

Arizona State University

CONSTITUTION OF THE UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT GOVERNMENT

PREAMBLE

We, the students of Arizona State University, in order to provide a representative student government, hereby form the Undergraduate Student Government (USG) of Arizona State University (ASU), and establish this Constitution. USG is created to provide a unified forum for inter-university dialogue, to organize student involvement, and to advocate for and administer services, resources, and programs that benefit the students of Arizona State University. Created and approved by the students of ASU, this document hereby establishes USG as the recognized governing body of the undergraduate students of Arizona State University.

We recognize the Arizona State University Graduate and Professional Students Association (GPSA) as the official student government and governing body of ASU graduate and professional students.

Furthermore, we affirm that USG and GPSA together constitute the Associated Students of Arizona State University, or ASASU.

As approved by majority of the member student bodies of Arizona State University on: April 11th 2012

USG President of: _____
Campus Signature/Date

USG President of: _____
Campus Signature/Date

USG President of: _____
Campus Signature/Date

USG President of: _____
Campus Signature/Date

Senior Vice President,
Educational Outreach and Student Services,
Arizona State University: _____
Signature/Date

University President,
Arizona State University: _____
Signature/Date

Title I
MEMBERSHIP AND REPRESENTATION

Article I. Campus Representation

Section 1. This constitution is the foundation for the Undergraduate Student Government (USG) of Arizona State University (ASU). In order to properly represent the undergraduate students across all campuses of Arizona State University, all authority not specified under this constitution shall reside with the individual campuses according to and as specified in their respective bylaws.

Article II. Membership

Section 1. All registered undergraduate students with a minimum of one credit hour shall be members of USG and entitled to vote, to hold office in USG if qualifications for candidacy are met, and to exercise their rights of membership.

Section 2. All members of USG shall be granted the following rights which may be further delineated by respective campus bylaws:

- a. The right to petition USG to address issues of concern
- b. The right to representation and advocacy
- c. The right to active engagement
- d. The right to open USG meetings, documents and procedures

Article III. Elections

Section 1. All elections shall be administered according to the USG Elections Code and under the supervision of the Elections Commissioner.

Article IV. Terms of Office

Section 1. The executive officers shall take office beginning at noon on the Monday following the Spring commencement ceremony and shall serve one year.

Title II
CAMPUS REPRESENTATIVE BODIES

Article I. Presidents Council

Section 1. A Presidents Council, hereby referred to as the Council, shall be comprised of the four USG presidents and the duly elected GPSA president. The Council is charged with discussing common challenges across the campuses of the university, coordinating resources to address these challenges, and serving as a liaison entity for the campuses. The Council, in working with campus student leaders and administrators, develops and

implements university priorities with regard to programs, services, and policies. The Council shall recommend students to sit on the various university boards and committees.

Section 2. Minutes from the scheduled weekly Council meetings shall be made public within 24 hours of their approval under the discretion of the official ASU professional staff advisor.

Article II. Executive Office

Section 1. The USG executive officers of each campus shall consist of a President, Vice President of Policy and a Vice President of Services, duly elected according to the provisions in Article IV.

Section 2. The USG President of each campus shall oversee the Vice President of Policy and Vice President of Services at his or her respective campus, and be the voice for USG at the respective campus.

Section 3. The respective Vice President of Policy shall oversee USG operations at the campus that set policy for the university, students and community.

Section 4. The respective Vice President of Services shall oversee USG operations at the respective campus pertaining to services and programs, and as outlined by the bylaws of the campus.

Section 5. A Chief of Staff for the executive officers of each campus shall aid and support the executive officers in their respective roles, and shall serve only at the discretion of the respective USG President.

Section 6. Campuses may add additional elected or appointed executive offices according to their bylaws.

Article III. Campus Senate

Section 1. All legislative powers of USG at each campus shall be vested in a Senate, subject to veto only by the respective USG President, which may be overridden by a two-thirds vote of the respective Senate. The Senate shall also retain the authority to approve the USG budget and appropriate the USG student activity fee funds.

Section 2. Each Senate shall be comprised of senators elected by their respective schools and colleges, with the number of seats awarded to each school or college specified by the bylaws of each Senate.

Section 3. Each Senate shall elect from its membership a Senate President to preside over the respective Senate meetings on the first meeting of each new session and shall serve for the entire session.

Section 4. Each Senate shall have the authority to add to and amend its own Bylaws, subject to veto as outlined in Section 1 of this Article. No Campus Senate shall have authority over the Bylaws of other campuses.

Article IV. Campus Executive Board

Section 1. This body is comprised of the President, the Vice President of Policy, and the Vice President of Services, and the Senate President elected by the Campus Senate. Campuses may add additional members to this board through its Bylaws. The purpose of this board is to focus on campus-level academic and student support services, ensure that campus-level needs and interests are being addressed, and serve as a liaison entity for the Campus Senate. Each respective Campus Executive Board administers the campus-level budget, develops campus priorities, and works with the Campus Senate to develop a legislative agenda.

