



SAVANNAH STATE UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF GEORGIA
POST OFFICE BOX 21008
SAVANNAH, GA 31404

Student Government Association

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION CONSTITUTION
(Approved by SGA Executive Board and Senate after 3 readings on
(1.13.21, 2.11.21, and 03.16.21)

PREAMBLE

We, the students of Savannah State University, in order to produce a more effective student governing body, to express the general interest of the Student Body, to encourage a harmonious Student-Faculty-Administration relationship, to provide for full student participation in student government, and to stimulate growth among students toward progressive citizenship do, ordain and establish this Constitution of the Student Body of Savannah State University.

ARTICLE I NAME, MEMBERSHIP AND COMPOSITION

The name of this organization will be the Student Government Association of Savannah State University, (hereinafter referred to as the SGA). It will consist of three (3) distinct and separate branches: the Executive Branch, Legislative Branch, and the Judicial Branch, the powers of which shall be separated as enumerated in this Constitution. The term of office for the SGA shall begin the day officers are elected and until the day of which the newly elected officers are sworn in.

ARTICLE II JURISDICTION

All registered students of Savannah State University, who pay Student Activity Fees, make up the Student Body who shall be subject to the Student Body Constitution.

ARTICLE III PURPOSE

The purpose of the Student Government Association (SGA) is to serve as representatives of and to act in the best interest of the student body. The SGA is charged with addressing the issues and concerns of the student body to SSU Administration, faculty and staff, as well as the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia and to the Savannah-Chatham Community. The Student Government Association shall provide

governmental, academic, judicial, cultural and social services to the student body. SGA shall appropriate budgets and manage funds allocated for the benefit of the student body.

ARTICLE IV EXECUTIVE BRANCH

Section I President

The role of the President is as follows:

1. The President of the Student Government Association will serve as Chairperson of the Executive Board and will call and preside at all executive and joint Executive-Legislative meetings and will vote only in the case of a tie.
2. The President will provide the student body with information concerning the operation and activities of the Student Government Association and about general University/System-wide issues, through Student Government Forums held at least twice per month.
3. The President will have dialogue with the President of the University at least once per month to keep abreast with issues affecting the University.
4. The President will present to the Student Senate on the seventh week of both regular academic semesters a comprehensive report on the State of the SGA.
5. The President will be bound by the oath of office to provide leadership for the student body, this Constitution and any amendments made thereto, as well as, all Savannah State University and Board of Regents policies.
6. The President will appoint students to represent the University at Intercollegiate and National activities and will inform the Student Senate of such appointments.
7. The President must execute bills approved by the Executive Board and passed in the Student Senate.
8. The President shall have veto power over all legislation passed by the Student Senate within ten (10) school days.
9. The SGA President along with the Student Government Advisor shall be the only authorized signatory on all financial transactions.
10. The President will appoint and receive Ambassadors and appoint non-policy posts without Student Senate approval.
11. The President will have the power to nominate appointments to any elected office in the event that no one seeks to run for that office with the approval of the Student Senate.
12. The President shall have the right to declare a state of emergency and to use such powers deemed necessary until the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Student Senate. The circumstances that constitute a State of Emergency include and are limited to failure of the Student Senate to convene, which shall reach a quorum in order to conduct business.
13. The President will have the power to call emergency meetings.
14. The President shall have the power to call the Student Senate to a special session.
15. In case of the removal of the President of the SGA from office or in case of the President's absence, resignation, death or inability to discharge the duties of the office, the line of succession is as follows: Vice-President of SGA, Vice-Chairperson of the Student Senate, Senior Class President, and the Junior Class President.
16. The President is authorized to act in the best interest of the student body and the SGA during the summer months. All decisions made will be subject to Legislative approval for continuation throughout the fall and spring Semesters.

17. The President shall attend all scheduled workshops, retreats, and seminars, conferences that are approved by the university.
18. The President will receive room and board.
19. The SGA President will be supervised by the Vice-President for Student Affairs or his/her designee.

Section II Executive Secretary

The President of SGA, subject to the approval of the Student Senate, will appoint the Executive Secretary. The role of the Executive Secretary shall be as follows:

1. The Executive Secretary will prepare the agenda for meetings, keep and read the minutes of meetings, and notify members of elections or appointments to offices.
2. The Executive Secretary will also be responsible for maintaining communications between branches with respect to instructions and reports, and act as custodian of the records, and perform all other duties as assigned by the President of the SGA.

Section III Press Secretary

The President of SGA subject to approval by the Student Senate will appoint the Press Secretary. The role of the Press Secretary shall be as follows:

1. The Press Secretary will handle all public relations involved with the SGA.
2. The Press Secretary will handle all correspondence and the distribution of information to the student body.
3. The Press Secretary will work closely with the Executive Secretary, the Public Relations Officer of the Student Senate, and Press Secretary of the Judicial Branch.

