

SENATE RULE 4: DECORUM & DEBATE ON THE SENATE FLOOR

4.01 Senate Floor

- A. The Chair may recognize non-Senators to speak before the Student Body Senate on issues germane to the measure of discussion on the Senate Floor with majority consent of the Student Body Senate.
- B. The Chair or the Student Body Senate, by majority vote, may order the Senate Chamber to be cleared of disruptive individuals who are interfering with the orderly transaction of business.
- C. Student Body Senators shall confine themselves to the motions under debate, avoiding personal issues or feelings, and observe courtesy to all Student Body Senators.

4.02 Obtaining the Senate Floor

- A. Student Body Senators shall raise their hand if they wish to speak or deliver a matter to the Student Body Senate and wait to be recognized by the Chair.
- B. The Chair shall rule on the order Student Body Senators shall speak when two or more Student Body Senators wish to speak.
- C. Student Body Senators shall remain seated or rise to address the Student Body Senate when recognized.

4.03 Time and Limitation of Debate

- A. Individual Student Body Senators on the Senate Floor shall be limited to having:
 - 1. Five (5) minutes to speak on debatable motions.
 - 2. Five (5) minutes to speak on measures on second reading.
 - 3. Three (3) minutes to speak for measures on third reading.
 - 4. Five (5) minutes to speak during Miscellaneous Business when no motion is on the Senate Floor.
- B. Student Body Senators may yield their remaining time during each motion that is under discussion.
 - 1. Student Body Senators can yield to another Student Body Senator. The Student Body Senator to whom time is yielded may yield back to the previous Student Body Senator for which that Student Body Senator cannot yield to another Student Body Senator.
 - 2. Student Body Senators can yield to a non-Senator, with majority consent of the Student Body Senate.
- C. Introducers of measures, and other debatable motions, may have five (5) minutes of opening debate, in addition to the introducer's allotted time.

4.04 Senate Behavioral Standards

Student Body Senators shall

- A. Refrain from using profanity or making direct attacks on any Student Government Agents, organizations, representatives, or guests during the Senate Meeting.
- B. Address Student Government Agents, organizations, representatives, and guests by their respective titles and with courtesy and respect.
- C. Maintain a professional atmosphere during the Senate Meeting.
- D. Debate only on issues germane to specific legislation or deliberations.

E. Actively pay attention to issues and legislations on the Senate Floor.

4.05 Roles and Responsibilities of the Sergeant-at-Arms

The Sergeant-at-Arms shall

- A. Attend all Senate Meetings or appoint a designee, which the Senate President must be notified, when absent.
- B. Remove disruptive individuals, deemed by the Chair or the Student Body Senate, from the Senate Chamber.
- C. Preserve order during Senate meetings by maintaining decorum.

HISTORY:

Res 13-03 (02/03/1981) Bill 16-05 (10/25/1983) Res 16-44 (08/28/1984) Res 17-11 (01/29/1985)
Res 20-09 (11/24/1987) Res 32-25 (00/00/00) Res 36-30 (05/13/2004) Res 36-33 (00/00/00)
Res 38-03 (11/18/2005) Res 38-09 (02/02/2006) Res 42-16 (02/18/2010) Res 43-11 (02/09/2011)
Res 44-28 (09/27/2012) Res 49-42 (07/06/2017) Res 50-31 (03/22/2018) Res 50-61 (09/20/2018)
Res 56-28 (06/18/2025)