

As of October 11th, 2023

<u>Chapter I Authority, Organization, & Purpose of the Standing Rules of Senate.....</u>	<u>1</u>
Section 1 Authority of the Standing Rules of Senate	1
Section 2 Organization of the Standing Rules of Senate	1
Section 3 Purpose of the Standing Rules of Senate	2
<u>Chapter II General Provisions</u>	<u>2</u>
Section 1 Meeting Times	2
Section 2 Dress Code	2
Section 3 Conduct.....	3
Section 4 Types of Legislation	3
Section 5 Absence Policy	4
Section 6 Voting.....	4
<u>Chapter III Committees</u>	<u>5</u>
Section 1 Standing Committee Structure	5
Section 2: Standing Committee Hearings.....	6
Section 3 Special Committees	6
Section 4: Special Committee Hearings.....	7
Section 5 Committee Mission Statements	7
<u>Chapter IV Processes.....</u>	<u>8</u>
Section 1 The Passage of Legislation	8
Section 2 Submitting Agenda Items to the Speaker.....	9
Section 3 Votes of No Confidence	9
Section 4 Impeachment Trial Proceedings	10
Section 5 Veto Overrides	10
Section 6 Filling Senate Vacancies.....	10
Section 7 Executive Branch Confirmations.....	11
Section 8 Judicial Branch Confirmations	12
Section 9 The Passage of Budgets	13
<u>Chapter V Senate Leadership</u>	<u>13</u>
Section 1 The Speaker of the Senate.....	13
Section 2 The Deputy Speaker of the Senate	14
Section 3 The Chairperson of the Senate	15
Section 4 Presiding Over Senate Meetings	15
<u>Chapter VI Campus Involvement</u>	<u>15</u>
Section 1: Senator Requirements.....	15

Chapter I Authority, Organization, & Purpose of the Standing Rules of Senate**Section 1 Authority of the Standing Rules of Senate**

Subsection 1: The Standing Rules of Senate (SRS) is authorized and required by the SGA Code. The Constitution is superior to the Code, and the Code is superior to the SRS. The SRS is on equal standing with the Judicial Branch Bylaws of the Judicial Branch and the Standard Operating Procedures of the Executive Branch. The SRS is superior to all other SGA resolutions. Nothing contained herein shall contradict the Constitution and Code of the Indiana State University Student Government Association, the laws and Constitution of the State of Indiana, or the laws and Constitution of the United States of America. The official abbreviation for the Standing Rules of Senate shall be “SRS.”

Subsection 2: All legislative authority shall reside in the Senate. The Senate shall have the sole authority to amend the SRS. Any and all amendments to the SRS shall require a two-thirds majority vote for approval.

Subsection 3: A two-thirds majority vote will be required to suspend any and all procedures or rules contained in the SRS. If procedures or rules in the SRS are suspended, they shall be suspended for the remainder of the Senate meeting in which they were suspended. Once that meeting has been adjourned, the procedure(s) or rule(s) will be immediately reinstated.

Section 2 Organization of the Standing Rules of Senate

Subsection 1: The SRS will be divided into different “Chapters.” Those Chapters will be further separated into “Sections.” Sections will then be subdivided into “Subsections.”

Subsection 2: Chapter headings will be bolded and underlined. Section headings will be underlined. Subsection headings will be italicized.

Subsection 3: All Chapters will be marked with Roman numerals. Sections and Subsections will be marked with Arabic numerals.

Subsection 4: A space shall be left in between the entry of each Chapter, Section, and Subsection heading.

Subsection 5: In the top-left heading, the words “Standing Rules of Senate” will appear. In the top-right heading, the name of the edition will appear. In the bottom-center of the page, bolded page numbers will appear.

Subsection 6: Upon passage of the SRS, it will be known as the “Standing Rules of Senate First Edition.” All future changes to the SRS will create a new edition of the SRS. If changes are made to the Standing Rules of Senate First Edition, then the next edition— with the new changes—will be called the “Standing Rules of Senate Second Edition” and so on.

