

CONSTITUTION  
OF THE  
SENATE  
OF THE  
UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT GOVERNMENT  
OF  
PRINCETON UNIVERSITY  
AS AMENDED

WITH DATES OF AMENDMENT AND EXPLANATORY APPENDICES



MAY 7, 1995.—Ratified by the undergraduates.

DECEMBER 8, 2013.—Revised by the Senate.

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PRINCETON UNIVERSITY UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT GOVERNMENT

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## FOREWORD

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The Senate of the Undergraduate Student Government of Princeton University is pleased to present this revised edition of the Senate Constitution.

Student government at Princeton University has played an important role in representing and serving undergraduates in campus policy decisions for many decades, from the original Senior Council of the early 20th century, to the Undergraduate Council formed in 1927, to the present Senate of the Undergraduate Student Government.

On October 27, 1927, the Board of Trustees of Princeton University passed 3 resolutions that have served as the basis for the existence of student government at Princeton University:

(1) Resolved, that the Board recognize the Student Council as the official representative body of the undergraduates.

(2) Resolved, that opportunity will be afforded the Student Council for consultation with the appropriate Committees of the Board of Trustees or the Faculty before final action is taken on matters of undergraduate life.

(3) Resolved, that subject to action of the Faculty, the proposal that the Student Council be represented on the Discipline Committee and the Committee on Non-Athletic Organizations, be approved.

From the adoption of these resolutions came the first incarnation of student government that represented all classes—the Student Council, later renamed the Undergraduate Council.

The legacy and mission of the original Undergraduate Council continues today in the Senate of the Undergraduate Student Government. Indeed, the Senate has played an active role in supporting and contributing to campus life, from advocating for positive policy changes with the administration, faculty, and Board of Trustees; to organizing campus social activities; to sponsoring academic and issue-awareness events; to providing services to the University community.

In these endeavors, the Senate has been guided by its governing Constitution. This current edition of the Constitution is the result of the general revision undertaken by the Senate during the summer and fall of 2013 and the referendum question approved by the undergraduates in the spring of 2014. For more information, see the Revision Notes in Appendix F.

THE SENATE.

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Cite this Constitution: S. Const.

To cite the provisions in this Constitution, use section and inferior subdivision number. Thus, S. Const. § 000(a) refers to subsection (a) of section 000 of the Senate Constitution (also, section 000(a) of the Senate Constitution). For more information, see Appendix B.

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**PREAMBLE**

THE SENATE OF THE UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT GOVERNMENT OF PRINCETON UNIVERSITY is dedicated to the proposition that students must be included in the making of decisions that affect them. We hark back to the words of Woodrow Wilson: “We shall fight for the things which we have always carried nearest our hearts . . . for the right of those who submit to authority to have a voice in their own governments.”

## ARTICLE I—PRELIMINARY PROVISIONS

### § 101. Name

The name of this association is “Senate of the Undergraduate Student Government of Princeton University”.

[Art. I, § A.]—(Amend. 2, § 2, Apr. 25, 2014.)

### § 102. Organization

The Senate is comprised of—

- (1) each voting and nonvoting member of the Senate;
- (2) the Executive Committee;
- (3) each Core Committee;
- (4) each committee or subcommittee established by or under this Constitution.

[Art. I, § B.]—(Amend. 2, § 3, Apr. 25, 2014.)

### § 103. Objects

The objects of the Senate are as follows:

- (1) Represent the undergraduates to the—
  - (A) faculty;
  - (B) administration;
  - (C) Board of Trustees; and
  - (D) individuals or groups outside of the University whenever such representation is necessary.
- (2) Exercise leadership in any activity affecting undergraduate life.
- (3) Provide services for the University and members of the University community.
- (4) Discuss, deliberate, and take an official position on—
  - (A) a question relating to or affecting undergraduate life; or
  - (B) any other question of interest to undergraduates.

[Art. I, § C.]—(Amend. 2, § 4, Apr. 25, 2014.)

### § 104. Definitions and Rules of Construction

(a) DEFINITIONS.—For definitions of terms used in this Constitution, see section 1201.

(b) RULES OF CONSTRUCTION.—For rules of construction for this Constitution, see section 1202.

[Dec. 8, 2013.]—(Amend. 2, § 14(b)(1), (2), Apr. 25, 2014.)

## ARTICLE II—SENATE MEMBERS

### § 201. Voting Senate Members

The voting Senate members are—

- (1) the President;

- (2) the Vice President;
- (3) the Treasurer;
- (4) the Chair of each Core Committee;
- (5) the 10 U-Councilors; and
- (6) the 6 Class Senators.

[Art. II, § A.]

## § 202. Nonvoting Senate Members

(a) **REQUIRED NONVOTING SENATE MEMBERS.**—Subject to Senate confirmation in accordance with subsection (c), the President shall appoint each of the following nonvoting Senate members:

- (1) Two Projects Board Co-Chairs.
- (2) One Executive Secretary.
- (3) One Chief Elections Manager.
- (4) One SGRC Chair.

(b) **ADDITIONAL NONVOTING SENATE MEMBERS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Subject to Senate confirmation in accordance with subsection (c), the President may appoint each of the following nonvoting Senate members:

- (A) One Parliamentarian.
- (B) One Communications Director.
- (C) One Projects Manager.
- (D) Not more than 2 IT Committee Chairs if the Senate creates an IT Committee as described in section 703(e).

(2) **OTHER NONVOTING SENATE MEMBERS.**—Subject to Senate confirmation in accordance with subsection (c), the President may appoint a nonvoting Senate member not specified in this Constitution.

(c) **SENATE CONFIRMATION.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—An undergraduate appointed under this section to a nonvoting office shall begin the term of office upon confirmation by a majority vote of the Senate.

(2) **LIMITATION.**—The Senate may confirm or reject an appointment within 2 regular meetings after the President makes the appointment. If the Senate does not act within the 2 regular meetings, the appointment shall be considered rejected.

(d) **DUTIES.**—

(1) **PRESIDENT SHALL PRESCRIBE.**— The President shall prescribe each duty of each nonvoting Senate member.

(2) **ACCORDANCE WITH CONSTITUTION.**—Each duty shall be—

- (A) supplementary to any duty provided by or under this Constitution; and
- (B) in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution.

[Art. II, § B; art. III, § C.]

**§ 203. Absence of Senate Member; Substitutes**

## (a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) APPLICABILITY.—This section applies to a Senate member who—

(A) is unable to attend a meeting or other mandatory event as defined in section 1201(9); and

(B) wants to avoid being marked absent.

(2) NOT MARKED ABSENT.—The Executive Secretary shall not mark a Senate member absent if, at least 24 hours before the meeting or other mandatory event, the Senate member—

(A) secures a substitute as provided in this section; and

(B) informs the Executive Secretary of the name of the substitute.

## (3) MARKED ABSENT.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Executive Secretary shall mark a Senate member absent if the Senate member—

(i) does not attend the meeting or other mandatory event in question; and

(ii) does not satisfy the conditions under paragraph (2).

(B) NOTE OF MEMBER ACTIONS.—In the case of subparagraph (A), the Executive Secretary shall note in the attendance record—

(i) whether the absent Senate member notified the Executive Secretary of the absence before the meeting or other mandatory event, and if so, the time of that notification and the reason for the absence; and

(ii) whether the absent Senate member secured or attempted to secure a substitute within 24 hours before the meeting or other mandatory event in question.

## (b) SENATOR; PROCESS.—

(1) ELIGIBLE NONVOTING SENATE MEMBERS.—A Senator may first contact any nonvoting Senate member, excluding the Executive Secretary of the Senate and the Parliamentarian, and determine if such an eligible nonvoting Senate member may serve as a substitute.

(2) OTHER UNDERGRADUATE.—If no eligible nonvoting Senate member is able to serve as a substitute, the Senator may select any undergraduate in the corresponding class to serve as a substitute.

## (c) U-COUNCILOR; PROCESS.—

(1) ELIGIBLE NONVOTING SENATE MEMBERS.—A U-Councilor may first contact any nonvoting Senate member, excluding the Executive Secretary of the Senate and the Parliamentarian, and determine if such an eligible nonvoting Senate member may serve as a substitute.

(2) OTHER UNDERGRADUATE.—If no eligible nonvoting Senate member is able to serve as a substitute, the U-Councilor may select any undergraduate to serve as a substitute.

## (d) EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (2):



(A) EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS.—An Executive Committee member may select any nonvoting Senate member, excluding the Executive Secretary of the Senate and the Parliamentarian, as substitute.

(i) If no eligible nonvoting Senate member is able to serve as substitute, the Executive Committee Member may select any undergraduate to serve as a substitute.

(B) CORE COMMITTEE CHAIRS.—A Core Committee Chair may select to serve as a substitute a—

(i) committee member; or

(ii) Any nonvoting Senate member, excluding the Executive Secretary of the Senate and the Parliamentarian.

(iii) If no eligible nonvoting Senate member is able to serve as substitute, the Core Committee Chair may select any undergraduate to serve as a substitute.

(2) ABSENCE FROM EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING.—If an Executive Committee member is unable to attend an Executive Committee meeting and wants to avoid an unexcused absence, the Executive Committee member shall select as a substitute a voting Senate member who is not an Executive Committee member.

(e) NONVOTING SENATE MEMBERS; PROCESS.—

(1) ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENT.—

(A) PRESIDENT SHALL PRESCRIBE.—For each nonvoting Senate member appointed under section 202, the President shall prescribe the attendance requirement to each meeting or other mandatory event upon the member beginning the term of office.

(B) SENATE MAY OVERTURN DECISION.—The Senate may overturn the decision by a majority vote.

(2) NONVOTING COMMITTEE CHAIR.—The provision that applies under subsection (d)(1)(B) also applies to a nonvoting Committee Chair to whom an attendance requirement under paragraph (1) applies.

(3) OTHER NONVOTING SENATE MEMBERS.—The provision that applies under subsection (d)(1)(A) also applies to a nonvoting Senate member to whom an attendance requirement under paragraph (1) applies.

(f) COMMITTEE WITH CO-CHAIRS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—If a committee has Co-Chairs, only 1 Co-Chair must be present at a meeting or other mandatory event.

(2) SUBSTITUTE ENCOURAGED.—An absent Co-Chair is strongly encouraged to select a Committee member to serve as a substitute.

(g) VOTING POWER AND DUTIES OF SUBSTITUTES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—

(A) VOTING SENATE MEMBERS.—For the duration of the absence of a voting Senate member, the substitute shall have the voting power of that member and shall perform the duties of that member.

(B) NONVOTING SENATE MEMBERS.—For the duration of the absence of a nonvoting Senate member, the substitute shall perform the duties of that member.

(2) BINDING PROXY STATEMENT.—A voting Senate member may provide a binding proxy statement to the substitute.

[Art. II, § C.]

[Reviser’s Note: The amendments made by section 2 of Senate Resolution 34-2015 (being Senate Constitution Amendment No. 3, approved May 9, 2015), including the repeal of section 203 and the insertion of a new section 203, are effective, pursuant to section 4(a) of such Senate Resolution, beginning on the date on which the Senate adopts a rule regulating the attendance of each Senate member to each meeting or other mandatory event. Upon such date, section 203 reads as follows:]

### **§ 203. Attendance**

(a) *IN GENERAL.*—*The Senate shall adopt a rule regulating the attendance of each Senate member to each meeting or other mandatory event.*

(b) *ABSENCES.*—*In the rule adopted under subsection (a), the Senate shall define each condition for which each voting and nonvoting Senate member is considered absent for purposes of attendance review as described in section 903.*

[Amend. 3, § 2, May 9, 2015.]

### **§ 204. Voting Power**

A voting Senate member has 1 vote on each question before the Senate.

