

# **THE CONSTITUTION OF THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY - KINGSVILLE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION**

We, the students of Texas A&M University - Kingsville, in order to provide an officially recognized student organization that identifies and represents student interests, promotes student participation in the overall policy and decision-making processes of the University, enhances the quality and scope of education at the University, and promotes the general welfare of the student body, do hereby establish and adopt this constitution.

## **ARTICLE I. THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION**

**SECTION I.** This organization shall be known as the Student Government Association of Texas A&M University-Kingsville.

**SECTION II.** The membership of the Student Government Association shall only include full-time and part-time-students who are duly registered at Texas A&M University-Kingsville. The Student Government Association shall not discriminate against, nor give preferential treatment to, any person on the basis of race, national origin, religion, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, or disability.

**SECTION III.** The purpose of the Student Government Association shall be:

- (a) To foster a sense of community for all students.
- (b) To promote the interests of student life.
- (c) To promote positive citizenship to the University and the local community.
- (d) To develop leadership among its members and others.
- (e) To contribute to the University community in a positive way.
- (f) To provide developmental and educational programming.
- (g) To promote cooperation and partnership among the students and the University faculty, staff, and administration.
- (h) To promote, coordinate, and create educational scholarship, social, recreational, cultural, and scholastic opportunities for students.
- (i) To review and make recommendations on matters proposed by students, administrators, faculty, and staff.
- (j) To provide for the exchange of information, ideas, and opinions between students and the University community.

**SECTION IV.** The governing structure of the Student Government Association of Texas A&M University - Kingsville shall be composed of the following three distinct branches: Executive, Legislative, and Judicial.

## **ARTICLE II. EXECUTIVE BRANCH**

**SECTION I.** All executive powers shall be vested in the Executive Branch of the Student Government Association of Texas A&M University - Kingsville. A primary charge of the Executive Branch shall be the timely implementation of all legislation enacted by the Student Senate.

**SECTION II.** The chief executive officer shall be the President, who shall be elected from the student body by the standards within the Student Government Association Election Code during the Spring Student Government Elections.

If the President is unable or unwilling to continue serving as President or to assume office, the office will fall to the Vice-President. If the Vice-President is not willing and/or able to serve, then a special election shall be held to elect a new President by the Student Body according to the standards set forth by the Election Code.

**SECTION III.** The Student Government Association Executive Branch shall consist of an Executive Cabinet which will be made up of the:

- (a) President
- (b) Vice-President of Internal Affairs
- (c) Vice-President of External Affairs
- (d) Secretary
- (e) Treasurer
- (f) Student Organization Advisory Liaison
- (g) Greek Life Commissioner
- (h) Advisor(s), ex-officio

**SECTION IV.** The duties and powers of the President shall include the following:

- (a) Preside over meetings of the Executive Cabinet, voting only in the event of a tie.
- (b) Represent the Student Body and the Student Government Association to the University and the public.
- (c) Oversee the Student Government Association, its activities and employees.
- (d) Act on the behalf of the Student Government Association during all summer sessions. An exception can be made if another member of the Executive Cabinet, designated by the President, is willing to assume the President's role.
- (e) Meet regularly with the Student Government Association Advisor(s).
- (f) Sign and execute legal contracts on behalf of the Student Government Association.
- (g) Serve as the Chief Executive Officer of the Student Government Association.
- (h) Maintain a positive working relationship with other organizations.

