

CONSTITUTION FOR THE STUDENT COMMUNITY
OF
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT ARLINGTON

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CONSTITUTION FOR THE STUDENT COMMUNITY
OF
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT ARLINGTON

WE, THE STUDENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT ARLINGTON,
DETERMINE

To establish within our Student Community a government sensitive
to our individual and collective needs, and

to provide for an effective means of communication between the
various parts of our college community, and

to promote and sustain an atmosphere conducive to our academic
and social development, and

to join together in working for the advancement of our college
community, and

to assist in the realization of student rights and fundamental
freedoms within our Student Community.

AND WITH FIRM COMMITMENT,

to our beliefs that the students of The University of Texas at
Arlington have both the right and responsibility either to
legislate or make appropriate recommendations with regard to
those matters that affect them, provided such legislation is not
in conflict with University regulations,

HAVE RESOLVED TO COMBINE OUR EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE THESE GOALS AND
PURPOSES BY ESTABLISHING THIS CONSTITUTION FOR THE STUDENT
COMMUNITY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT ARLINGTON.

CHAPTER I
Statement of Purpose

ARTICLE 1-1

There shall be established as the principle organs of Student Government and decision making within the College Community a Student Congress, a Student Programming Board, Constituency Councils, a Graduate Student Council and Student Representation on selected University Committees.

ARTICLE 1-2

Such subsidiary organs as may be found necessary may be established in accordance with this constitution.

CHAPTER II
Leading Powers of Student Congress

ARTICLE 2-1

The Student Congress shall be the highest level of Student Government at The University of Texas at Arlington.

ARTICLE 2-2

The Student Congress may discuss any questions or any matters within the scope of this constitution, or relating to the powers and functions of any organs provided for in this constitution, and may make any recommendations to any individual or group or to both on any matters or questions. Discussions with or inquiries to the President of the University, the Chancellor of the U.T. System, or the Board of Regents of the U.T. System will be with the advance knowledge of the sponsor.

ARTICLE 2-3

The Student Congress may recommend or propose any legislation on any matter or question that rests entirely in the Student Community with the exception of those functions and powers reserved to the Constituent Councils in Chapter III of this Constitution.

ARTICLE 2-4

The Student Congress may express its feeling concerning any topic that is of interest to the Student Community.

ARTICLE 2-5

The Student Congress may exercise such other powers and functions as may be delegated to it by the Vice-President for Student Affairs.

ARTICLE 2-6

The Student Congress may establish such subsidiary organs, as it deems necessary for the performance of its duties and functions.

CHAPTER III
The Student Congress

ARTICLE 3-1

The Student Congress shall be composed of one Senator for, at minimum, every 900 non-distance education students and every 2000 distance education students (or a fraction of their total thereof) in a college's or school's population who is regularly enrolled as a student at The University of Texas at Arlington. Distance education student are those as defined by the University.

ARTICLE 3-2

The seats in the Student Congress shall be filled by elections from the student body within each Constituent College according to Fall census figures from any college or school that is degree granting.

ARTICLE 3-3

1. Any vacancies that occur in the Student Congress during the year shall be filled from the School or College in which the vacancies occurred by application to and appointment by the Executive Committee, or by the provisions of Resolution 92-51, until the next general election.
2. Staggered terms shall be established for Congress seats provided under Article 3-2 of this constitution.
3. The terms shall be staggered in the following manner: One half of the seats allotted to each School or College shall be filled by election in the Spring semester, and the remaining seats allotted to each School or College shall be filled by election in the Fall. In case of an odd-numbered allotment, the larger number shall be elected in the Fall.

ARTICLE 3-4

1. The President and Vice-President of Student Congress shall be elected at large from the Student Body each Spring semester for one term. The President and Vice-President of Student Congress shall also serve as the President and Vice-President of the student body.
2. The President and Vice-President shall be installed at the last meeting of the Spring session.

ARTICLE 3-5

The Vice-President for Student Affairs or his/her delegate shall be the sponsor of the Student Congress.

