

Bylaws of the Davidson College Student Government Association

PREAMBLE

We, the students of Davidson College,

In order to share with the Board of Trustees, the faculty, and the administration the responsibility for developing and maintaining Davidson as a distinguished academic community;

To provide a mechanism for recognizing the collective voice of the students;

To implement student directives;

To promote a high level of character and student life; and

To enumerate those rights, privileges, and responsibilities inherent in our roles as students of Davidson College;

Do hereby establish these bylaws of the Davidson College Student Government Association in accordance with the Davidson College Constitution.

I. The Student Government Association

A. COMPOSITION

All enrolled students are members of the Student Government Association (SGA), including students from other schools studying at Davidson on educational exchange programs and Davidson College students at other universities for a specified length of study. Therefore, "the SGA" shall be synonymous with "the student body" throughout these bylaws. The SGA shall provide for its own self-government by means of three primary branches: the SGA Senate (legislative authority), the Senate Court (judicial authority), and the executive branch (executive authority). In addition to the three branches, the power of the SGA is invested in various initiatives, taskforces, committees, councils, and boards.

B. GENERAL POWERS OF THE SGA

1. The SGA (hereafter the student body) exercises the powers and privileges granted in the Davidson College Constitution, the Code of Responsibility, and the Code of Disciplinary Procedure. In the exercise of such powers and privileges, the student body acts through itself, its officers, the agencies established in these bylaws, and other agencies as the student body senate may establish. The student body may adopt rules and procedures for its further self-government.

2. The student body may make its opinion known on any pertinent matter through a vote in an official SGA referendum, pursuant to Article XI of these bylaws.
3. Members of the student body are entitled to attend all meetings of the SGA Senate, unless excluded by the senate for a specific matter as stipulated in Article II, section C, of these bylaws. Non-Senate members of the student body have the full privileges of the floor but may not vote.
4. The student body may elect its own officers pursuant to Article VII of these bylaws and may remove an elected official from office pursuant to Article VIII of these bylaws.
5. The student body may petition the trustees for direct action in respect to any matter substantially affecting the fundamental interests of the college as specified in Article IX of the Davidson College Constitution.
6. The student body may convene at the direction of the student body president or at the request of five percent of the student body. Meetings will pertain to matters of general concern and will be adequately publicized. The parliamentary authority is the current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order*, unless superseded by these bylaws.
7. All members of the student body have equal rights and responsibilities under the Davidson College Constitution, the Honor Code, the Code of Responsibility, the Code of Disciplinary Procedure, the academic regulations of Davidson College, and these bylaws.

II. The SGA Senate

A. PURPOSES AND POWERS

The legislative agency of the student body is the Student Government Association Senate, hereafter abbreviated Senate. The purpose of the Senate is to contribute to the welfare of the student body in the context of the college community by:

1. Providing representative student self-government;
2. Participating when appropriate in the formulation and implementation of college policy;
3. Advising and assisting the SGA President in his or her representation of the student body to the faculty, administration, and trustees;
4. Appointing student members to faculty committees and advisory councils pursuant to Article IV of these bylaws;
5. Providing and assisting in the supervision of student activities;
6. Chartering student organizations not enumerated in the SGA bylaws, within procedures established by the Board of Trustees;
7. Disbursing funds from the SGA Treasury and delegating authority for the allocation of funds available to student organizations;
8. Serving as an appeals mechanism in the interpretation of these bylaws. The Senate may, by a majority vote, overturn the interpretation of the bylaws made by the SGA President.

B. COMPOSITION

The Senate consists of:

1. The President and Vice President of the student body;
2. The Chancellor, the Treasurer, the Director of Public Relations, and the Director of Multicultural Affairs as non-voting members;
3. Five senators per class elected by and from the sophomore, junior, and senior classes and six by and from the freshman class;
4. One senator elected by and from each of the following organizations:
 - a. Davidson International Association;
 - b. Black Student Coalition
5. Five senators elected from the members of the Diversity Coordinating Board organizations (V.E.3). Each Diversity Coordinating Board organization nominates one candidate for the Diversity Coordinating Board Senate seats, and the SGA Senate chooses the Diversity Coordinating Board senators from those organizational nominations.

