the students in all phases of administrative effort, and to provide a means of promoting cooperative efforts for the general welfare of the University community.

ARTICLE I.

Section 1. The officially organized body governing all students and student organizations at M.S.U. shall be the Student Government Association. The Student Government Association shall be composed of the Student Senate, the Judicial Board, the Campus Activities Board, the Residential College Association, and any other boards as agencies created in accordance with the By-Laws.

Section 2. Any full-time student and any "part-time student" (a part time student, for the purposes of this constitution, shall be defined as any student paying the part time student activity fee; these students should be enrolled in 7 to 11 hours for undergraduates or in 5 to 8 hours for graduate students) shall have the privilege of seeking office in any branch of the Student Government Association as prescribed in the By-Laws. "Part time students" are not eligible to run for or hold any of the

top four executive offices; pursuant to the Kentucky Revised Statutes.

ARTICLE II. OFFICERS

Section 1. The officers of S.G.A. shall be President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer of the Student Senate.

Section 2. The President shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the S.G.A. Qualifications for office require one to have attained at least Junior Class standing the Fall semester following the election and to have been a full-time student at the time of election, with a cumulative point standing of at least 2.7 on the 4.0 system. The President shall maintain such standards during the term of office. The President's duties and powers shall be to serve as President of the Student Senate and to serve as an ex-officio member of all S.G.A. committees, councils and boards.

Section 3. The Vice President, whose qualifications shall be the same as those for President, shall serve as Vice President of the Senate and as Chairman of the Campus Activities Board.

Section 4. The Secretary and the Treasurer of S.G.A. shall serve as the Secretary and the Treasurer of the Campus Activities Board, shall be full-time students, shall have at least a cumulative 2.7 on the 4.0 system and shall maintain these standards during their terms of office.

Section 5. The Secretary shall be responsible for all records and documents of the S.G.A. and shall record the minutes of the Student Senate and the Campus Activities Board. The Treasurer shall be responsible for the collection, accounting, and disbursing of all S.G.A. funds, shall endorse all expenditures of the

S.G.A. Both shall serve as ex-officio, voting members of the S.G.A. committees, councils, and boards.

Section 6. The Residential College Affairs Chairperson shall serve as the president of the Residential College Association. The Chairperson will preside over RCA and be responsible for communicating Residential College concerns to the Executive Council of SGA. The chairperson will serve as liaison between SGA, the housing department, and Residential College Councils. This position will be elected each spring in an election held within the residential colleges no less than two weeks following the SGA general election.

ARTICLE III. THE STUDENT SENATE

Section 1. The Student Senate shall be the governing body of S.G.A. and shall have the power to pass resolutions, bills, rules, and regulations necessary for the general welfare of the University and to implement and maintain any programs consistent with S.G.A. purposes.

Section 2. In order to be a member of the Senate one shall be a full-time student or a "part-time student" of the University and shall maintain at least a 2.0 cumulative point standing during the term of office. The "freshman senators" shall at the time of election, be in their first or second semester at Murray State.

Section 3. The Senate shall be advised by two (2) faculty members and one (1) administrative member.

Section 4. The Senate shall be composed of three (3) elected senators from each Academic College of the University, and School of Agriculture, two (2) "freshman senators," eight (8) senators elected at-

large, and two (2) senators from each Residential College who, with the members of the executive council, shall have the right to vote.

ARTICLE IV. THE JUDICIAL BOARD

- Section 1. The Judicial Board shall be the judicial body of the S.G.A. and shall be composed of seven (7) members.
- Section 2. In order to be a member of the Judicial Board one shall have attained at least a Junior class standing, shall not be an officer or member of any other S.G.A. branch, and shall maintain a cumulative point standing of at least a 2.0 on the 4.0 system.
- Section 3. The Senate shall solicit applications for the Judicial Board. The Senate shall interview the applicants and select ten (10) nominees for the seven (7) board members from the list of nominations recommending a chair and a vice chair. The President of the University, shall appoint the seven (7) board members from the list of nominations designating a chair and a vice chair. The President shall also designate the remaining three (3) nominees as alternates.
- Section 4. The Judicial Board shall have the power to hold hearings and to render decisions and interpretations in cases brought to it by students, faculty, or administrators involving the University Code of Conduct or the Constitution of the S.G.A. It shall have the authority to hear parking/traffic violation appeals.
- Section 5. No member of the Judicial Board shall vote on any question in which he/she has an interest.

