

Constitution of The Student Senate of Saint Mary's University of Minnesota

Winona, Minnesota

Adopted September 29, 1982; Revised April 10th, 2012; Revised February 21st, 2017; Revised October 25th, 2017; Revised October Xth, 2018

PREAMBLE

We, the undergraduate students of Saint Mary's University of Minnesota, realizing the goals and objectives of the university, do establish this constitution and pledge ourselves to its faithful execution.

ARTICLE I. NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Student Senate of Saint Mary's University of Minnesota, Winona Campus.

ARTICLE II. PURPOSES

Section 1. The Student Senate shall act as the official representative of the student body of the University on the Winona Campus: to articulate its views, to pursue its best interests with the Board of Trustees, the university administration, and faculty; to promote mutual cooperation and understanding; and to improve relations with other educational institutions and associations, with the public in general, and with any other agency.

ARTICLE III. AUTHORITY

Section 1. The authority of the Student Senate to organize is derived from the student body.

Section 2. The authority to govern is derived immediately from the student body, and ultimately from the university administration and the Board of Trustees of Saint Mary's University of Minnesota.

Section 3. The Student Senate is empowered to execute all provisions and necessary implications of this constitution, to make such regulations as it considers necessary to attain this end, and to apply such sanctions as it believes just for infractions of its regulations.

ARTICLE IV. FUNCTIONS AND POWERS

The purpose and authority of the Student Senate shall include, among others, the functions and powers provided in this article.

Section 1. The Office of Student Activities will be responsible for the annual student organization recognition process. Student clubs and organizations will be required to complete the recognition form and submit an updated constitution at the beginning of each academic

year. Student clubs and organizations will also be required to submit an updated list of officers for the upcoming academic year by April 1st to the Office of Student Activities. The Office of Student Activities shall approve all new student organizations and all constitutions on an annual basis, shall coordinate their co-curricular activities and social functions both on and off campus, and shall determine procedures for these functions.

Section 2. The Student Senate shall audit and/or open the books of all recognized student organizations and approve student organization budgets on an annual basis.

Section 3. The Student Senate shall control all funds generated by the student activity fee, and is empowered to determine the student activity fee pursuant to the regulations prescribed in Article XII.

Section 4. The Student Senate shall control all funds generated by the student laundry fee, and is empowered to determine the laundry fee, pursuant to the regulations prescribed in Article XIII.

Section 5. The Student Senate shall, with approval of the university administration, make such regulations, as it deems necessary for the continuance of good order on campus.

Section 6. The Student Senate may circulate notices through the campus mail and e-mail, and express its views in official student publications or publish notices when such actions appear necessary for the performance of its duties.

ARTICLE V. MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Only Saint Mary's University of Minnesota undergraduate students may hold a position on the Student Senate.

Section 2. The Student Senate shall consist of the following voting members: senators, as defined in Article VIII; and class officers, as defined in Article VII.

Section 3. The Student Senate shall have the following non-voting members who are observers with full floor privileges: the Student Senate Executive Board members, as defined in Article VI.

Section 4. All members of the Student Senate must maintain good academic standing, as defined by the university. If at any time a member is not in good academic standing, they shall be removed from the Student Senate or enter a probationary period at discretion of the advisor. The vacancy shall be filled as dictated by this constitution.

Section 5. All members of the Student Senate are required to attend Day at the Capitol and at least one community event and/or volunteer experience for the Winona Campus community organized by the Vice President for Public Affairs. Being that this is an extracurricular activity, all actions need to be made in consideration of academic requirements.

ARTICLE VI. EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

Section 1. The Executive Board of the Student Senate shall consist of the following Executive Board Members: President, Vice President for Academic Affairs, Vice President for Financial Affairs, Vice President for Public Affairs, Vice President for Campus Affairs, Vice President for Student Affairs, Vice President of Media and Communications, Vice President for Multicultural Affairs, and Executive Assistant.