[Art. II, § D.]

### **§ 205. Vacancies**

(a) VOTING SENATE OFFICE EXCEPT PRESIDENT.—Subject to subsection (c):

(1) SENATOR.—If an office of Senator is vacant, the President and Class President of the corresponding class shall appoint a replacement.

(2) U-COUNCILOR.—If an office of U-Councilor is vacant, the President, Vice President, U-Council Chair, and CPUC Executive Committee Representative shall appoint a replacement.

(3) EXECUTIVE OFFICER.—If an office of Core Committee Chair, the office of Treasurer, or the office of Vice President is vacant, the President shall appoint a replacement.

(b) PRESIDENT.—

(1) VICE PRESIDENT BECOMES PRESIDENT.—If the office of President is vacant, the Vice President shall become President.

(2) ELECTION OF NEW VICE PRESIDENT.—

(A) SPECIAL ELECTION.—The Chief Elections Manager shall organize a special election within 14 days after the office of Vice President becomes vacant if, within 30 days after that office becomes vacant, there is not a regular election for a new Vice President.

(B) REGULAR ELECTION; INTERIM.—The office of Vice President shall remain vacant if, within 30 days after that office becomes vacant, there is a regular election for a new Vice President. During the interim period, the President shall assume the duties of the Vice President.

(c) FILLING OF VOTING SENATE OFFICE VACANCY.—

(1) APPLICATION AND INTERVIEW PROCESS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Before a vacancy under subsection (a) is filled, the Senate shall organize an application and interview process that is open to each eligible undergraduate.

(B) TIME PERIOD.—The length of time of the process is up to 14 days.

(C) PRESIDENT SHALL ADVERTISE.—The President shall advertise the process in a campus-wide email to each eligible undergraduate.

(2) SENATE CONFIRMATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—An undergraduate appointed under subsection (a) to fill a vacant office shall begin the term of office upon confirmation by a majority vote of the Senate.

(B) SENATE TO CONSIDER AT NEXT REGULAR MEETING.—The Senate shall confirm or reject an appointment at the next regular meeting following the conclusion of the application and interview process.

(d) NONVOTING SENATE OFFICE.—If a nonvoting Senate office is vacant, the vacancy shall be filled by the original appointment process in accordance with section 202.

[Art. II, § F; art. III, § C.]—(Amend. 2, § 6, Apr. 25, 2014.)

## § 206. Term of Office

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) EXECUTIVE OFFICER AND SENATOR.—The term of office of each Executive Officer and each Senator begins on the first day of the spring semester and ends on the day before the first day of the spring semester of the following academic year.

(2) U-COUNCILOR.—The term of office of each U-Councilor begins on June 1 and ends on May 31 of the following calendar year.

(3) NONVOTING SENATE MEMBER.—

(A) APPOINTMENT DURING SPRING SEMESTER.—If a nonvoting Senate member is appointed during the spring semester, the term of office begins upon Senate confirmation and ends on the day before the first day of the spring semester of the following academic year.

(B) APPOINTMENT DURING FALL SEMESTER.—If a nonvoting Senate member is appointed during the fall semester, the term of office begins upon Senate confirmation and ends on the day before the first day of the spring semester of the same academic year.

(b) TERM OF OFFICE OF REPLACEMENT.—The term of office of a replacement under section 205 is for the remainder of the term of office of that office.

(c) REMOVAL.—A Senate member may be removed from office in accordance with article X.

[Art. VII, § C.]—(Amend. 2, § 7, Apr. 25, 2014.)

### **§ 207. Holding of Senate Office Generally**

(a) SENATE MEMBERS MUST BE UNDERGRADUATES.—Each Senate member must be an undergraduate.

(b) SENATE OFFICE MAY BE HELD BY ONLY ONE UNDERGRADUATE.—A Senate office may be held by only 1 undergraduate at any time.

(c) PROHIBITION ON HOLDING MORE THAN ONE ELECTED SENATE OFFICE.—An undergraduate may hold only 1 elected Senate office at any time.

(d) ASSUMPTION OF NEW ELECTED SENATE OR CLASS GOVERNMENT OFFICE.—If an elected Senate member wins election to or is appointed to another elected Senate or Class Government office, that member shall be considered to have resigned the previous elected Senate office upon assuming the new office.

(e) RESIGNATION FROM OFFICE.—

(1) SENATE.—A Senate member shall be considered to have resigned from office if the applicable following provision is satisfied:

(A) SENATE MEMBER EXCEPT PRESIDENT OR VICE PRESIDENT.—In the case of a Senate member except the President or Vice President, the Senate member notifies the President and Vice President in writing of the resignation.

(B) VICE PRESIDENT.—In the case of the Vice President, the Vice President notifies the President in writing of the resignation.

(C) PRESIDENT.—In the case of the President, the President notifies the Vice President in writing of the resignation.

(2) OTHER CONDITIONS GENERALLY.—A Senate member shall be considered to have resigned from office if the Senate member—

(A) withdraws from the University for a leave of absence;

(B) leaves campus for study abroad or field study during the academic year;

(C) is suspended or expelled from the University; or

(D) assumes a new elected Senate or Class Government office as described in subsection (d), in the case of an elected Senate member.

(3) RESIGNATION IS FINAL.—A resignation under this subsection is final, even if the undergraduate in question returns to the University before the end of the term of office.

[Art. II, §§ D, E; art. VII, § E(5)–(6).]—(Amend. 2, § 8, Apr. 25, 2014.)

## ARTICLE III—POWERS OF THE SENATE GENERALLY

### § 301. Advisory Power

The Senate may discuss, deliberate, and take an official position on—

- (1) a question relating to or affecting undergraduate life; or
- (2) any other question of interest to undergraduates.

[Art. III, § A.]

### § 302. Review of Information and Actions

(a) IN GENERAL.—In accordance with in this section, the Senate may call any Senate member, committee, or subcommittee to present to the Senate any information or action that the Senate wishes to review.

(b) INITIATION OF REVIEW.—The following Senate members may initiate a review:

- (1) The President.
- (2) The Vice President.
- (3) 3 voting Senate members.

(c) VICE PRESIDENT SHALL NOTIFY.—When a review is initiated, the Vice President shall notify the Senate member, committee, or subcommittee in question at least 7 days before the meeting when the Senate shall conduct the review.

(d) SENATE MAY OVERTURN ACTION.—Except as otherwise provided in this Constitution, the Senate may overturn an action of a Senate member, committee, or subcommittee by a majority vote.

(e) OVERTURNING ACTIONS OF ELECTIONS MANAGERS.—In a standing rule established under section 406, the Senate may specify procedures and voting thresholds for overturning an action of the Chief Elections Manager or an Elections Manager.

[Art. III, § B.]—(Amend. 2, § 9, Apr. 25, 2014; amend. 9, § 1, Oct. 25, 2020.)

### § 303. U-Councilors on CPUC Executive Committee; Appointments

(a) U-COUNCILORS ON CPUC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—After the spring U-Councilor election and before the end of the academic year, the Senate shall appoint 2 newly elected U-Councilors to serve on the CPUC Executive Committee by the system of the single transferable vote in accordance with section 4.4 of the CPUC Charter.<sup>1</sup>

(2) U-COUNCIL CHAIR.—

(A) PRESIDENT SHALL SELECT.—The President shall select one of the U-Councilors appointed to serve on the CPUC Executive Committee under paragraph (1) to serve as the U-Council Chair.

(B) SENATE MAY OVERTURN SELECTION.—The Senate may overturn the selection by a majority vote.

(3) DUTIES

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<sup>1</sup> Charter of the Council of the Princeton Univ. Cm § 4.4, at 6 (May 2013), *available at* <https://cpuc.princeton.edu/sites/cpuc/files/charter-5-13.pdf> [hereinafter CPUC Charter].

- (A) U-COUNCIL CHAIR.—The U-Council Chair shall coordinate the—  
 (i) CPUC-related efforts of the U-Councilors; and  
 (ii) reporting of CPUC actions to the Senate.

(B) CPUC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE.—The CPUC Executive Committee Representative shall assist the U-Council Chair in the duties of the U-Council Chair.

(b) NONVOTING SENATE MEMBER.—As described in section 202(c), the Senate may confirm an undergraduate as a nonvoting Senate member by a majority vote.

(c) VACANCIES.—As described in section 205(c)(2), the Senate may confirm an undergraduate to a vacant office by a majority vote, except as provided for in section 303(d).

(d) HONOR COMMITTEE AND FACULTY-STUDENT COMMITTEE ON DISCIPLINE.—The Senate may by a 2/3 vote confirm an undergraduate to serve on—

- (1) the Honor Committee; or
- (2) the Faculty-Student Committee on Discipline.

Confirmation deliberations conducted under this section (303(d)) must take place first during an open meeting, followed by further deliberations in an executive session. All confirmation votes conducted under this section (303(d)) must take place in an executive session, where only the final vote tally (but not individual votes) will be made public as certified by the Vice President.

(e) OTHER COMMITTEES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise provided in section 305(b), the Senate may by a majority vote confirm an undergraduate to serve on—

- (A) a Core Committee or a subcommittee thereof; or
- (B) a University committee for which the Senate is responsible for appointing a member.

(2) BEGINNING OF TERM.—Except as otherwise provided in this Constitution or in applicable University policy, an undergraduate appointed under this section to serve as a member of a committee shall begin the term of office upon Senate confirmation as described in paragraph (1).

[Art. III, §§ C, G.]—(Amend. 5, § 1, Apr. 30, 2017.)

### **§ 304. Budget and Spending**

(a) SEMESTER BUDGET.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Treasurer shall present a proposed Senate semester budget to the Senate at a special virtual meeting held after the June 1<sup>st</sup> preceding the Fall semester, and at the first regular meeting during the Spring semester.

The Senate shall have 2 meetings to approve the proposed budget by a majority vote.

(A) MEETING REQUIREMENT.— The Senate must hold two special virtual meetings in the month of June and two regular meetings during the 30 days following the beginning of the Spring semester.

(i) The vote to adopt the budget in a special virtual meeting shall be taken asynchronously, unless 3/5 of the total number of voting Senate Members vote to waive this requirement at that special virtual meeting.

(ii) The second special virtual meeting may not be held within 7 days of the first special virtual meeting.

(iii) A recording of the special virtual meeting shall be made available to those Members not present at the special virtual meeting.

(a) Any asynchronous vote to adopt the budget may not be held until at least 48 hours following the provision of the virtual meeting recording to Members not present.

(B) SPENDING PERIODS.—

(i) The budget passed in June shall cover spending from July 1<sup>st</sup> through the end of the Fall semester.

(ii) The budget passed following the beginning of the Spring semester shall cover spending from the end of the Fall semester to June 30<sup>th</sup>.

(C) BUDGET ACCESSIBILITY.— The Treasurer shall make accessible and readily available to the Senate, including in electronic form, a proposed budget for review at least three days prior to the vote to approve that budget.

(D) NO IRREGULAR SPENDING.— The Treasurer shall not distribute funds that have not been appropriated in the duly approved Senate semester budget or otherwise approved by the Senate under 304(c).

(2) PROCEDURE IF BUDGET IS NOT APPROVED.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—If the Senate does not approve the proposed budget before the third meeting of the Senate's term, the Senate shall consider the most recent proposed budget at each regular meeting until the Senate approves the proposed budget.

(B) TREASURER MAY MODIFY.—The Treasurer may modify the proposed budget between each meeting until the Senate approves the budget, and shall present a summary of modifications to the Senate in the new proposed budget.

(b) MONTHLY EXPENDITURE REPORT.—Each month, the Treasurer shall present to the Senate a full accounting and description of each expenditure of Senate funds for that month, including each Projects Board grant and expenditure.

