

The Oklahoma Student Government Association

Constitution

Preamble

We, the students of Oklahoma's institutions of Higher Education, in order to provide a stable network of communication among the institutions of higher education in the State of Oklahoma, support dialogue between these institutions, recommend change that will benefit the students of higher education, and promote civic engagement, do ordain and hereby establish this Constitution for the Oklahoma Student Government Association.

Article I Membership

Section 1. The membership of the Oklahoma Student Government Association, hereafter OSGA, shall consist of all Oklahoma colleges and universities, their respective student governments, and their respective student populations.

Section 2. All member institutions shall be required to pay annual membership dues as set by congress, in order to remain in good standing with OSGA.

Section 3. The OSGA shall not discriminate against any individual or institution on the basis of race, color, age, national origin, disability, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status.

Section 4. All students entitled to membership within the OSGA shall have the right to attend all open meetings of the OSGA, the right to petition all bodies within the OSGA, the right to apply for office within the OSGA, and the right to author and introduce legislation.

Section 5. All member SGA's shall have the right to three Voting Delegates at each congress, representation on the Council of Student Body Presidents the right to author and introduce legislation, and the right to officially appoint or designate delegates to both congress and COSP.

Section 6. Member institutions shall have the right to designate official delegations or delegates for participation in all activities of the OSGA.

Section 7. All rights as outlined within this constitution are subject to reasonable time, agenda, and conduct requirements.

Article II The Legislature

Section 1. The Legislative powers of the OSGA shall be vested in the OSGA Congress while it is in session. When congress is not in session the Council of Student Body Presidents shall be the representative of Congress and act on its behalf.

Section 2. The OSGA Congress shall be composed of delegates from each member institution of higher education.

Section 3. The Congress shall convene at least twice during a legislative session, once in the fall and once in the spring.

Section 4. The time, date, and place of Congress shall be set by the OSGA Board of Directors, and be subject to appropriate appeals to the Council of Student Body Presidents.

Section 5. The powers and duties of the OSGA Congress shall be to consider all presented legislation submitted by members and member institutions, to appropriate monies and resources as appropriate and in-line with this organizations purpose and mission, to represent its member institutions by policy or proclamation, and to confirm appointments of all officers and officials of this organization.

Section 6. The OSGA Congress shall have the power to establish all committees, councils, or other subsidiary bodies as necessary to conduct the business of this organization.

Section 7. Quorum shall be constituted by the members present at a stated meeting of the legislature.

Article III The Council of Student Body Presidents

Section 1. The Council of Student Body Presidents, hereafter COSP, shall be composed of all Presidents of member institutions or their official designees.

Section 2. The COSP shall have the power and authority of the legislature when it is not officially in session.

Section 3. The COSP shall select a new chair at the beginning of each fall semester in the manner it chooses. In the absence of a chair the OSGA Vice-President will preside over the selection process.

Article IV The Executive

Section 1. The OSGA shall have the following offices: President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, Public Relations Director, Research Director, and five (5) regional directors: the Northwest Regional Director, the Southwest Regional Director, the Northeast Regional Director, the Southeast Regional Director, and the Central Regional Director.

Section 2. The election of all officers shall be at the OSGA Spring Congress. Three (3) voting delegates from each member institution shall cast votes for the election of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Public Relations Director, and Research Director.

Section 3. Each Regional Director will be elected by voting delegates from their respective region.

Section 4. OSGA President

The Executive Power of the OSGA shall be vested in the President of the OSGA. The president of the OSGA, with the advice and consent of Congress or its designee, shall have the power to appoint vacant offices within the OSGA Board of Directors, the Student Advisory Board, or any cabinet positions as deemed necessary for the proper administration of the OSGA.

Section 5. OSGA Vice-President

The Vice-President of the OSGA shall act as the President in the absence, incapacitation, or removal of the president, and shall, with the advice and consent of the COSP, become president

and serve the remainder of the term in the event of the Presidents permanent removal or resignation.

The Vice-President, or his designee, shall call into session all meetings of Congress.

The Vice-President shall be responsible for all other duties and responsibilities as assigned by the President.

Section 6. OSGA Secretary

The OSGA Secretary shall be the custodian of all records pertaining to the OSGA, and be responsible for all official records necessary for the effective administration of this organization. The secretary shall be responsible for the keeping of the minutes of the board of directors, and their appropriate preservation and dissemination.

The Secretary shall also be responsible for the effective compliance with the Oklahoma Open Records Act.

The Secretary shall be responsible for all other duties and responsibilities as assigned by the President.