Section 3 Purpose of the Standing Rules of Senate

Subsection 1: The SRS exists to maintain order at all Senate meetings and committee meetings. The SRS will provide detailed descriptions and guidelines for various legislative procedures and rules, so senators, other members of SGA, and members of the student body will know how the Senate and its committees operate. The SRS provides structure to the Legislative Branch, so it can operate efficiently in order to benefit the student body.

Chapter II General Provisions

Section 1 Meeting Times

Subsection 1: The official meeting time of a regular Senate shall be every Wednesday night at 7:00 pm during the academic semester. The Speaker will have the discretion to cancel the regular Senate meeting during study week. No regular Senate meeting will be held during the week of Homecoming and final exams.

Subsection 2: The Speaker shall have the discretion to cancel a regular Senate meeting if a quorum will not be present.

Subsection 3: All standing Senate committees and special committees shall establish a meeting time that accommodates the schedules of a majority of committee members. All committees shall have the discretion to meet on an as-needed basis.

Section 2 Dress Code

Subsection 1: Senators shall wear business casual attire to all special and regular Senate meetings, but neckties will be optional. If a senator fails to wear business professional attire to a special or regular Senate meeting, the Chairperson of the Senate shall have the discretion to remove them from the meeting. If and when a senator is removed from the meeting, they will accrue a ½ absence for the entire meeting. Accommodations shall be made to senators with extenuating circumstances.

Subsection 2: Committees shall have the discretion to choose their own dress code for committee meetings.

Subsection 3: All members of the Executive and Judicial Branches that attend Senate meetings shall wear business casual attire, but neckties will be optional. All Senate liaisons who are students shall wear business professional attire, but neckties will be optional. All nominees who are brought before the Senate for confirmation shall wear business professional attire. If a member of the Executive or Judicial Branches, student liaison, or nominee fails to wear business professional attire to a special or regular Senate meeting, the Chairperson of the Senate shall have the discretion to remove them from the meeting.

Subsection 4: Students and guests who are not in the Legislative, Executive, or Judicial Branches; Senate liaisons; or nominees will not be subject to the dress code.

Section 3 Conduct

Subsection 1: Senators will treat their colleagues with respect and dignity in Senate meetings. Any and all name-calling or derogatory comments directed at other members of the Senate during a meeting will be strictly prohibited. Rude and unprofessional behavior, body language, and commentary will be strictly prohibited. If a senator violates the conduct rules of the Senate, the Chairperson of the Senate shall have the discretion to remove the senator from the meeting.

Subsection 2: All non-senators attending a Senate meeting are prohibited from speaking out of turn unless a Senator yields the floor to them. If a non-senator speaks out of turn or disrupts the Senate meeting in any way, the Chairperson of the Senate shall have the discretion to remove the non-senator in question from the meeting.

Section 4 Types of Legislation

Subsection 1: There are five (5) types of legislation: SGA Resolutions, Senate Resolutions, Bills, Budget Acts, and Constitutional Amendments. The abbreviations for the types of legislation shall be "S.G.R." for SGA Resolutions, "S.R." for Senate Resolutions, "S.B." for Bills, "B.A." for Budget Acts, and "C.A." for Constitutional Amendments.

Subsection 2: Pieces of legislation shall be numbered in the following format: legislative abbreviation/ /presidential administration/-/month/-/bill number. For example: "S.B. 54-4-1." This numbering shall be located in the top-right heading.

Subsection 3: SGA Resolutions are official position statements or points-of-view on behalf of the entire organization, and they shall require a majority vote of approval in the Senate and presidential approval.

Subsection 4: Senate Resolutions are considered official position statements or points of-view on behalf of the Senate or alteration to the SRS, and they shall require a majority vote of approval in the Senate unless the resolution seeks to change the SRS, in which case the threshold shall be a two-thirds majority approval.

Subsection 5: Bills are an alteration to the Student Government Code, Judicial Branch Bylaws, and they shall require a majority vote of approval in Senate and presidential approval.

Subsection 6: Budget Acts are specific types of bills, and they will be written to allocate SGA monies from specific SGA accounts for specific purposes. Budget Acts shall require a majority vote of approval in Senate and presidential approval.

Subsection 7: Constitutional Amendments are alterations to the SGA Constitution, and they shall be passed in accordance with the procedures outlined in the SGA Constitution.