Section 2. Nominations for the position of President shall be by voice as well as petition. Any candidate for President must be nominated by one senator, in addition to having said nomination seconded by another senator, at a meeting of the Student Senate designated by the current President of the Student Senate. In addition, the candidate must submit a nomination petition signed by fifty members of the student body to the Student Senate VP of Media and Communications by a time and date designated by the current President of the Student Senate. A member of the student body may sign no more than one petition for the position of President. Invalid signatures will be struck from all petitions on which they appear. Only candidates who have submitted a petition as stated above and have been vocally nominated by a senator as stated above will be put on the online ballot.

Section 3. Nominations for Executive Board members, excluding the President, shall be by petition only. The nomination petition must be signed by twenty-five members of the student body and submitted to the Student Senate VP of Media and Communications by a time and date designated by the President of the Student Senate. A member of the student body may sign no more than one petition for each Executive Board position. Invalid signatures will be struck from all petitions on which they appear. Only candidates who have submitted a petition as stated above will be put on the online ballot.

Section 4. Nominations for the positions described in Section 1 of this article shall be accepted only if the candidate is in good academic standing (as defined in the Student Handbook for the entire University).

Section 5. Descriptive biographies of nominated candidates shall be posted for a period designated by the current Student Senate President, continuing through the duration of the elections.

Section 6. Executive Board members shall be elected during the second semester. Only members of the Winona undergraduate student body are eligible to vote in said election. The election shall be officiated by the current Executive Board of the Student Senate, excluding those participating in said election. The election shall be held no more than two weeks after the deadline for specified petitions. The election shall be at a time that will allow the Executive Board members elected the opportunity to be involved in the process of committee appointments, and to observe the operations of the Student Senate.

Section 7. Nominees shall be elected by a plurality of the votes cast, in the event of a tie or an undetermined election, a special election will be held.

Section 8. The term for all executive officers shall run parallel to the academic year with the

term beginning the first day of summer break and ending the last day of second semester.

Section 9. It is the expectation that all Executive Board members be in attendance at every Senate meeting. If an Executive Board member is unable to attend a meeting, they should have another senate member or another Executive Board member give their weekly report to senate. If there are repeated absences, the Executive Board member can be removed at the discretion of the Ethics Committee, remaining Executive Board members, the Student Senate adviser, and a two-thirds vote in favor of removal by the Student Senate.

Section 10. The impeachment of an Executive Board member shall be initiated by petition. The petition must be signed by twenty-five percent of the student body for impeachment of the President and twenty percent for any other Executive Board member position. The petition must then be presented to the Student Senate President. After receipt and review of the petition, the Student Senate Executive Assistant shall schedule a meeting with the Executive Board member in question and the remaining Executive Board members. After the petition has been filed and the meeting has occurred, there will be an open forum for all students in which the Executive Board member in question may address issues that he/she feels pertinent to their defense, and the remaining Executive Board members will have the chance to state their positions. To be impeached, an Executive Board member must then receive two-thirds of the vote cast by the Student Senate favoring impeachment at the next Student Senate meeting.

Section 11. In the event of a vacancy of an Student Senate Executive Board position, the vacancy shall be filled with a special election by the student body conducted by the remaining Executive Board members of the Student Senate. The election shall be conducted using the election rules referred to in Article VI. In the event that no one applies for the open position, the position will be filled by appointment from the current Student Senate President, with the assistance of the remaining or current Executive Board members.

ARTICLE VII. CLASS OFFICERS

Section 1. Sophomore, Junior, and Senior classes shall elect two voting Class Officers to be in charge of class fundraising, which will go towards their respective classes' Senior Week events. The Senior Class Officers are also responsible for planning and executing Gaslight (the music variety show held each spring), the Senior Dance, and Senior Week. All Freshman Hall Representatives shall also take on the roles of Freshman Class Officers.

Section 2. Class Officers must raise a required number of funds for the class they represent, depending on their class affiliation. It is a minimum requirement that Freshman Class Officers have raised \$100 or have had two fundraisers, Sophomore Class Officers \$200 or four fundraisers, and Junior Class Officers \$300 or six fundraisers by the end of each year. Senior Class Officers are required to raise enough money to run their events during and after the school year. The monetary and fundraiser requirements stated above are to be reached in said academic year alone and do not include funds raised during previous years. These requirements are subject to senate review.