Section 6. The Judicial Board shall be advised by one (1) faculty member.

Section 7. The chairman of the Judicial Board will be responsible for a report to the Senate following each Judicial Board hearing.

Section 8. The Judicial Board shall be required to advertise their meetings one (1) week in advance.

Section 9. The Judicial Board shall meet twice a month or whenever two (2) members of the Judicial Board request a meeting of the chairman.

ARTICLE V. THE CAMPUS ACTIVITIES BOARD

Section 1. The purpose of the Campus Activities Board shall be to serve and unify the interests of the students, faculty and staff of M.S.U. and the university service region through co-curricular programming and policy recommendations for the operation of the University Center.

Section 2. Funding for the Campus Activities Board shall be through the accounts of the Student Government Association.

Section 3. Structure of the Campus Activities Board, qualifications of membership, duration of term, specific duties and responsibilities, absences and vacancies, etc. shall be detailed by the By-Laws in accordance with the Campus Activities Board Operating Principles.

ARTICLE VI. RESIDENTIAL COLLEGE ASSOCIATION

Section 1. The Residential College Association shall serve as the voice of the students living within the Residential Colleges. The organization will maintain its own Operating Principles and function

to increase communication between residential students and the Student Government Association.

Section 2. The officers of the Residential College Association shall be the President, Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer and the National Communications Coordinator.

Section 3. The membership of the Residential College Association shall consist of the officers, 16 Residential College Senators, the president of each Residential College, at least one representative chosen by election from each college and President of NRHH. Each college shall have one vote.

Section 4. The budget for the Residential College Association shall remain based upon a fee levied on students who live within the Residential Colleges.

Section 5. The individual Residential College Councils shall maintain their autonomy in constitution and in their rights to create policy specific to their Residential Colleges.

ARTICLE VII. VOTING AND CONSTITUENCIES

Section 1. Any full-time or "part-time" student enrolled in a college shall have the privilege of voting for Senate positions representing that college, all S.G.A. officer positions, at-large Senate positions. Any full-time or "part-time" first or second semester student may have the privilege of voting for the "freshman senators."

Section 2. The primary constituency of S.G.A. officers, at-large Senators and students on the Campus Activities Board shall be full-time and "part-time" students in the university. The primary constituency of a Senator representing a college shall be full-time and "part-time" students in that college. The primary

constituency of the "freshman senators" shall be the freshman class.

ARTICLE VIII. REMOVAL FROM OFFICE

Section 1. The Student Senate or the Judicial Board shall have the power to remove from office any member of its respective body for cause by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote.

Section 2. Senators or Executive Officers of the S.G.A. can be recalled on the petition of twenty-five percent (25%) of their respective constituencies, subject to a majority vote of such constituency.

ARTICLE IX. AMENDMENTS AND BY-LAWS

Section 1. The Student Senate shall have the power to enact by-laws to implement the provisions of this Constitution.

Section 2. Any proposed changes in the By-laws shall be endorsed by one-fifth (1/5) of the Senators, and shall require approval by two-thirds (2/3) of the membership of the Senate.

Section 3. Amendments to this constitution can be proposed by a three-fourths (3/4) majority vote of the Student Senate or by a petition signed by 25% of the total Student Body. Such amendments shall be ratified by a plurality vote of the student electorate subject to approval of the M.S.U. Board of Regents.

ARTICLE X. RATIFICATION

Section 1. This Constitution shall be ratified by a majority of those voting, subject to final approval of the Murray State University Board of Regents.