- (i) Appoint Judicial Court Justices with a two-thirds majority vote of the Student Senate.
- (j) Appoint students to university committees as necessary. The President will also follow-up and remain in contact with these students.
- (k) Establish such procedures as are necessary for the proper functioning of the Executive Branch duties under the Student Government Association Constitution.
- (l) Sign or veto any bill or resolution passed by the Student Senate of the Student Government Association within five (5) class days. Any bill not signed or vetoed within this time shall be considered signed and approved. If a veto is issued, the Senate must be notified within seven (7) days of the veto, or the bill or resolution will stand approved.
- (m) Execute all enacted legislation of the Student Senate for which he/she shall be responsible to the Student Senate.
- (n) Present a specific legislative program to the Student Senate at the first meeting of the Fall Semester.
- (o) Present a State of the Student Government Association report in November and in the Spring semester, by the last meeting of the current session, to the Student Senate.
- (p) Provide a written report of the State of the Student Government Association to the Dean of Students and Assistant Director of Student Activities in November and April.
- (q) Brief the incoming President of the Student Government Association.
- (r) Serve as an ex-officio member of all committees.
- (s) Protect, defend, and uphold the Student Government Association Constitution.
- (t) Direct and guide the work of the Student Government Association in studying, formulating, and recommending to the University general policies and procedures concerning students.
- (u) Represent the Student Government Association before students, faculty, university staff, and administrative groups, committees, and commissions as requested.
- (v) Act as a liaison between the students and the administration.
- (w) Serve office hours as determined by budget and/or advisor.
- (x) Submit a Transition Report to the SGA Advisor prior to vacating their position.
- (y) Serve as a voting member of the Future Alumni Network of Students (F.A.N.S.).
- (z) Serve as a voting member of the Chancellor's Student Advisory Council.
- (aa) Serve as a voting member of the Javelina Alumni Association Board of Directors.

**SECTION V.** The duties and powers of the Vice-President of Internal Affairs shall include the following:

- (a) Chair the Student Government Association Student Senate.

- (b) Assume the duties and responsibilities of the President in the absence or incapacity of the President; or, if they are not willing and able to serve, then until a special election can be held to elect a new President by the Student Body.
- (c) Set the agenda for the meetings of the Student Senate.
- (d) Appoint chairs to the committees of the Student Government.
- (e) Distribute Committee Binders to all committee chairs by the first meeting of the Fall Semester.
- (f) Represent the Student Government Association on University committees as appointed by the President of the Student Government.
- (g) Install all members of the Student Government Association Student Senate.
- (h) Vote in the event of a tie among the Student Senate.
- (i) Serve as an ex-officio member of all committees.
- (j) Protect, defend, and uphold the Student Government Association Constitution.
- (k) Direct and guide the work of the Student Government Association in studying, formulating, and recommending to the University general policies and procedures concerning students.
- (l) Represent the Student Government Association before student, faculty, staff, and administrative groups, committees, and commissions as requested.
- (m) Assist Committee Chairs with the duties and responsibilities of their respective committees.
- (n) Serve office hours as determined by budget and/or advisor.
- (o) Attend meetings of the Student Government Association Student Senate.
- (p) Serve on the Executive Cabinet.
- (q) Meet regularly with Standing Committee Chairs.
- (r) Meet regularly with the Student Government Association Advisor(s).
- (s) Submit a Transition Report to the Advisor prior to vacating their position.
- (t) Assume the duties and responsibilities of the Vice-President of external affairs in the absence or incapacity of the Vice-President of external affairs; or, if they are not willing and able to serve, then until a special election can be held to elect a new Vice-President of external affairs from the Student Senate.
- (u) Facilitate an internal evaluation of the organization and its officers each semester.
- (v) Facilitate the training for SGA members on the subject of parliamentary procedure. Shall review and make recommendations on matters of qualifications and standards of the SGA.
- (w) Shall assist and facilitate the spring and fall elections unless running for office.
- (x) Shall assist and facilitate any student body referendums.
- (y) Shall review and maintain SGA constitution, By-Laws, Election code, and Student Senate Rules.
- (z) Shall conduct a complete audit of all SGA's governing documents by the end of the Spring semester of all even numbered years.
- (aa) Act as a liaison between the Student Senate and the Executive Officers.