Section 3. Class Officers may special request funds from Student Senate to provide necessary

funds to help with fundraising efforts; these funds do not apply toward the final fundraising requirements.

Section 4. Class Officers are required to form and co-chair class committees for each class, which shall be responsible for assisting with the Class Officers' duties. Each committee must have at least three non-senate members from its respective class. These committees shall meet outside of senate meetings and shall hold these meetings at least once per month. Each committee shall report about its meetings at the weekly senate meetings. The Executive Assistant of the Student Senate will oversee these committees and will be responsible for holding each committee to its fundraising goals. Class Officers are required to meet with the Student Senate adviser at least once a semester to confirm their plans for fundraising.

Section 5. Nominations for Class Officers shall be by petition. Each petition must be signed by twenty-five members of the respective class and submitted to the Executive Assistant of the Student Senate by a time and date designated by the President of the Student Senate. Only candidates who have submitted a petition as stated above will be put on the online ballot.

Section 6. Nominations for Class Officers shall be accepted only if the candidate is in good academic standing (as defined in the Student Handbook for the entire University).

Section 7. Descriptive biographies of nominated candidates shall be posted for a period designated by the current Student Senate President, continuing through the duration of the elections.

Section 8. Members of each class shall elect their respective Class Officers. Elections for Class Officers (with the exception of the Freshman Class Officers as per Article VII Section 1 of this document), shall take place during the second semester. These elections shall be officiated by the Executive Board members of the Student Senate. Only members of the Winona undergraduate student body are eligible to vote in said election. The elections shall be held no more than two weeks after the deadline for specified petitions. The elections shall be at a time that will allow the elected Class Officers the opportunity to observe the operations of the Student Senate.

Section 9. Class Officers shall be elected by a plurality of the votes cast, in the event of a tie or an undetermined election, a special election will be held.

Section 10. The term of office for Class Officers shall extend from the first day of summer break to the last day of the second semester with the exception of the Freshman Class Officers who will serve from the date of their appointments until the last day of the second semester.

Section 11. Impeachment of a Class Officer shall be by petition. The petition must be signed by twenty-five percent of the students of the class that the Class Officer represents and must be presented to the Student Senate President. After receipt and review of the petition, the Student Senate Executive Assistant shall schedule a meeting with the Class Officer in question and the Executive Board. After the petition has been filed and the meeting has occurred, there will be an open forum for all students at which the Class Officer in question may address issues pertinent to the petition in their defense and the Executive Board will state their positions on the petition.

After the forum, a vote will be scheduled in which only members of the class are permitted to vote. The Class Officer in question will be impeached if two-thirds of the votes cast at that time favor impeachment.

Section 12. In the event of a vacancy of a Class Officer position, the position will be filled by a special election in which anyone who is interested in the position will fill out the required petition as stated in Section 5 followed by the election itself.

Section 13. In the event that no one applies for the open position, the position will be filled by appointment from the President of the Student Senate, with the assistance of the remaining or current class officers.

ARTICLE VIII. SENATORS

Section 1. Nominees for the position of Senator must be members of the residence hall represented by their position. The nomination process for Senators will be a self-nomination process with all nominations being submitted within a period specified by the President of the Student Senate, to the Executive Assistant of the Student Senate.

Section 2. Nominations for the position of Senator shall be accepted only if the candidate is in good academic standing. Freshmen shall be considered in good academic standing until their standing can be established based on their first semester grades. (As defined in the University Catalog)

Section 3. Residents of each residence hall shall elect Senators by way of an online ballot on an election date designated by the President of the Student Senate. The elections will happen during the first semester. The Executive Board members of the Student Senate shall conduct and officiate the election.

Section 4. Nominees shall be elected by the plurality of the votes cast; in the event of a tie or an undetermined election, a special election will be held.

Section 5. Representatives are responsible to hold one Hall Area meeting per semester and keep an active presence in their dorms so that those they are representing know and are comfortable to bring issues to the senator. Hall representatives are all required to have an easily accessible dropbox for their residents to reach them with.