(c) EXPENDITURES OVER \$1000.—

(1) LIMIT.—A Senate member, committee, or subcommittee may not make or approve an expenditure of over \$1000 of Senate funds unless the Senate has approved that expenditure in accordance with paragraph (2).

(2) SENATE APPROVAL.—The Senate may approve an expenditure under paragraph (1) by a majority vote.

## (d) BUDGET: REVIEW AND WARNING.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Senate may place the budget under review or issue a warning.

(A) A majority vote is required to issue a warning.

(B) A 2/3 vote is required to place the budget under review.

(2) REVIEW.—If the Senate places the budget under review, then for 30 days, the Senate may approve or reject each expenditure of Senate funds by a majority vote.

(3) WARNING.—If the Senate issues a warning, the Senate publicizes its displeasure with current spending practices.

(e) APPLICABILITY TO PROJECTS BOARD.—The provisions that apply under subsections (c) and (d) also apply to any Projects Board grant or expenditure.

[Art. III, §§ D, E.]

**§ 305. Ad Hoc Committees**

## (a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) SENATE CREATION.—By a majority vote, the Senate may create an ad hoc committee and prescribe its role and each of its duties.

(2) EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.—By a majority vote of the entire voting membership, the Executive Committee may create an ad hoc committee and prescribe its role and each of its duties.

## (b) CHAIR AND MEMBERS.—

(1) PRESIDENT SHALL APPOINT.—The President shall appoint the Committee Chair and each member of an ad hoc committee established under subsection (a).

(2) SENATE MAY OVERTURN APPOINTMENT.—The Senate may overturn an appointment by a majority vote.

(c) EXPIRATION.—Ad hoc committees shall expire at the adjournment of the first regular meeting of the succeeding President's term, unless renewed in accordance with subsection (a).

[Art. III, § F; art. VI, § F(8).]

**§ 306. Curriculum Changes by Faculty**

In accordance with section C(2)(l) of chapter II of the *Rules and Procedures of the Faculty of Princeton University and Other Provisions of Concern to the Faculty*,<sup>2</sup> the Senate may request that the Faculty conduct a second vote on any action on a proposal regarding the undergraduate curriculum.

[Art. III, § H.]

**§ 307. Amendment of the Constitution of the Honor System**


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<sup>2</sup> *Rules and Procedures of the Faculty of Princeton University and Other Provisions of Concern to the Faculty* ch. II, § C(2)(l) (Nov. 2012), available at <https://dof.princeton.edu/sites/dof/files/Rules%20and%20Procedures%20-%20Faculty.pdf>.



In accordance with article VI of the Constitution of the Honor System,<sup>3</sup> upon the initiative of 13 Honor Committee members, the Senate may amend the Constitution of the Honor System by a 3/4 vote of voting Senate members present at a meeting.

[Art. III, § I.]

### § 308. Committee Charters

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Senate may establish a charter for a committee by a majority vote.

(b) AUTHORITY OF CHARTER.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—A charter established under this section shall govern the business of the committee and provide for its orderly and efficient operation.

(2) ACCORDANCE WITH CONSTITUTION.—Each provision of the charter shall be—

(A) supplementary to any applicable provision in this Constitution; and

(B) in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution.

(c) AMENDMENTS TO CHARTERS.—

(1) ONLY SENATE MAY AMEND.—Only the Senate may amend a charter.

(2) AMENDMENT BY MAJORITY VOTE.—The Senate may amend a charter by a majority vote.

(3) RECOMMENDATION FROM CHAIR OR COMMITTEE.—In considering an amendment to a charter, the Senate may consider any recommendation from the chair of the committee or from the entire membership of the committee.

[Dec. 8, 2013.]

### § 309. Campus Policy; Cooperation with Class Governments

(a) SENATE AUTHORITY.—As described in section 301, the Senate has sole responsibility regarding questions of undergraduate life and interests, including questions of campus policy.

(b) COOPERATION WITH CLASS GOVERNMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (2), if a Senate member wants to do a project or other action that would affect a class and encompass an object of Class Government as described in sections 1 or 2 of the Constitution of the Class Governments of the Undergraduate Student Government of Princeton University,<sup>4</sup> that Senate member shall first consult with the corresponding Class Government before taking further action.

(2) FRESHMAN CLASS.—Paragraph (1) does not apply in the case of the freshman class before the Freshman Class Officers are elected.

(3) REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE BY CLASS GOVERNMENT OR CLASS OFFICER.—If a Class Government or Class Officer requests the assistance of a Senate member with a project or other action, that Senate Member may assist.

(4) REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE BY SENATE MEMBER.—A Senate member may request the assistance of a Class Government or a Class Officer in doing a project or other action.

<sup>3</sup> Honor Sys. Const. art. VI (Nov. 2015), available at <https://honor.princeton.edu/constitution>.

<sup>4</sup> Class Govt. Const. §§ 1-2 (Apr. 2014).

[Amend. 2, § 10, Apr. 25, 2014.]

## ARTICLE IV—SENATE MEETINGS AND PROCEDURES

### § 401. Regular Meetings

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to recess schedules, the Senate shall meet at least once each month in—

- (1) September;
- (2) October;
- (3) November;
- (4) December or January;
- (5) February;
- (6) March;
- (7) April; and
- (8) May.

(b) BUDGET MEETINGS.— In addition to the Regular Meetings, the Senate shall meet virtually to consider the Fall budget at least twice in June.

(c) DATE, TIME, AND PLACE OF MEETINGS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subsection (a), the Vice President shall set the date, time, and place of each regular meeting.

(2) EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MAY AMEND.—The Executive Committee may amend the decision by a majority vote.

[Art. IV, § A.]

### § 402. Special Meetings

(a) IN GENERAL.—The President or Vice President may call a special meeting and set its agenda, date, time, and place.

(b) PETITION OF 5 SENATE MEMBERS.—Upon the petition of 5 Senate members, the President shall call a special meeting and in accordance with the petition set its agenda, date, time, and place.

[Art. IV, § B.]

### § 403. Open Meetings

(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise provided in subsection (b), each meeting shall be open and public.

(b) EXECUTIVE SESSION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—By a 2/3 vote, the Senate may—

(A) go into executive session;

(B) determine any individual who may remain in addition to the voting Senate members; and

(C) determine any individual, including a voting Senate member, who must leave if the nature of sensitive business or personnel matters warrants that the individual leave.

(2) PURPOSE.—An executive session is generally reserved for sensitive business or personnel matters.

[Art. IV, § C.]

### § 404. Agenda and Minutes

(a) EXECUTIVE SECRETARY SHALL PUBLISH.—The Executive Secretary shall publish in print or electronic media—

(1) the agenda for each meeting at least 24 hours before that meeting; and

(2) the minutes of each meeting after the Senate approves the minutes.

(b) PUBLICATION IN ELECTRONIC MEDIA.—For the technical action of publishing the materials described in subsection (a) in electronic media, the Executive Secretary may select a designee to perform that action.

(c) SENATE APPROVAL OF MINUTES.—The Senate may approve the minutes of a meeting by a majority vote. If the Senate does not approve the minutes of a meeting within 14 days after that meeting, the minutes shall be considered approved.

[Art. IV, § D.]

### § 405. Quorum

(a) IN GENERAL.—A quorum of the Senate is a majority of voting Senate members. The Senate may validly conduct business only when a quorum is obtained.

(b) ELECTRONIC VOTES.—For conducting a vote through electronic media under a rule established under section 406(a), a quorum shall be considered obtained only if the number of votes cast, including abstentions, is more than half the total number of voting Senate members.

[Art. IV, § E.]

### § 406. Rules; Parliamentary Authority

(a) RULES; PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY.—By a 2/3 vote, the Senate may adopt any special or standing rule that it considers necessary for its orderly and efficient operation.

(b) ROLL-CALL VOTE.—The Senate may order a roll-call vote on any question by a majority vote.

(c) **PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY.**—The rules contained in the current edition of *Robert’s Rules of Order, Newly Revised*<sup>5</sup> shall govern the Senate in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with this Constitution or any rule that the Senate adopts under subsection (a).

[Art. IV, § F.]—(Amend. 3, § 3, May 9, 2015).

## **ARTICLE V—SENATE OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

### **§ 501. Seniority of Executive Officers**

In descending order of seniority, the Executive Officers are the—

- (1) President;
- (2) Vice President;
- (3) Treasurer;
- (4) U-Council Chair;
- (5) CPUC Executive Committee Representative;
- (6) USLC Chair;
- (7) Academics Committee Chair;
- (8) Social Committee Chair;
- (9) CCA Committee Chair; and
- (10) Sustainability Committee Chair.

[Art. V, preliminary section.]—(Amend. 8, § 2, December 13, 2019.)

### **§ 502. Duties of Certain Officers**

(a) **PRESIDENT.**—The President:

- (1) Shall prescribe the structure and organization of Senate work and projects.<sup>6</sup>
- (2) Shall appoint the nonvoting Senate members as described in section 202(a).
- (3) May appoint a nonvoting Senate member as described in section 202(b).
- (4) Shall appoint an undergraduate to fill a vacancy as described in section 205.
- (5) Shall appoint the U-Council Chair as described in section 303(a)(2).
- (6) May call a special meeting as described in section 402.
- (7) Shall work with the Senate and, as described in section 604, the Executive Committee to set the agenda for each regular meeting.
- (8) Shall preside over each meeting of the Executive Committee and set the agenda, date, time, and place of each meeting as described in section 605(b).
- (9) Shall be responsible for the distribution of all Senate funds in conjunction with the Treasurer.
- (10) Shall supervise the work of each committee.
- (11) Shall serve *ex officio* as a nonvoting member of each committee.
- (12) May attend each meeting of each committee.

<sup>5</sup> For the current edition as of February 1, 2020, see Henry M. Robert III et al., *Robert’s Rules of Order, Newly Revised* (11th ed. 2011) [hereinafter *Robert’s Rules*].

<sup>6</sup> See *infra* Appendix E for examples of the organization of Senate work.

(13) Shall serve as the chair of the Campus Leadership Group and, as described in section 707, call each meeting and set its agenda, date, time, and place.

(14) Shall serve as—

(A) a member of the CPUC Executive Committee in accordance with section 4.2 of the CPUC Charter;<sup>7</sup> and

(B) a member of the CPUC in accordance with section 2.1 of the CPUC Charter.<sup>8</sup>

(b) VICE PRESIDENT.—The Vice President:

(1) Shall preside over each Senate meeting.

(2) Shall set the date, time, and place of each regular meeting unless amended by the Executive Committee as described in section 401(b).

(3) May call a special meeting as described in section 402.

(4) Shall oversee the structure and organization of Senate work and projects established by the President as described in subsection (a)(1).

(5) Shall assist the President in the duties of the President.

(6) Shall assume the office of President if that office becomes vacant as described in section 205(b).

(7) Shall temporarily serve as acting President during the absence or disability of the President and in that acting capacity shall perform the duties of the President.

(8) Shall serve as—

(A) a member of the CPUC in accordance with section 2.1 of the CPUC Charter;<sup>9</sup>

(B) a member of the Campus Leadership Group; and

(C) a nonvoting member of the Projects Board.

(9) May attend each meeting of the Projects Board.

(c) TREASURER.—The Treasurer:

(1) Subject to Senate action as described in section 304, shall work with the President to receive, disburse, and account for all Senate funds.

(2) Subject to Senate action as described in section 304, shall work with the Executive Committee to create and administer the semester budget.

(3) Shall work with the President to draft financial procedures for the Senate that shall be effective upon Executive Committee approval as described in section 602(c).

(4) May advertise and hold office hours as necessary to reimburse candidates for election and for other administrative purposes.