Section 5 Absence Policy

Subsection 1: All members of the Senate are required to attend all special and regular Senate meetings, as well as committee meetings. A maximum of three (3) absences per semester or five (5) absences per academic year will be allowed per senator.

Subsection 2: If a senator is not present when their name is called for attendance in the call to order, and they are present for adjournment, they shall receive a ½ absence. If a senator is not present during a vote by roll call, they shall receive a ½ absence in total for the meeting. If a senator is not present when their name is called during the adjournment, and they were present during the call to order, they shall receive a ½ absence. If a senator is not present for an entire Senate meeting, they will receive a full absence. If a senator is not present for a committee meeting, they shall receive a ½ absence at the discretion of the Committee Chair. That absence may be appealed to the Ethics Committee.

Subsection 3: If a senator is penalized with a full or half absence, they have forty-eight (48) hours after the time of the meeting or vote they missed to appeal their absence to the Ethics Committee. If the Ethics Committee does not receive an appeal within (48) hours, the senator will automatically accrue the absence with no option of appealing it.

Subsection 4: Reasons to excuse an absence are: health issues, one excused meeting for work, school issues - a mandatory event for class, extra credit does not count - and family/friend emergencies including hospital visits, emergency illness, and an unexpected event. The Ethics Committee shall have the discretion to excuse any other unforeseeable circumstances within reason.

Subsection 5: The Ethics Committee will review absence appeals on a monthly basis.

Subsection 6: If you have a night class during Senate, you must resign your seat/position. You are able to gain your seat back through the processes explained in Article VI explained in the SGA Constitution. If a Senator fails to resign their position, the Senate will move into an impeachment process, in which they will vote on removing the Senator in question from Office. As explained in the SGA Constitution, if you are impeached from office, you will not be able to obtain a seat in SGA again.

Section 6 Voting

Subsection 1: Senators must be present to vote during special and regular Senate meetings.

Subsection 2: Unless otherwise specified in the Constitution or Code, a majority vote shall be defined as a majority vote of all senators who are present at a special or regular Senate meeting, and a two-thirds majority vote shall be defined as a two-thirds majority vote of all senators who are present at a special or regular Senate meeting.

Section 1 Standing Committee Structure

Subsection 1: Every senator, excluding the Speaker, will be required to serve on at least one (1) standing committee. A senator may serve on no more than two (2) standing committees. Standing committees will consist of at least three (e) members and a maximum of eleven (11) members.

Subsection 2: One (1) of the members will be the Chair of the standing committee. The committee chair shall be elected by a majority of the members of the committee. As a result of a tie vote, the committee shall create its own way of breaking the tie.

Subsection 3: Standing committees will meet for a minimum of a half an hour outside of formal meetings on an as-needed basis at an agreed-upon time and place. The committee chair shall have the discretion to cancel a weekly meeting with written notification to the Deputy Speaker.

Subsection 4: A Chair shall be the official spokesperson of their committee. The Chair shall deliver their committee's report to the Senate at all special and regular Senate meetings. Committee Chairs can serve on no more than two (2) standing committees, but a committee Chair may only chair one (1) standing committee.

Subsection 5: Per Chapter 2, Subchapter 1, Section 2 of the SRS, senators are required to serve on at least one (1) standing committee and no more than two (2). Senators shall join a standing committee no later than two (2) weeks after the first official Senate meeting of the fall semester. Senators who are appointed throughout the semester are required to serve on at least one (1) standing committee and no more than two (2) standing committees no later than two (2) weeks after being approved. If a Senator fails to join a committee before the two (2) week period, the Speaker of the Senate may use their right to appoint the senator to a committee, as laid out in Article II, Section IV, Subsection 7 of the SGA Constitution.

Subsection 6: In order to vote on matters pertaining to a standing committee, a senator must be a member of that committee for at least two (2) committee meetings. This rule does not apply to senators that join the committee within the two week period, outlined in Chapter III, Section 1, Subsection 5, of the SRS.

Subsection 7: If a senator wishes to join a new committee, outside the two (2) week provision established in Chapter III, Section 1, Subsection 6 of the SRS, they must receive the written approval of both the Speaker of the Senate and the Chair of the standing committee the senator wishes to join. If a senator wants to join a committee that does not have a Chair, the senator in question must receive written approval of the Speaker of the Senate.