Section IV Business Manager

The President of SGA, with Executive Board and Student Senate approval, will appoint the Business Manager.

The role of the Business Manager shall be as follows:

1. The Business Manager will keep an accurate record of all Income and Expenditures of SGA.
2. The Business Manager will meet once a month with the Student and Academic Services Budget Officer for the purpose of being knowledgeable of the University's budget process, the preparation of financial reports and the reconciliation of budget records.
3. The Business Manager will give a full Weekly Financial Report to the Executive Board and the Student Government Advisor.
4. The Business Manager will prepare a full Monthly Financial Report and make it available to the student body, during scheduled SGA Forums and via the Student Government Association Website. The Monthly Financial Report shall be made available on the first day of every month school is in session and shall remain posted for ten (10) days thereafter.

5. The Business Manager should be notified of all financial transactions that are processed and signed with authorized signatures by the President of the SGA and the Student Government Advisor.
6. The Business Manager will submit all budget transactions to the Student and Academic Services Budget Officer for verification of funding and approval.

Section V Advisor

The SGA advisor shall be the Vice-President for Student Affairs or his/her designee. The Advisor shall attend Executive Board meetings, hold regularly meetings with the SGA President and co-sign requests for expenditures of Student Government Association fund

ARTICLE V LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

Section I Purpose and Composition

The Student Senate is the law-making body of the Student Government Association, and will be called the Student Senate. The Student Senate shall be comprised of Class Officers, and representatives of all registered campus organizations.

Section II Vice-President

The role of the Vice-President shall be as follows:

1. The Vice-President will serve as Chairperson of the Student Senate and will call and preside over all meetings, of the said body and only vote in the case of a tie.
2. The Vice-President will have dialogue with the Vice-President of Student Affairs at least once per month to keep abreast with issues affecting the University.
3. The Vice-President will keep the Student Senate abreast of communications received by the Executive and Judicial Branches, regarding University Affairs.
4. The Vice-President must act in accordance with the directives in bills passed by the Student Senate and approved by the Executive Branch.
5. The Vice-President will delegate responsibility to the Student Senate members as necessary for the proper functioning of the SGA.
6. The Vice-President will have power to levy fines on Senator for tardiness or absence from any portion or all of the regular scheduled Student Senate Meetings (refer to Article V Section III).
7. The Vice-President will have the authority to suspend, for the remainder of a meeting, any Senator who exhibits excessively disorderly conduct. Excessively disorderly conduct is not abiding by the rules established by this Constitution or by the rules agreed upon and adopted by the Senate.
8. The Vice-President may appoint a committee to execute a desired SGA function in accordance with the stated purposes of this Association.
9. The Vice-President will work in close consultation with the President of the SGA.
10. As a member of the Executive Board, the Vice-President will present bills passed by the Student Senate to the Executive Board for approval or veto. The Vice-President will keep the Executive Board and the President informed of all Student Senate activities.

11. In case of the removal of the Vice-President of the SGA from office or in the case of the Vice-President's absence, resignation, or death or inability to discharge the duties of the office, the line of succession is as follows: Vice- Chairperson, Senior Class President, and Junior Class President.
12. The Vice-President will have the authority to act in the best interest of the student body and the SGA during the summer months. All decisions made will be subject to Legislative approval for continuation throughout the fall and Spring Semesters.
13. The Vice-President will serve as Chair for Student Organizations and Activities Resources (SOAR) Committee.
14. The Vice-President shall attend all scheduled workshops, seminars, and conferences, retreats that are approved by the university.
15. The Vice-President will receive a stipend in an amount decided by the Student Senate.

Section III Powers and Responsibilities of the Student Senate:

The Student Senate empowered to:

1. Appropriate all funds of the Student Government, subject to approval of the SGA President. All appropriation bills must originate in the Senate. Appropriation Bills require a simple majority vote to pass or fail. Bills properly voted on in the Senate that are passed shall be forwarded to the Executive Board for final approval. Bills that are not approved by the Senate shall be made subject to a referendum (at the sponsors request and cost) refer to Article XI.
2. Enact legislation necessary for the welfare and progress of the student body and make recommendations to the administration concerning any phases of student life over which it does not have the power to legislate. Legislative proposals must originate in the Senate. A simple majority vote is all that is required to pass or deny a legislative bill. If the Senate fails to act on the Bill within seven (7) days of receiving the Bill then it shall be forwarded to the Executive Branch for approval. If the Executive Board fails to act on the Bill within seven (7) days then the legislation shall be adopted.
3. A two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Student Senate shall override any presidential veto and such bills will have force of law.
4. During voting meetings, only one representative per registered organization may be present to vote for their respected organizations.
5. The Student Senate shall also have the power to create committees deemed necessary to perform its functions.
6. The Student Senate will nominate and vote on each student that is represented on the Student Organization & Activities Resources Board (SOAR) Committee.