Section 6. Any Senator may be removed from the Student Senate if a petition is signed by the majority of the residents in the Senator's constituency, presented to the Executive Assistant of the Student Senate and voted upon by the members of that residence hall. To be removed, a majority of the voting residents in the Senator's residence hall must vote in favor of removal.

Section 7. In the event of a vacancy in a senate position from a living unit, a special election of the living unit shall be held. In lieu of an election, the President may appoint a replacement at the discretion of the Executive Board.

Section 8. Class officers are not eligible to fill the role of a Senator with the exception of the

Freshman Class Officer.

Section 9. Election of two at-large student Senators shall take place two business days after the general Senator elections. Students who were on the general election ballot will not have to reapply, but they will have to opt into the at-large ballot. Those new to the process will have to apply to be on the at-large ballot. Nominees shall be elected by the greatest plurality of the votes cast by the student body; in the event of a tie or an undetermined election, a special election shall be held.

Section 10. Election of one international student Senator shall take place during the Senator elections. The executive officers will seek out nominations prior to the election to be placed on the ballot. Nominees shall be elected by the greatest plurality of the votes cast; in the event of a tie or an undermined election, a special election shall be held.

ARTICLE IX. MEETINGS

Section 1 All sessions of the Student Senate shall meet at the call of the President unless otherwise provided in this Constitution.

Section 2 A quorum for the transaction of business shall consist of two-thirds of the active voting members.

Section 3 Every Senator is responsible for attending every meeting; however, under special circumstances, the Senator may designate a representative who is a resident of the Senator's living unit. The representative must make his or her presence known to the Executive Assistant or President of the Student Senate before the start of the meeting.

Section 4 If a voting member is not in attendance or represented at two meetings, the voting member may be removed at the discretion of the President of the Student Senate.

ARTICLE X. DUTIES OF THE EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Section 1: The President

- A. The President shall be the chief executive officer of the Student Senate.
- B. The President shall call to order and preside over all sessions of the Student Senate unless otherwise provided in this Constitution.
- C. The President shall provide an agenda at least 24 hours in advance of the session.
- D. The President shall appoint all members and chairpersons of standing committees unless otherwise specified in this Constitution.
- E. The President shall approve the minutes of the Student Senate sessions prior to their

publication.

- F. The President shall conduct all correspondence for the Student Senate unless otherwise specified in this Constitution.
- G. The President shall perform such other tasks pertaining to their office.
- H. The President shall be a non-voting member, with full floor privileges, of the Faculty Body. The President can request to receive the minutes.
- I. The President shall be a member of the Minnesota Association of Private College Students, herein known as MAPCS.
- J. The President shall attend all MAPCS meetings and conferences held throughout Minnesota.
- K. The President shall coordinate an active Executive Board and conduct individual meetings with each Executive Board member once per semester.
- L. The President shall encourage a strong Student Senate presence at various events and activities on campus.
- M. The President shall have the right to call on members of the Executive Board for points of clarification.

Section 2: The Vice President for Academic Affairs

- A. The Vice President for Academic Affairs shall ensure student representation on all academic committees that seek a student opinion on the Winona Campus.
- B. The Vice President for Academic Affairs shall be a voting member, with full floor privileges, of the Faculty Body and other Faculty committees.
- C. The Vice President for Academic Affairs shall be a member or appoint a member to serve on the following university committees: Integratus Assessment Committee, the Education Standards Committee, and the Curriculum Committee.
- D. The Vice President of Academic Affairs shall work with the Dean of the College and meet with the Dean regularly to provide student input.
- E. The Vice President for Academic Affairs shall be the liaison between the Student Success Center and the Student Senate. The Vice President shall work with the Student Success Center in promoting academic success through career services, advising, access services, the writing center, and tutoring.

Section 3 The Vice President for Financial Affairs

- A. The Vice President for Financial Affairs shall be responsible for budgeting and oversight of the funds derived from the student activity fee.
- B. The Vice President for Financial Affairs shall chair the Student Senate Finance Committee.
- C. The Vice President for Financial Affairs shall make timely reports on the financial situation of the student activities fee to the President for the Student Senate.