Section 2: Standing Committee Hearings

Subsection 1: Per the SGA Constitution, standing Senate committees have the power to summon any and all SGA officials to testify. Standing committees may summon individuals to testify on issues under the jurisdiction of the standing committee or any other individuals and members of SGA the standing committee deems relevant to its jurisdiction.

Subsection 2: The Chair of the standing committee shall notify, in writing, the individual(s) being summoned to testify before the committee. The Chair shall make the individual(s) being summoned aware of the date, time, location, and any other relevant information pertaining to the standing committee hearing.

Subsection 3: Standing committee hearings shall take place under the following procedure: First, the individual testifying will be given ten (10) minutes to present to the standing committee; Second, the standing committee shall question the individual testifying.

Subsection 4: During standing committee hearings, every senator will be given a maximum of ten (10) minutes to ask questions to the individual testifying. Questioning shall begin with the least senior senator on the standing committee and end with the most senior senator on the standing committee. Seniority shall be determined by the amount of time a senator has served in the Senate. The Chair of a standing committee shall always be considered the most senior member of the committee, regardless of the amount of time the Chair has served in the Senate. If senators have the same seniority, the order in which they ask questions shall be determined by the alphabetical order of the senators' last names.

Section 3 Special Committees

Subsection 1: Special Senate committees will be formed when a need arises that does not fit with the standing committee agendas. Special Senate committees will be formed with a majority vote from the Senate.

Subsection 2: Senators will voluntarily join special Senate committees. There will be at least three (3) members on the special Senate committee with one (1) member being elected the Chair. Non-senators will be allowed to serve on special committees as nonvoting members. Non-senators must be nominated by the Senate to serve on special committees.

Subsection 3: Once the agenda item for the special Senate committee is resolved, the special Senate committee will be dissolved. The special Senate committee will provide weekly reports during Senate meetings.

Section 4: Special Committee Hearings

Subsection 1: Per the SGA Constitution, a special committee shall possess the power to summon any and all SGA officials to testify. Special committees may summon individuals to testify on issues under the jurisdiction of the special committee or any other individuals and members of SGA the special committee deems relevant to its jurisdiction.

Subsection 2: The Chair of the special committee shall notify, in writing, the individual(s) being summoned to testify before the committee. The Chair shall make the individual(s) being summoned aware of the date, time, location, and any other relevant information pertaining to the standing committee hearing.

Subsection 3: Special committee hearings shall take place under the following procedure: First, the individual testifying will be given ten (10) minutes to present to the special committee; Second, the special committee shall question the individual testifying.

Subsection 4: The Ethics Committee shall have the discretion to adopt its own hearing procedures.

Subsection 5: During special committee hearings, every committee member will be given a maximum of ten (10) minutes to ask questions to the individual testifying. Questioning shall begin with the least senior member of the special committee and end with the most senior member of the special committee. Seniority shall be determined by the amount of time a committee member has served in SGA. The Chair of a special committee shall always be considered the most senior member of the committee, regardless of the amount of time the Chair has served in SGA. If committee members have the same seniority, the order in which they ask questions shall be determined by the alphabetical order of the members' last names.

Section 5 Committee Mission Statements

Subsection 1: The mission statement of the Academic Affairs standing committee shall be: "The Academic Affairs committee's mission is to resolve any academic issues that cause barriers to student success and help academic colleges with any issues. The committee will also help the Director of Academic Affairs on any projects they pursue."

Subsection 2: The mission statement of the Ethics Committee shall be: "The Ethics Committee seeks to uphold and maintain the highest ethical standards within Student Government, and holds semesterly ethics hearings for the leadership of SGA: the President, the Vice President, the Senate Speaker, and the Chief Justice. Furthermore, the Ethics Committee is charged with absence appeals hearings."

Subsection 3: The mission statement of the Finance standing committee shall be: "The Finance Committee seeks to ensure fiscal solvency and responsibility within SGA,

maintain and update Title V of the SGA Code, and work in conjunction with the Director of Finance and Vice President in order to pursue the financial goals of the organization. The SORF Board, an extension of the Finance Committee, is charged with the responsibility of allocating funds to student organizations.”