**SECTION VI.** The duties and powers of the Student Government Association Vice-President of external affairs shall include the following:

- (a). Assume the duties and responsibilities of the Vice-President of internal affairs in the absence or incapacity of the Vice-President of internal affairs, or if the office of Vice-President of internal affairs is vacant, until a special election can be called to fill the position.
- (b). Serve on the Executive Cabinet.
- (c). Protect, defend, and uphold the Student Government Association Constitution.
- (d). Direct and guide the work of the Student Government Association in studying formulating and recommending to the University general policies and procedures concerning students.
- (e). Represent the Student Government Association before student, faculty, staff, and administrative groups, committees, and commissions as requested.
- (f). Attend meetings of the Student Government Association Student Senate.
- (g). Meet regularly with the Student Government Association Advisor.
- (h). Review and revise legislation to come before the student senate for content, format and grammatical errors.
- (i). Submit a Transition Report to the SGA Advisor prior to vacating their position.
- (j). Shall assist and facilitate Homecoming elections, in conjunction with Vice-President Internal affairs, and Spirits, Traditions, and Campus Morale.
- (k). Serve as 2<sup>nd</sup> member of the Future Alumni Network of Students (F.A.N.S)
- (l). Serve as 2<sup>nd</sup> member of the Javelina Alumni Association Board of Directors.
- (m). Set up meetings with university executive staff
- (n). Serve as the liaison between the SGA staff council and faculty senate
- (o). Shall coordinate and attend all service projects associated with SGA.
- (p). Shall research and communicate to SGA all state and federal legislation pertaining to higher education.
- (q). Shall coordinate and attend city hall meetings and other civic engagements.
- (r). Shall review and make recommendations on program policies and procedures of A&M-Kingsville.
- (s). Shall review and make recommendations on matters forwarded by the Student Senate or the President of SGA.
  - i. Shall identify issues for students and promote programs, which will better those issues

**SECTION VII.** The duties and powers of the Student Government Association Secretary shall include the following:

- (a). Be responsible for office management and correspondence concerning the Student Government Association's activities and functions.
- (b). Represent the Student Government Association on University Committees as appointed by the President of the Student Government.
- (c). Maintain a record of the Student Government Association's activity throughout the year.

- (d). Record minutes of the Student Senate meetings and have them transcribed no later than the close of business the day prior to the next meeting of that body.
- (e). Keep record of all Senator hours and inform Senators of status.
- (f). Distribute minutes of the Student Senate at least one class day before the next meeting of that body.
- (g). Shall post the minutes of the Student Senate to the Student Government Association website.
- (h). Call roll of the Student Senate.
- (i). Inform the Vice President if quorum is met.
- (j). Inform the Student Government Association's members of their absences and status.
- (k). Submit a Transition Report to the SGA Advisor prior to vacating their position.
- (l). Create, maintain, and distribute to the Student Government Association members a directory of all Student Senate members.
- (m). Assume the duties and responsibilities of the Treasurer in the absence or incapacity of the Treasurer, or if the office of Treasurer is vacant, until a special election can be called to fill the position.
- (n). Protect, defend, and uphold the Student Government Association Constitution.
- (o). Direct and guide the work of the Student Government Association in studying, formulating, and recommending to the University general policies and procedures concerning students.
- (p). Represent the Student Government Association before student, faculty, staff and administrative groups, committees, and commissions as requested.
- (q). Serve office hours as determined by budget and/or advisor.
- (r). Attend meetings of the Student Government Association Student Senate.
- (s). Serve on the Executive Cabinet.
- (t). Meet regularly with the Student Government Association Advisor(s).
- (u). Report to immediate supervisor(s) which are the President and/or Vice-President of the Student Government Association

**SECTION VIII.** The duties and powers of the Student Government Association Treasurer shall include the following:

- (a). Serve as the Chief Financial Officer of the Student Government Association.
- (b). Ensure all funds are being spent in the most effective manner and according to proper procedures.
- (c). Shall review and make recommendations on policies and procedures related to SGA finances.
- (d). Represent the Student Government Association on University Committees as appointed by the President of the Student Government (i.e. University Budget Council).
- (e). Assume the duties and responsibilities of the Secretary in the absence or incapacity of the secretary, or if the office of Secretary is vacant, until a special election can be called to fill the position.
- (f). Protect, defend, and uphold the Student Government Association Constitution.