Section 4 The Vice President for Public Affairs

- A. The Vice President for Public Affairs shall engage the undergraduate student body on the Winona Campus and the Student Senate in local and state politics.
- B.
- C. The Vice President for Public Affairs shall act as the primary liaison between the University's Winona Campus and MAPCS.
- D. The Vice President for Public Affairs shall serve as a member of the MAPCS Advisory Board and is required to attend all MAPCS meetings and conferences held throughout Minnesota.
- E. The Vice President for Public Affairs shall be the liaison between the Student Senate and the Admissions Office of the university. The Vice President shall work with that office to promote the university and the Student Senate to prospective students.
- F. The Vice President for Public Affairs shall be the liaison between the Student Senate and the Alumni Office of the university. The Vice President shall work with that office to promote the university and the Student Senate to alumni.
- G. The Vice President for Public Affairs shall make the Winona Campus aware of community events occurring in Winona County.
- H. The Vice President for Public Affairs shall serve as co-chair of the Student Senate Public Relations Committee, Facilities Committee, and Ethics Committee.

Section 5 The Vice President for Campus Affairs

- A. The Vice President for Campus Affairs shall work with departments and administration on issues regarding campus affairs.
- B. The Vice President for Campus Affairs shall sit on the Winona Campus Safety Committee.
- C. The Vice President for Campus Affairs shall sit on the University Facilities Committee.

- D. The Vice President for Campus Affairs shall address concerns dealing with maintenance, campus safety, and parking on campus.
- E. The Vice President for Campus Affairs shall co-chair the Student Senate Facilities Committee.
- F. The Vice President for Campus Affairs shall oversee the process of Student Senate Capital Improvements.

Section 6 The Vice President for Student Affairs

- A. The Vice President for Student Affairs shall work with departments and administration on issues regarding student affairs.
- B. The Vice President for Student Affairs shall address concerns dealing with the Wellness Center, residence life, student life, student activities, intramurals, food service, and the bookstore.
- C. The Vice President for Student Affairs shall co-chair the Student Senate Student Life Committee.
- D. The Vice President for Student Affairs shall assist all interested clubs in becoming a Student Senate recognized organization.

Section 7 The Vice President of Media and Communications

- A. The Vice President of Media and Communications shall be the chief graphic designer of the Student Senate. They will also be responsible for public relations issues, elections, and advertising.
- B. The Vice President of Media and Communications shall create, update, and manage the Student Senate social media presence.
- C. The Vice President of Media and Communications shall be the liaison between the Student Senate and the Marketing and Communications Office of the university. They shall work with that office to engage the student body on branding and general promotion of the university.
- D. The Vice President for Media and Communications shall be the liaison between the Student Senate and the IT Helpdesk of the university. They shall work to help improve the technology of the Winona Campus undergraduate students.
- E. The Vice President for Media and Communications shall coordinate the Student Senate elections in conjunction with the President of the Student Senate.
- F. The Vice President for Media and Communications shall co-chair the Student Senate Public Relations Committee.

Section 8 The Vice President for Multicultural Affairs

- A. The Vice President of Multicultural Affairs shall be the student chair of the Solidarity Council which is responsible for representing and advocating for diversity and diversity initiatives on the Winona Campus including but not limited to diversity related clubs, International Student Center, and the Study Abroad office.
- B. The Vice President for Multicultural Affairs shall be the liaison between the Student Senate and the First Generation Initiative of the university. The Vice President shall work with the First Generation Initiative office to promote the university's first generation student initiatives and support those in the program.
- C. The Vice President for Multicultural Affairs shall be the liaison between the Student Senate and the International Center of the university. The Vice President shall work with this office to improve the experience of all international students on campus.
- D. The Vice President for Multicultural Affairs shall be the liaison between the Student Senate and the Study Abroad Office of the university. The Vice President shall work with the Study Abroad office to promote the merits of international travel and studies for students.

Section 9 The Executive Assistant

- A. The Executive Assistant shall record and submit the minutes of each session of the Student Senate to the advisor and the Student Senate President for publication.
- B. The Executive Assistant shall be responsible for all Student Senate documents.
- C. The Executive Assistant shall record Senator absences from a session of the Student Senate.
- D. The Executive Assistant shall co-chair the Student Senate Ethics Committee.

