

THE UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA STUDENT BODY CONSTITUTION

We, the students of the University of Central Florida, in order to maintain the benefits of constitutional liberty, to create a representative body through which the individual student can actively participate in this University, and to promote cooperation among the Student Body, Faculty, and Administration, do hereby ordain and establish this Constitution for the University of Central Florida Student Body.

ARTICLE I

The Student Body

1.01 NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Student Body of the University of Central Florida. The governmental agency of this organization shall be the University of Central Florida Student Government, hereinafter referred to as Student Government.

1.02 JURISDICTION

All students, by virtue of their registration in the University of Central Florida, shall be members of the Student Body and shall be subject to the *University of Central Florida Student Body Constitution*.

1.03 FRANCHISE

All students enrolled at the University of Central Florida shall be entitled to vote in the special and general elections of the Student Body.

1.04 REFERENDUM ELECTIONS

The Student Body has the right to call for a referendum election provided that a petition, signed by a number of students equal to fifteen percent (15%) of the total votes cast in the previous Student Body Presidential Election, is submitted as specified by *Student Body Statutes*.

1.05 DEFINITIONS

The most current published edition of *Black's Law Dictionary*, unless otherwise stated in the *University of Central Florida Student Body Constitution*, *Student Body Statutes*, *Judicial Rules of Procedure*, or *Senate Rules*, shall be used in understanding unspecified terms contained within the aforementioned documents.

ARTICLE II

The Legislative Branch

2.01 LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

The legislative powers of the Student Body shall be vested in the Student Body Senate.

2.02 COMPOSITION OF THE STUDENT BODY SENATE

The Student Body Senate shall be comprised of

- A. A number of students who shall be known as Student Senators.
- B. A Senate President, elected from the Student Body Senate.
- C. A Senate President Pro Tempore, elected from the Student Body Senate.
- D. A number of agents elected or appointed as stated in the *Student Body Statutes* and *Senate Rules*.

2.03 THE STUDENT BODY SENATE SESSION

The Student Body Senate Session shall renew after each Student Body Senate Election.

2.04 APPORTIONMENT AND ELECTION OF THE STUDENT BODY SENATE

The Student Body Senate shall be apportioned as established by *Student Body Statutes*. The Student Body Senate shall be elected by plurality vote.

2.05 DUTIES AND POWERS OF THE STUDENT BODY SENATE

In accordance with the *Senate Rules* and *Student Body Statutes*, the Student Body Senate shall

- A. Promote and uphold all University of Central Florida standards and procedures outlined in *The Golden Rule Handbook*.
- B. Enact, by majority vote of the Student Body Senate, constitutional bylaws to be known as *Student Body Statutes*.
- C. Express the will and sentiments of the Student Body through legislation.
- D. Advise and consent, by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Student Body Senate, appointments made by the Student Body President.
- E. Possess the authority to impeach Student Government Agents, both elected and appointed.
- F. Allocate student funds paid through the Activity and Service Fee.
- G. Determine the rules of its proceedings which shall be known as Senate Rules.
- H. Override vetoes by the Student Body President by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Student Body Senate.
- I. Request a review of a veto by a Senior Student Affairs Officer or designee by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Student Body Senate.
- J. Override vetoes by the Senior Student Affairs Officer by two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Student Body Senate and refer the legislation to the President of the University for final review and decision.
- K. Enact special acts by a majority vote.
- L. Issue subpoenas by a majority vote of the Student Body Senate or by majority vote of a Senate Committee.

- M. Assemble in open meetings at frequent intervals for the deliberation of legislation and business of the Student Body.
- N. Uphold all other duties and responsibilities of the Student Body Senate as outlined in the *Student Body Statutes* and *Senate Rules*.

ARTICLE III
The Executive Branch

3.01 EXECUTIVE AUTHORITY

All executive powers, and those powers not specifically granted herein to other branches of Student Government, shall be vested in the Student Body President, assisted by the Student Body Vice President, and other Executive Cabinet members to effectively carry out the business of Student Government.

3.02 COMPOSITION OF THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH

The Executive Branch shall be comprised of

- A. The Student Body President.
- B. The Student Body Vice President.
- C. The Executive Cabinet, appointed by the Student Body President and confirmed by the Student Body Senate.

3.03 ELECTION OF THE STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT AND STUDENT BODY VICE PRESIDENT

The Student Body President and Student Body Vice President shall be elected by a majority vote of the Student Body and serve a one-year term of office following each Student Body Presidential Election according to the *Student Body Statutes*.

3.04 DUTIES AND POWERS OF THE STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT

The Student Body President shall

- A. Promote and uphold all University of Central Florida standards and procedures outlined in *The Golden Rule Student Handbook*.
- B. Appoint students to Student Government offices, with concurrence of the Student Body Senate.
- C. Sign or veto measures passed by the Student Body Senate.
- D. Call and preside over meetings of the Student Body when appropriate.
- E. Address the Student Body Senate, regarding the state of the Student Body.
- F. Initiate budget proceedings for the fiscal year and provide for the expenditure of student funds.
- G. Call for a referendum of the Student Body when appropriate.
- H. Possess the power to remove any Executive Cabinet member, with the exception of the Attorney General and Comptroller.

- I. Approve or deny the formation of any student organization seeking registration with the Office of Student Involvement.

3.05 DUTIES AND POWERS OF THE STUDENT BODY VICE PRESIDENT

The Student Body Vice President shall

- A. Promote and uphold all University of Central Florida standards and procedures outlined in *The Golden Rule Student Handbook*.
- B. Assume the powers of the Student Body President upon request by the Student Body President.
- C. Preside over the election of a Senate President.
- D. Be able to break a tie vote of the Student Body Senate.
- E. Address the Student Body Senate, regarding the state of the Student Body.