C. MEETINGS

1. The Senate normally meets once each week during the academic year at a time and place determined by its members.
2. Meetings are conducted according to the current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order*, unless superseded by these bylaws.
3. Special meetings of the Senate may be called by the president or upon request of three members of the Senate, submitted in writing to the president. Members of the Senate must be informed at least twenty-four hours prior to the convening of any special meetings.
4. Meetings of the Senate are normally open to the student body and others in the college community. Upon motion of any voting member of the Senate passed by two-thirds of those members of the Senate present and voting, the Senate may convene in executive session for consideration of any matter specified in the motion.
5. A quorum of the Senate is two-thirds of its total voting membership.
6. No proxy votes are allowed on any matter.
7. The definition of voting does not include abstentions, but those abstentions are noted in the minutes.
8. The Senate makes its own rules concerning procedures, duties, and conduct of the members.
9. The SGA Chancellor will record a senator as absent if he or she is not present during the roll call. Excused absences and tardy arrivals count as ½ of an absence. The accumulation of three absences is grounds for impeachment. Article VIII, Section E describes the appropriate impeachment procedures.

D. REQUIREMENTS OF VOTING MEMBERS OF THE SENATE

1. Attendance at meetings of the Senate and student body;

2. Familiarization with the Davidson College Constitution, the SGA Bylaws, and basic parliamentary procedure;
 3. Assistance in the conducting of SGA elections, at the direction of the Elections Council chairperson;
 4. Assistance in the distribution and collection of self-scheduled exams;
 5. Other functions as the Senate designates.
- E. NON-VOTING MEMBERS OF THE SENATE: THE SGA CHANCELLOR, SGA TREASURER, SGA DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC RELATIONS, AND SGA DIRECTOR OF MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS

The SGA President appoints the SGA Chancellor, SGA Treasurer, SGA Director of Public Relations, and the SGA Director of Multicultural Affairs at the beginning of his or her term. Each position has the rights to the floor of the Senate but not the vote. At the beginning of each administration, the Senate determines whether or not there will be a salary and, in the instance of there being a salary, what that salary would be for the Chancellor, Treasurer, Director of Public Relations, and Director of Multicultural Affairs.

1. The SGA Chancellor is the chief administrative agent and parliamentarian of the SGA. As the chief administrative agent, he or she prepares and distributes the following items no later than 48 hours prior to the weekly meeting of the Senate: the minutes of the previous meeting, the agenda for the upcoming meeting, the updated attendance record, and all written legislation to be considered during the upcoming meeting. As parliamentarian, the chancellor informs the SGA President of any breaches of *Robert's Rules of Order* or these bylaws. The chancellor is also responsible for performing other duties as the president and these bylaws designate.
2. The SGA Treasurer is the chief financial agent of the SGA. He or she maintains all financial records of the SGA, assists in the preparation of the annual budget, and serves of the Activities Tax Council.
3. The SGA Director of Public Relations promotes student awareness of the SGA projects as directed by the SGA President with consultation with the SEC. Such efforts require a working relationship with the Communications Office, Central Services, and *The Davidsonian*. The director of public relations is also responsible for upkeep of the SGA website.
4. The SGA Director of Multicultural Affairs is the Chair of the Diversity Coordinating Board and collaborates with other senators and student organizations to address issues of diversity and inclusion on campus.

III. The Senate Court

A. PURPOSES AND POWERS

The judicial authority of the SGA is invested in the Senate Court. The only functions of the Court are to remove the elected SGA officials from office and to serve as final authority in interpreting these bylaws. The procedure for removal is outlined in Article VIII of these bylaws.

B. SENATE COURT MEMBERSHIP

The Senate Court consists of one member from each of the three upper classes, appointed by the SGA President and approved by the Senate. Members may hold no elected SGA position. The senior class member is the chairperson. Members serve from appointment to graduation, or until their resignation. The sophomore member will be appointed no later than the fifth week of fall term.