- (g). Direct and guide the work of the Student Government Association in studying, formulating, and recommending to the University general policies and procedures concerning students.
- (h). Represent the Student Government Association before students, faculty, staff, and administrative groups, committees, and commissions as requested.
- (i). Attending meetings of the Student Government Association Student Senate.
- (j). Serve on the Executive Cabinet.
- (k). Serve as chair of the Financial Affairs Committee.
- (l). Meet regularly with the Student Government Association Advisor(s).
- (m). Serve on the Student Service Fees Advisory Board Committee, as requested by the chairs of the committee.
- (n). Submit a Transition Report to the SGA Advisor prior to vacating their position.
- (o). Shall solicit sponsorships and maintain relationships with businesses, alumni, and community leaders.
- (p). Shall meet at least once each semester with the Vice President of Finance and Development
- (q). Shall coordinate forums regarding Student fees.
- (r). Shall review and make recommendations on matters forwarded by the student senate or the President of SGA.
- (s). Shall serve 4 hours a week in the SGA office.

**SECTION IX.** The duties and powers of the Student Government Association Student Organization Advisory Liaison shall include the following:

- (a) Act as a liaison between the Student Organization Advisory and the Executive Cabinet.
- (b) Serve on the Executive Cabinet.
- (c) Protect, defend, and uphold the Student Government Association Constitution.
- (d) Direct and guide the work of the Student Government Association in studying, formulating, and recommending to the University general policies and procedures concerning students.
- (e) Represent the Student Government Association before students, faculty, staff and administrative groups, committees, and commissions as requested.
- (f) Assist Student Organizations in working through administrative processes, including becoming registered as an organization.
- (g) Attend meetings of the Student Government Association Student Senate, as needed.
- (h) Hold a Student Organization Advisory Meeting at least once a month.
- (i) Build and maintain positive working relationships with the organization presidents.
- (j) Motivate and encourage all organizations to be involved with the Form.
- (k) Meet regularly with the Student Government Association Advisor.
- (l) Maintain and operate the SOA in accordance with the SOA guidelines administered and regulated by the SGA Senate.
- (m) Submit a Transition Report to the SGA Advisor prior to vacating their position.

- (n) Meet with Leadership and Special Projects Coordinator from the Office of Student Activities (or equivalent position) on a regular basis.
- (o) Shall serve 4 hours a week in the SGA office.
- (p) Big Event
  - a. Shall be chaired by the Student Organization Advisory Liaison
  - b. Shall consist of seats for committee chairs of the Social Justice and Advocacy Committee, and the Spirits, Traditions and Campus Morale committee, two (2) appointed Senators, the Campus Activities Board, male and female Greek Life representatives, residence Hall association, Honors College Student Council, The South Texan, and any other and any other interested members of the student body.
  - c. Shall be responsible for planning, coordinating, and executing the annual Big Event.
  - d. Shall work closely with the **City** of Kingsville, Kingsville Independent School District, **Santa** Gertrudis Independent School District, and Kleberg County.
  - e. Shall review and make recommendations on matters forwarded by the Student Senate or the President of SGA.
- (q) Serve as the committee head for Javelina Leadership Alliance (JLA), a committee consisting of members within SGA as well as non-SGA members.

**SECTION X.** The duties and powers of the Student Government Association Greek Life Commissioner shall include the following:

- (a) Be an active member of a recognized social sorority or fraternity Greek organization of Texas A&M University - Kingsville.
- (b) Act as the liaison between the Student Government Association and Greek Life.
- (c) Shall advise the Student Government Association on any matters sensitive to Greek Life.
- (d) Serve on the Executive Cabinet.
- (e) Protect, defend, and uphold the Student Government Association Constitution.
- (f) Represent the Student Government Association before student, faculty, staff, and administrative groups, committees, and commissions as requested.
- (g) Attend meetings of the Student Government Association Student Senate.
- (h) Attend meetings of the College Panhellenic Council (CPC) and the Interfraternity Council (IFC).
- (i) Meet regularly with the Greek Life Coordinator from the Office of Student Activities (or equivalent position).
- (j) Submit a Transition Report to the SGA Advisor prior to vacating their position.
- (k) Shall take on additional responsibilities as deemed necessary by the President and/or the Executive Cabinet.
- (l) Shall serve 4 hours a week in the SGA office.