SECTION VI Membership and Standing Rules

The Student Senate shall consist of a Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Parliamentarian, Class Officers, and two representatives of each registered organization of the university. The VicePresident of the SGA shall serve as Chairperson of the Student Senate and has the power to appoint the Vice Chairperson and the Parliamentarian.

The Senate shall promulgate its own rules regarding meeting times, order of business and all other parliamentary matters. However, the following rules shall apply to the Senate and no other rules can conflict with or supersede these rules without an amendment to this Constitution:

1. Each member shall have only one (1) vote;

2. Chairperson(s) vote only in case of a tie
3. The Senate shall be comprised of the Class Officers and two members from each registered campus organization. Each organization must apply for membership to the Senate and agree to be bound by the rules herein and established by the Senate.
4. No member of the Senate shall be absent from a regularly scheduled meeting more than two (2) times without a valid excuse or without providing advance notice of the absence. After the third absence that member shall lose their seat in the Senate.

Section V Vice Chairperson

The Vice-President of SGA will appoint the Vice Chairperson. In the absence of the Chairperson, the role of the Vice Chairperson shall be to have all authority and privileges as the Chairperson over the Student Senate.

Section VII Parliamentarian

The Vice-President of SGA will appoint the

Parliamentarian. The role of the Parliamentarian shall be as

follows:

1. The Parliamentarian will ensure that all Student Senate meetings, forums and business is conducted in an orderly manner in accordance with this Constitution and the rules and regulations established and agreed upon by the Student Senate.
2. The Parliamentarian should be knowledgeable of using Robert's Rules of Order.
3. The Parliamentarian will work closely with the Chief Justice in the Judicial Branch.

Section IX Student Senate

Each sector within the university shall designate two members from its body, to serve as its Representative in the SGA. The Coordinator of Student Programs and Organizations shall provide a list of registered student representatives annually. As new sectors are established, this Constitution shall be amended, in accordance with the procedure set forth in Article VI, Section I of this Constitution to include the newly established organization and allow its representation in The Student Senate.

The role of the Student Senate shall be as follows:

1. Each member in the Student Senate will keep all constituents informed of SGA legislation, administrative action, and all other issues of concern, directly or indirectly affecting the student body.
2. Each member of the Student Senate should be aware of their constituents' needs and propose programs to address those needs.
3. Each member of the Student Senate will be made aware of all SGA programs.
4. Each member of the Student Senate should perform duties as assigned by the Chairperson

ARTICLE VII JUDICIAL BRANCH

Section I Name, Purpose and Composition

The Judicial Branch of the Student Government Association shall work with the University's Conduct Review Board and the Office of Students in the oversight of to oversee Student Conduct and the entire Student Government Association. The Student Judiciary exists to serve and protect the rights of the student body to ensure it maintains ethical and fair procedures. Analyze the judicial state of Student Government Association and Savannah State University and present appropriate Bills, Proposals, Resolutions and/ Recommendations to the Student Senate, Executive Board and/or the University for consideration. The Judicial Branch shall be comprised of a Chief Justice, elected by the student body and eight (8), to twelve (12), Associate Justices nominated by the Chief Justice and approved by the Student Senate.

The role of the Judicial Branch shall be as follows:

1. Review the SGA constitution annually to ensure that the Student Government is functional in accordance with its constitutional purpose, and to validate its actions.
2. The Judicial Branch shall have the power to recommend any appropriate Bills or Amendments to the Student Government Constitution to maintain order within the Student Government Association by ensuring the Association has an up-to-date Constitution, Bylaws, and/or protocols to guide its functioning.
3. Adjudicate Housing Policy Violations.
4. Act as a representative of the student body to the Dean of Students to ensure that students have sufficient representation in the judicial processes facilitated by the Office of Student Conduct
5. Act as a representative of the student body to the SSU Department of Safety and Security, by bringing concerns, thoughts, and issues regarding campus safety, police procedures and protocols.
6. Promote an environment that fosters public and personal safety.
7. The Student Judicial Branch shall also have the power to create committees, as needed.
8. To resolve disputes regarding the interpretation of this Constitution or any other law, legislation, or act that may be in conflict with this constitution.
9. All members of the Judicial Branch will serve on the University's Conduct Review Board and observe procedures.