C. THE STUDENT JUDICIAL SYSTEM

The Student Judicial System is prescribed in the Davidson College Constitution and the Code of Disciplinary Procedure, as amended.

IV. The Executive Branch

A. THE SGA PRESIDENT

The SGA President is the chief executive officer of the student body and represents the student body to the faculty, administration, and trustees. He or she is responsible to the student body for the execution of its directives, and to the President of the College and the Board of Trustees for the participation of the student body in the execution of campus governance policies. He or she oversees the execution of all policies of the student body. The president is elected annually from the rising junior or rising senior class by the student body in accordance with Article VII of these bylaws. The president may not chair any standing committee of the Senate. Specific responsibilities include the following:

1. The president normally presides over meetings of the student body, the Senate, and the SEC, unless he or she designates a temporary chairperson, and may call specific meetings of these bodies. The president has full floor and voting privileges.
2. The president serves as a member of the Student Conduct Council, the Advisory Council on Finance, Personnel, and Development Affairs, and the Advisory Council on Campus and Religious Life (CCRL).
3. The president is responsible for attending meetings of the faculty and the Board of Trustees, pursuant to the Davidson College Constitution, with the privileges of the floor, but not the vote.
4. In order to gather information to present at meetings of the Board of Trustees and the faculty, the president is empowered to conduct open forums concerning any matters which will be discussed at a meeting. He or she may invite any members of the college community to participate in these forums.

B. THE SGA VICE PRESIDENT

The SGA Vice President assists the president in the execution of his or her duties, as the president designates. The vice president is elected annually from the rising junior or

senior class by the student body in accordance with Article VII of these bylaws. The vice president has full floor and voting privileges in the Senate. The vice president may not chair any standing committee of the Senate. Specific responsibilities include the following:

1. The vice president serves as a member of the Student Conduct Council, the Advisory Council on Intercollegiate Athletics, and the Advisory Council on Campus and Religious Life.
2. The vice president performs the duties of the SGA President upon the temporary disability or upon the request of the SGA President. In the event of a vacancy in the presidency, the vice president becomes president. In the event of a vacancy in the vice presidency, the Senate elects a new vice president from among its members normally qualified to hold that position. The new vice president assumes office immediately.
3. The vice president is the designated SGA liaison to the Student Life Office. The Student Life Office includes the Residence Life Office, the Center for Career Development, the Student Health and Counseling Center, the Chaplain's Office, the Center for Civic Engagement, the International Student Office, the College Union, ITS, and the Department of Public Safety. The vice president must meet with staff from any division of the Student Life Office at least twice a month and should provide updates to the Senate following those meetings.

C. The Senate Executive Committee

The Senate Executive Committee, hereafter referred to as the SEC, consists of the president of each class, the SGA Treasurer, the SGA Chancellor, the SGA Director of Public Relations, the Director of Multicultural Affairs, the SGA President, and the SGA Vice President. If the president would like to add an additional role to the SEC, he or she must submit a position description in writing to the Senate, and the Senate must approve the addition of that position by a majority vote before he or she can make an appointment for the role. The SEC meets weekly to determine the agenda of the upcoming Senate meeting and counsels the SGA President in the fulfillment of his or her duties.

V. Initiatives, Taskforces, Committees, Councils, and Boards

In addition to the Senate, the Senate Court, and the executive officers, the authority of the student body is vested in and exercised through initiatives, taskforces, committees, councils, and boards, pursuant to these bylaws. Meetings of SGA agencies are normally open. Upon motion of any voting member of an agency passed by two-thirds of the members present and voting, an agency may enter into executive session for consideration of any subject matter specified in the motion. Upon expiration of the president's term in office, the chairperson of each initiative, taskforce, committee, council, and board submits to the SEC a comprehensive summary of that agency's activities for the preceding year, including

recommendations. These reports are maintained in the permanent SGA files and are open for inspection.