3.06 STUDENT BODY PRESIDENTIAL SUCCESSION

In the event that the Student Body President resigns, is removed, or is unable to perform the powers and duties of the office, the Student Body Presidential successor shall assume the Office of the Student Body President for the remainder of the Presidential term and the succession be as follows

- A. The Student Body Vice President.
- B. The Senate President.
- C. The Senate President Pro Tempore.

If the Student Body Presidential succession becomes exhausted, the Student Body Senate shall hold a Special Session, as provided for in *Senate Rules*, to elect a Student Body President prior to the next scheduled Senate session. The office of the Student Body President to be elected must be confirmed by a supermajority vote of the Student Body Senate and shall serve until the next Student Government Election. Should the next scheduled Student Government Election be the Student Body Senate Elections, there shall be a special election for the Office of the Student Body President.

3.07 VACANCY IN THE OFFICE OF THE STUDENT BODY VICE PRESIDENT

A vacancy in the Office of the Student Body Vice President shall be filled by the following procedure

- A. The Student Body President shall appoint a Student Body Vice Presidential candidate.
- B. At the next regularly scheduled meeting, the Student Body Senate must confirm the candidate by a supermajority vote.
- C. If the Student Body Senate rejects the candidate, the Student Body President shall appoint a new candidate.

ARTICLE IV The Judicial Branch

4.01 JUDICIAL AUTHORITY

The Judicial power of the Student Body shall be vested in a Judicial Council and such other judicial boards as the Student Body Senate may deem appropriate to establish.

4.02 COMPOSITION OF THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL

The Judicial Council shall be comprised of

- A. Fourteen (14) Associate Justices appointed for two (2) year terms so that seven (7) shall be appointed every Student Body Presidential term.
- B. A Chief Justice, appointed yearly from within the Judicial Council by the Student Body President and serve concurrently with the Student Body President.
- C. Other agents that the Judicial Council deems necessary, which shall be chosen according to *Judicial Rules of Procedure*.

If a vacancy occurs, the Student Body President shall appoint a replacement for the remainder of the term.

4.03 DUTIES AND POWERS OF THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL

In accordance with the *Judicial Rules of Procedure* and *Student Body Statutes*, the Judicial Council shall

- A. Promote and uphold all University of Central Florida standards and procedures outlined in *The Golden Rule Student Handbook*.
- B. Provide counsel concerning the rights and responsibilities of the Student Body.
- C. Possess the power of Judicial Review, the examination of legislative and executive acts.
- D. Hear cases and provide appellate procedures involving student disputes with, or violations of, the *University of Central Florida Student Body Constitution*, *Student Body Statutes*, and University of Central Florida Regulations.
- E. Conduct closed hearings on matters concerning individual violations of University of Central Florida Regulations, which may require disciplinary recommendations; and may conduct open hearings for all other cases.

ARTICLE V

Senior Student Affairs Officer

5.01 SENIOR STUDENT AFFAIRS OFFICER DESIGNATION

The Senior Student Affairs Officer shall be a staff member designated as the administrative head of the division of student affairs at the University of Central Florida.

5.02 SIGNATORY DUTIES

The Senior Student Affairs Officer shall

- A. Have ten (10) business days from the time the Office of the Senior Student Affairs Officer receives the legislation to veto or sign measures passed by the Student Body Senate. No action in ten (10) business days shall constitute approval of the measure by the Senior Student Affairs Officer.
- B. Assign a designee to veto or sign measures passed by the Student Body Senate in cases where the Senior Student Affairs Officer is unable to fulfill the prescribed signatory duties.
 - 1. The Senior Student Affairs Officer shall send a memorandum to the Student Body President and the Senate President, which includes the designee, the reason for the assignment, and the time period for which the designee shall have approval and veto powers.
 - 2. The Student Body Senate may request a review of any measure vetoed by an assigned designee by the Senior Student Affairs Officer upon completion of the designated time period. The Senior Student Affairs Officer shall then have ten (10) business days from the end of the designated time to review said measure. No action within ten (10) business days shall constitute approval of the measure by the Senior Student Affairs Officer.
 - 3. In the event of a veto by the Senior Student Affairs Officer, all Constitutional powers concerning veto override policies by the Student Body Senate shall still be in effect.

ARTICLE VI
Amending Process

6.01 PROPOSAL OF AMENDMENTS

- A. An amendment to this Constitution may be proposed by either
 - 1. A supermajority vote of the Student Body Senate, or
 - 2. A written petition, presented to the Supervisor of Elections, bearing a number of student signatures equal to fifteen percent (15%) of the number of votes cast for Student Body President in the previous Student Body Presidential Election.
- B. The proposed Constitutional Amendment shall be communicated to the Student Body for two (2) consecutive weeks prior to the vote by the Student Body. The vote on the proposed Constitutional Amendment(s) shall be held during the next regular Student Government Election.

6.02 RATIFICATION

The proposed Constitutional Amendment shall become part of the *University of Central Florida Student Body Constitution* upon

- A. The ratification by a majority of the votes cast in a Student Government Election open to the Student Body.
- B. The signature of the Senior Student Affairs Officer or designee within twenty (20) business days from the date the results are posted

1. If no action is taken within twenty (20) business days, the Constitutional Amendment shall be considered approved.
2. If vetoed within twenty (20) business days, the Constitutional Amendment shall not be part of the *University of Central Florida Student Body Constitution*.