**SECTION XI:** The duties and powers of the Student Government Association Advisor shall include the following:

- (a) Be the Dean of Students or be appointed by the Dean of Students.
- (b) Give advice and suggestions on matters of interest to the Student Government Association.
- (c) Inform the President and/or the Student Senate when the student Government Association may be taking an action that could violate applicable laws and/or policies.
- (d) Convey the views of the Student Government Association to other University officials, in cooperation with any applicable Student Government Association Executive Officer(s).
- (e) Refrain from overriding the Student Government Association, its actions, and/or its members, with the exceptions of possible violations of University Policy, as well as violations of local, state, and/or federal laws, or in instances of severe liability exposure to the organization and University.
- (f) Verify expenditures of the Student Government Association and assist the Treasurer in managing its account.
- (g) Serve on the Executive Cabinet, without a vote.
- (h) Assist the Student Government Association in meeting its goals.
- (i) Aid in the continuity of the organization by attending the Student Government Association Student Senate meetings and by being available for advice and consultation.
- (j) Meet regularly with the Student Government Association Executive Officers.
- (k) Check grades of recognized Student Government Association Senators and Executive Cabinet members a minimum of one time per semester.

**SECTION XII.** When appropriate and when allowed by this Constitution, and/or in order to run an effective and responsive organization, the Executive Cabinet shall make Executive Decisions. Executive decisions are reserved for instances when it is not practical to call the Student Senate and when the Constitution is vague and/or does not clearly instruct the Executive Cabinet as to an appropriate action.

Executive Decisions shall require a majority vote by the Executive Cabinet and may be vetoed or amended by the Student Senate. A simple majority of the Student Senate is needed to veto or amend an Executive Decision. All Executive Decisions shall be presented to Student Senate within two meetings of the Student Senate following the Executive Decision. Executive Decisions shall only be presented. The Executive Cabinet shall not seek approval of an Executive Decision. It is the sole responsibility of the Student Senate to veto or amend an Executive Decision. All votes of Executive Decisions are public information.

Executive Officers shall make Executive Decisions when it is impractical or impossible for the Executive Cabinet to meet or come to a decision on a particular issue. All Executive Officers who make Executive Decisions shall present their decisions at the next scheduled Executive Cabinet meeting. It is the sole

responsibility of the Executive Cabinet to amend or veto an Executive Decision. The President shall vote only in the event of a tie.

### **ARTICLE III. LEGISLATIVE BRANCH**

**SECTION I.** All legislative powers shall be vested in the Student Senate of the Student Government Association of Texas A&M University - Kingsville. The Student Senate shall be the official body, which shall identify student opinion and formulate student policy.

**SECTION II.** Voting members of the Student Senate shall be organized in the following manner:

- (a) Four (4) senators from the Freshman Class
  - (b) Four (4) senators from the Sophomore Class.
  - (c) Four (4) senators from the Junior Class.
  - (d) Four (4) senators from the Senior Class.
  - (e) Four (4) senators at-large.
  - (f) One (1) Vice-President of internal affairs.
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- (a) Four (4) Senators from the College of Agriculture & Natural Resources
  - (b) Four (4) Senators from the College of Arts and Sciences.
  - (c) Four (4) Senators from the College of Business Administration.
  - (d) Four (4) Senators from the College of Education & Human Performance.
  - (e) Four (4) Senators from the College of Engineering.
  - (f) Four (4) Senators from the College of Graduate Studies.