Section II Chief Justice

The role of Chief Justice includes, but is not limited, to the following:

1. The Chief Justice will serve as the chair of the Judicial Branch and will call and preside over all meetings of the Judicial Branch.
2. The Chief Justice will have dialogue with the Assistant Vice-President for Student Affairs of the University at least once per month to keep abreast with issues affecting Judicial Affairs.
3. The Chief Justice will have monthly dialogue with the Chief of Police and/or the Director of Public Safety
4. The Chief Justice will participate in a training program in conjunction with the Assistant Vice-President for Student Affairs for the participants in the University Judicial System.
5. The Chief Justice will have the authority to appoint a minimum of 8, but limited to 12, Judicial Branch Members, subject to Student Senate approval.
6. The Chief Justice will keep the Judicial Branch abreast of communications received by the SGA, regarding University and Judicial Affairs.

7. The Chief Justice will recommend Board members to the Student Conduct Coordinator or the Assistant Vice- President for Student Affairs to serve on hearing panels.
8. The Chief Justice will review constitutional, bylaw amendments, and Student Government Guideline questions with the Judicial Branch that relate to Student Government Association and make appropriate recommendations.
9. The Chief Justice will serve as the Chair of the SGA Judicial Branch Conduct Review Board.
10. The Chief Justice will cite precedents for the Judicial Boards.
11. The Chief Justice, along with the Associate Chief Justices, may advise students of their rights when they have been charged with an offense.
12. The Chief Justice will evaluate the Judicial System at least once each Semester.
13. In case of the removal of the Chief Justice of the SGA from office or in the case of the Chief Justice's absence, resignation, or death or inability to discharge the duties of the office, the Executive Associate Justice shall reside as the New Chief Justice, subject to the Student Senate's approval.
14. The Chief Justice will have the authority to act in the best interest of the student body and the SGA during the summer months.
15. The Chief Justice shall attend all scheduled workshops, retreats, seminars conferences that are approved by the university.
16. The Chief Justice will serve on the University's Mediation Committee.
17. The Chief Justice will receive a stipend in an amount decided by the Student Senate.

Section III Executive Justice

The Chief Justice of SGA will appoint the Executive Justice, also known as the Executive Associate Justice.

The role of the Executive Justice shall be as follows:

1. Serve in the absence of the SGA Chief Justice.
2. The Executive Justice will be responsible for maintaining communications between branches and Associate Justices with respect to instructions and reports, and act as administrator of the Associate Justices, and perform all other duties as assigned by the Chief Justice of the SGA.
3. The Executive Justice is to meet weekly with the Chief Justice and present concerns and/or ideas to the Student Government Association Judicial Branch concerning improper practices.
4. The Executive Justice shall be able to conduct research of all: university, local, state, and federal policies. In addition, the Executive Justice shall be able to investigate unethical legal practices, make assessments of complaints or concerns, and make recommendations anon concerning matters involving improper practices.
5. The Executive Justice shall receive and investigate cases and complaints from individual students and/or organizations concerning matters related to violations of policies.
6. The Executive Justice shall assist in drafting contracts, agreements and other binding documents, and policies for compliance with students pertaining to student's concerns, as well as the university policies and regulations.
7. The Executive Justice shall confer with students on matters involving their rights and university policies and decisions related to university policies in question and operating practices.
8. Serve on university committees as designate of the Student Government Association.
9. Provide guidance to the SGA Chief Justice as appropriate.
10. Perform other related duties as required.

Section IV Judicial Press Secretary

The Chief Justice of SGA will appoint the Judiciary Press Secretary, also known as a Senior Associate Justice.

The role of the Judicial Press Secretary shall be as follows:

1. The Judicial Press Secretary will handle all public relations involved with the Judicial Board.
2. The Judicial Press Secretary will handle all correspondence and the distribution of information to the student body involved with the Judicial Board.
3. The Judicial Press Secretary will work closely with the Editor of the Tiger's Roar, the Press Secretary of the Executive Branch, and the Public Relations Officer of the Student Senate.

Section V Associate Justices

The role of the Associate Justices:

1. The Associate Justices, through appointment by the Chief Justice, will participate in hearing judicial cases assigned to them by the Conduct Coordinator.
2. The Associate Justices shall have the responsibility of maintaining contact with the Chief Justice, and for furnishing the Chief Justice with current and pertinent Judicial Affairs Information.
3. All Justices shall have the responsibility of knowing the Judicial Branch activities at all times.
4. Justices must be familiar with the Code of Student Conduct and the SGA Constitution.