CHAPTER IV
Student Congress Membership

ARTICLE 4-1

The Officers of the Student Congress shall be a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, a Parliamentarian, and an External Relations Director. This group constitutes the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE 4-2

To be eligible for initial membership in the Student Congress, a student must be taking at least six semester hours in residence, and have an overall grade point average of not less than 2.0 on a 4.0 system. First semester UTA students must be enrolled for six hours.

ARTICLE 4-3

A senator must maintain an overall grade point average of not less than 2.0 on a 4.0 system, be taking six hours, and remain a member of the same Constituency to which elected in order to continue membership on Student Congress.

ARTICLE 4-4

All senators shall be obligated to complete required participation hours. The Student Congress Executive Committee shall determine the required participation hours senators are obligated to complete each month, not to exceed a maximum of 6 participation hours per month, and notify senators of each month's required number of hours prior to the beginning of each month. The secretary shall maintain all participation hours.

- A. Participation hours may be accumulated through:
 - 1. Event attendance and participation at Student Governance/Student Congress Activities.
 - 2. Attendance and participation at Student Governance/Student Congress sponsored community service events
 - 3. Participation or development of a Student Congress Exec initiative or pre-approved constituency council activity or event.
 - 4. Any event the Student Congress executive board deems as appropriate for senators to partake in for participation hours.
- B. Participation hours may not be accumulated through:
 - 1. Attending general meetings
 - 2. Attending committee meetings
- C. If a senator does not meet the required participation hours during a given month, then he or she will receive on absence.
- D. If a senator is appointed after the semester has commenced they must meet an equivalent fraction of hours as are weeks left in the semester. This will be determined by the Secretary of Student Congress.

Chapter V
Student Congress Operating Rules

ARTICLE 5-1

1. A session of Congress is defined as one (1) regular semester (fall or spring).
2. A term of Student Congress is defined as the composition of two (2) regular semesters.
3. Student Congress does not convene during the intermediate time between the last meeting of the spring semester and the first meeting of the fall semester, thus this time shall not be considered in the definitions of session or term.

ARTICLE 5-2

In the event of a candidate who is elected to represent more than one constituency in any given term, the candidate must notify the President of the Student Congress within seven days which office he/she will represent and the vacancy created thereby shall be filled by Executive Committee appointment, or Resolution 92-51, whichever is applicable.

ARTICLE 5-3

1. A senator will be removed for cause from membership in the Student Congress as specified in the By-Laws.
 - A. The secretary shall send the member a letter stating that within seven (7) days of receiving the letter they may either:
 - i. Appeal for readmission to SC through a formal written request to the executive committee
 - ii. Formally or informally forfeit their membership to SC
 - B. If the member fails to respond within the allotted time, he or she shall be expelled from the Student Congress.
2. A senator of the Student Congress shall be automatically expelled from membership in the Congress upon acquiring three absences per session as specified by the By-Laws.
3. No person after being expelled from the Student Congress may be allowed to be considered as a candidate for the Congress, or considered for appointment to the Congress, for a period of one term.
4. A senator resigning from membership in the final four (4) weeks of their current session may not be allowed to serve in Congress for a period of one (1) term.

5. In addition, a senator who resigns during this final four (4) week period forfeits all sessions previously elected to as well.

ARTICLE 5-4

1. To be eligible to serve in the office of President, a student must have completed not less than thirty hours of which not less than twelve were completed in residence at UTA, must have served as a member of Student Congress for one session at the time of installment as President, must be enrolled for at least six (6) semester hours and have an overall grade point average of not less than 2.25 on a 4.0 system.
2. The President of the Student Congress shall preside at all meetings, call special meetings, be Chairperson of the Executive Committee, appoint committees and their chairpersons, assign specific duties to members of Congress, and perform all duties necessary to direct the Congress.
3. In the event of a vacancy in the office of President, the Vice-President shall succeed to the Presidency for the duration of the term, and a new Vice-President shall be elected by the Congress from its membership and also serve for the duration of the term.
4. The qualifications for the office of Vice-President shall be the same as those for the office of President.
5. Vacancy in the office of Vice President shall be elected by the Congress from its membership and be for the duration of the term.
6. Failure to meet the responsibilities and duties of the office of President or Vice President of Student Congress shall result in removal from office by the impeachment process outlined by the By-Laws to the Student Community Constitution of The University of Texas at Arlington.
7. Vacancies in the offices of the Executive Committee shall be filled in the same manner established for filling vacancies in the office of Vice-President.