A. INITIATIVES

Initiatives are ad hoc, project-based committees that reflect the proactive priorities of the Senate. The Senate may only designate a project as an initiative if the project requires a substantial commitment of time and effort from members of the Senate toward a capstone. A capstone may be a proposal, a report, an event, or a series of events that meets this threshold. Any member of the student body may propose an initiative. The Senate must approve, by a two-thirds majority, at least three initiatives and the leadership of each initiative by the fifth meeting after the SGA President elected during the Category II elections (see VII.A.2) is inaugurated. A majority of initiatives must be led by members of the Senate or committee chairs (see V.C) unless the Senate approves an exception to this requirement with a two-thirds majority vote. With the approval of the Senate, the president and vice president may replace an initiative leader who unsatisfactorily performs his or her duties with any student regardless of whether the new leader is a member of the Senate. By a two-thirds majority, the Senate may vote to render the work of an initiative complete at any time or, following Category III elections, to continue the work of an initiative through the next session.

B. TASKFORCES

Taskforces are ad-hoc, project-based committees that arise from the priorities of the Senate as they develop throughout the year. The Senate may only create a taskforce for a project if the project requires a modest commitment of time and effort from members of the Senate toward a capstone. A capstone may be a proposal, a report, an event, or a series of events that meets this threshold. Any member of the student body may propose a taskforce, lead a taskforce, or do both. With the approval of the Senate, the president and vice president may replace a taskforce leader who unsatisfactorily performs his or her duties with any student regardless of whether the new leader is a member of the Senate. The empaneling of any taskforce does not count toward the minimum of three initiatives that the Senate must approve in the timeframe outlined in V.A. By a majority vote, the Senate may vote to render the work of a taskforce complete or, following Category III elections, to continue the work of a taskforce through the next session.

C. STANDING COMMITTEES

Standing committees (“committees”) are the vehicles for any approved taskforces and initiatives that fall principally under their defined jurisdiction. Committees may only begin a project after the Senate has approved it as an initiative or taskforce in accordance with the procedures outlined in V.A and V.B. They are subject to and responsible to the Senate at all times. Each committee consists of three permanent members. Other students (both senators and non-senators) may voluntarily serve on any committee for any length of time. Chairpersons of all standing committees are nominated jointly by the president and vice president and must be approved by a majority vote of the Senate. The

president and vice president may nominate any student to chair a standing committee; however, at least half of the nominees must be senators. Chairpersons must be nominated and confirmed by the fifth meeting after the SGA President elected during the Category II elections (see VII.A.2) is inaugurated, and they serve one-year terms. With the approval of the Senate, the president and vice president may replace chairpersons who unsatisfactorily perform their duties with any student, senator, or non-senator. The following committees are classified as standing:

1. The SGA Academic Policy Committee formulates policy recommendations pertaining to academics and maintains communication with the Office of the Vice President of Academic Affairs, heads of departments, etc. The chairperson serves both on the Trustee Educational and Academic Policy Committee on the Faculty Educational Policy Committees pursuant to Article VI of these bylaws. The three permanent committee members include:
 - a. The committee chairperson;
 - b. The Senate appointee on the Faculty Educational Policy Committee (see VI.C.2.b);
 - c. A student (senator or non-senator appointed by the chairperson).
2. The SGA Auxiliary Services Committee formulates policy recommendations pertaining to the Auxiliary Services Office (CatCard Services, Dining Services, and the College Bookstore) and maintains communication with the Director of Auxiliary Services and the Director of Dining Services. The three permanent committee members include:
 - a. The committee chairperson;
 - b. Two students (senators or non-senators) appointed by the chairperson.
3. The SGA Charters and Bylaws Committee reviews all proposed changes to the SGA Bylaws and governs the chartering of student organizations. As a secondary function, the committee formulates recommendations to change portions of the Davidson College Constitution, Trustee Bylaws, and Faculty Bylaws. The three permanent committee members include:
 - a. The committee chairperson;
 - b. The SGA Chancellor;
 - c. A student (senator or non-senator) appointed by the chairperson.

