

CHANGES TO THE CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I: LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

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SECTION 2. Every undergraduate student of Georgetown University shall be entitled to **elected** representation ~~on~~ **in** the Senate on the basis of their ~~residence during the academic year~~ **class standing**, who shall be elected in the Fall of each academic year **notwithstanding at-large representation**.

SECTION 2.1. The Senate shall have the power to enact bylaws which determine the total number of Senators, ~~the size or composition of an individual Senator's geographic representative district~~, apportionment of the Senate, **the timing of the elections**, and other issues reasonably related to how Senate seats are distributed among the undergraduate student body. Such bylaws shall only be adopted or amended by a five-sixths majority of the entire Senate membership.

SECTION 2.2. Candidates for the Senate shall ~~only run in the representative district in which they reside to~~ **represent only the class standing of which they are a part, notwithstanding at-large representation**, and voters shall only vote for Senators ~~in~~ **of** their own ~~representative district~~ **class standing, notwithstanding at-large representation**.

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SECTION 8. The Senate shall have the plenary power to appropriate all Student Association funds, including the aggregate funds from the Student Activities Fee, among the agencies, funding boards, organizations and initiatives it deems fit, including its own annual Operating Budget; all budgets shall be voted upon by two-thirds majority of the Senate following consultation by University administrators, **any miscellaneous organizations as specified by the bylaws** and any and all advisory boards ~~and GPB~~ as specified in the by-laws, and presented to the President of the Student Body for their signature or veto by a time stipulated in the by-laws. The Senate shall also have the power as stipulated in the by-laws to obtain full disclosure of any and all financial records from all advisory boards, organizations and initiatives that are funded by the Student Association.

CHANGES TO THE BYLAWS

1. Membership and Formation of the Senate

1.01 The Senate shall consist of ~~twenty-nine~~ **twenty-four [24]** elected members, elected as follows.

(a) ~~The Senate shall divide all student residences into geographic districts consisting of an approximately equal student to senator ratio in each district. This ration shall be derived by dividing the total number of students by the total number of senators representing districts.~~ **Elections shall be based upon class standing, with the freshmen class receiving six [6] senators, sophomores receiving five [5] senators, juniors receiving five [5] senators, and seniors receiving five [5] senators.**

(b) ~~There shall eight districts elected on a geographic basis. They are listed as follows, with the geographic district followed by its residence halls and the number of Senators to be elected from each:~~ **There shall be three [3] additional at-large seats elected by the sophomore, junior, and senior classes. The freshmen class is ineligible to run for these seats or vote in these elections.**

— Freshman North: Darnall Hall and Harbin Hall (three [3] senators)

— Freshman South: New South Hall and Village C West (three [3] senators)

— North Campus: Henle Village, Northeast Triangle (three [3] senators)

— East Campus: Alumni Square, LXR, Nevils, Townhouses (four [4] senators)

— South Campus: Village A (two [2] senators)

— West Campus: Southwest Quad (three [3] senators)

~~— Central Campus: Copley, Former Jesuit Residence, Village C East (three [3] senators)~~

~~— Off Campus (four [4] senators)~~

~~(e) A single election shall be held for all candidates within a district. The number of winners shall be equal to the number of seats available for contestation.~~

~~(d) There shall be four additional at large seats elected by the entire student body.~~

(c) The five [5] sophomore class seats, the five [5] junior class seats, and the five [5] senior class seats shall be hereafter referred to as the “Spring Class.” The six [6] freshmen class seats and three [3] at-large seats shall be hereafter referred to as the “Fall Class.”

(d) The Speaker, the Vice-Speaker, and the Election Commission shall set the date of the election of the Spring Class in the month of April and the date of the election of the Fall Class in the month of September. For the Spring Class, class standing will be based on the following school year.

(e) The legislative term shall expire upon the election of the Spring Class.

1.02 Prior to the Election Commission’s information sessions on the Senate, the GUSA Senate must host at least one event per semester to encourage members of underrepresented communities to run for the Senate prior to the mandated Fall and Spring Class elections. They must work with members of such communities to ensure proper consultation and inclusivity

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2. Officers

2.01 The Senate shall elect a Speaker and a Vice-Speaker ~~at the second meeting of each new legislative session~~ **at the first legislative session after either office becomes vacant. The offices of Speaker and Vice-Speaker shall automatically become vacant upon the election of the Fall Class. In the absence of an elected Speaker or Vice Speaker, the Vice President may preside. When both offices are simultaneously vacant,** the Speaker and Vice-Speaker shall be elected by means of a simultaneous vote which shall be taken down by the Executive Officer.