ARTICLE 5-5

1. The Student Congress shall hold regular meetings on a weekly basis during the Fall and Spring semesters.
2. The Student Congress may hold meetings during the

summer.

3. The President of the Student Congress may call a special meeting of the Congress, provided twenty-four hour notice has been given to the members and the sponsor.

ARTICLE 5-6

Copies of the minutes of each meeting shall be sent by the Secretary to the President of the University and to the Vice-President for Student Affairs.

ARTICLE 5-7

Robert's Rules of Order (revised) shall be the official rules of procedure.

**CHAPTER VI
Constituency Councils**

ARTICLE 6-1

Each Constituency Council is subject to University rules which govern student organizations.

ARTICLE 6-2

The Constituency Councils shall strive to increase student participation within their respective School or College.

ARTICLE 6-3

Each Constituency Council may establish such offices as may be necessary to achieve its goals and discharge its responsibilities.

**Chapter VII
The Graduate Student Council**

ARTICLE 7-1

The Graduate Student Council may establish a constitution as deemed necessary, provided that the constitution and subsequent amendments be approved by the Student Congress.

ARTICLE 7-2

The Graduate Student Council shall establish its own qualifications for membership.

ARTICLE 7-3

The Graduate Student Council shall exercise jurisdiction within the affairs of the Office of Graduate Studies at UTA.

ARTICLE 7-4

The Graduate Student Council shall be the official student government of the Graduate School at UTA, and may pursue such goals as such a responsibility may require.

ARTICLE 7-5

The Graduate Student Council shall strive to increase student participation within their school.

ARTICLE 7-6

The Graduate Student Council may establish such offices as may be necessary to achieve its goals and discharge its responsibilities.

ARTICLE 7-7

The Graduate Student Council may appoint a faculty advisor or advisors.

ARTICLE 7-8

The Director of Student Governance and Organizations or his/her delegate shall be the sponsor of the Graduate Student Council.

**Chapter VIII
The Student Programming Board**

ARTICLE 8-1

The Student Programming Board shall establish such offices as may be necessary to achieve its goals and discharge its responsibilities.

ARTICLE 8-2

An Executive Committee member of Student Congress shall serve as a non-voting member of the Student Programming Board.

ARTICLE 8-3

A student must have and maintain an overall grade point average of not less than 2.0 on a 4.0 system and be neither on disciplinary nor scholastic probation in order to be eligible for membership on the Student Programming Board.

ARTICLE 8-4

The Director of Student Activities shall be the Sponsor of the Student Programming Board.

Functions and Powers

ARTICLE 8-5

The Student Programming Board shall have the primary responsibility for planning and administering a program of activities that strive to fulfill the cultural,

recreational, social, and special needs and interests of the Student Community.

ARTICLE 8-6

The Student Programming Board shall create such subsidiary committees as may be necessary for the achievement of its goals.

ARTICLE 8-7

The Student Programming Board shall be responsible for coordinating the activities of the subsidiary committees.

ARTICLE 8-8

The Student Programming Board shall consider the opinions and the recommendations of the Student community as expressed by the Student Congress.

ARTICLE 8-9

The Student Programming Board shall adopt its own rules for procedure; however, the Student Programming Board shall not put any restrictions on the number of members.

ARTICLE 8-10

The Student Programming Board shall hold a minimum of one regular meeting each month.

ARTICLE 8-11

The Student Programming Board shall supply, upon request of the Student Congress, an itemized budget of all activities each semester. This budget shall include all costs, revenues, and a breakdown of attendance figures for all programs.

**Chapter IX
The Ambassador Program**

ARTICLE 9-1

The Ambassador Program shall be composed of Mr. UTA, Ms. UTA, and a number of Ambassadors to be determined by Student Congress.

ARTICLE 9-2

Eligibility to serve as an ambassador requires a student to have an overall grade point average of not less than a 2.0 on a 4.0 system (excluding 1st semester students) and to be currently enrolled for at least six hours. First semester students shall be permitted to be candidates for ambassador.

ARTICLE 9-3

Mr. UTA and Ms. UTA shall be elected at large from the Student body each spring semester for a one year term.