ARTICLE VIII ROYAL COURT

Section I Miss Savannah State University

The role of Miss Savannah State University, hereafter referred to as Miss SSU, shall be as follows:

1. Miss SSU will represent the Student Government Association and the University at official functions, thus serving as the official ambassador of the University and the Student Government Association.
2. Miss SSU must be born female. As such, she must represent the physicality of a female.
3. Miss SSU will serve as the official SSU recruiter and enrollment manager from the Student Government Association. As such, she will meet regularly with the Director of Admissions and the Director of Enrollment Management to address recruitment and retention needs.
4. Miss SSU will serve as the ultimate mentor on behalf of the Student Government Association. As such, she will meet regularly with the Director of Mentoring Services to participate in and create mentoring activities for the student body.
5. Miss Savannah State University will serve as the Chair of the Queen's Coalition, which will consist of Class Queens and all Campus Queens.
6. Miss SSU along with the Class Queens, Campus Queens and the advisor of Miss SSU will organize the Miss Savannah State University and Miss Freshman Pageant.
7. Miss SSU shall receive a stipend to cover the expenses of her attire for the coronation and other activities and events to be decided by majority vote of the Student Government Association Executive Board.

8. During each regular semester, Miss SSU will be required to perform at least three (3) community service projects that must be designed to support her platform on which she was elected and shall enhance the Savannah State Community and/or the Community at large.
9. Miss SSU should submit a list of tentative community service projects for approval by the Miss SSU Queen's Coalition, the Student Senate, and the Executive Board of SGA. Each project is to be documented and reported to SGA and the Miss SSU Queen's Coalition.
10. In case of removal from office or resignation, death, or other inability to discharge the duties of Miss SSU, the line of succession shall be the runner-up from the Miss SSU ballot of the current term. If there are no other candidates, or the runner-up either declines or is ineligible to be Miss SSU, the title shall go to Miss Senior of the current academic calendar year.
11. Miss SSU will receive room and board and a monthly stipend.
12. Miss SSU shall attend all scheduled workshops, retreats, seminars conferences that are approved by the university.

Section II Mister Savannah State University

The role of Mister Savannah State University, hereafter referred to as Mr. SSU, shall be as follows:

2. Mr. SSU will represent the Student Government Association and the University at official functions, thus serving as the official ambassador of the University and the Student Government Association.
3. Mr. SSU will serve as the official escort to Miss SSU.
4. Mr. SSU must be born male. As such, he must represent the physicality of a male.
5. Mr. SSU will serve as the official SSU recruiter and enrollment manager from the Student Government Association. As such, he will meet regularly with the Director of Admissions and the Director of Enrollment Management to address recruitment and retention needs.
6. Mr. SSU will serve as the ultimate mentor on behalf of the Student Government Association. As such, he will meet regularly with the Director of Mentoring Services to participate in and create mentoring activities for the student body.
7. Mr. Savannah State University will serve as the Chair of the King's Coalition, which will consist of Class Kings and all Campus Kings.
8. Mr. SSU along with the Class Kings, Campus Kings and the advisor of Mr. SSU will organize the Mister Savannah State University and Mister Freshman Pageant.
9. Mr. SSU shall receive a stipend to cover the expenses of her attire for the coronation and other activities and events to be decided by majority vote of the Student Government Association Executive Board.
10. During each regular semester, Mr. SSU will be required to perform at least three (3) community service projects that must be designed to support her platform on which she was elected and shall enhance the Savannah State Community and/or the Community at large.
11. Mr. SSU should submit a list of tentative community service projects for approval by the Mr. SSU King's Coalition and the Executive Board of SGA. Each project is to be documented and reported to SGA Executive and the Mr. SSU King's Coalition.
12. In case of removal from office or resignation, death, or other inability to discharge the duties of Mr. SSU, the line of succession shall be the runner-up from the Mr. SSU ballot of the current term. If there are no other candidates, or the runner- up either declines or is ineligible to be Mr. SSU, the title shall go to Mr. Senior of the current academic calendar year.
13. Mr. SSU will receive room and board and monthly stipend.
14. Mr. SSU shall attend all scheduled workshops, retreats, seminars, and conferences that are approved by the university.

ARTICLE IX QUALIFICATIONS FOR OFFICE

Section I Classification

Any Savannah State University student obtaining 30 credit hours or less is to be considered a freshman. Any Savannah State student obtaining between 31-60 credit hours is considered sophomores. Any Savannah State student obtaining between 61-90 hours is considered juniors. Any Savannah State University student obtaining more than 91 credit hours is considered a senior.

Section II Experience

Any Savannah State University student that is considering running for the positions of: SGA President, SGA Vice President, and SGA Chief Justice must have at least one year of leadership experience prior to running for the position. This leadership experience includes any previous SGA leadership or any on-campus organizational leadership.

Section III Requirements

Any student running for an elected position must be enrolled, registered full-time at Savannah State University and must meet the following qualifications:

1. SGA President: Any Savannah State Student running for SGA President must have a minimum of 48 credit hours by the first day of the fall semester of his or her prospective term. He/she must have a minimum of 24 credit hours

Earned at Savannah State University with a minimum grade point average of 2.75. The student must not have been found in violation of Zero- Tolerance and Housing/ Student Code of Conduct offenses by the University Conduct Review Board System during their enrollment. The candidate must be enrolled as a full-time student during the semester he/she is seeking office.