Subsection 4: The mission statement of the Governmental Affairs standing committee shall be: “The Governmental Affairs standing committee works to refine SGA policies and procedures in order to help SGA operate more efficiently for the students of Indiana State University.”

Subsection 5: The mission statement of the Inclusive Excellence standing committee shall be: “The Inclusive Excellence committee strives to improve representation within SGA and the University by promoting diversity, inclusiveness, excellence, equality, and equity.”

Subsection 6: The mission statement of the Engagement standing committee shall be: “We strive to improve Student Engagement on ISU’s campus. We do this by educating our undergraduate students on how to be involved on campus. Our goal is to support students through their college career and improve their engagement skills through programming.”

Subsection 7: The mission statement of the External Relations standing committee shall be: “The External Relations committee strives for transparency and improving pride on campus by implementing and maintaining new traditions.”

Subsection 8: The mission statement of the Health and Wellness standing committee shall be: “The Health and Wellness committee strives to improve Health and Wellness on campus and discuss means of Sustainability.”

Subsection 9: The mission statement of the Leadership standing committee shall be: “We strive to improve Leadership on ISU’s campus. We do this by offering the Sycamore Leadership Coalition to our undergraduate students to learn about Leadership. Our goal is to build future leaders throughout their college career and improve their leadership skills through programming.”

Chapter IV Processes

Section 1 The Passage of Legislation

Subsection 1: Legislation must originate in the standing committee it is most relevant to. If multiple standing committees claim jurisdiction over a piece of legislation, they must all approve the wording of the legislation and amend the wording if needs be.

Subsection 2: Legislation must receive a majority vote of approval from any and all relevant committees in order to advance to the Senate floor for a final vote. Committee Chairs shall send the Speaker of the Senate any and all legislation that is approved by their committees. In addition to the piece of legislation, the Committee Chair shall

include, for record-keeping purposes, the vote count of approval and disapproval for the legislation. Once the legislation has advanced to the Senate floor for a final vote, the legislation must be passed in accordance with the guidelines established in Chapter II, Section 4, of this governing document.

Subsection 3: If a piece of legislation is voted down on the Senate floor, it must return to the standing committee(s) where it originated. The committee(s) will have the discretion to either revise the legislation or discard it. If the committee(s) decides to revise the bill, it must be presented to the full Senate within two (2) weeks of its being sent back to the committee or failing on the Senate floor.

Subsection 4: If the committee(s) chooses to either discard the bill or not complete the revision process within two (2) weeks, the bill will not be allowed onto the Senate floor for a final vote until the next legislative session.

Subsection 5: In the event of a tie vote in the Senate, the legislation will be considered to have failed.

Section 2 Submitting Agenda Items to the Speaker

Subsection 1: Only members of the Senate will be able to submit agenda items to the Speaker. Chairs of standing and special committees will be responsible for submitting agenda items to the Speaker.

Subsection 2: All agenda items shall be submitted to the Speaker at least forty-eight (48) hours in advance of all special and regular Senate meetings. The Speaker shall send out the agenda for the Senate meeting twenty-four (24) hours prior to the Senate meeting.

Subsection 3: Any and all agenda items that are submitted to the Speaker after the deadline will be put on the agenda for the next regular Senate meeting.

Section 3 Votes of No Confidence

Subsection 1: Votes of no confidence will have the power to remove a Senate officer from their position. Votes of no confidence will be presented in the form of a Senate Resolution. This resolution shall originate in the Ethics Committee, and it shall go to the Senate floor by following the same process as any other piece of legislation.

Subsection 2: In order to pass a vote of no confidence, it will require a majority vote of approval from the Senate. Once the vote of no confidence has been passed, the individual who is being voted against shall be immediately removed from their officer position.

Subsection 3: If a vote of no confidence is taken against an individual outside of the Legislative Branch, then it shall serve as an official position statement of the Senate. It will state the Senate's complete lack of faith in an individual's ability to perform their job.

Section 4 Impeachment Trial Proceedings

Subsection 1: Impeachment proceedings will follow the procedures outlined in the SGA Constitution.