ARTICLE 9-4

The terms for the Ambassadors shall be staggered in the following manner: A fraction of the positions shall be filled by at-large election in the Spring and Fall to serve one year terms.

ARTICLE 9-5

Vacancies that occur in the Ambassador Program during the year shall be filled by appointment; by Mr. and Ms. UTA with the approval of the sponsor, until the next general election.

Functions and Powers

ARTICLE 9-6

The members of the Ambassador Program shall act as official University hosts and hostesses, provide service in the areas of Recruitment, Campus Traditions, Internal Relations, Continuous Programs, and maintain the University Center Ambassador Display Cases.

ARTICLE 9-7

The Director of Student Governance and Organizations or his/her delegate shall be the sponsor of the Ambassador Program.

ARTICLE 9-8

The Ambassador Program shall adopt its own rules for procedure.

**Chapter X
Freshman Leaders on Campus**

Article 10-1

Freshmen Leaders on Campus (FLOC) shall be composed of freshmen entering and transferring into the university, a group of advisors, to be selected by the Director of Student Governance and/or his delegates.

Article 10-2

Eligibility to join FLOC shall be limited only to Freshmen and each member must be enrolled in no less than 6 credit hours. Membership into FLOC shall not last for longer than a term of one year. Members of FLOC shall be required to apply and be interviewed by the FLOC advisors and the Faculty advisor(s), and this process shall occur once before the fall semester, and once before the spring semester.

Article 10-3

The Freshmen Leaders on Campus may establish such offices as may be necessary to achieve its goals and discharge its

responsibilities. The offices shall be elected by a simple majority vote at a regularly scheduled general body meeting.

Functions and Powers

Article 10-4

Freshmen Leaders on Campus shall promote freshmen involvement, community service, and campus pride. Freshmen Leaders on Campus shall also serve as representation of freshmen in Student Governance.

Article 10-5

Freshmen Leaders on Campus, in order to achieve its goals, shall create events that are relevant to the Student Community, which will include various social, educational, and community service projects.

Article 10-6

Freshmen Leaders on Campus may create committees, which may include temporary ad-hoc committees, to be more efficient in carrying out its aforementioned duties and responsibilities. These committees will be chaired by a member of that committee, who shall be elected by a simple majority vote of the committee in question.

Article 10-7

The Director of The Leadership Center or his/her delegate shall be the sponsor of the Freshmen Leaders on Campus.

Article 10-8

Freshmen Leaders on Campus shall establish and maintain a constitution, not specified herein, providing that there is no conflict.

Chapter XI University Committees

ARTICLE 11-1

The Executive Committee of the Student Congress in consultation with the Vice-President for Student Affairs shall submit to the President of The University of Texas at Arlington the names of those committees upon which student representation is desired.

ARTICLE 11-2

The number of student representatives may vary on the several committees as determined by the President of The University of Texas at Arlington.

ARTICLE 11-3

1. The student members of the University Committees shall be recommended by the President of the Student Congress for appointment by the President of The University of Texas at Arlington, through the Vice-President for

Student Affairs, and shall serve for a one year term.

2. Eligibility to serve on the University Committees requires a student to have an overall grade point ratio of not less than 2.0 on a 4.0 system (except for first semester students) and to be currently enrolled for at least six hours.

Functions and Powers

ARTICLE 11-4

The student members of the several University Committees shall have the right to vote on their respective committees unless this right is specifically denied by the President of the University.

ARTICLE 11-5

The Student Congress, by a simple majority vote, may direct a student member of one of the several University Committees to introduce a particular idea, motion, or piece of legislation to his respective committee, but shall have no control over his/her vote.

ARTICLE 11-6

The student members of the several University committees shall report regularly to the Parliamentarian of the Student Congress the activities of their respective committees.

ARTICLE 11-7

A student member of the University Committee may be removed for cause from his/her position by a two-thirds vote of the voting membership of the Student Congress, provided said member has been given ten days advance notice of the proposed removal and is granted the opportunity to defend him/herself before the Student Congress.