(5) In conjunction with the President, shall coordinate with ODUS to transfer and disburse funds for each Senate account and for each Projects Board account.

(6) Shall serve as—

(A) treasurer and a nonvoting member of the Projects Board;

(B) a nonvoting member of the SGRC; and

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<sup>7</sup> CPUC Charter § 4.2, at 6.

<sup>8</sup> *Id.* § 2.1, at 2.

<sup>9</sup> *Id.*

- (C) a member of the Alcohol Initiative Committee.
- (7) May attend each meeting of each entity described in subsection (6).
- (d) EXECUTIVE SECRETARY.—The Executive Secretary shall:
  - (1) Publish the agenda and minutes of each meeting as described in section 404.
  - (2) Record the attendance of each member at each meeting or other mandatory event and maintain attendance records for Senate review.
  - (3) Notify the Vice President of a member who should be called for attendance review as described in section 903(a) or notify the President if the member in question is the Vice President.
  - (4) Attend to necessary correspondence.
  - (5) Supervise the functioning of the USG Office.

[Art. III, § J; art. V, §§ A–D; art. VI, § E.]

### **§ 503. Duties of Core Committee Chairs and Ad Hoc Committee Chairs**

- (a) IN GENERAL.—
  - (1) DUTIES GENERALLY.—Each Core Committee Chair and ad hoc Committee Chair shall:
    - (A) Preside over each meeting of the corresponding committee and oversee the work of that committee.
    - (B) Serve as a full member of the corresponding committee.
    - (C) Serve ex officio on each subcommittee of the corresponding committee.
    - (D) Monitor the spending of the corresponding committee.
    - (E) Be responsible for requesting additional funds beyond the funds established for the corresponding committee in the semester budget.
    - (F) Be responsible for obtaining Senate approval as described in section 304(c) before making an expenditure of over \$1000 of Senate funds.
    - (G) Regularly update the President, Executive Committee, and Senate on the work of the corresponding committee.
  - (2) CORE COMMITTEE CHAIR APPOINTMENTS.—In accordance with section 703 and subject to Senate confirmation in accordance with section 303(e), each Core Committee Chair shall appoint each undergraduate member of the corresponding committee.
- (b) USLC CHAIR; FACULTY COMMITTEE.—With the Vice President for Campus Life, the USLC Chair shall serve as the Co-Chair of the faculty University Student Life Committee.
- (c) ACADEMICS COMMITTEE CHAIR; APPOINTMENTS.—Subject to Senate confirmation in accordance with section 303(e), the Academics Committee Chair shall appoint each undergraduate member of each subcommittee of the Academics Committee.
- (d) SOCIAL COMMITTEE CHAIR; EXPENDITURE OVER \$1000.—
  - (1) SENATE APPROVAL.—The Social Committee Chair shall obtain Senate approval as described in section 304(c) before making an expenditure of over \$1000 of Senate funds.

(2) INFORMATION TO SENATE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise provided in subparagraph (B), the Social Committee Chair shall provide as much general information as possible to the Senate in seeking Senate approval.

(B) CONFIDENTIALITY.—The Social Committee Chair may withhold information that may violate a confidentiality agreement.

(e) CCA COMMITTEE CHAIR.—The CCA Committee Chair shall:

(1) Serve on the Communiversity Committee.

(2) Communicate regularly with the Princeton University Director of Community and Regional Affairs to discuss and explore solutions for issues facing Princeton University and community relations.

(f) SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIR.—A Subcommittee Chair shall regularly update the corresponding Committee Chair on the work of that subcommittee.

[Art. VI, §§ E, G.] —(Amend. 5, § 1, Apr. 30, 2017.)

## ARTICLE VI—EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

### § 601. Membership; Voting Power

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Executive Committee is comprised of each Executive Officer, the Executive Secretary, and each nonvoting Executive Committee member appointed under subsection (b).

(b) ADDITIONAL NONVOTING EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS.—The President may appoint an additional nonvoting Executive Committee member and prescribe the attendance requirement of that member to each Executive Committee meeting.

(c) VOTING EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS.—The Executive Officers are the only voting Executive Committee members.

[Art. VI, § A(1).]

### § 602. Powers

The Executive Committee may—

(1) By a 3/4 vote of the entire voting membership, reject any committee member appointment made by any Core Committee Chair;

(2) In accordance with section 305(a)(2), create an ad hoc committee;

(3) By a majority vote of the entire voting membership, approve financial procedures for the Senate as described in section 502(c)(3); and

(4) Deliberate and cast an advisory and nonbinding vote on a question that may come before the Senate.

[Art. VI, § A(2).]

### § 603. Responsibility to Senate; Senate Action Controls

The Executive Committee is responsible to the Senate, and Senate action on a question takes precedence over Executive Committee action on that question.

[Art. VI, § A(3).]

**§ 604. Senate Meeting Agenda**

(a) IN GENERAL.—The President shall draft the agenda for each regular meeting based on input from the Senate.

(b) EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REVIEW; AMENDMENT.—The Executive Committee shall review the agenda and may amend it by a majority vote.

[Art. VI, § A(4).]

**§ 605. Procedures.**

(a) ROLE OF PRESIDENT.—The President shall preside over each Executive Committee meeting and may invite a nonvoting guest to attend an Executive Committee meeting.

(b) MEETINGS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The President shall call each Executive Committee meeting and set its agenda, date, time, and place.

(2) PETITION OF 2 VOTING MEMBERS.—Upon the petition of 2 voting Executive Committee members, the President shall call a meeting within 7 days after receiving the petition and in accordance with the petition and this paragraph set its agenda, date, time, and place.

(c) QUORUM.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—A quorum of the Executive Committee is a majority of voting Executive Committee members. The Executive Committee may validly conduct business only when a quorum is obtained.

(2) ELECTRONIC VOTES.—For conducting a vote through electronic media under rules established under subsection (d), a quorum shall be considered obtained only if the number of votes cast, including abstentions, is more than half the total number of voting Executive Committee members.

(d) RULES.—By a 2/3 vote of the entire voting membership, the Executive Committee may adopt any special or standing rule that it considers necessary for its orderly and efficient operation.

[Art. VI, § A(5).]—(Amend. 3, § 3, May 9, 2015.)

**ARTICLE VII—SENATE COMMITTEES****§ 701. Core Committees**

The Core Committees are the—

- (1) USLC;
- (2) Academics Committee;
- (3) Social Committee;
- (4) CCA Committee; and
- (5) Sustainability Committee.

[Art. VI, § E(1).]—(Amend. 8, § 1, December 13, 2019.)



## § 702. Open Meetings

(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise provided in subsection (b), each committee and subcommittee meeting shall be open and public.

(b) CLOSED MEETING.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—By a 2/3 vote, a committee or subcommittee may—

(A) close the meeting;

(B) determine any individual who may remain in addition to the committee or subcommittee members; and

(C) determine any individual, including a committee or subcommittee member, who must leave if the nature of sensitive business or personnel matters warrants that the individual leave.

(2) FINAL AUTHORITY OF SENATE.— By a majority vote, the Senate may—

(A) open or close a committee or subcommittee meeting; and

(B) if the Senate closes a meeting—

(i) determine any individual who may remain in addition to the committee or subcommittee members; and

(ii) determine any individual, including a committee or subcommittee member, who must leave if the nature of sensitive business or personnel matters warrants that the individual leave.

(3) PURPOSE.—Closing a meeting is generally reserved for sensitive business or personnel matters.

[Art. VI, § E(7).]

## § 703. Committees Generally

(a) CORE COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP.—Except as otherwise provided in this section or in section 704, each Core Committee Chair shall appoint each undergraduate member of the corresponding committee as described in section 503(a)(2).

(b) USLC.—

(1) MEMBERSHIP.—The Senate shall prescribe the USLC membership in the USLC Charter.<sup>10</sup>

(2) DELEGATION TO FACULTY COMMITTEE.—As 1 collective entity, the undergraduate USLC members shall serve as the delegation to the Faculty University Student Life Committee.

(c) PROJECTS BOARD.—The Senate shall prescribe the Projects Board membership in the Projects Board Charter.<sup>11</sup>

(d) SGRC.—

<sup>10</sup> USLC Charter (May 2017), *available at* <https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5a46a96aace86433f0ea985b/t/5a6ddd3be2c4832dd2bc33ea/1517149500087/USLC+Charter.pdf>.

<sup>11</sup> Projects Bd. Charter (May 2018), *available at* <https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5a46a96aace86433f0ea985b/t/5bb3da719140b716f3ce3655/1538513521359/CHARTER-OF-THE-USG-PROJECTS-BOARD-2018-SENATE-PASSED-REVISION.pdf>

(1) SGRC CHAIR SHALL APPOINT.—The SGRC Chair shall appoint each member of the SGRC.

(2) EX OFFICIO MEMBERS.—As nonvoting ex officio members, the President, Treasurer, and Projects Board Co-Chairs may attend each SGRC meeting.

(e) IT COMMITTEE.—

(1) SENATE MAY ESTABLISH.—The Senate may establish an IT Committee by a majority vote.

(2) PURPOSES.—The purposes of an IT Committee established under this subsection are to—

(A) serve as the primary liaison from the Senate to the Princeton University Office of Information Technology; and

(B) maintain and develop the internet-based or internet-related Senate initiatives.

(f) COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE.—

(1) SENATE MAY ESTABLISH.—The Senate may establish a Communications Committee by a majority vote.

(2) PURPOSES.—The purposes of a Communications Committee established under this subsection are to—

(A) disseminate Senate actions, policies, events, and updates to undergraduates and the campus community in conjunction with the Executive Secretary and CCA Committee; and

(B) communicate with alumni and peer institutions regarding policy and other Senate responsibilities.

(g) STUDENT SELECTION COMMITTEE.—

(1) SENATE MAY ESTABLISH.—The Senate may establish a Student Selection Committee by a majority vote.

(2) PURPOSE.—The purpose of a Student Selection Committee established under this subsection are to seek and nominate an undergraduate to serve as a member of a University committee.

(3) SENATE CONFIRMATION.—An undergraduate appointed by the Student Selection Committee to serve as a member of a University committee shall begin the term of office upon Senate confirmation as provided in section 303(e).

(h) SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE.—

(1) PURPOSES, MEMBERSHIP, AND RESPONSIBILITIES.—The Senate shall prescribe the Sustainability Committee purposes, membership, and responsibilities in the Sustainability Committee Charter.

[Art. VI, § F.] —(Amend. 5, § 1, Apr. 30, 2017.)—(Amend. 8, § 3, December 13, 2019.)

#### **§ 704. Academics Committee**

(a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the Academics Committee is to address undergraduate concerns regarding—

(1) the academic calendar;

(2) admissions;

(3) degree requirements;

- (4) examinations;
- (5) faculty quality;
- (6) financial aid;
- (7) the Honor System;
- (8) sophomore selection of departments; and
- (9) any other topic relating to academics.

(b) **SUBCOMMITTEES COMPRISE MEMBERSHIP.**—The membership of the Academics Committee is comprised of each member of each subcommittee established under subsection (c).

(c) **SUBCOMMITTEES.**—

(1) **APPOINTMENTS.**—As described in section 503(c), the Academics Committee Chair shall appoint each undergraduate member of each subcommittee of the Academics Committee.

(2) **DIFFERENT SUBCOMMITTEES.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The subcommittees of the Academics Committee are the subcommittees on—

- (i) Admission and Financial Aid;
- (ii) Examinations and Standing; and
- (iii) Course of Study.

(B) **OTHER SUBCOMMITTEES.**—The Academics Committee Chair may establish an additional subcommittee and prescribe its role and each of its duties.