Subsection 2: After the introduction of articles of impeachment, the Senate must vote to accept the articles of impeachment during the same Senate meeting. These votes shall require majority approval. Upon the Senate's accepting the articles of impeachment, the individual in the process of being impeached shall be considered indicted. This indictment will officially charge the individual in the process of being impeached.

Subsection 3: The impeachment trial shall operate under the following procedures: First, the plaintiff shall have ten (10) minutes to present their argument before Senate; Second, the defendant shall have ten (10) minutes to present their defense before Senate; Third, the Senate shall enter the questioning phase; Fourth, the Senate shall enter discussion phase; Fifth, the senators shall cast their votes.

Subsection 4: Senators shall have the authority to make a motion to remove any individual(s) from the Senate gallery during the fourth and fifth phases of the trial.

Section 5 Veto Overrides

Subsection 1: If the President vetoes a piece of legislation, the vetoed legislation shall be placed on the agenda for the next special or regular Senate meeting following the veto.

Subsection 2: The process for overriding or sustaining the veto shall operate under the following procedure: First, the President or representative of the President shall have a maximum of five (5) minutes to explain their rationale for the veto; Second, the Senate shall enter into discussion; Third, the senators shall cast their votes.

Subsection 3: Voting "yes" will be a vote to override the veto, and voting "no" shall be a vote to sustain the veto.

Subsection 4: No amendments may be made to the piece of legislation during the veto override process.

Section 6 Filling Senate Vacancies

Subsection 1: Students who want to fill a Senate vacancy shall apply for the vacancy in an online application that is created by the Speaker.

Subsection 2: The Speaker, Deputy Speaker, and Chairperson of the Senate shall work in conjunction to review the applications. Before interviews take place, Senate leadership shall work with the SGA Primary Advisor to make sure each candidate meets the

qualifications for office, including G.P.A. and conduct standing. Then those three (3) officers shall interview applicants at their discretion. Once an applicant has been interviewed by the panel of officers, a majority of the panel must approve to present the applicant as a nominee to fill a Senate vacancy.

Subsection 3: Nominees must attend one (1) full, regular Senate meetings before they can be presented before the Senate. If a Senator has prior SGA experience, notwithstanding the Sycamore Leadership Coalition, this requirement shall be waived.

Subsection 4: The Speaker will present each sitting Senator with a copy of the nominees' applications.

Subsection 5: The Senate will have the opportunity to question the nominees. The Senate will then move into a discussion over the nominees while they leave the room.

Subsection 6: The Senate will then take a vote over the nominees presented. A majority is required for the confirmation of a nominee.

Subsection 7: Everyone must clap and give a standing ovation when a confirmed nominee reenters the room.

Subsection 8: Once nominees are confirmed, they must be sworn in before they can vote on legislation.

Subsection 9: Once they have been sworn in, they shall be senators with every privilege allotted to senators.

Section 7 Executive Branch Confirmations

Subsection 1: The president-elect shall be entitled to nominate individuals to serve in their executive cabinet prior to their inauguration. The president-elect shall submit, in writing, their nominees for the Executive Branch to the Speaker of the Senate. If confirmed by the Senate, these nominees shall take office once the president-elect has officially taken office, the date of which is defined by the SGA Constitution.

Subsection 2: When the President nominates an individual to the Executive Branch or a university committee, the President shall submit, in writing, their nominees for to the Speaker of the Senate. These nominees shall take office once they have been confirmed by the Senate.

Subsection 3: Confirmation hearings for executive nominees shall take place in accordance with the following procedure: First, the nominee will be given a maximum of five (5) minutes to speak; Second, the Senate shall enter the questioning phase; Third, the Senate shall enter the discussion phase; and Fourth, the senators shall cast their votes. The nominee shall leave the Senate chamber when the Senate enters into a discussion and shall not return until after the senators have voted.

Subsection 4: If the executive nominee is being nominated to a university committee, their confirmation process shall operate under the following procedure: First, the Senate shall enter into discussion; Second, the senators shall cast their votes. Nominees for university committees do not have to be present in order to be confirmed.

Subsection 5: In order to be confirmed, executive nominees must receive a majority vote of approval. Once the nominees have been confirmed, they shall be sworn into office.