Chapter XII Procedures

ARTICLE 12-1

1. Proposed amendments to this Constitution must be introduced in writing to the Student Congress not less than one regular meeting prior to voting and shall require a two-thirds vote of the members present at the meeting for approval.
2. Proposed amendments shall become effective upon the

approval of Student Congress, the Vice-President for Student Affairs, the President of The University of Texas at Arlington, and if applicable, the Chancellor of The University of Texas System, and the Board of Regents.

ARTICLE 12-2

This instrument shall become the Official Constitution for the Student Community following the approval of the Student Congress, the Vice-President for Student Affairs, The President of The University of Texas at Arlington, and if applicable, the Chancellor of The University of Texas System, and the Board of Regents.

ARTICLE 12-3

No proposed Constitutional amendments or acts of Student Congress shall violate the rules of ex post facto, concerning present individuals or organizations named in this Constitution.

**BY-LAWS
TO THE
CONSTITUTION FOR THE STUDENT COMMUNITY OF
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT ARLINGTON**

**ARTICLE I
DUTIES OF OFFICERS AND MEMBERS**

- A. The President shall preside at all meetings, call special meetings, be chair of the Executive Committee, appoint special committees and their Chairs, appoint Chairs to all standing committees, assign specific duties to members of Congress, chair the University Fee Oversight Committee, appoint elected students to serve on the Student Service Allocation Committee (S.S.A.C.), and perform any other duties as deemed necessary to run the Congress.
- B. The Vice-President shall, in the absence of the President, assume all responsibilities of the President's Office. The Vice-President shall serve on the Executive Committee. The VP shall be in charge of Student Congress standing committees. The Vice-President shall appoint members to the standing committees, and shall perform any other duties deemed necessary for the running of Student Congress.
- C. The Parliamentarian shall advise the Congress on matters of parliamentary procedure. There will be a copy of the adopted parliamentary procedure present at all meetings, and the Parliamentarian shall be responsible for enforcing this procedure. In the absence of the Parliamentarian, the President shall appoint a member of Congress to perform the Parliamentarian's duties. The Parliamentarian shall serve as Chair of the Rules and Appropriations Committee. The Parliamentarian shall also be responsible for the maintenance of all Student Congress and Constituency Council financial requests, oversee Budget Hearings and Budget

Allocations to Student Organizations. The Parliamentarian shall serve as a member of the Executive Committee and will perform any other duties deemed necessary for the running of Congress.

D. The Secretary shall record and preserve the minutes and correspondence of the Congress. The Secretary shall execute all correspondence of Congress, and make copies of all official business available to Congress. The Secretary shall serve on the Executive Committee. The Secretary shall be in charge of keeping the Student Congress bulletin board up to date with the attendance and votes at Congress meetings, and for submitting official Student Congress announcements in The Shorthorn. The Secretary shall serve as Historian for the Student Congress. The Secretary shall also assist on selected outreach programs. The Secretary shall serve on the Executive Committee, and will perform any other duties as deemed necessary for the running of Student Congress.

E. The External Relations Director shall serve as the director of all external relations with governing bodies that influence the future of the University of Texas at Arlington. The External Relations Director shall organize outreach events on behalf of Student Congress and will direct these programs. The External Relations Director will serve as a member of the Executive Committee, shall perform any other duties deemed necessary for the running of Congress.

Article II The Executive Committee

- A. The Executive Committee of the Student Congress shall consist of the Officers, excluding committee chairs, named in Article I of the By-Laws.
- B. The Executive Committee shall make decisions of Congress policy. It may also make arrangements for representatives of campus organizations to participate, without vote, in Congress deliberations when matters of particular interest to that organization are on the floor of Congress. It shall also attend to the financial business of the Congress, and attend to the internal management of the Congress such that the normal course of business will flow in an orderly manner.
- C. A Student Congress Senator who is elected to serve on the Executive will not be required to run for reelection to the Student Congress if his/her term as Senator expires during his/her term as an Executive Committee member.
- D. The Term of the members of the Executive Committee, excluding the President and Vice President, shall begin

with their elections at the last General Body meeting of the Spring semester and shall run until the election of their successors the following Spring semester. Executive Committee members who wish to continue as members of the Student Congress after their term on the Executive Committee ends will be required to run for re-election as a Senator in the respective College or School they represent.