2.06 The Ways and Means Committee shall solicit ~~two~~ **one** candidates to serve in the positions of Executive Officer of the Senate, and present the candidates to the Senate at its second meeting for a vote via Instant Runoff Voting. All undergraduate students who are not already a member of the GUSA Senate are eligible to apply for the position. The position shall be for a full year ~~and be awarded with a \$200 stipend per semester from the Senate operating budget.~~ The Executive Officers shall be responsible for:

(a) Maintaining a Senate roster. The roster shall include the ~~district of representation,~~ current address, preferred email address, cell phone number, school, and year of graduation of all members of the Senate.

(b) Attending all Senate meetings. Should the Executive Officer be unable to attend a meeting, they shall be required to secure a substitute to temporarily assume the duties of the position, and notify the Speaker of their absence in ~~advance~~ **advance** and provide contact information for their substitute.

(c) Taking attendance and minutes at all Senate meetings.

(d) Archiving all Senate minutes, bills, resolutions, reports and recommendations in the public Senate archive.

(e) Assisting the Senate in ruling on matters regarding the procedure of Senate business.

(f) Providing advice on all bills and resolutions so that they are consistent with the bylaws and Constitution of GUSA.

(g) Utilizing social media as appropriate in order to properly inform the public of Senate proceedings.

(h) Maintaining the GUSA Senate website

(i) All other duties as requested by members of the Ways and Means Committee.

(k) A new Executive Officer shall be selected when the position is vacated or when the current Executive Officer is no longer able to carry out their duties.

2.14 The Finance and Appropriations Chair and committee members shall be elected after the swearing in of the Fall Class.

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4. Standing Committees

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4.08 The Finance and Appropriations Committee shall be the only Committee that may produce bills to allocate funding from either the Student Association operating budget or Student Activities Fee account(s).

(a) Composition of Committee:

The Finance and Appropriations Committee Chair must be a Senator, and shall be elected by a majority concurrence of the Senate via instant runoff voting which shall also be taken down by the Secretary. In addition to the Chair, there shall be ~~eight~~ **ten [10]** Senators who shall be elected by majority concurrence by the Senate to serve on the Committee; no more than three Senators of the Finance & Appropriations Committee shall serve concurrently on another Committee. Any Senator elected to serve on the Finance & Appropriations Committee shall be required to attend a comprehensive informational session on the funding process, conducted by the Director of the Center for Student Programs or his/her designee. No Senator may vote on an advisory board budget bill before the completion of this training session. The Chair of the Council of Advisory Boards will serve as an external member of the Finance and Appropriations Committee. The elected Finance and Appropriations CAB liaison will serve as the official non-voting GUSA representative to CAB, as outlined in the CAB constitution, and the Chair of CAB will similarly serve as an external non-voting member of the Finance and Appropriations Committee. The duty of the CAB Chair within the Finance and Appropriations Committee is to regularly attend all Committee meetings and to vocalize the collective concerns and interests of the six advisory boards in the context of budget allocation decisions. In addition, the Vice President of Student Affairs or his or her designee, the Senior Business Manager for the Office of Student Affairs, and the GUSA advisor shall serve **on** the Committee as non-voting advisors for any and all allocations of the Student Activity Fee.

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4.11 **Two [2] Senators shall serve as Outreach Officers responsible for keeping the campus community informed of the actions of the GUSA Senate and informing the Senate of community concerns relevant to its business.**

4.12 **All Senators serving on a Policy Team shall be members of a standing Senate Policy Committee to meet weekly and discuss the pending business of their respective Policy Teams. The Chair of the Policy Committee shall be elected via instant runoff voting by the full Senate. Senators serving on the Senate Policy Committee shall be instructed to attend the relevant Deputy Chief of Staff cluster meeting according to their Policy Team involvement.**

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9. Senate Transitions

9.01 ~~The Transition Committee is charged with advocating for students over the summer; working in conjunction with the Election Commission to ensure that elections take place on time; and with publicizing elections, and recruiting potential candidates, and informing all students about the Senate.~~

9.02 ~~Elections for the Senate shall be no later than a month after the first day of classes.~~

~~9.03—The Transition Committee shall elect from among its members a Chair and a Vice Chair.~~

~~9.04—The Transition Committee shall certify the results of the Senate elections at the first full Senate meeting.~~

~~9.05—The Vice President (or the Executive Officer in the absence of the Vice President) shall chair the first meeting of the Senate during each new legislative session, and shall chair the second meeting until the election of a new Speaker.~~