Section 10 Presidential Line of Succession

- A. In the event that the President of the Student Senate is unable to attend a Student Senate meeting, the following line of succession shall be followed:
 - a. Vice President of Academic Affairs
 - b. Vice President of Financial Affairs
 - c. Vice President of Public Affairs
 - d. Vice President of Campus Affairs

- e. Vice President for Student Affairs
- f. Vice President of Media and Communication
- g. Vice President for Multicultural Affairs

B. The Executive Assistant

ARTICLE XI. LEGAL PROVISIONS

Section 1 The Student Senate shall have the power to negate actions of S.A.C. by a vote of two-thirds of the members of the Student Senate.

Section 2 The Student Senate shall govern its sessions according to the most recent edition of Robert's Rules of Order Revised unless otherwise stated in this document.

ARTICLE XII. STUDENT ACTIVITY FEE BUDGET

Section 1 The Finance Committee will allocate the student activity fee to groups on a yearly basis. Groups will be appropriated necessary funds based on criteria presented to the Finance Committee. This criterion will include a report on the types of community service projects of events the club has sponsored in addition to other requested information. The Finance Committee will have the authority to use all such information when making decisions or recommendations to the Student Senate. Any organization desiring funding from the student activity fee must submit a request to the Vice President of Financial Affairs of the Student Senate by a publicly announced date specified by the Finance Committee. This date shall be no later than one month before the last day of classes of the semester.

Section 2 Only organizations which are recognized by the Student Senate and open to the entire undergraduate student body may submit a funding for a Special Request to the Student Senate. Any current undergraduate student can submit funding for an Academic Request.

Section 3 To raise the student activity fee above the limits dictated in previous referenda, a referendum must be held in which a two-thirds of the student senate vote to approve the raise.

Section 4 All financial matters, including the allocation of the student activity fee budget to Student Senate recognized organizations and capital improvement allocations, must be approved by two-thirds majority of the Student Senate.

Section 5 Special requests may be made to the Student Senate during the semester for additional funds. New clubs, after receiving recognition by the Student Senate, may submit a funding request during the semester. Special requests may also be made to fund an activity after some type of community service event or project.

Section 6 Organizations not meeting the prior year's budgeting process are subject to penalties

by the Vice President for Financial Affairs.

ARTICLE XIII. THE LAUNDRY FEE BUDGET

Section 1 The laundry fee surplus may be used to make general capital improvements on the campus. The Vice President for Financial Affairs shall request ideas for capital improvements from the student body and present those ideas to the Student Senate along with a budget for the improvements. The capital improvements must be approved by the majority vote of the Student Senate.

ARTICLE XIV. STANDING COMMITTEES

Section 1 The Finance Committee

A. The Finance Committee shall control both the student activity fee and the laundry fee.

B. The Finance Committee shall develop, each semester, a proposed budget for both the activity fee and laundry fee. Said budgets must be submitted to the Student Senate for approval by the date specified by the Vice President for Financial Affairs and President of the Student Senate.

C. The Finance Committee shall be chaired by the Vice President for Financial Affairs of the Student Senate and shall be composed of 5 student senators and 5 interested students appointed by the Vice President for Financial Affairs of the Student Senate.

D. The Finance Committee may freeze any student group's account if reasonable evidence exists that money has been misused. A student group's account may only be frozen in this manner until the next Student Senate session, at which time the committee will recommend to the Senate any further action. The Finance Committee may freeze a club's budget at any time during the year for misuse or abuse of funds by the club.

Section 2 The Student Concerns Committee

A. The Student Concerns Committee shall be responsible for all issues that arise during Student Senate meetings.

C. The Student Concerns Committee shall undertake all problems and issues on the Winona Campus.

D. The Student Concerns Committee is open to all Saint Mary's University undergrad students who are interested.

Section 3 The Ethics Committee

The Ethics Committee is under the direction of Student Senate and is co-chaired by the Executive Assistant and one senator appointed by a vote of the senate. The functions and

duties of this committee are outlined in Student Senate's Bylaws.