Article III Administrative Assistants

- A. The administrative assistant(s), when appointed by the President, shall carry out such administrative responsibilities as are requested by the President.

Article IV Meetings

- A. Quorum shall constitute one-half of the membership of the Congress.
- B. Student Congress shall hold weekly meetings during the Fall and Spring semesters, and can hold called meetings during the Summer. The Executive Committee shall conduct the routine management of Student Congress affairs during the summer.
- C. A Student Congress regular meeting shall be when a quorum is met and business is conducted.

ARTICLE V Attendance

- A. Expulsion from membership shall be automatic upon the acquisition of three absences in one session from either general Student Congress meetings or Standing Committee meetings. Absences may be excused by sole decision of the Executive Committee. A written excuse must be submitted to the Secretary within one week of the absence for consideration of being excused.
- B. The Secretary shall notify senators with two absences with a warning letter, and shall notify members of their expulsion by letter after their third absence.
- C. Tardy Policy
 - 1. A tardy shall be recorded for Senators who are not present when their name is called during roll call in

General Body Meetings. A tardy shall be recorded for Senators who are five minutes late to a Committee Meeting. Two tardy occurrences shall equal one absence.

2. A tardy shall be recorded if a senator leaves prior to adjournment, however
 - a. A Senator shall be excused before the meeting is adjourned without penalty if the Senator has given prior notice to the Executive Committee and has received approval.
 - b. Senators with a 7:00 PM class who have notified the Executive Committee at the beginning of the Semester will be excused at 6:50 PM without penalty.
3. In the event that a Senator is tardy or must leave early because of an emergency, the Senator may appeal the tardy to the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE VI Legislative Procedure

- A. Methods of Introduction
 1. Any resolution may be presented to the floor of Student Congress by a sponsoring Student Congress Senator.
 2. All referendums and petitions must be presented to the floor of Student Congress if accompanied by a petition bearing the signature and Student I.D. numbers of one thousand students, and shall be officially sponsored by the Secretary.
- B. Processing of Resolutions
 1. Student Congress resolutions must go through the following steps before passage:
 - a. A resolution must be read by its author or a sponsor on the floor of Student Congress.
 - b. The Chair must refer the resolution to a standing committee or an ad hoc committee. The decision of which committee will receive the resolution will be left to the discretion of the Chair.
 - c. The committee must report on the progress or research and evaluation of the resolution and

its subject matter, by the second general meeting following its introduction.

- d. Any resolution given a negative approval vote after being researched by a committee shall be referred to the Executive Committee for final disposition. The Executive Committee can choose whether or not to forward a resolution to the General body.
- e. Once a resolution is submitted to the general body, the floor will be open for discussion and/or amendments of the resolution.
- f. After the conclusion of discussion, the Secretary will read the resolution in its final form, and the resolution will be voted on. Format of the vote shall be the discretion of the President.

- 2. A two-thirds vote of the membership present at any meeting will be required in order to suspend temporarily Article VI, Section B., Paragraph 1, and the subparagraph there under.

ARTICLE VII Voting

- A. Voting shall be conducted in accordance with the accepted parliamentary procedure.

ARTICLE VIII Impeachment

- A. The President or Vice President may be removed from office upon submittal of a petition of 25 percent of the voting members of Congress to the Parliamentarian and a two-thirds affirmative vote of the voting members present. The officer being impeached shall be presented with a letter of notice from the Parliamentarian one week prior to the vote of impeachment. The letter shall state all of the reasons for impeachment. The officer shall have the right to defend his/her position before Congress.
- B. Officers elected from among the membership of Student Congress may be removed from office for cause by two-thirds vote of the voting members present. The officer being impeached shall be presented with a letter of notice from

the President one week prior to the vote of impeachment. The letter shall state all of the reasons for impeachment. The officer shall have the right to defend his/her position before Congress.

- C. Any request of the Congress to remove a member shall be forwarded to The Executive Committee accompanied by a petition bearing the signatures of 25 percent of the voting members of Congress. It shall be the responsibility of the Executive Committee to determine the validity of the claim, and, if necessary, forward the claim to the general body. Removal shall be by a two-thirds affirmative vote of the voting membership present. The member being impeached shall be presented with a letter of notice from the President of Student Congress one week prior to the vote of impeachment. The letter shall state all of the reasons for impeachment. The member shall have the right to defend his/her position before Congress.