2. SGA Vice-President

Candidates running for Vice-President at Savannah State University must meet the same requirements as those running for SGA President.

3. SGA Chief Justice

Any Savannah State Student running for SGA Chief Justice must have a minimum of 48 credit hours by the first day of the fall semester of his or her prospective term. The candidate must have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.75 or better at the time of declaration of candidacy. The student must not have been found in any serious violations of Zero-Tolerance and Housing/Student Code of Conduct University Conduct Review Board System during their enrollment. He or she should have the knowledge of parliamentary procedure and should possess excellent leadership skills and sense of fairness and honesty.

4. Miss Savannah State University

Part 1: Candidates running for Miss Savannah State University must have a minimum of 75 credit hours by the first day of the fall semester of their prospective reign. She must have a cumulative grade point average of 2.75 or better at the time of declaration of candidacy. The student must not have been found in violation of Zero- Tolerance and Housing/ Student Code of Conduct offenses by the University Conduct Review Board System during their enrollment. She must be single and without out children at the time of campaign and during her reign. All candidates for Miss Savannah State University must be legally identified as a female.

Part 2: All candidates running for Miss Savannah State must have at least one year of experience being a queen (Miss). This experience may branch from the Royal Court or other on-campus organizations.

5. **Mister Savannah State University**

Part 1: Candidates running for Mister Savannah State University must have a minimum of 75 credit hours by the first day of the fall semester of their prospective reign. He must have a cumulative grade point average of 2.75 or better at the time of declaration of candidacy. The student must not have been found in violation of Zero- Tolerance offense Student Code of Conduct offenses by the University Conduct Review Board System at the time of their enrollment. He must be single and without out children at the time of campaign and during her reign. All candidates for Mister Savannah State University must be legally identified as a male.

Part 2: All candidates running for Mister Savannah State must have at least one year of experience being a King (Mister). This experience may branch from the Royal Court or other on-campus organizations.

6. **Class Attendants (Freshmen, Sophomores, Juniors, Seniors)**

Candidates running for Class Attendants must meet the same requirements as Mister and Miss Savannah State University.

7. **Class Officers**

- a. **Class Presidents:** Candidates seeking a Presidency must meet the same qualifications required for SGA President Candidates with the exception that he or she must be a member of his her respective class at the time he or she takes office.
- b. **Class Vice-President:** Candidates seeking a Vice Presidency must meet the same requirements as the Class President.
- c. **Treasurer:** Candidates seeking Treasurer must meet the same requirements as the Class President.
- d. **Secretary:** Candidates seeking Secretary must meet the same requirements as the Class President.
- e. **Class Attendants** must meet the minimum credit hours of their respective class.
- f. An applicant that has been certified as an official candidate for sought position in violation of zero tolerance or student code of conduct offence during the election period may be immediately disqualified and no longer eligible to vie for the position that year.

ARTICLE X ELECTIONS OF OFFICERS AND REPRESENTATIVES

Section I Annual elections for Executive Board Officers and Class Officers shall be held during the month of April.

1. Candidates shall meet all qualifications in Article IX.

2. In the event that circumstances prevent elections from being held on the specified dates listed in this Constitution, the Election Committee shall set an alternate election date for that year with the approval of Vice-President for Student Affairs and designee.

Section II Elections Committee Appointment & Composition

It is the responsibility of the Elections Committee to oversee the SGA Election following the guidelines set below. Appointment to the election committee shall consist of full time students, faculty, and staff made by the Student Government Association, SGA Advisor(s) and the Office of Student Life. Every effort must be made to ensure that the committee make up is majority students.

Elections Committee will establish protocol and qualifications for that years' elections.

Section III Voting Procedures

The following option will be used for electoral procedures. An eligible voter shall be defined as any student who pays their activities fees.

Section IV Elections

A mandatory candidates meeting will be set and advertised by the SGA Elections Committee. Elections will be held for 1 day, beginning at 9 a.m. and ending at 9 p.m. All eligible voters will be allowed to vote for the candidate of their choice and will be allowed to vote only once. The results will be announced at 12:00 noon in an open forum the following day and posted following the close of the announcement in the Student Government Association office.

In the event of technical issues that prevent the Electronic electoral procedures, the Hand Ballot electoral procedures will take place over a three day period at no less than two locations.

Section V Freshman Elections & Special Elections

Annual elections for Freshman Class Officers and Vacant Executive or Class Officers shall be held no later than the *second Tuesday in September or 30 days of the semester beginning*.