A. The purpose of the ethics committee shall be to ensure that members of the student senate and members of groups and organizations affiliate or financed by the student senate are acting in a manner consistent with the mission and values of Saint Mary's University of MN and the student senate, by reviewing complaints from students and levying appropriate sanctions on members deemed in violation.

Section 4 Legislative Affairs Committee

The Legislative Affairs Committee is under the direction of Student Senate and chaired by the Vice President for Public Affairs.

A. The Legislative Affairs Committee shall undertake and be responsible for the planning for Day at the Capital, Constitution Day activities, Get out the Vote on the Winona Campus, and actively lobbying efforts sponsored by MAPCS.

B. The Legislative Affairs Committee is open to all Saint Mary's University undergrad students who are interested.

Section 5 The Solidarity Council

The Solidarity Council is under the direction and chaired by the Vice President for Multicultural Affairs.

A. The Solidarity Council will intentionally cultivate a culture of solidarity among undergraduate students and a culture of inclusion at the undergraduate College campus.

B. Support partnerships between those student organizations that identify with the interests of learners traditionally underrepresented in higher education and at Saint Mary's, particularly with interests and needs that transcend and complement within-group interests.

C. Support student development, co-curricular and curricular initiatives that increase students' capacities to empathize with diverse people and to live in an inclusive campus community.

D. Advise the Office of Student Life, the Student Senate or other groups as invited on policies or practices related to intergroup solidarity, diversity awareness and interpersonal intolerance.

Section 6 Other Committees

See the current Student Senate Bylaws for a complete list of current committees. The Student Senate shall create other committees, as it deems necessary.

ARTICLE XV. THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

A. A House of Representatives shall be established such that each Student Senate recognized club and organization has one voting representative.

B. The House shall meet at least once per semester. Meetings shall be announced to all clubs and in other Saint Mary's publications at least two weeks prior to the scheduled time. Attendance at these meetings shall be mandatory and shall be a condition of the group's funding and Student Senate recognition.

C. The House meetings shall be attended by all the executive officers of the Student Senate and shall be open to the entire student body. The President of the Student Senate shall present a summary of the Senate's activities at the beginning of each meeting.

D. The House shall have the privilege of drafting resolutions to be presented to the Student Senate for consideration.

E. After a meeting of the House, the Vice President for Campus Affairs will be responsible for reporting the activities of the House at the next meeting of the Student Senate.

F. The Vice President for Campus Affairs shall be responsible for the coordination of all House of Representative meetings.

G. Representatives will be responsible for explaining and executing the budgeting process of the Student Senate with their group.

ARTICLE XVI. STUDENT ACTIVITIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

A. All student activities and organizations of the College are intended for the enjoyment, development, and education of students of the College.

B. Persons who do not pay a Student Activity Fee and/or are not students of the College are not permitted to participate in any programs and/or activities sponsored by any student organization of the College, unless the activities and/or programs have an unlimited number of openings available for participation and that said persons are not permitted to participate in any leadership roles in student organizations of the College.

ARTICLE XVII. RATIFICATION

This Constitution may be ratified as deemed necessary by the Executive Officers and the Student Senate.

ARTICLE XVIII. BYLAWS

A. Anything not covered in this Constitution shall then be referred to the Student Senate Bylaws, if it is not covered in either document then Student Senate should proceed at their own discretion using best practices, common sense, respect for their fellow students, and the Saint Mary's University Mission and Vision.

B. The Student Senate Bylaws should be reviewed and approved yearly before any official business is to be conducted.

ARTICLE XIX. AMENDMENTS

Section 1 The process for amending this Constitution shall be as follows:

A. Amendments shall be proposed by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the Student Senate.

B. The proposed amendments are then to be forwarded to the office of the President of the University.

C. The President shall either approve, or decline to approve, the amendment; in the latter case, he shall return the amendment to the Student Senate, together with the reasons for his decision.

D. Any amendment not so returned shall take effect three weeks after the reception of the proposed amendments by the President.

E. Whenever an amendment is made, a new constitution, with the new amendment incorporated, must be adopted.