**Section III.** Non-voting members of the Student Senate shall be organized in the following manner:

- (a) The Student Government President.
- (b) The Student Government Vice President of Internal affairs, unless in the event of a tie.
- (c) The Student Government Vice President of External affairs.
- (d) The Student Government Secretary.
- (e) The Student Government Treasurer.
- (f) The Student Organization Advisory Liaison,
- (g) The Student Government Greek Life Commissioner
- (h) The Student Government Advisor(s).
- (i) The Texas A&M University System Chancellor's Student Advisory Council Representative, if a senator, receives a vote.
- (j) All other non-voting Student Senate seats shall be provided for in the Student Senate By-Laws.

**SECTION IV.** The rules contained in the latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the Student Government Association in all cases to which they are applicable unless they are inconsistent with the Constitution and By-laws of the Student Government Association. This shall be executed by the Parliamentarian and may be appealed only to the Vice President during a meeting of the Student Senate.

**SECTION V.** The duties and powers of the Student Government Association Student Senate shall be to:

- (a) Represent and communicate the view and needs of the student body to the administration, faculty, staff, and other appropriate entities of TAMUK.
- (b) Enact all measures necessary and proper for the general welfare of the student body in accordance with this Constitution.
- (c) Establish such rules and procedures as are necessary for the proper functioning of the Student Senate.
- (d) Ratify justices to the Student Government Association Judicial Court, as appointed by the President of the Student Government.
- (e) Recommend to the student body proposals and programs, which will strengthen the campus climate.
- (f) Refer to the Student Government Association Committees issues for research, study, and evaluation.
- (g) Review, discuss, consider, and take any necessary action through resolutions and other legislation on all issues, which concern the campus or students that are brought to the floor.
- (h) Serve as an open forum where views on matters of concern can be exchanged.
- (i) Approve the budget of the Student Government Association. Any spending that exceeds \$250 of the budgeted amount requires ratification by the Student Senate by simple majority.
- (j) Override the veto of the President as necessary to represent constituents.
- (k) Ratify all decisions and appointments made by Executive Decision.
- (l) Provide a forum for the expression of concerns from students.
- (m) Provide a link between the Student Government Association and students concerning programs and issues on campus.

**SECTION VI.** The duties and powers of the Senators of the Student Senate shall be to:

- (a) Represent the views of his/her constituents.
- (b) Make opportunities available for their constituents to share ideas and viewpoints.
- (c) Host at least one forum for their constituents each 15-week semester.
- (d) Serve on at least one Student Government Standing Committee. This shall be for at least a one-semester commitment.
- (e) Represent Student Government on University Committees as appointed by the President of the Student Government.
- (f) Protect, defend, and uphold the Student Government Constitution.
- (g) Sponsor legislation as needed.

- (h) Attend meetings of the Student Senate.
- (i) Check mail weekly in the Student Government Office.
- (j) Vote on legislation presented to the Student Senate.
- (k) Call a general referendum of the Student Body in order to render a decision regarding student fees or any legislation.
- (l) Approve the budget of the Student Government and proposed by the SGA treasurer at the first senate meeting.
- (m) Override Presidential Vetoes as necessary to represent constituents.
- (n) Serve at least two (2) hours a week in the SGA Senator's Room.
- (o) Attend at least one SGA or SGA sponsored event per month outside of their pre-designated committee, unless their committee hosts three or more events in that single month.

**SECTION VII.** The duties and powers of the Standing Committee Chairs of the Student Senate shall be to:

- (a) Set date, time, and place of all committee meetings, with the consent of their respective committee, providing they meet once a week.
- (b) Preside over meetings of their respective committees.
- (c) Bring before the Student Senate recommendations from their committee for approval of the Student Senate.
- (d) Report to Student Senate the work of their committee.
- (e) Submit weekly written reports of the work of their committee to the Vice President.
- (f) Submit a Transition Report to the Vice President prior to vacating their position.
- (g) Represent the Student Government on University Committees as appointed by the President of the Student Government.
- (h) (h). Protect, defend, and uphold the Student Government Association Constitution.
- (i) Encourage students to become additional committee members.
- (j) Serve at least 3 hours a week in the SGA office.