ARTICLE IX Student Body Referendums

- A. Any referendum issue may be placed before the Student Body if the referendum is desired by a simple majority of the members of Student Congress. Any such referendum issue shall be placed on the ballot at the next regular Student Election unless the Congress deems the issue of such importance that it desires a special election to be held.
- B. Any referendum issue presented to the Student Congress and accompanied by a petition bearing the signatures and Student I.D. numbers of one thousand UTA students must be placed on the ballot of the next Student Election.
- C. All referendums placed on any official election ballot shall be of a non-binding nature, and used solely for judging students' feelings on an issue. Should a petitioner wish a referendum to be of the binding nature, said referendum should be submitted in the form of a resolution as per the operating procedures of Student Congress, and be passed by a majority vote.

ARTICLE X Committees

- A. No member of Student Congress shall serve on more than one standing committee.
- B. Chairs of the Standing Committees shall be chosen by the President from among the members of Student Congress.

1. The Chairs of all Standing Committees shall provide the Vice President with a written report of all meetings which shall include members present, business conducted, research assignments, and recommendations.
- C. Quorum for committees will be met when one-half of the a. Committee's regular membership is present.
 - D. Any member of the student community may serve on a committee, with the exception of the Rules Committee, without vote, and if approved by the Executive Committee.
 - E. No Standing Committees shall be composed of less than six senators.
 - F. Standards for resolution research shall be set by the Executive Committee.
 - G. All resolutions voted out of a committee must be accompanied by a "Student Congress Briefs" form explaining the majority and minority votes.

ARTICLE XI
Student Affairs Committee

- A. The Student Affairs Committee shall be responsible for investigating and improving the general welfare of the students in the non-academic sphere.
- B. The Student Affairs Committee shall be composed of a Chair, and at least five other senators of Student Congress.

ARTICLE XII
Rules and Appropriations Committee

- A. The Rules and Appropriations Committee shall interpret the Constitution and the By-Laws of the Student Community at The University of Texas at Arlington and shall decide the final interpretation of any questioned standing rule or resolution, which has already been passed.
- B. The Rules and Appropriations Committee shall be composed of the Parliamentarian of Student Congress, who shall be the Chair, and at least five other members of Student Congress.
- C. The Rules and Appropriations Committee shall be responsible for tracking all passed resolutions until their final disposition.
- D. The Rules and Appropriation Committee shall be responsible

for conducting Budget Hearings and recommending Allocations for Student Organizations Funding.

- E. It shall take a two-thirds vote of Student Congress members present to revoke a decision of the Rules Committee.

ARTICLE XIII
Academic Affairs Committee

- A. The Academic Affairs Committee shall be responsible for investigating and improving the general welfare of students in the academic sphere.
- B. The Academic Affairs Committee shall be composed of a Chair, and at least five other senators of Student Congress.

ARTICLE XIV
Community Affairs Committee

- A. The Community Affairs Committee shall be responsible for investigating and improving the general welfare of Student Congress and the university community in the non-academic sphere.
- B. The Community Affairs Committee shall be composed of a Chair, and at least five other senators of Student Congress.

Article XV
External Relations Committee

- A. The External Relations Committee shall maintain already existing and establish new relationships with the governing bodies that influence the future of the University of Texas at Arlington. Namely, the UT System Board of Regents, Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, municipal leaders in the City of Arlington and the State of Texas elected officials.
- B. The External Relations Committee shall be responsible for all programming pertaining to the City of Arlington, State of Texas and National Elections.
- C. The External Relations Committee shall be composed of
a Chair and at least five other senators of Student Congress.

ARTICLE XVI
Ratification and Amendments

- A. The By-Laws may be amended by introducing proposed amendments in writing at one regular meeting prior to voting. They shall require a two-thirds vote of the voting members present for approval.
- B. Amendments to the By-Laws become effective upon approval of the Vice President for Student Affairs and the President of UTA.
- C. In case of any conflict between these By-Laws and the Student Community Constitution, said Constitution shall prevail in all instances.

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Amended Spring 2005
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Amended Spring 2010
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