Section 7. OSGA Treasurer

The OSGA Treasurer shall be responsible for the effective administration of all financial matters of the OSGA. The OSGA Treasurer shall be responsible for the effective reporting of all financial matters to the OSGA, and shall provide said reports to the OSGA Secretary for archiving.

The Treasurer shall, with the approval of the Board of Directors, sign all OSGA checks. In the absence of the Treasurer the President shall sign all OSGA checks.

The Treasurer shall be responsible for all other duties and responsibilities as assigned by the President.

Section 8. OSGA Public Relations Director

The OSGA Public Relations Director shall be responsible for the publication and dissemination of all public communication and all matters of public image.

The Public Relations Director shall be responsible for all other duties and responsibilities as assigned by the President.

Section 9. OSGA Research Director

The OSGA Research Director shall be responsible for performing research tasks as requested by the board or a member of the Council of Student Presidents.

The Research Director shall be responsible for all other duties and responsibilities as assigned by the President.

Section 10. OSGA Regional Directors

The OSGA Regional Directors shall be responsible for the effective communication and dissemination of information to the regions, from the regions, or between the regions as appropriate.

The Regional Directors shall be responsible for all other duties and responsibilities as assigned by the President.

Section 11. OSGA Board of Directors

The Board of Directors shall have the power to develop procedures consistent with the Constitution and By-Laws.

The OSGA Board of Directors shall be responsible for of each Fall Congress.

The Board of Directors shall select the site of each Spring OSGA Congress from the applications submitted by Oklahoma colleges and universities.

Quorum for the Board of Directors shall be those in attendance provided that each OSGA officer and Regional Director was notified (by agenda) of all meetings two weeks prior to the meeting.

All expenditures in excess of one student government association's dues must be approved by a majority vote of the COSP.

Article V The Judiciary

Section 1. There shall be a Student Supreme Court whose sole function is to interpret the constitution, as well as acts of the OSGA, having the final authority to declare constitutionality. Any decision made by the Judiciary may be overturned by a three-fourths (3/4) vote by the full OSGA Congress while it is in regular session.

This five (5) member Supreme Court shall consist of one (1) student from each region that is a member of the Council of Student Presidents, nominated by the OSGA President.

There shall be a Chief Justice, elected from within the court.

The Student Supreme Court shall issue a written opinion regarding their decision.

The Student Supreme Court shall assemble at any meeting of the OSGA Congress and be ready to make decisions related to the OSGA Constitution. Either the Chief Justice, three-fourths (3/4) of the Board of Directors, or nine (9) voting delegates at an OSGA Congress, or a majority vote of the COSP shall have the authority to call the court into session.

Article VI The Student Advisory Board to the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education

Section 1. The Voting Delegates from each member student government association shall select the Student Advisory Board as follows:

- Only one (1) application may be submitted per delegation.
- Applications shall be turned into the OSGA Secretary during the OSGA Spring Conference.
- An institution may only vote for candidates within their own tier. The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education shall define tiers.
- Each Student Advisory Board member shall be selected by a majority vote of all members present for the applicant's tier.

Section 2. When vacancies occur in the membership of the Student Advisory Board, the OSGA President shall appoint a replacement in keeping with Oklahoma State Statute and with the advice and consent of the COSP.

Article VII

Removal of Officers

Section 1. All officers established under this constitution shall be subject to removal, impeachment, for any of the following: neglect of duties, failure to uphold the constitution of the OSGA, misuse of OSGA funds or resources, the use of their title for personal or political gains, or any other action deemed unbecoming or embarrassing of an officer of this organization.

Section 2. A majority vote of the OSGA Board of Directors, the OSGA Congress, the OSGA COSP, or the OSGA Supreme Court may initiate impeachment procedures.

Section 3. After a public hearing presided over by an impartial chair person, as chosen by congress, a three quarters (3/4) vote of the Congressional body will be required for removal from office.

Section 4. An individual removed from office will be ineligible for appointment, election, or any other form of OSGA service for one (1) calendar year following their removal.

Article VIII

Amendments

Section 1. Amendments to this Constitution may be proposed as legislation to the OSGA Congress. If the legislation is passed by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the OSGA Congress, it shall then be a proposed amendment.

Section 2. Any member institution may ratify proposed constitutional amendments, and this constitution, within their respective student bodies. For constitutional amendments, and this constitution, to be ratified, a number equal or in excess of two thirds (2/3) of member institutions present at the Congress must ratify the Constitution within their respective bodies.