Section 8 Judicial Branch Confirmations

Subsection 1: In accordance with the SGA Constitution and Code, applicants for Supreme Court vacancies will be interviewed by the Judicial Selection Commission, and the President will formally nominate an applicant for the Supreme Court vacancy.

Subsection 2: The President shall submit, in writing, his or her Supreme Court nominee to the Chair of the Governmental Affairs Committee (GAC). The GAC, excluding the Director of Governmental Affairs, must take a majority vote of approval to have a hearing for the Supreme Court nominee within two (2) calendar days of receiving written notice of the nomination.

Subsection 3: If the GAC votes to have a hearing, the Chair of the GAC will establish a time and place for the hearing to take place. The hearing will take place within five (5) calendar days after approving the hearing. The hearing will be open to the public. Attire for the hearing will be business professional for the senators and Supreme Court nominee. The hearing will follow the same procedures laid out in the SRS.

Subsection 4: After the hearing has adjourned, the GAC shall vote within five (5) calendar days on whether or not to allow the Supreme Court nominee to advance to the Senate floor for a final vote. A majority of senators on the GAC must vote in approval for the nominee to advance to the Senate floor.

Subsection 5: If the Supreme Court nominee is approved by the GAC, they shall advance to the Senate floor for a final vote. The confirmation hearing shall take place in accordance with the following procedures: First, the nominee will be given a maximum of ten (10) minutes to speak; Second, the Senate shall enter the questioning phase; Third, the Senate shall enter the discussion phase; and Fourth, the senators shall cast their votes. The nominee shall leave the Senate chamber when the Senate enters into a discussion and shall not return until after the senators have voted.

Subsection 6: In order to be confirmed, Supreme Court nominees must receive a two-thirds majority vote of approval. Once a nominee has been confirmed, the Chief Justice or the Chief Justices' designee shall swear in the new Justice.

Subsection 7: Lower court nominees—i.e. Trial Judges and Magistrates—shall go through the same confirmation process as a Supreme Court nominee. To be confirmed, lower court nominees must receive a majority vote of approval from the Senate. Once a nominee has been confirmed, the Chief Justice or the Chief Justices' designee shall swear in the new judge.

Section 9 The Passage of Budgets

Subsection 1: In accordance with the SGA Constitution and Code, the President shall submit, in writing, the annual SGA budget to the Chair of the Finance Committee (FC). Upon the President's submitting the budget, the FC shall take a maximum of fourteen (14) calendar days to review the budget.

Subsection 2: During the fourteen (14) day review process, the FC shall have the discretion to make any and all alterations to the proposed, annual SGA budget. By the end of the FC's review process, the FC must approve the SGA budget by a majority vote, and it must submit the SGA budget in the form of a Budget Act to the Speaker of the Senate. This Budget Act shall be placed on the agenda for the next special or regular Senate meeting.

Subchapter 3: The FC shall have the authority to summon members of the SGA to testify before the committee to inquire about specific budget proposals. These hearings shall follow the same procedure laid out in the SRS.

Subchapter 4: The Senate must approve the SGA budget by a majority vote. If this Budget Act is not approved by Senate or is sent back to committee, the process to reintroduce the Budget Act shall follow that of any other piece of legislation.

Subchapter 5: Any and all Budget Acts intended for the Legislative, Executive, and Judicial branches must originate in the FC.

Chapter V Senate Leadership

Section 1 The Speaker of the Senate

Subsection 1: The nominations and the election of the Speaker shall be conducted in accordance with the procedures outlined in the Constitution. If the Speakership is vacated between the beginning and the end of the legislative session for any reason, the following procedure will be followed: First, the Deputy Speaker shall serve as Interim Speaker until a new Speaker is elected; Second, nominations for Speaker shall be held at the next special or regular Senate meeting following the vacancy; Third, the election for Speaker shall occur at the next special or regular Senate meeting following the nominations; Fourth, the Speaker shall be elected by a majority vote of approval from the full Senate.

Subsection 2: The Speaker will be responsible for signing all legislation that the full Senate passes. Once the legislation has been signed, the Speaker shall present it to the appropriate party for approval or record keeping.