**SECTION VIII.** Rules and regulations regarding meetings of the Student Senate shall be as follows:

- (a) Regular Meetings: The Student Senate shall meet bi-weekly during the academic year through the dead day of each semester, with the exception of official University breaks and events. The Vice President shall determine time, date, and place.
- (b) Called Meetings: The Executive Cabinet may call special meetings by Executive Decision, as it deems necessary. Ten (10) senators may petition the Vice President to call a special meeting, providing the meeting is being requested at a reasonable time.
- (c) Quorum: A simple majority of the General Assembly shall constitute a quorum. Vacancies shall not count when calculating quorum.
- (d) Attendance: If a member of the Student Senate accumulates three (3) absences (excused or unexcused) that have not been made up in any semester, that member shall lose their position. If serving as an organizational representative, the organization must provide another representative.

- (e) The Vice-President of Internal affairs shall have the right to remove a member from a meeting of the Student Senate. This can be overturned by a two-thirds majority vote of the Student Senate.

**SECTION IX.** The Student Body shall have the power to enact measures independently of the Senate. An initiative petition containing the signatures of ten percent (10%) of the student body or a referendum petition containing ten percent (10%) of the student body shall be required to call a referendum within two

(2) weeks after the issuance of the petition obtained from the Student Government Association office. The petition shall contain the date of issuance, the signatures, and the Student ID numbers of the signers. The measure shall be held within fifteen (15) class days after the presentation of the petition to the Student Senate. The results of the referendum shall be implemented by the President of the Student Government.

#### **ARTICLE IV. JUDICIAL BRANCH**

**SECTION I.** All judicial powers shall be vested in the Judicial Court of the Student Government Association of Texas A&M University - Kingsville.

**SECTION II.** The Judicial Court shall be organized in the following manner:

- (a) The Judicial Court shall be appointed by the President of the Student Government Association and ratified by a 2/3 vote of the Student Senate.
- (b) The Judicial Court shall consist of a Chief Justice and four (4) Associate Justices.
- (c) Each Fall, there will be mandatory training for all members of the Judicial Court. The Student Government Association Advisor shall ensure this training occurs.
- (d) The Judicial Court will meet on an as-needed basis.
- (e) The Chief Justice will be selected by the Judicial Court at the annual training end of the Spring semester, prior to May graduation and must have served the Judicial Court at least one long semester (Fall or Spring), consisting of at least 12 weeks prior to becoming Chief Justice.
- (f) Justices shall serve on the Judicial Court until they are no longer duly registered as students at Texas A&M - Kingsville, or until they resign from their positions, or they are impeached.
- (g) The Chief Justice shall serve for a one-year term but may be re-elected.
- (h) If the Chief Justice cannot fulfill their 12-month term, the Vice Chief Justice shall finish the term as Chief Justice.

#### **ARTICLE V. IMPEACHMENT**

**SECTION I.** An individual may be removed from office providing the following has been done:

- (a). Documented confrontation with the individual(s) involved.
- (b). Documented confrontation with the individual(s) with advisor present.
- (c). An opportunity for the individual to resign.

**SECTION II.** Causes for removal from office include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Neglect of duties
- (b) Intentional breach of the Student Government Association Constitution and/or By-Laws.
- (c) Actions that reflect negatively on the Student Government Association, but which may not constitute neglect of duties or a breach of the Student Government Association Constitution and/or By-Laws.

**SECTION III.** Any student who is not a member of the Student Government Association shall have the right to initiate impeachment proceedings against any Senator, any Executive Officer, or any Judicial Court Member if they fail to meet the duties as prescribed in this Constitution and By-Laws or if they are engaged in behavior that is detrimental to the Student Government Association, Texas A&M-Kingsville, or its students. It will require the signatures of 10% of the population to be presented to the Student Government Association Student Senate and it will require documentation that a meeting transpired between the official being charged, the individual making the charges, and the Student Government Association Advisor. In the event it is the Student Government Association Advisor being charged, the meeting should involve the Dean of Students. In the event of the Advisor being the Dean of Students, the Vice President for Student Affairs shall be present. During this meeting, specific charges must be presented in writing.