Article V. Qualifications for Seeking and Holding Elective Office

Section 1. Students seeking elected positions in USG must meet these qualifications at time of declaring candidacy and maintain the qualifications throughout term of office. Candidates must:

- a. Be a member of USG.
- b. Be a student in good academic standing according to the University.
- c. Be a student in good disciplinary standing with the University.
- d. Be a student enrolled in and maintain 6 (six) credit hours per semester on the campus where the position exists. The 6 (six) credits must be completed within the time span of a full semester.
- e. May only hold one office within USG concurrently and on only one campus.
- f. Candidates may only seek and hold office at the campus where their respective college/school exists.

Title III JUDICIARY

Article I. The Undergraduate Student Government Supreme Court

Section 1. All judicial powers of the Undergraduate Student Government shall be vested in one Supreme Court and such lower courts as campus bylaws may provide.

Section 2. The Supreme Court shall have jurisdiction over all disputes arising under the Constitution of the Undergraduate Student Government, any governing documents established pursuant to this Constitution, and between the different campuses. Decisions announced by the Supreme Court shall be final.

Section 3. The Supreme Court shall hear cases and decide disputes at the campus from which the case originates.

- a. All justices must be present to hear and decide a case.
- b. Justice presence at a hearing may be either in person or by video conference.

Section 4. The Supreme Court shall be comprised of five (5) individuals.

- a. Each USG President shall nominate one undergraduate student to represent their campus.
- b. The fifth justice shall be appointed on a rotating basis among the four campuses in an alphabetical rotation (Downtown, Polytechnic, Tempe, West) beginning with Downtown following this constitution's ratification. The fifth justice shall be an undergraduate student nominated by that campus's USG President.
- c. The respective nominees must be approved by their respective Senates.

Section 5. The Supreme Court shall establish its own rules and procedures.

Title IV IMPEACHMENT, CENSURE AND SUCCESSION

Article I. Censure and Impeachment

Section 1. The process for censure and impeachment of elected and appointed positions of the USG shall be specified in the Bylaws of the respective campuses, except as outlined in Section 2 of this Article.

Section 2. A Supreme Court Justice may be impeached only by a two thirds vote of the respective Campus Senate having approved the nomination of said Justice.

Article II. Order of Succession

Section 1. In the event of impeachment or resignation of a President, the order of succession is as follows:

- a. Vice President of Policy;
- b. Vice President of Services;
- c. President of the Campus Senate

Section 2. Succession for all other positions will be enumerated in the Bylaws of the respective campuses.

Section 3. Vacancies in the office of Vice President of Policy, Vice President of Services and President of the Senate shall be filled according to the Bylaws of each campus.

Section 4. Vacancies in other elected or appointed positions can be filled according to the bylaws of their respective campuses.

Title V AMENDMENTS

Article 1. Constitutional Amendments

Section 1. Amendments are official revisions, changes, or additions to this Constitution. Any member of USG may propose an amendment.

Section 2. Proposed amendments to this Constitution shall be presented to each Campus Senate.

Section 3. To appear on the ballot, three out of the four campuses must approve of the proposed amendment by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the respective Campus Senate no less than six (6) weeks prior to a scheduled election or no less than (6) weeks in advance of the end of a semester in which there is no regularly scheduled election.

Section 4. The proposed amendment must be made public to the student body by each Campus Senate at least two (2) weeks prior to the election.

Section 5. The proposed amendment shall be declared approved upon receiving two-thirds (2/3) vote of approval by the voting student body at each campus.

Title VI RATIFICATION AND AUTHORITY

Article I. Constitutional Authority

Section 1. This Constitution supersedes all previous documents and charters of any members of Arizona State University Campus Senate.

Section 2. The Constitution of USG ASU shall become effective upon ratification by a majority (more than fifty percent) approval of the voting undergraduate student body of ASU at each campus.

Section 3. The Constitution and the Campus Bylaws shall be binding over any and all legislation, enactments, and mandates made by the Campus Senates prior to the adoption of this Constitution. This Constitution shall govern this organization, subject to the policies of Arizona State University, the Arizona Board of Regents, and the State of Arizona.

Section 4. Any and all regulations currently found within the constitution of the individual campuses shall be immediately included within the bylaws of each campus of origin upon ratification of this constitution.

Section 5. The current Bylaws of the member campuses shall be submitted and maintained in the Appendices of this document and remain as governing documents of respective campuses.

Section 6. The USG of Arizona State University will not tolerate discrimination based upon age, ethnicity, gender, national origin, disability, race, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, socioeconomic background, Veteran Administration status or political affiliation. Therefore, we create this Constitution with the intent of improving student educational, cultural, social, and physical welfare by empowering student involvement and leadership in inventing programs and policies, in partnerships, which guide our university community.