Subsection 3: The Speaker will be responsible for sending out the meeting agenda twenty-four (24) hours before the regular scheduled Senate meetings. The Speaker will be responsible for reserving rooms for the Senate meetings. The Speaker will hold

interviews, in partnership with the Deputy Speaker and the Chairperson of the Senate, for applicants wanting to fill Senate vacancies.

Subsection 4: The Speaker has full voting rights but will not serve on any standing or special Senate committees. The Speaker has the right to call or cancel a Senate meeting in accordance with the rules established in the Constitution, Code, and SRS.

Subsection 5: The Speaker must add any item to the agenda that is submitted by a standing or special Senate committee as well as any other fellow senator. If the Speaker wants to include their own agenda item, they must receive a majority vote of approval from the Ethics Committee for it to be included on the agenda.

Subsection 6: Only the Speaker shall have the authority to invite guest speakers to come before the Senate.

Section 2 The Deputy Speaker of the Senate

Subsection 1: The Deputy Speaker is a non-paid legislative position. The Deputy Speaker is nominated from the full body of the Senate. They shall be elected in accordance with the following procedure: First, the Speaker shall nominate a Deputy Speaker at the second regular Senate meeting of the legislative session; Second, the election for Deputy Speaker shall occur after the Speaker makes his or her nomination; Third, the Deputy Speaker shall be elected by a majority vote of approval from the full Senate. If the Speakership is vacated, the Deputy Speaker shall serve as Interim Speaker until a new Speaker is elected

Subsection 2: In the absence of the Speaker, the Deputy Speaker shall fill the role of the Speaker.

Subsection 3: The Deputy Speaker is responsible for collecting standing committee minutes and attendance records at committee meetings.

Subsection 4: The Deputy Speaker is responsible for collecting attendance records of Senators that attend outside events as written in Chapter IV of the SRS.

Subsection 4: The Deputy Speaker shall, in partnership with the Speaker and the Chairperson, will hold interviews for students who have applied for Senate vacancies.

Subsection 5: The Deputy Speaker will have the same rights as any other senator. The Deputy Speaker shall be allowed to serve as the chair of a standing Senate committee.

Subsection 6: In the absence of the Chairperson from a special or regular Senate meeting, the Deputy Speaker shall fill the role of the Chairperson.

Section 3 The Chairperson of the Senate

Subsection 1: The Chairperson is a non-paid legislative position. The Chairperson is nominated from the full body of the Senate. They shall be elected in accordance with the following procedure: First, nominations for Chairperson shall be held at the first regular Senate meeting of the legislative session; Second, the election for Chairperson shall occur at the next special or regular Senate meeting following the nominations; Third, the Chairperson shall be elected by a majority vote of approval from the full Senate. The Chairperson is second in the line of succession to the Speaker, after the Deputy Speaker.

Subsection 2: The Chairperson will serve as the official parliamentarian in the Senate. The Chairperson will preside over all special and regular Senate meetings.

Subsection 3: The Chairperson will be responsible for enforcing all Senate rules prescribed in the SRS.

Subsection 4: The Chairperson will have the same rights as any other senator. The Chairperson shall be allowed to serve as the chair of a standing Senate committee.

Section 4 Presiding Over Senate Meetings

Subsection 1: In the event that the Speaker of the Senate, Deputy Speaker of the Senate, and/or Chairperson of the Senate cannot preside over a Senate meeting, the Speaker of the Senate shall be allowed to appoint a Speaker Pro Tempore to preside over the meeting.

Subsection 2: The Speaker Pro Tempore must be an incumbent senator. The appointment of a Speaker Pro Tempore shall only require the approval of the Speaker. The Speaker Pro Tempore shall only have the authority to preside over the Senate meetings, and they shall not be able to fulfill any other duties of the Speaker outlined in the Constitution, Code, or SRS.

Chapter VI Campus Involvement

Section 1: Senator Requirements

Subsection 1: Senators shall be expected to represent the student body; therefore, Senators-at-Large are expected to either be a member of an outside organization or attend one (1) meeting and/or event of an outside organization.

Subsection 2: Senators who fail to meet the requirements listed in Subsection 1 will obtain a one-half (1/2) absence per event/meeting, totaling no more than one (1) full absence per semester.

Subsection 3: Senators cannot appeal the absences.