A mandatory meeting will be set and advertised by the SGA Elections Committee for all candidates vying for these positions. Candidates for all elected positions shall complete an application for the position being sought and turn in the application to the Advisor of the SGA no later than a week of the mandatory meeting.

Section VI. Regulations

1. The candidate receiving the greatest number of votes will be declared the winner.
2. The term of office shall be for one calendar year, beginning at the Student Leadership Banquet (held in the spring) and continuing until the Student Leadership Banquet of the following year.

Section VII. Grounds for Contesting the Election Results

A violation of campaign rules by a candidate or anyone involved in the election procedures shall be grounds for contesting the election. An irregularity is defined as a violation whose penalty is not covered by the campaign regulation packet or whose ramifications drastically alter the official results of the election. The right to contest may extend to incidents where the campaign committee may have voluntarily or involuntarily taken actions that

may have altered the outcome of the elections. (See Election Qualifications and Campaign Protocol for complete details).

1. In such case of a violation, a Grievance Committee will be convened to review if necessary, within one week after the election is contested to consider any candidate's grievance. Only a recognized candidate can contest the Student Government Association election. The decision rendered by the grievance committee will be considered final.
2. During this time the election committee reserves the right to make a decision as to when the results of the elections will be announced.
3. All complaints must be in writing and filed directly to the Elections Committee Chair within 48 hours.
4. A request for a recount can only occur when Hand Ballot procedure is in place and must be in writing to the Elections Committee within 24 hours of the posted election results. Candidates requesting the recount may be present with his/her campaign committee chairperson, and at least three members of the Election Committee.

ARTICLE XI AFFILIATE ORGANIZATIONS

Section I Queens Coalition

The roles and duties of the Queen's Coalition are as follows:

1. Serve as liaisons and/or ambassadors for perspective organizations.
2. Promote and implement programs geared towards enhancing the well-being of womanhood through programs and/or workshops. At least four (4) such programs must be implemented each semester.
3. Participate in community initiatives and community service set by Miss SSU and attendants to Miss SSU.
4. Miss SSU will serve as chair and her advisor shall serve as the organization's advisor.

Section II Student Allocation Appropriations Board

The roles and duties of the Student Allocation Appropriations (SAAB) Board are as follows:

1. Appropriate fund allocations to SSU organizations or entities funded through Student Activities Fund.
2. Makeup of the SAAB shall consist of students, faculty and staff with students holding the majority. The Director of Student Programs and Organizations must be one of the staff members along with the SGA Vice-President as one of the student representatives.
3. Must make all recommendations to the President, Vice-President for Student Affairs and Budget Director by July 1st of every fiscal year.
4. It is the responsibility of the committee to ensure that all organizations funded through this committee are aware of perspective appropriations by August 1st of every fiscal year.
5. It is the responsibility of the committee to ensure that all organizations do not over spend their perspective appropriations. In the event that all organizations do not over spend their perspective appropriation amount, it is possible for the Committee to discuss possible fines or other penalties.
6. The committee shall vote on a chair of the committee.

Section III Student Organization Appropriation Resources Committee

The roles and duties of the Student Organization Appropriation Resources Committee (SOAR) are as follows:

1. Must consist of at least eight student representatives; two representatives from the Senate and six non- Senator Members.
2. Must review all applications at a discretionary level.
3. All applications must be typed to ensure clarity.
4. All monies given to organizations by this committee must be restituted in a timely manner.
5. Committee reserves the right to deny application if it is not typed, completed, or received in a timely manner.
6. All application must be received at least three (3) weeks in advance to give committee ample time to review requests.
7. All applications must include plans for alternate funding to ensure that funds will be restituted.
8. Funds will be supplemented through the SAAB.
9. Committee must plan and implement at least one fund-raiser per month for every semester.
10. Vice-President for SGA will serve as the Chairperson of the SOAR.
11. SOAR will be advised by the Director of Student Programs and Organizations.

ARTICLE XII IMPEACHMENT

Section I Cause for Removal (Automatic)

1. Failure to maintain a 2.75 cumulative GPA.
2. Being absent from more than three (3) meetings without a valid excuse and prior notification.
3. Failure to adhere to SSU's Code of Conduct and/or failure to adhere to the rules established by this Constitution.
4. Failure to maintain confidentiality of judicial cases heard by the Judicial Branch.
5. Failure to perform duties of Office.
6. Violation of Oath of Office of the Constitution of the Student Government Association.

Section II Procedure for Removal

1. In cases where automatic removal is warranted the Vice-President shall submit a charge to the Judicial Branch stating what member needs removal and for what cause.
2. The Judicial Branch will notify the President of the SGA and the individual of his/her charges and schedule a hearing to allow the member to confront his/her accuser. If a violation requiring automatic removal is warranted based on a majority vote of the Associate Justices then the Chief Justice shall sign the charge and include a note stating that the member has been removed and how many Justices voted for the removal.