(3) **MEETING WITH CORRESPONDING FACULTY COMMITTEE.**—Each subcommittee, if applicable, shall meet with the corresponding faculty committee as necessary.

[Art. VI, § G.]

### **§ 705. Student Groups Recognition Committee**

(a) **PURPOSES.**—The purposes of the SGRC are to—

- (1) assess the viability of each proposed student group; and
- (2) approve or reject each application for recognition.

(b) **PROCESS.**—

(1) **APPLICATION.**—If an undergraduate wants to establish a new student group, that undergraduate shall submit an application in the manner prescribed by the SGRC.

(2) **MEETING.**—The SGRC Chair shall invite an applicant to a SGRC meeting to present a proposal.

(3) **SGRC CONSIDERATION.**—In a closed session at the end of a meeting, the SGRC members shall discuss each application and thereafter approve or deny each application.

(4) **SGRC CHAIR SHALL NOTIFY SENATE.**—The SGRC Chair shall forward to the Senate each decision under paragraph (3).

(5) **SGRC CHAIR SHALL NOTIFY APPLICANT.**—The SGRC Chair shall notify the applicant in question the corresponding decision under paragraph (3).

(c) SUPPORT OF APPLICANTS.—To support an applicant, the SGRC may direct an applicant to—

- (1) existing student groups;
- (2) faculty and administrators; and
- (3) other resources that may assist the applicant.

(d) SENATE REVIEW OF POLICIES.—If a voting Senate member requests a review of SGRC policies, the SGRC Chair shall present to the Senate those policies for Senate review.

(e) SENATE MAY OVERTURN DECISION.—The Senate may overturn a decision of the SGRC by a majority vote.

[Art. VI, § C.]

### **§ 706. Selection Committee for Honor Committee and Faculty-Student Committee on Discipline**

(a) SELECTION COMMITTEE.—In accordance with this section, each spring and at other times as necessary, the President and the Academics Committee Chair shall appoint each member of a selection committee that shall select each new undergraduate member of the Honor Committee and the Faculty-Student Committee on Discipline.

(b) MEMBERSHIP.—The selection committee is comprised of—

- (1) between 1 and 3 voting Senate members;
- (2) each member of the Faculty-Student Committee on Discipline who has served at least 1 year of the 2-year term;
- (3) each senior member of the Honor Committee and the Faculty-Student Committee on Discipline; and
- (4) the Honor Committee Chair for the next academic year.

(c) EXCEPTION.—An undergraduate shall not serve as a member of the selection committee if that undergraduate is a candidate for a position on the Honor Committee or the Faculty-Student Committee on Discipline.

(d) SENATE APPROVAL.—Subject to Senate confirmation in accordance with section 303(d), the selection committee may appoint an undergraduate to the Honor Committee or the Faculty-Student Committee on Discipline.

[Art. VI, § D.]

### **§ 707. Campus Leadership Group**

(a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the Campus Leadership Group is to improve communication and coordination among various undergraduate stakeholders at Princeton University.

(b) MEETINGS.—The Campus Leadership Group meets at the pleasure of the President.

(c) MEMBERSHIP.—The Campus Leadership Group is comprised of—

- (1) the President;
- (2) the Vice President
- (3) each Class President;

- (4) the Chair of the Interclub Council; and
- (5) each Chair or Co-Chair of each Residential College Council.

(d) **PRESIDENT SERVES AS CHAIR; MEETINGS.**—The President shall serve as the chair of the Campus Leadership Group and set the agenda, date, time, and place of each meeting.

[Art. VI, § B.]

## **ARTICLE VIII—ELECTIONS**

### **§ 801. Elections Managers Generally**

(a) **CHIEF ELECTIONS MANAGER.**—Subject to Senate confirmation in accordance with section 202(c), the President and Senior Class President shall jointly appoint the Chief Elections Manager.

(b) **ELECTIONS MANAGERS.**—The President, Senior Class President, and Chief Elections Manager may jointly appoint up to 2 Elections Managers for each election.

(c) **PROHIBITION ON RUNNING FOR OFFICE.**—The Chief Elections Manager and each Elections Manager shall not run for office while serving in their official capacities.

(d) **DUTIES.**—The Chief Elections Manager shall:

(1) In accordance with this article and the election rules established under section 802, oversee and have final responsibility for each election.

(2) Publicize each election.

(3) Publish the necessary forms for candidate registration prescribed by the Senate in the election rules under section 805(d).

(4) Organize the tabulation of electronic votes in conjunction with the Office of the Registrar, ODUS, and, if applicable, the IT Chair.

(5) Announce the results and vote counts of each election.

(6) Announce the results and vote counts for any referendum and any recall.

(7) Investigate each alleged violation of the election rules established under section 802 and determine if a violation has occurred.

(8) Assign the appropriate penalty to a candidate who has violated the election rules established under section 802.

(9) Each day during an election cycle, communicate updates on the violation of election rules.

(10) Before an appeal to the Senate in accordance with the election rules established under section 802, serve as the arbiter of any dispute among candidates.

(e) **CANDIDATE FORUM.**—The Chief Elections Manager may organize a candidate forum during an election cycle.

(f) **DELEGATION TO ELECTIONS MANAGERS.**—The Chief Elections Manager may delegate a duty provided in subsection (d)(2) through (d)(9) or in subsection (e) to an Elections Manager.

[Art. VII, § A.]—(Amend. 2, § 11, Apr. 25, 2014.)

### **§ 802. Election Rules**

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Senate may establish the election rules by a majority vote.

(b) AMENDMENT.—The Senate may amend the election rules by a majority vote.

(c) AUTHORITY OF RULES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The election rules established under subsection (a) shall govern each USG election and provide for its orderly and efficient operation.

(2) REFERENDA AND RECALL.—In the elections rules established under subsection (a), the Senate may prescribe provisions that govern the conduct of any referendum or any recall and provide for its orderly and efficient operation.

(3) ACCORDANCE WITH CONSTITUTION.—Each provision of the election rules shall be—

(A) supplementary to any applicable provision in this Constitution; and

(B) in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution.

[Art. VII, § B.]

### § 803. Election Dates

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subsection (b) and the election rules established under section 802, the Chief Elections Manager shall set the date of each election.

(b) TIME OF ELECTION.—

(1) SENATOR AND EXECUTIVE OFFICER.—The election for each Senator and each Executive Officer shall be in November or December before winter recess.

(2) CLASS OFFICER; U-COUNCILOR.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise provided in subparagraph (B), the election for each Class Officer and each U-Councilor shall be in April.

(B) FRESHMAN CLASS OFFICER.—The election for each Freshman Class Officer shall be in the fall semester before October 31.

[Art. VII, § C.]

### § 804. Voting; Runoffs

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) EXECUTIVE OFFICER AND CLASS OFFICER.—

(A) VOTING.—

(i) SINGLE TRANSFERABLE VOTE.—The election for an Executive Officer or a Class Officer shall be by the system of the single transferable vote (instant runoff voting).

(ii) RANKED VOTES.—For the election of an Executive Officer or a Class officer, each eligible undergraduate may rank the candidates for the corresponding office in order of preference.

(B) ELECTION.—Except as otherwise provided in subparagraph (C)—

(i) WHEN ONE CANDIDATE OBTAINS MAJORITY.—If a candidate for an Executive Officer office or a Class Officer office is ranked as the most preferred candidate on a majority of votes cast in the election for that office, that candidate shall be elected.

(ii) **WHEN NO CANDIDATE OBTAINS MAJORITY.**—In the election rules established under section 802, the Senate shall prescribe the methods for determining which candidate for an Executive Officer office or a Class Government office will be elected if no candidate is ranked as the most preferred candidate on a majority of votes cast in the corresponding election.

(C) **FRESHMAN CLASS GOVERNMENT.**—The 5 candidates for Freshman Class Government who obtain the most approval votes cast shall be elected.

(2) **SENATOR, U-COUNCILOR, AND FRESHMAN CLASS GOVERNMENT.**—

(A) **APPROVAL VOTING.**—The election for a Senator, a U-Councilor, and the Freshman Class Government shall be by approval voting.

(B) **ELECTION OF SENATOR.**—The 2 candidates for Senator who obtain the most approval votes cast shall be elected.

(C) **ELECTION OF U-COUNCILOR.**—The 10 candidates for U-Councilor who obtain the most approval votes cast shall be elected.

(3) **ELIGIBILITY TO VOTE.**—

(A) **EXECUTIVE OFFICER; U-COUNCILOR.**—Each undergraduate may vote in the election of an Executive Officer or a U-Councilor.

(B) **SENATOR; CLASS OFFICER.**—Each undergraduate in the corresponding class may vote in the election of a Senator or a Class Officer.

(b) **NO RUNOFFS.**—Runoff elections shall not be held.

[Art. VII, § D.]—(Amend. 7, § 1, Nov. 24, 2019; amend. 9, § 2, Oct. 25, 2020.)

### **§ 805. Eligibility for Office**

(a) **ONLY UNDERGRADUATE MAY RUN.**—Only an undergraduate may run for office.

(b) **PROHIBITION ON RUNNING FOR MORE THAN ONE OFFICE.**—A candidate may run for only 1 office during an election.

(c) **SENATOR AND CLASS OFFICER; CORRESPONDING CLASS YEAR.**—A candidate running for Senator or Class Officer must run for the office corresponding to the class year of the candidate.

(d) **REGISTRATION FORMS; DEADLINE.**—In the election rules established under section 802, the Senate shall prescribe the necessary forms for candidate registration and the final deadline by which a candidate must submit those forms to be eligible for office.

[Art. VII, § E(1)–(4).]

### **§ 806. Election Expenses Reimbursement**

Subject to any limit prescribed in the election rules established under section 802—, the Senate shall defray the direct election expenses of each candidate for a Senate or Class Government office.

[Art. VII, § F.]—(Amend. 2, § 12, Apr. 25, 2014; amend. 9, § 3, Oct. 25, 2020.)

## ARTICLE IX—REMOVAL OF MEMBERS

### § 901. Recall

(a) ELECTED USG MEMBER.—The Chief Elections Manager shall organize a recall election for an elected Senate member or Class Officer if the Executive Secretary receives a duly completed petition that—

(1) requests the recall;

(2) clearly states the reason for the recall; and

(3) is signed by at least 1/4 of the undergraduates eligible to vote for the Senate member or Class Officer in question.

(b) PROCEDURE FOR RECALL ELECTION.—

(1) FORM OF PETITION.—In the election rules established under section 802, the Senate shall prescribe the proper form and style of a petition.

(2) TIME OF RECALL ELECTION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—A recall election shall be held between 14 and 28 days, inclusive, after the Executive Secretary receives a duly completed petition as described in subsection (a).

(B) CONCURRENT WITH USG ELECTION.—If a USG election is scheduled during the time period described in subparagraph (A), the Chief Elections Manager shall organize the recall election concurrent with that USG election.

(3) ELIGIBILITY TO VOTE.—Each undergraduate eligible to vote in an election for the office in question under section 804(a)(3) is eligible to vote in a recall election for that office.

(4) QUESTION ON BALLOT.—The question for recall shall appear on the ballot as follows: “Shall [name of member] be recalled from the office of [name of office]?”

(c) REMOVAL FROM OFFICE.—The Senate member or Class Officer in question shall be removed from office if a majority of the votes cast in the recall election are in the affirmative.

(d) PROHIBITION ON APPOINTMENT TO OFFICE.—A Senate member or Class Officer who has been recalled from office may not be appointed to that office—

(1) for the remainder of the term of office during which the Senate member or Class Officer was recalled; and

(2) for 1 additional term of office.

[Art. IX, § A.]—(Amend. 2, § 16, Apr. 25, 2014.)