D. COUNCILS

Councils are semi-autonomous but they are ultimately subject to the Senate at all times. Currently there are two councils:

1. The Activities Tax Council (ATC) allocates the student activities tax to all chartered student organizations. The council consists of a chairperson and a vice-chairperson, the Director of Student Activities, the Dean of Students, a faculty member, the SGA Treasurer, and five members of the student body, two of whom must be senators. Each of the five student body members is selected through open sign-ups and interviews with the existing ATC members. After the interview process, the Senate must approve the ATC's recommended candidates. Neither the SGA President nor

- the SGA Vice President may serve as members of the ATC. ATC guidelines are outlined in Article X.
2. The Elections Council conducts all SGA elections. The council may change election dates for reasonable cause and with reasonable notice, and may make supplementary rules if absolutely necessary. The council consists of a chairperson appointed by the SGA President, and three members of the student body nominated by the council chairperson and approved by the Senate. The chairperson cannot run in any election that he or she conducts. Any member of the council may run for an election that the council conducts but must excuse him/herself from the council during the election. The chairperson must be appointed no later than the second Monday after spring break. He or she will assist the outgoing chairperson in the election of Category II and III officers before taking on full responsibilities.

E. BOARDS

Boards are autonomous from the Senate but are regulated by these bylaws. With Senate approval, boards may adopt bylaws for their self-government. These bylaws may not conflict with the Davidson College Constitution or these bylaws.

1. The Union Board organizes and promotes social and cultural activities through the College Union and has sole authority to allocate the social fee. The Union Board consists of the Union President; the Union Social Vice President; the Union Co-Curricular Vice President; and other members in accordance with the Union Board Bylaws. By the fifth week of the fall term of each year, the board will report to the student body through the Senate disbursements of the social fee during the preceding year.
2. The Media Board consists of three student members, appointed according to the SGA Bylaws: one faculty member, two administrative members selected according to the Media Board Bylaws, and three additional student members selected by the preceding six members.
3. The Diversity Coordinating Board (DCB) serves as an alliance amongst organizations on campus that engage with matters of diversity and inclusion. The DCB consists of organizations whose core purpose is directly related towards promoting campus diversity and inclusion. Organizations can request to be considered for DCB status during the chartering or re-chartering processes. Requests are considered by the Charters & Bylaws Committee. Each DCB organization nominates one candidate for the DCB Senate seats, and the SGA Senate chooses the five DCB senators from those organizational nominations. Nominees for the position of DCB senator must be members of the DCB organization which nominated them. The SGA Director of Multicultural Affairs chairs the DCB.
4. The Civic Engagement Council (CEC) inspires and communicates student civic engagement efforts through direct service, advocacy and community involvement. In addition, the Council coordinates the funding, operation and chartering of all student-run service and social action organizations. The general CEC budget is subject to the approval of the Activities Tax Council and SGA Senate. The CEC coordinates the chartering and registration process for all of its organizations and

notifies SGA when new groups have been approved. The Civic Engagement Council Chair is elected pursuant to Article VII, Section A.2, of these bylaws.

VI. Trustee Committees, Advisory Councils, and Faculty Committees

A. TRUSTEE COMMITTEES

Students serve as ex-officio members of trustee committees in accordance with the Trustee Bylaws and guidance from the Office of the College President. The SGA President must appoint these student members with the advice and consent of the Senate by the fifth meeting after the SGA President elected during the Category II elections (see VII.A.2) is inaugurated. When possible and appropriate, the trustee committees to which student committee members are nominated and approved should correspond with SGA appointments to Advisory Councils and Faculty Committees. Within seventy-two hours of the Senate's confirmation vote, the SGA President must submit the names of the approved students to the Office of the College President. The SGA President automatically serves as the liaison to the Trustee Committee for Campus Life and the Student Experience. All student trustee committee members meet with their respective committees during the April, October and February meetings of the Board of Trustees. All student trustee committee members must also meet with the administrative liaisons to the trustee committees on which they serve at least twice a semester in order to remain in good standing. The Senate, with the approval of two-thirds of the members present and voting, may remove a student trustee committee member who unsatisfactorily performs his or her duties.