Section III Removal for Cause after Student Review

1. In all other cases of removal, the cause of removal will be presented to the Chief Justice at which time the member under review shall have the right to a hearing before the entire Student Senate and

Judicial Board. By secret ballot the members of Senate and Associate Justices shall by secret ballot, vote on removal. This removal requires a majority vote of the Student Senate and the Judicial Board.

2. The Vice-President for Student Affairs or his/her designee shall be involved in hearings where violation of the Student Code of Conduct is alleged to have occurred.

ARTICLE XIII AMENDMENTS

Section I

To amend any part of this constitution, proposed amendments must be in writing and introduced by a member of the Student Senate at a regular meeting. After referral to the Student Constitution Committee, the amendment shall be read once and tabled until the next regular meeting when it shall be read a second time, voted upon and if passed then submitted to the Executive Board for vote. The Executive Board shall vote on the proposed amendment at its first reading, if passed the proposed amendment shall go the President of the SGA for execution. Should the Student Senate fail to convene then either Legislative Body can pass the amendment, in accordance with the rules established in this Constitution for passing a bill, and forward the amendment to the President of the SGA for execution. All amendments to this Constitution will take effect at the beginning of the semester following its passage.

ARTICLE XIV REFERENDUM

Section I

An amendment defeated by the Senate can be re-submitted to the Senate by a petition signed by ten percent of the student body and shall be automatically adopted by the Senate and then presented to the student body in a referendum. Such amendments shall be adopted when ratified by a majority of those voting in the referendum.

ARTICLE XV RATIFICATION

Section I

This Constitution shall be ratified either by a two-third-majority vote of the Senate or Ten Percent (10%) of the entire student body.

ARTICLE XVI MEETINGS

Section I

1. Regular meetings of the SGA (Executive, Legislative and Judicial Branches) shall be held at least twice per month at a designated time and date chosen by the respective SGA Branches. The Chairperson of either Branch may call special meetings for their specific Branch or a Joint Meeting between all Branches, whenever deemed necessary. Any member absent for more than three regular meetings per semester shall be subject to Article X, Section I.

2. The SGA shall be authorized to arrange general meetings of the student body on such occasions, as it deems necessary to discuss problems of vital interest to their welfare.

ARTICLE XVII CONSTITUTION REVISION

This constitution shall be a living document and shall have the flexibility or the means to acquire flexibility so that the needs of the student body will not out-grow the meaning of this document. The Amendment and Revision clauses will enable those who wish to participate in the democratic process to exercise the rights given them for needed changes at the needed time.

BY LAWS

PURPOSE

The Purpose of these by-laws is to establish the foundation for student organization representation and government at Savannah State University. It is meant to conform to standard University policies, and no Article may conflict with standard University policies or practices.

ARTICLE I

The organization of students at Savannah State University shall be known as the Student Body, which shall consist of all students enrolled in credited classes. Each fee-paying student shall have one (1) vote on all matters before the Student Body.

ARTICLE II

The Student Body shall be represented and governed by a body known as the Student Government Association (SGA). The SGA shall have regular meetings for the purpose of general administration of student activities, administration of student funds, forwarding student complaints or suggestions, and conducting of other business deemed appropriate by officers and/or advisors.

All proposals presented for adoption to the SGA will require a quorum of five of the SGA Officers presents; with a proper first and second motion and with the exception of modifications to these by-laws.

ARTICLE III

The President of SGA will call SGA meetings when necessary. Meetings will be conducted according to standard parliamentary procedures. Meetings will be scheduled as follows:

1. There will be at least two meetings per month during the fall and spring semesters, and once every month during the summer term.
2. Meeting dates and times should be decided at the beginning of each semester, if possible.
3. The SGA (students) should announce the date, time, and place of the meeting (prominently posted) so that all members of the Student Body are aware of the meeting at least one (1) week

prior to the meeting. Information should be posted by campus e-mail, campus website and physical signage.

ARTICLE IV

All SGA Forums will be open to all members of the Student Body. Any member of the Student Body may address the SGA or present a matter for vote.

ARTICLE V

If an elected officer or appointed officer is absent for two (2) consecutive meetings and does not make an attempt to contact an officer or an advisor, he/she may be removed from the SGA. The next highest officer will replace the vacant office. For elected officers, the succession will be in the following order: President, Vice-President, Chief Justice, and Senior Class President. Should that person be unwilling/unable to serve, the next person on the list will be contacted, and so on down the list. Elections will be held for that individual organization to secure a representative, in consultation with their advisor.