

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION CONSTITUTION

Effective April, 1 1985 – Updated April, 2019

PREAMBLE

We, the members of the Alderson Broaddus University Student Government Association (SGA), establish this constitution in order to promote the participation of students in all areas of University life and achieve a high degree of cooperation among members of the University community.

ARTICLE I

The name of this organization shall be The Alderson Broaddus University Student Government Association (SGA).

ARTICLE II

The powers of this organization shall be to:

- elect representatives.
- establish and amend by-laws.
- conduct business and other activities on behalf of the total organization.
- organize itself to achieve its purpose.
- exercise the powers of petition, referendum, and recall.

ARTICLE III

Membership of the Student Government Association shall consist of all students regularly enrolled in one or more credit courses with Alderson Broaddus University.

ARTICLE IV

Section I. The Executive Officers shall consist of:

(1) Office of President

The President of the Student Government Association shall assume responsibility for the executive program as well as the right to form committees with Senate approval. He/she shall have the power to convene and preside over the Student Government Association as he/she deems necessary. He/she shall possess the right to veto all legislation of the Senate, have senatorial privileges, but no voting privilege, and be empowered to call emergency meetings of the Senate. The President shall submit nominations for appointment of student members on faculty-staff committees and additional representatives to the Board of Trustees. He/she shall serve ex-officio on the President's Cabinet and on all standing committees within the Senate.

(2) Office of the Vice President

The Vice President of the Student Government Association shall support the program of the Executive Cabinet, advise the President, and assume the Presidency in the event the President

is unable to serve. He/she shall serve as President of the Senate, and, in the case of a tie, he/she may vote. H/she shall also be empowered to call emergency meetings of the Senate and appoint ad hoc Senate Committees.

(3) Office of the Secretary

The Secretary of the Student Government Association shall be a voting member of the Senate, shall act as an advisor to the President, and shall record the proceedings of the Executive Cabinet, Senate, and Student Government Association.

(4) Office of the Treasurer

The Treasurer of the Student Government Association shall act as an advisor to the President, shall be a voting member of Senate, shall be responsible for the recording of receipts and disbursements, shall render necessary financial reports, and shall assist the appropriate student groups in preparing the budget.

(5) Upon the occurrence of vacancies in the Executive Cabinet, the President of the Association shall have the power to nominate members of the Association to these positions for the remainder of the term of office. The Senate must approve of nominees before they can take office.

Section II. Executive Cabinet

The Executive Cabinet shall consist of the President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

The Executive Cabinet shall at each session of the Senate present for the consideration of the Legislative Body information upon the state of campus affairs and recommend to the Senate any such measures as it may consider necessary and expedient to the welfare of the campus.

The SGA President, or his/her designee shall represent the Student Body as a representative to the President's Cabinet of the University.

ARTICLE V: THE SENATE

Section I. Senate Membership

The legislative powers granted herein shall be vested in a Senate of the Student Government Association consisting of the following:

- Two Resident Senators
- Two Commuter Non-resident Senators
- Two Graduate Senators
- Nine Senators-at-Large
- Two Freshmen Senators

In the case of vacancies, the President shall have the right to nominate replacements who meet all of the qualifications for the office. Nominees must be approved by the Senate before taking office.

Section II. Vested Powers.

The Alderson Broaddus University Student Senate shall be empowered to approve or disapprove all nominations made by the President of the Student Government

Association, propose by-laws, pass resolutions, and conduct affairs for the general welfare of the Student Government Association. For the accomplishment of these purposes, the Senate shall have the right to form standing and ad hoc committees. The Senate shall have the right to override a Presidential veto when a two-thirds (2/3) majority can be achieved.

Section III. Senate Leadership

- (1) The President shall serve as presiding officer of the Senate and shall be a non-voting member.
- (2) The Vice President shall serve as presiding officer and non-voting member of the Senate if the President is absent.
- (3) If both the President and Vice President are absent, the Secretary shall serve as presiding officer and non-voting member of the Senate.
- (4) The Parliamentarian of the Student Government Association shall be a voting member of the Student Government Association, shall advise the Chairperson of the Senate on points of parliamentary order. The Parliamentarian shall be a sophomore, junior, or senior by credit hour calculation and shall be elected from the body of the Senate during the first meeting of the new Senate each fall semester. Nominations shall be taken from the floor of the Senate. The individual receiving the largest number of votes will assume office. The term of office will be one year.

Section IV. Quorum

At all sessions of the Senate, a quorum shall be one-half (1/2) of Senate membership in attendance. In extreme cases when the Senate must vote on a timely issue, the President may conduct a vote via e-mail as long as one-half (1/2) of the Senate membership submits a vote.

Section V.

The President shall convey actions of the Senate to appropriate groups together with his/her own concurring or dissenting opinion.

ARTICLE VI: JUDICIARY

The Judicial Committee shall consist of one member from each group (Resident Representatives, Non-resident Representatives, Graduate Representatives, Senators-at-Large, and the Executive Cabinet). The representatives shall be nominated for the positions by the President of the Student Government Association and must be approved by the Senate. The Judicial Committee shall have the responsibility to propose procedures, dates, and conduct of Senate elections and surveys. Proposals must be approved by the Senate.

ARTICLE VII: QUALIFICATIONS FOR CANDIDACY

Candidates for the Office of President must be a full-time student. The cumulative average of the candidate must be at least 2.50 based on the four-point system.

Candidates for the Office of Vice President must meet the same qualifications as candidates for the Office of the President.

Candidates for the Office of Secretary must be a full-time student. The cumulative average of the candidate must be at least 2.50 based on the four-point system.

Candidates for the Office of Treasurer must be present the same qualifications as candidates for the Office of Secretary.

Candidates for Senators-at-large must be full-time students and have a cumulative average of 2.00 based on the four-point system.

Candidates for Resident and Non-resident Senators must be full-time students and have a cumulative average of 2.00 based on the four-point system.

Candidates for Graduate Senators must be in good academic standing in their program of study.

Candidates for Freshman Senators must be full-time students in at Alderson Broaddus University.

Each candidate running must have the petition signed by an academic and/or the SGA Advisor to verify their GPA.

ARTICLE VIII: STUDENT BODY

Section I. Right of Repeal

The Student Government Association shall have the right to call a meeting and to review actions taken by the Senate and to repeal such actions upon a two-thirds vote of at least 200 full-time students.

Section II. Impeachment

A two-thirds vote of 200 full-time students of the Student Government Association shall be sufficient for the impeachment of any officers of the Executive Cabinet or members of the Senate.

ARTICLE IX: PROVISIONS FOR AMENDMENTS

The Senate, whenever two-thirds of its membership shall deem it necessary, shall propose amendments to this Constitution for ratification by the appropriate groups.

Amendments may be proposed at any meeting, regular or otherwise, of the Senate. A general notification of the proposed amendment must be given to the Senate members, student body, and other appropriate groups two weeks prior to the meeting at which those groups are to take action on the amendment.