**ARTICLE VI. VACANCIES**

**SECTION I.** VACANCIES

- A. Individuals wishing to vacate their positions shall give notice in the form of a letter of resignation to the SGA President. The letter of resignation shall include the effective date of resignation. Upon receiving the letter of resignation, the President shall notify Student Senate within two (2) academic weeks of receipt of the letter, but at least 2 weeks before the effective date of the resignation, if possible.
- B. Individuals not meeting criteria set forth in Article III of the By-Laws shall Immediately resign, effective immediately.
- C. If the individual is a member of the Executive Cabinet (with the exception of the Vice President of Interna affairs the Student Organization Advisory Liaison, or Advisor), a special election shall be held within three weeks after the Student Senate is notified of a resignation of an Executive Cabinet Member.
- D. If no candidate is elected or if the vacancy occurs after the Fall Semester election, then the Executive Committee shall appoint a person that meets the following criteria:
  - i. Meets SGA qualifications stipulated in Article III of the By-Laws and the Constitution for holding that position.
  - ii. Senate appointments must be a member of the constituency they will represent.
  - iii. These appointments shall be ratified by a two-thirds majority vote of the Student Senate.

**ARTICLE VII. LEGISLATION**

**SECTION I.** Legislation within the Student Senate shall consist of Bills and Resolutions.

**SECTION II.** A bill shall be defined as a call of action by the Student Government Association on a matter that is within the authority of the Student Government to implement.

**SECTION III.** A resolution shall be defined as an official statement of support by the Student Government Association for an action, policy, or idea that is not within the jurisdiction of the Student Government.

#### **ARTICLE VIII. BY-LAWS**

**SECTION I.** The Student Government Association will establish by-laws as necessary. Upon their ratification, they become a part of this Constitution and assist in governing the Student Government.

#### **ARTICLE IX. AMENDMENTS**

**SECTION I.** A notice of proposed amendments to the Constitution of the Texas A&M University - Kingsville Student Government Association shall be given in the Student Senate agenda and will be considered at no fewer than two meetings of the Student Government Association Student Senate prior to voting. A copy of the proposed amendments shall be distributed with the agenda. A two-thirds majority vote is required. Amendments must then go to a referendum to be approved by the general student body. This referendum shall take place not more than three weeks after the amendment is passed in the Student Senate.

**SECTION II.** A notice of proposed amendments or additions to the By-Laws of the Student Government Association shall be given in the Student Senate agenda and will be considered at no fewer than two meetings of the Student Government Student Senate prior to voting. A copy of the proposed amendments or additions shall be distributed with the agenda. A two-thirds majority vote is required.

#### **ARTICLE X. RATIFICATION**

**SECTION I.** This constitution shall be considered ratified upon approval of the Student Government Association Student Senate and the general student body of Texas A&M University - Kingsville.

**SECTION II.** All previous constitutions are null and void.

**SECTION III.** This Student Government Association Constitution stands approved as of April 24, 2019.

#### **ARTICLE XI. ELECTIONS**

**SECTION I.** The Student Government Association elections must be conducted twice a session in Fall and Spring semester respectively. The elections must be guided by the election code of conduct of the Student Government Association.

Election code meetings are mandatory for the candidates and failure to attend will lead to immediate disqualification and the candidate would be unable to participate in the elections.

**ARTICLE XII. MEETING MODERATOR**

**SECTION I.** In the absence of the Vice President of Internal Affairs and the Vice President of External Vice President the meeting shall be conducted and moderated by the next longest serving senator in the senate.

**Adopted & Approved**

**99<sup>th</sup> Session**

**March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

**CERTIFIED BY:**

*Harley Davis*

**Student Body President**