### § 902. Expulsion; Dismissal

(a) IN GENERAL.—In accordance with this section, by a 3/4 vote of the entire voting Senate membership, the Senate may expel a Senate member from office for nonfeasance, misfeasance, malfeasance, or gross misconduct in office.

(b) EXPULSION PROCEEDINGS.—

(1) INITIATION.—Only the following combinations of voting Senate members may initiate expulsion proceedings of a Senate member:

(A) Any 3 voting Senate members and the President.

(B) Any 3 voting Senate members and the Vice President.



(C) Any 3 voting Executive Committee members.

(D) A majority of all voting Senate members.

(2) EXECUTIVE SECRETARY SHALL NOTIFY MEMBER.—The Executive Secretary shall notify the Senate member in question at least 24 hours before the meeting during which the Senate shall consider the expulsion of that member.

(3) MEMBER MAY GIVE DEFENSE.—Before the Senate votes on expulsion, the Senate member in question may present a defense before the Senate.

(4) EXECUTIVE SESSION.—In order to discuss and act on the expulsion, the Senate should go into executive session as described in section 403(b).

(c) DISMISSAL OF NONVOTING SENATE MEMBER.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The President may dismiss a nonvoting Senate member for nonfeasance, misfeasance, malfeasance, or gross misconduct in office.

(2) APPEAL TO SENATE.—

(A) APPEAL.—A nonvoting Senate member who has been dismissed may appeal the dismissal to the Senate.

(B) SENATE MAY OVERTURN DISMISSAL.—The Senate may overturn a dismissal by a majority vote.

[Art. IX, §§ C, D; art. VIII, § D.]—(Amend. 2, § 17, Apr. 25, 2014.)

### § 903. Attendance Review

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) VICE PRESIDENT SHALL CALL MEMBER FOR ATTENDANCE REVIEW.—The Vice President shall call for attendance review at the next regular meeting a Senate member who, during a term and as provided in section 203(a), is marked absent from 2 consecutive or 4 total meetings or other mandatory events as defined in section 1201(9), excluding any absence that is exempt under subsection (d) or section 203(e)(1).

(2) PRESIDENT SHALL CALL VICE PRESIDENT FOR ATTENDANCE REVIEW.—If the member under review is the Vice President, the President shall call the Vice President for attendance review at the next regular meeting.

(b) NEW ATTENDANCE RECORD EACH TERM.—The attendance record of a member is for 1 term. Any absence during a previous term does not apply against a member during the current term.

(c) PROCEDURE.—

(1) EXECUTIVE SECRETARY SHALL EMAIL MEMBER.—The Executive Secretary shall email the member under review the following information:

(A) Notice that the Senate shall review the attendance of that member at the next regular meeting.

(B) Each date of absence.

(2) MEMBER MAY GIVE DEFENSE.—Before the Senate acts on the attendance review, the member under review may present a defense before the Senate.

(3) SENATE SHALL CONSIDER CERTAIN INFORMATION.—In discussing the attendance of a member under review, the Senate shall consider—

(A) the performance of that member;

(B) the reason for each absence;  
 (C) any information noted by the Executive Secretary under section 203(a)(3)(B); and

(D) the ability of that member to perform prescribed duties in the future.

(4) MEMBER SHALL BE REMOVED UNLESS SENATE RETAINS MEMBER.—The member under review shall be removed from office unless the Senate votes to retain the member by a majority vote.

[Reviser's Note: The amendments made by section 2 of Senate Resolution 34-2015 (being Senate Constitution Amendment No. 3, approved May 9, 2015), including amendments to subsections (a)-(c), are effective, pursuant to section 4(a) of such Senate Resolution, beginning on the date on which the Senate adopts a rule regulating the attendance of each Senate member to each meeting or other mandatory event. Upon such date, subsections (a)-(c) read as follows:]

(a) *IN GENERAL.*—

(1) *VICE PRESIDENT SHALL CALL MEMBER FOR ATTENDANCE REVIEW.*—*The Vice President shall call for attendance review at the next regular meeting a Senate member who, during a term of office of the member and as provided in the rule adopted under 203(a), is marked absent from 2 consecutive or 4 total meetings or other mandatory events as defined in section 1201(9), excluding any absence that is exempt under subsection (d) or the rule adopted under section 203(a).*

(2) *PRESIDENT SHALL CALL VICE PRESIDENT FOR ATTENDANCE REVIEW.*—*If the member under review is the Vice President, the President shall call the Vice President for attendance review at the next regular meeting.*

(b) *NEW ATTENDANCE RECORD EACH TERM.*—*The attendance record of a member is for 1 term of office of the member. Any absence during a previous term of office of a member does not apply against the member during the current term of office of the member.*

(c) *PROCEDURE.*—

(1) *EXECUTIVE SECRETARY SHALL EMAIL MEMBER.*—*The Executive Secretary shall email the member under review the following information:*

(A) *Notice that the Senate shall review the attendance of that member at the next regular meeting.*

(B) *Each date of absence.*

(2) *MEMBER MAY GIVE DEFENSE.*—*Before the Senate acts on the attendance review, the member under review may present a defense before the Senate.*

(3) *SENATE SHALL CONSIDER CERTAIN INFORMATION.*—*In discussing the attendance of a member under review, the Senate shall consider—*

(A) *the performance of that member;*

(B) *the reason for each absence; and*

(C) *the ability of that member to perform prescribed duties in the future.*

(4) *MEMBER SHALL BE REMOVED UNLESS SENATE RETAINS MEMBER.*—*The member under review shall be removed from office unless the Senate votes to retain the member by a majority vote.*

(d) CPUC EXEMPTION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—By a 3/4 vote of the entire voting Senate membership, the Senate may exempt any of the following members from attendance review because of any absence from a CPUC meeting:

- (A) The President.
- (B) The Vice President.
- (C) A U-Councilor.

(2) REASON FOR EXEMPTION.—The Senate may grant an exemption under this subsection only for a recurring conflict, including any athletic commitment, beyond the reasonable control of the member.

(3) DURATION OF EXEMPTION.—Unless the Senate specifies a shorter duration when voting to exempt the member, the duration of an exemption under this subsection is for the remainder of the term of office of the member.

(e) VIRTUAL MEETING EXEMPTION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.— Unless there is a vote to enforce the general attendance rules by a majority vote of those members present at a virtual Senate meeting, the Senate shall exempt any voting member of the Senate from attendance review because of any absence at a virtual meeting called for the purpose of adopting a Fall budget.

(2) REASON FOR EXEMPTION.— The Senate may not refuse to recognize an exemption under this subsection if the Member was verifiably not present for any of the following reasons:

- (A) The Member did not have access to the Internet.
- (B) The Member was located in a time zone that would make it unreasonable for them to attend the meeting.
- (C) The Member was traveling.
- (D) The Member was performing necessary job, internship, or family related activities during the scheduled meeting time.
- (E) It would have been otherwise objectively unreasonable to expect the Member to have attended the meeting at the scheduled time.

(3) ASYNCHRONOUS VOTES COUNTED.— For the purposes of attendance reviews, Members who vote asynchronously on a budget vote shall not be counted as having been absent for that special virtual meeting.

[Art. IX, § B.]—(Amend. 3, § 2, May 9, 2015.)

## ARTICLE X—REFERENDA

### § 1001. Calling for Referendum Generally

(a) SENATE-INITIATED REFERENDUM.—The Chief Elections Manager shall organize a referendum concurrent with a regular election for Senate office if—

- (1) the Senate, by a 1/3 vote of the entire voting Senate membership, calls for the referendum concurrent with the election; and
- (2) the referendum does not amend the Constitution of the Honor System.

(b) REFERENDUM BY PETITION.—The Chief Elections Manager shall organize a referendum concurrent with a regular election for Senate office after receiving a duly completed petition that calls for the referendum concurrent with the election and is signed by—

- (1) 10% of the undergraduates, if the referendum does not amend the Constitution of the Honor System; or
- (2) 200 undergraduates, if the referendum amends the Constitution of the Honor System.<sup>12</sup>

(c) FRIVOLOUS REFERENDA.—

(1) SENATE DETERMINATION.—By a 5/6 vote at a regular meeting, the Senate may determine a referendum called under subsection (b) to be frivolous and thereby prevent that referendum from occurring.

(2) REFERENDUM NOTWITHSTANDING SENATE DETERMINATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding paragraph (1), the Chief Elections Manager shall organize a referendum that the Senate has determined to be frivolous under paragraph (1) if, within 5 days after that determination, the Chief Elections Manager receives a new duly completed petition that calls for the referendum and is signed by 1/4 of the undergraduates.

(B) TIME OF REFERENDUM.—The Chief Elections Manager shall organize that referendum within 21 days after receiving the new duly completed petition under subparagraph (A).

[Art. X, § A.]—(Amend. 4, § 1, November 22, 2015; amend. 9, § 4, Oct. 25, 2020.)

### § 1002. Procedure for Referendum Petition

(a) UNDERGRADUATE SHALL NOTIFY VICE PRESIDENT.—Except as otherwise provided in subsection (c), an undergraduate who intends to submit a petition that calls for a referendum shall communicate that intention to—

- (1) the Vice President; or
- (2) the designee of the Vice President.

(b) FORM OF PETITION.—In the election rules established under section 802, the Senate shall prescribe the proper form and style of a petition.

(c) REFERENDUM LANGUAGE CONSULTATION.—

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<sup>12</sup> This signature requirement is in accordance with Honor Sys. Const. art. VI.

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—In the election rules established under section 802, the Senate may require that an undergraduate consult with the Senate or the designee of the Senate regarding the proper style, usage, grammar, and organization of an intended referendum question.

(2) **CONSULTATION BEFORE COLLECTION OF SIGNATURES.**—If the Senate creates a requirement under paragraph (1), the Senate shall require that the consultation occur before the undergraduate begins collecting signatures on the petition.

(d) **DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION.**—The Senate shall have the power to outline specific guidelines and regulations regarding the deadline for submission as established under section 802.

[Art. X, § B.]—(Amend. 4, § 2, Nov. 22, 2015; amend. 9, § 5, Oct. 25, 2020.)

### § 1003. Referendum Result

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—A referendum result shall be binding on the Senate if—

- (1) at least 1/3 of the undergraduates vote in the referendum;
- (2) a majority of the votes cast in the referendum are in the affirmative; and
- (3) the referendum has not been disqualified by an election rule established under section 802.

(b) **RESULT FOR CONSTITUTION OR PROJECTS BOARD CHARTER.**—Notwithstanding subsection (a), a referendum that amends the Constitution or the Projects Board Charter shall be binding on the Senate if—

- (1) at least 1/3 of the undergraduates vote in the referendum;
- (2) 3/5 of the votes cast in the referendum are in the affirmative; and
- (3) the referendum has not been disqualified by an election rule established under section 802.

(c) **RESULT FOR HONOR CONSTITUTION.**—Notwithstanding subsections (a) and (b), a referendum that amends the Constitution of the Honor System shall be binding if—

- (1) at least 1/3 of the undergraduates vote in the referendum;
- (2) 3/4 of the votes cast in the referendum are in the affirmative, in accordance with Article VI of the Constitution of the Honor System<sup>13</sup>; and
- (3) the referendum has not been disqualified by an election rule established under section 802.

(d) **RESULT FOR CONFLICTING REFERENDA.**—In the election rules established under section 802, the Senate shall prescribe methods for determining which of multiple conflicting referenda adopted during the same election are binding.

[Art. X, § C.]—(Amend. 4, § 3, November 22, 2015; amend. 9, § 6, Oct. 25, 2020.)

## ARTICLE XI—AMENDMENT

### § 1101. Referendum

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<sup>13</sup> Honor Sys. Const. art. VI.

