Constitution of the Student Government Association of Coastal Carolina University

Introduced to SGA Senate: January 23, 2012
Passed by SGA Senate: February 6, 2012
Passed by Student Body: March 2, 2012

Article I – Name

The name of this organization shall be the Student Government Association of Coastal Carolina University herein referred to as the SGA.

Article II – Purpose

The mission of the Student Government Association (SGA) is to provide Coastal Carolina University students with representation, services, and advocacy within the Coastal Carolina University community. The SGA serves as the voice of the students and acts as a conduit between the students, administration, faculty, and the alumni.

Article III – Membership

Section 1. Membership. Membership of the SGA is comprised of five elected officers, at least one appointed officer, and 40 senators elected from the student body.

Section 2. Advisors. The SGA shall appoint one advisor from the faculty or staff to provide insight and advice to the SGA, while assisting the organization in advocating on behalf of the student body. In addition, the Vice President for Student Affairs shall appoint one advisor from the faculty or staff.

Article IV – Officers

Section 1. Elected Officers.

A. Composition. The Student Body President, Executive Vice President, President Pro Tempore of the Senate, Vice President for Finance, and Vice President for Public Relations shall be the elected officers of the SGA.

B. Qualifications.

1. Be enrolled as a full-time undergraduate student.
2. Have earned a minimum of 30 credit hours at Coastal Carolina University.
3. Have attended Coastal Carolina University for two consecutive semesters (attendance at two consecutive summer sessions will be equivalent to one regular semester attended) preceding the semester of candidacy.
4. Have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.75.
5. Not be on disciplinary or academic probation, or any subsequently more severe form of either.
C. Term of Office. The elected officers shall maintain their respective offices for a term of one year from the date of their inauguration in the spring of the year of their election, or until the inauguration of a new officer to the position.

Section 2. Appointed Officers.
A. Composition.
1. The Chief of Staff shall serve as an appointed officer, appointed by the Student Body President, with the advisement of the Executive Vice President, Vice President for Finance, and Vice President for Public Relations.
2. Any additional appointed officer positions, as deemed necessary by the organization, shall be created through legislative action.

B. Qualifications.
1. Be enrolled as a full-time undergraduate student.
2. Have earned a minimum of 15 credit hours at Coastal Carolina University.
3. Be in attendance at Coastal Carolina University for two consecutive semesters including the semester of application (attendance at two consecutive summer sessions will be equivalent to one regular semester attended).
4. Have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.75.
5. Not be on disciplinary or academic probation, or any subsequently more severe form of either.

C. Term of Office. The appointed officers shall maintain their respective offices from their date of appointment until the end of the President’s term in office.

Section 3. Succession.
A. Elected Officers.
1. Presidential Succession. In case the Student Body President is unable to serve the full term for any reason, the Executive Vice President shall assume the office until the end of the term.
2. Executive Vice President Succession. In case the Executive Vice President is unable to serve the full term for any reason, the President Pro Tempore shall assume the office until the end of the term.
3. President Pro Tempore. In case the President Pro Tempore is unable to serve the full term for any reason, a new President Pro Tempore shall be elected, as prescribed in Article VI, Section 3 of the SGA Bylaws.
4. Vice President for Finance. In case the Vice President for Finance is unable to serve the full term for any reason, the Chairman of the Finance Committee shall assume the office until the end of the term.
5. Vice President of Public Relations. In case the Vice President for Public Relations is unable to serve the full term for any reason, the Chairman of the Public Relations Committee shall assume the office until the end of the term.

B. Appointed Officers. In the case an appointed officer is unable to serve the full term, for any reason, a new officer shall be appointed by the Student Body President.

Article V – Senate

Section 1. Purpose. The Senate shall serve as the legislative branch of the SGA.
Section 2. Composition.
A. The SGA Senate shall be comprised of eight senators from each degree-granting college, elected by the student body.

B. Of the eight Senators elected from each college, two Senators must come from the Freshmen (0-29 credit hours), Sophomore (30-59 credit hours), Junior (60-89 credit hours), and Senior (90+ credit hours) classes respectively.

C. If a vacancy occurs, the Dean of the College in which the vacancy occurred shall appoint a student to fill the vacancy until the inauguration of a new student to the position.

Section 3. Qualifications. Senators at time of candidacy, or appointment must:

A. Be enrolled as a full-time undergraduate student.

B. Have a primary major in the college the Senator is representing at the time of joining the Senate.

C. Represent no more than one college.

D. Have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.75 (applicable to Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors).

E. Not be on disciplinary or academic probation, or any subsequently more severe form of either.

Section 4. Term of Office. Senators shall maintain their respective offices for a term of one year from the date of their inauguration in the spring of the year of their election, or until the inauguration of a new student to the position.

Section 5. Legislation. All bills/resolutions passed by the Senate must bear the signatures of the President, Executive Vice President, the author of the legislation, and a Senator co-sponsor. All legislation passed by the Senate must be sent to the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs to ensure delivery to proper department, office, academic college, etc.

Article VI - Parliamentary Authority

The authority on all questions of Parliamentary Procedure not addressed by this Constitution, or bylaws, or standing rules of the SGA Boards shall be the most recent edition of Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised.

Article VII – Amendment Process

Amendments to this Constitution shall be considered during regular provided the amendment was submitted at the previous regular meeting. If the amendment passes the Senate by a two-thirds vote, the amendment then goes to the student body in a campus-wide referendum during the next regularly scheduled SGA elections. If a majority of the student body votes to approve the amendment, then the amendment shall take effect. Changes to numbering resulting from Amendments and changes to references to University Offices outside the operations of the SGA shall not require amendment.