A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE BY-LAWS REGARDING REQUIREMENTS FOR ORGANIZATIONS TO GAIN CHARTER

WHEREAS the Student Senate Organizations Committee, overseeing the temporary to full charter process for new organizations, has seen many organizations gain temporary charter and quickly lose it due to lack of student interest,

NOTING that adding a requirement for an organization to hold an event before presenting for temporary charter would add a level of earnestness to the chartering process, reducing the amount of organization turnover that occurs each year,

NOTING there are arbitrary changes in membership requirements from temporary to full charter that can be clarified, and that these organizations must keep their Orgs@SMU page roster contacts up to date so that the Student Senate Finance and Organizations Committees can easily contact them

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that Article V, Section 4, Subsection 4, part d of the Southern Methodist University Student Senate By-Laws be amended to read as follows:

d. RECOGNITION: Student organizations must be chartered or be in the process of receiving a charter in order to be recognized by the University.

i. Preliminary Requirements: groups must adhere to the Student Senate By-Laws including the section dealing with responsibilities and requirements of student organizations. To begin the recognition process, the group must submit the Application to Initiate the Chartering Process, including:

1. Constitution, with a nondiscrimination clause compliant with Article II Section 4 of the SMU Student Body Constitution
2. Leadership roster with contact information
3. Membership roster including at least ten SMU student members
4. Name and contact information of an SMU faculty/staff advisor

5. Evidence of having hosted at least one event, with or without funding obtained through Senate Weekly funding, prior to presenting to the Organizations Committee

ii. Temporary Status: Upon receipt of the Application, the Organizations Committee will invite the organization’s leadership and advisor to a committee meeting. In order to receive Temporary status an organization must demonstrate to the committee that it shows promise that it will be beneficial to the University community, that it will be a good financial steward of the Students’ Association monies, and that it will contribute to the University in a manner different than any existing student organization. If the committee determines the organization has met the necessary requirements, it will make a recommendation to the Student Senate that the organization be granted Temporary status.

1. During the Temporary period the Organizations Committee Chair will provide assistance to the organization as needed.

2. One semester after Temporary Chartered Status is granted, organizations are required to attend a Charter Review with the Organizations Committee to ensure that they are continuing to meet all requirements

iii. Full Chartered Status: After the one year Temporary period, the Organizations Committee will meet a second time with the organization’s leadership. At this point the Committee will recommend to extend or to terminate temporary status, or that the organization will advance to chartered status. If the committee determines the organization has met the necessary requirements, it will make a recommendation to the Student Senate that the organization be granted Chartered status.

Requirements of Chartered status include:

1. Must hold an event aimed at membership growth during Temporary period

2. Must experience a leadership transition during Temporary period

3. Must have a minimum of ten members

4. Must demonstrate adherence to the organization’s Constitution
5. Must be an ongoing benefit to the University Community
6. Must maintain an updated student roster on its Orgs@SMU page

Respectfully Submitted,

Margaret Wilbanks
Simmons Senator

Olivia Buerkle
Organizations Committee Chair