This Constitution may be amended by a referendum in accordance with article X (sections 1001 through 1003).

[Art. XI, § A.]

### § 1102. Senate Vote

The Senate may amend this Constitution by a 2/3 vote at 2 consecutive meetings.

[Art. XI, § B.]

## ARTICLE XII—GENERAL PROVISIONS

### § 1201. Definitions

As used in this Constitution, unless the context indicates otherwise:

(1) CCA.—The term “CCA” means Campus and Community Affairs.

(2) COMMITTEE.—The term “committee” includes each committee, subcommittee, board, or similar entity under the purview and authority of the Senate.

(3) CPUC.—The term “CPUC” means the Council of the Princeton University Community.

(4) CPUC CHARTER.—The term “CPUC Charter” means the Charter of the Council of the Princeton University Community.

(5) ELECTED USG OFFICE.—The term “Elected USG Office” means—

(A) a voting Senate office; and

(B) a Class Government office.

(6) INSTANT RUNOFF VOTING.—The term “instant runoff voting” means an implementation of the system of the single transferable vote in which 1 candidate is elected in each election.

(7) IT.—The term “IT” means Information Technology.

(8) MALFEASANCE.—The term “malfeasance” means malicious or negligent exercise of a duty.<sup>13</sup>

(9) MEETING.—The term “meeting” means a regular or special meeting of the Senate.

(10) MEETING OR OTHER MANDATORY EVENT.—The term “meeting or other mandatory event” means:

(A) A regular or special Senate meeting.

(B) A CPUC meeting, in the case of a U-Councilor, the Vice President, or the President.

(C) An Executive Committee meeting, in the case of an Executive Committee member.

(D) Another scheduled Senate commitment that the member in question must attend.

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<sup>13</sup> See *Black’s Law Dictionary* (9th ed. 2009).

(11) GROSS MISCONDUCT IN OFFICE.—The term “gross misconduct in office”<sup>14</sup> means—

- (A) the corrupt violation of an assigned duty;
- (B) a dereliction of duty;
- (C) unlawful behavior; or
- (D) behavior that violates applicable University policy.

(12) MISFEASANCE.—The term “misfeasance” means the performance of a duty in a wrongful manner.<sup>15</sup>

(13) NONFEASANCE.—The term “nonfeasance” means the failure to act when a duty to act exists.<sup>16</sup>

(14) SENATE MEMBER.—The term “Senate member” means a voting or nonvoting Senate member.

(15) ODUS.—The term “ODUS” means the Office of the Dean of Undergraduate Students.

(16) PRESIDENT.—The term “President” means the USG President.

(17) PROJECTS BOARD.—The term “Projects Board” means the USG Student Group Projects Board.

(18) REGULAR MEETING.—The term “regular meeting” means a regular meeting of the Senate.

(19) SENATOR.—The term “Senator” means a Class Senator.

(20) SGRC.—The term “SGRC” means the Student Groups Recognition Committee.

(21) SPECIAL MEETING.—The term “special meeting” means a special meeting of the Senate.

(22) U-COUNCILOR.—The term “U-Councilor” means an undergraduate member of the CPUC except the President and Vice President.

(23) USLC.—The term “USLC” means the Senate component of the University Student Life Committee.

(24) USLC CHARTER.—The term “USLC Charter” means the Charter of the University Student Life Committee.

(25) UNDERGRADUATE.—The term “undergraduate” means a Princeton University student who—

- (A) is pursuing either the A.B. or the B.S.E. degree; and
- (B) satisfies the requirements for regular enrollment in accordance with the current edition of *Rights, Rules, Responsibilities*.

(26) UNIVERSITY.—The term “University” means Princeton University.

(27) USG.—The term “USG” means the Undergraduate Student Government of Princeton University.

(28) USG MEMBER.—The term “USG member” means a voting or nonvoting Senate member, a Class Officer, or a member of a committee.

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<sup>14</sup> See *id.*

<sup>15</sup> See *id.*

<sup>16</sup> See *id.*

(29) VICE PRESIDENT.—The term “Vice President” means the USG Vice President.

[Dec. 8, 2013.]—(Amend. 7, § 2, November 24, 2019.)

## § 1202. Rules of Construction

(a) SINGULAR INCLUDES PLURAL AND VICE VERSA.—As used in this Constitution, a word that imports the singular also includes the plural, and a word that imports the plural also includes the singular.

(b) DAY AND MONTH.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—As used in this Constitution, unless the context indicates otherwise:

(A) DAY.—The term “day” means a day during the academic year when the University is in session.

(B) MONTH.—The term “month” means a month during the academic year when the University is in session.

(2) SENATE WORK.—The terms “day” and “month” shall not be construed to restrict any Senate work or project that may be ongoing when the University is not in session.

(c) CORRESPONDING.—The term “corresponding” modifies a term that directly and logically relates to another term.<sup>17</sup>

[Dec. 8, 2013.]

## § 1203. Technical and Conforming Changes

(a) EXECUTIVE SECRETARY MAY MAKE TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING CHANGES.—The Executive Secretary may—

(1) correct article and section designations;

(2) correct punctuation;

(3) correct cross-references;

(4) update footnotes and appendices;

(5) update the title page, Contents page, and Foreword; and

(6) make such other technical and conforming changes to this Constitution as may be necessary to reflect the intent of the Senate and the undergraduates.

(b) EXECUTIVE SECRETARY SHALL NOTIFY SENATE.—Before making a technical or conforming change under subsection (a), the Executive Secretary shall notify the Senate of that change.

(c) SENATE MAY OVERTURN ACTION.—If the Executive Secretary has made a change under subsection (a), the Senate may overturn that change by a majority vote.

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<sup>17</sup> For example, “Each Core Committee Chair shall serve as a full member of the corresponding committee” means that the USLC Chair serves as a member of the USLC, the Social Committee Chair serves as a member of the Social Committee, and so forth. (§ 503(a)(1)(B).) As another example, “A Senator may first contact the corresponding Class Officers” means that the Senator may first contact the Class Officers of the same class year as the Senator. (§ 203(b)(1).)



(d) CHANGE SHALL NOT BE SUBSTANTIVE.—The Executive Secretary shall not make a change that substantively alters the scope or meaning of any provision in this Constitution.

(e) DELEGATION.—The Executive Secretary may delegate a power provided in subsection (a) or (b) to another Senate member.

[Dec. 8, 2013.]

**APPENDIX A—DATES OF AMENDMENT**

This Constitution was amended on the following dates:

- (1) December 5, 2004.
- (2) March 11, 2007.
- (3) February 24, 2008.
- (4) November 14, 2009.
- (5) October 23, 2011.
- (6) April 1, 2012.
- (7) January 13, 2013.
- (8) March 31, 2013.
- (9) December 8, 2013 (revision).
- (10) January 12, 2014 (S. Const. amend. 1).
- (11) April 25, 2014 (S. Const. amend. 2, Referendum Res. 1-2014).
- (12) May 9, 2015 (S. Const. amend. 3, S. Res. 34-2015).
- (13) November 22, 2015 (S. Const. amend. 4, S. Res 2-2015).
- (14) Apr. 30, 2017 (S. Const. amend. 5, S. Res. 3-2017).
- (15) Dec. 10, 2017 (S. Const. amend. 6, S. Res. 7-2017). [Reviser's Note: This amendment had only temporary effects and does not appear in this version of the Constitution. For more details, see Appendix F.]
- (16) November 24, 2019 (S. Const. amend. 7).
- (17) December 13, 2019 (S. Const. amend. 8).
- (18) October 25, 2020 (S. Const. amend. 9).
- (19) March 19, 2023 (Amending the Senate Constitution to revise the substitute policy for all voting Senate members)
- (20) May 7, 2023 (Amending the Senate Constitution to Align Election Dates and Budget Consideration, and Strengthen Fiscal Transparency Measures)

## **APPENDIX B—ORGANIZATION AND CITATION**

### **Part 1. Organization and Citation of the Constitution**

The component parts of the Constitution and the proper manner of citing them are indicated in the following outline:

#### **ARTICLE 0—THIS IS AN ARTICLE**

(This is an article of the Constitution, which can be cited as “article 0 of the Senate Constitution” or “S. Const. art. 0”.)

#### **§ 000. This Is a Section**

This is a section of the Constitution, which can be cited as “section 000 of the Senate Constitution” or “S. Const. § 000”. This section can be subdivided as follows:

(a) THIS IS A SUBSECTION.—This is a subsection, which can be cited as—

- (1) “section 000(a) of the Senate Constitution”; or
- (2) “S. Const. § 000(a)”.

This subsection can be further subdivided as follows:

- (1) THIS IS A PARAGRAPH.—This is a paragraph, which can be cited as—
  - (A) “section 000(a)(1) of the Senate Constitution”; or
  - (B) “S. Const. § 000(a)(1)”.

This paragraph can be further subdivided as follows:

(A) THIS IS A SUBPARAGRAPH.—This is a subparagraph, which can be cited as—

- (i) “section 000(a)(1)(A) of the Senate Constitution”; or
- (ii) “S. Const. § 000(a)(1)(A)”.

This subparagraph can be further subdivided as follows:

- (i) THIS IS A CLAUSE.—This is a clause, which can be cited as—
  - (I) “section 000(a)(1)(A)(i) of the Senate Constitution”; or
  - (II) “S. Const. § 000(a)(1)(A)(i)”.

### **Part 2. Sections that Do Not Begin with a Subsection**

If a section does not begin with a subsection (i.e., “(a)”), then any subdivision begins as a paragraph (i.e., “(1)”).

### **Part 3. Formatting of the Component Parts of the Constitution**

The component parts of the Constitution are formatted as follows:

#### **ARTICLE 0—THIS IS AN ARTICLE**

*(14 point, bold, all caps, centered; 10 point space above and below)*  
*(Note: All text is in Century Schoolbook font)*

**§ 000. This Is a Section**

*(section head—10 point, bold, all caps, flush and hang indent; 5 point space below)*

(a) THIS IS A SUBSECTION.—This is a subsection.

*(caption—12 point, initial caps and small caps, indented 0.25”)*

(1) THIS IS A PARAGRAPH.—This is a paragraph.

*(caption—12 point, 1st word initial cap and rest small caps, indented 0.5”)*

(A) THIS IS A SUBPARAGRAPH.—This is a subparagraph.

*(caption—12 point, 1st word initial cap and rest small caps, indented 0.75”)*

(i) THIS IS A CLAUSE.—This is a clause.

*(caption—12 point, 1st word initial cap and rest small caps, indented 1”)*

[This is an interpolation.]

*(interpolation—10 point, flush; 5 point space above and below, except when a new article follows, in which case there is a 10 point space below)*

**ARTICLE 0—THIS IS AN ARTICLE****§ 001. This Is a Section** *(Beginning with a subsection.)*

(a) THIS IS A SUBSECTION.—This is a subsection.

(1) THIS IS A PARAGRAPH.—This is a paragraph.

(A) THIS IS A SUBPARAGRAPH.—This is a subparagraph.

(i) THIS IS A CLAUSE.—This is a clause.

[This is an interpolation.]

**§ 002. This Is a Section** *(Not beginning with a subsection.)*

This is a section, which can be subdivided as follows:

(1) THIS IS A PARAGRAPH.—This is a paragraph.

(A) THIS IS A SUBPARAGRAPH.—This is a subparagraph.

(i) THIS IS A CLAUSE.—This is a clause.

[This is an interpolation.]

## APPENDIX C—EXPLANATORY SECTION INTERPOLATIONS

### Part 1. Section Derived from Former Constitution

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The interpolation “[Art. #, § N]” means that the section was derived from section N of article # of the former Constitution.

(b) **EXAMPLE.**—The interpolation “[Art. X, § 1]” means that the section was derived from section 1 of article X of the former Constitution.

### Part 2. New Section on Effective Date of Revised Constitution

The interpolation “[Dec. 8, 2013]” means that the section was added to the revised Constitution on December 8, 2013 and was not in the former Constitution.

### Part 3. New Section after Effective Date of Revised Constitution

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The interpolation “[Amend. #, § 0, [Month abbreviation] DD, YYYY]” means that the section was added to the Constitution by section 0 of amendment #, approved on that date.

(b) **EXAMPLE.**—The interpolation “[Amend. 2, § 1, Mar. 1, 2014]” means that the section was added to the revised Constitution by section 1 of amendment 2, approved on March 1, 2014.

### Part 4. Other Amendment After Effective Date of Revised Constitution

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The interpolation “(Amend. #, § 0, [Month abbreviation] DD, YYYY)” means that the section was amended by section 0 of amendment # approved on that date.

(b) **EXAMPLE.**—The interpolation “(Amend. 5, § 2, Apr. 14, 2014)” means that the section was amended by section 2 of amendment 5, approved on April 14, 2014.

(c) **INFERIOR SUBHEADINGS.**—Such an amendment may include new inferior subheadings below a section (i.e., subsections, paragraphs, and so forth), but not a new section. For new sections, see part 3 (regarding a new section after the effective date of the revised Constitution).

### Part 5. Example of Interpolation

The interpolation “[Art. X, § A]—(Amend. 2, § 1, Mar. 1, 2014; amend. 5, § 4, Dec. 1, 2014)” means that the section was derived from section A of article X of the former Constitution, and was subsequently amended by section 1 of amendment 2, approved on March 1, 2014; and further amended by section 4 of amendment 5, approved on December 1, 2014.

### Part 6. Location of Amendments

For each amendment to the revised Constitution, see Appendix G.

### Part 7. Former Constitution Defined

As used in these appendices, the term “former Constitution” means the USG Constitution that was in effect before December 8, 2013.

## APPENDIX D—VOTING THRESHOLDS

### Part 1. In General

(a) MAJORITY VOTE.—The term “majority vote” means more than half of the votes cast by individuals entitled to vote, excluding blanks or abstentions.<sup>18</sup>

(b) FRACTIONAL VOTE.—The term “[fraction] vote” means at least that fraction of the votes cast by individual entitled to vote, excluding blanks or abstentions.<sup>19</sup>

### Part 2. Entire Voting [Group] Membership.<sup>20</sup>

(a) MAJORITY VOTE.—The term “majority vote of the entire voting [group] membership” means more than half of the total number of individuals who are voting members of the group.

(b) FRACTIONAL VOTE.—The term “[fraction] vote of the entire voting [group] membership” means at least that fraction of the total number of individuals who are voting members of the group.

### Part 3. Voting [Group] Members Present.

(a) MAJORITY VOTE.—The term “majority vote of voting [group] members present” means more than half of the total number of present individuals who are entitled to vote.<sup>21</sup>

(b) FRACTIONAL VOTE.—The term “[fraction] vote of voting [group] members present” means at least that fraction of the total number of present individuals who are entitled to vote.<sup>22</sup>

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<sup>18</sup> *Robert’s Rules*, *supra* note 5, § 44, at 400.

<sup>19</sup> *See id.* at 401-02.

<sup>20</sup> *See id.* at 403-04.

<sup>21</sup> *See id.* at 403.

<sup>22</sup> *See id.* at 403. This voting threshold is specifically referenced in section 307 (regarding the power of the Senate to amend the Constitution of the Honor System).

## APPENDIX E—ORGANIZATION OF SENATE WORK

One common method of organizing Senate work involves having each Senator and U-Councilor during each term work on individual projects that are of personal interest. An Executive Officer may also work on such projects in addition to duties provided by or under this Constitution. Under this method, the Vice President oversees the development of individual projects. During the first 2 meetings of the semester, each Class Senator and U-Councilor presents his or her project to the Senate for approval. After Senate approval, the Senate may request that each Senator or U-Councilor regularly update the Senate on each project.

A second method involves having each Senator and U-Councilor be involved in different teams that each focus on projects as a team. As under the first method, an Executive Officer may also be involved in different teams.

A third method involves having each Senator and U-Councilor assist different Core Committee Chairs with the work of the corresponding committee. Under this method, each Core Committee Chair would supervise each Senator or U-Councilor under his or her purview.

In organizing Senate work, the President may find the assistance of a Projects Manager helpful. The Projects Manager may assist the President in organizing any projects, collecting regular updates from each Senate member regarding any project, and compiling the Mid-Year Report and Annual Report, among other possible duties to assist in Senate work.

[Art. III, § J.]

**APPENDIX F—HISTORICAL, REVISION, AND AMENDMENT NOTES**

General Disposition of Provisions of Former Constitution (Dec. 8, 2013)

Article	Section	New Section
I.....	A.....	101
	B.....	102
	C.....	103
II.....	A.....	201
	B.....	202
	C.....	203
	D.....	204, 207
	E.....	207
	F.....	205
III.....	A.....	301
	B.....	302
	C.....	202, 205, 303
	D.....	304
	E.....	304
	F.....	305
	G.....	303
	H.....	306
	I.....	307
	J.....	407 (also App. E)
IV.....	A.....	401
	B.....	402
	C.....	403
	D.....	404
	E.....	405
	F.....	406
	V.....	Paragraph before A.....
A.....		502
B.....		502
C.....		502
D.....		502
VI.....		A.....
	B.....	707
	C.....	705
	D.....	706
	E.....	503, 701, 702
	F.....	305, 703
	G.....	503, 704
VII.....	A.....	801
	B.....	802
	C.....	206 803
	D.....	804
	E.....	207, 805
	F.....	806



General Disposition of Provisions of Former Constitution (Dec. 8, 2013)—Continued

Article	Section	New Section
VIII .....	A.....	901 through 903
	B.....	904
	C.....	905
	D.....	1002
IX .....	A.....	1001
	B.....	1003
	C.....	1002
	D.....	1002
X.....	A.....	1101
	B.....	1102
	C.....	1103
	D.....	1104
XI .....	A.....	1201
	B.....	1202
XII.....	.....	Repealed
“Appendices” .....	.....	Repealed
“Revised” .....	.....	App. A

REVISION NOTE (January 12, 2014)

The Senate revised this Constitution on December 8, 2013. In this revision, the Senate sought to redress issues relating to the organization, formatting, language, and substance of the former Constitution.

The above table shows general dispositions of provisions from the former Constitution in the revised Constitution as of December 8, 2013, when the Senate approved the revised Constitution. Amendment dates are indicated in Appendix A, and subsequent amendments are contained in Appendix G for institutional memory and historical background for each amendment. The reader is advised to consult the text of the former Constitution and Appendix G for historical background to current provisions in this Constitution.

ZHAN OKUDA-LIM '15,  
*CPUC Executive Committee Representative and U-Councilor, and  
 Drafter and Reviser of the Constitution.*

JANUARY 12, 2014.

## REVISION NOTE (April 25, 2014)

The undergraduates amended and redesignated this Constitution as the Senate Constitution on April 25, 2014 by approving a referendum question submitted by the Class Governments (Referendum Question No. 1 (Spring 2014); Referendum Resolution 1-2014).

The purpose of this referendum was to establish a Class Government Constitution that would be separate from the former USG Constitution. This was to reduce the possibility of tension between the two entities relating to their distinct campus roles and the execution of their separate objects.

ZHAN OKUDA-LIM '15,  
*CPUC Executive Committee Representative and U-Councilor, and  
Reviser of the Constitution.*

APRIL 25, 2014.

## AMENDMENT NOTE (May 9, 2015)

The Senate amended this Constitution on May 9, 2015 relative to the attendance of Senate members by approving Senate Resolution 34-2015 (being Senate Amendment No. 3, approved May 9, 2015). The amendments made by section 2 of such Senate Resolution, including amendments to sections 203 and 903(a)-(c) of this Constitution, are effective, pursuant to section 4(a) of such Senate Resolution, beginning on the date on which the Senate adopts a rule regulating the attendance of each Senate member to each meeting or other mandatory event.

ZHAN OKUDA-LIM '15,  
*U-Council Chair and U-Councilor, and  
Reviser of the Constitution.*

MAY 9, 2015.

## AMENDMENT NOTE (November 22, 2015)

The Senate amended this Constitution on November 22, 2015 in regards to Referenda and Elections by approving Senate Resolution 2-2015 (being Senate Amendment No. 4, approved November 22, 2015). The amendments made by such Senate Resolution, including amendments to sections 1001, 1002, and 1003 of this Constitution, are effective, pursuant to such Senate Resolution, beginning on the date on which the Senate adopts a rule regulating the implementation of Referenda and Elections regulations (See Referenda and Elections Handbooks).

ETHAN MARCUS '18,  
*U-Councilor, and  
Reviser of the Constitution.*

NOVEMBER 22, 2015.

## AMENDMENT NOTE (April 30, 2017)

The Senate amended this Constitution on April 30, 2017 by approving Senate Resolution 3-2017 (being Senate Amendment No. 5, approved April 30, 2017).

This amendment changed the process for confirming Honor Committee and Faculty-Student Committee on Discipline members by requiring that confirmation deliberations and votes take place in executive session. It also required that Honor Committee and Faculty-Student Committee on Discipline members be confirmed by a 2/3 vote, rather than a majority vote.

JONAH HYMAN '20,  
*USG Senate Parliamentarian, and  
Reviser of the Constitution.*

MARCH 25, 2018.

## AMENDMENT NOTE (December 10, 2017)

The Senate amended this Constitution on December 10, 2017 by approving Senate Resolution 7-2017 (being Senate Amendment No. 6, approved December 10, 2017).

Because the Winter 2017 elections and referenda cycle started late, this amendment temporarily lifted the requirement that elections for each Senator and each Executive Officer be in November or December before winter recess (Section 803(b)(1)). It allowed the Winter 2017 elections to take place in December during winter recess as a precaution in case a runoff election occurred. Ultimately, there was no runoff, and the election was completed before winter recess.

Because this amendment had only temporary effects, the text it inserted does not appear in this version of the Senate Constitution.

JONAH HYMAN '20,  
*USG Senate Parliamentarian, and  
Reviser of the Constitution.*

MARCH 25, 2018.

## AMENDMENT NOTE (November 24, 2019)

The Senate amended this Constitution on November 24, 2019 by approving Senate Amendment No. 7 (approved November 24, 2019).

This amendment changed the process for electing Executive Officers and Class Officers (with the exception of Freshman Class Government) to the system of the single transferable vote.

JONAH HYMAN '20,  
*USG Senate Parliamentarian, and  
Reviser of the Constitution.*

FEBRUARY 1, 2020.

## AMENDMENT NOTE (December 13, 2019)

The undergraduates amended this Constitution on December 13, 2019 by approving a referendum question petitioned by an undergraduate (Senate Amendment No. 8, approved December 13, 2020).

This amendment created the Sustainability Committee as a Core Committee of the Senate, with its chair as an Executive Officer of the Senate.

JONAH HYMAN '20,  
*USG Senate Parliamentarian, and  
Reviser of the Constitution.*

FEBRUARY 1, 2020.

## AMENDMENT NOTE (October 25, 2020)

The Senate amended this Constitution on October 25, 2020 by approving Senate Amendment No. 9 (approved October 25, 2020).

Given certain previous ambiguities, inconsistencies, and vague provisions related to elections and referenda, this amendment simplifies and clarifies Senate rules related to elections and referenda.

KATE LIU '23,  
*USG Senate Parliamentarian, and  
Reviser of the Constitution.*

DECEMBER 27, 2020.