B. ADVISORY COUNCILS

Students are represented on college advisory councils in accordance with Articles IV, V, VII, VIII, and IX of the Davidson College Constitution.

1. The following students are elected to advisory councils:
 - a. Two at-large members of the Student Conduct Council; both must be upperclassmen not serving on the Senate.
 - b. Four at-large members on the Campus and Religious Life Council (CCRL); all four must be upperclassmen who do not serve as elected senators.
2. The following students serve as ex-officio members with vote of the designated advisory councils:
 - a. The SGA President on the Advisory Council for Fiscal, Personnel, and Development Affairs; the Council on Campus and Religious Life; and the Student Conduct Council;
 - b. The SGA Vice President on the Advisory Council for Intercollegiate Athletics; the Council on Campus and Religious Life; and the Student Conduct Council;
 - c. The presidents of the four classes on the Student Conduct Council;

- d. The President of United Community Action, the President of the Union Board, and the President the Patterson Court Council on the Council of Campus and Religious Life;
- e. One student approved by the SGA Senate on the Admission and Financial Aid Advisory Council;
- f. Two students approved by the SGA Senate on the Finance, Personnel, and Development Advisory Council;
- g. One student approved by the SGA Senate on the Intercollegiate Athletics Advisory Council.

C. FACULTY COMMITTEES

Students are represented on faculty committees in accordance with Article II of the Davidson College Constitution and Article IV of the Faculty Bylaws.

1. The following students serve as ex-officio members of the designated faculty committees:
 - a. The chairperson of the SGA Academic Policy Committee on the Education Policy Committee;
 - b. A Diversity Coordinating Board Senator voted upon by the SGA Senate on the Diversity Advisory Committee.
2. These faculty committees require the following number of student representatives appointed by the Senate:
 - a. Academic Computing (two);
 - b. Educational Policy (one);
 - c. Library (one);
 - d. International Education (two);
 - e. Pre-Management (two);
 - f. Public Lectures (one);
 - g. Human Subjects/Institutional Review Board (two);
 - h. Media Board (three).

D. POLICES REGARDING APPOINTED OFFICES

1. Students holding offices appointed by the SGA President or the Senate report to the Senate upon request of the president, the SEC, or the Senate.
2. The Senate may at any time replace an appointed student member of an advisory council or faculty committee by a 2/3 vote of those present and voting.

VII. Elections

A. TYPES OF ELECTIONS

1. Category I offices are elected on the sixth Monday of the fall semester, with the filing deadline on the fifth Monday of the fall semester. A new senator takes his or her seat

- immediately following certification of official results, at the next scheduled Senate meeting. Category I offices include:
- a. Six senators elected by and from the freshmen class;
 - b. The number of sophomore, junior, and senior Honor Council positions needed to bring each class total to six, twelve, and twelve, respectively [elected by and from each respective class].
2. Category II offices are elected on the fifth Monday of the spring semester, with the filing deadline on the fourth Monday. All members of the student body are eligible to vote in Category II elections. All freshmen, sophomores, and juniors are eligible to run for Category II offices unless stated otherwise below. Seniors may not run under any circumstance. The elected individuals take their seats in accordance to the rules established by each organization, typically at the next official meeting, but not before official certification of results. Category II offices include:
- a. SGA President [only sophomores and juniors may run];
 - b. SGA Vice President [only sophomores and juniors may run];
 - c. Union Board President;
 - d. Union Board Vice President;
 - e. Civic Engagement Council Chair;
 - f. Two Defense Advisors [only juniors may run; must run in pairs];
 - g. Two Student Solicitors [only juniors may run; must run in pairs];
 - h. Two student representatives to the Student Conduct Council;
 - i. Four representatives to the Council on Campus and Religious Life;
 - j. One student representative to the Review Board [only sophomores and juniors may run; two year term];
 - k. ATC Vice-Chairperson [only juniors may run].
3. Category III offices are elected on the Monday before spring break, with the filing deadline on the previous Tuesday. A new senator or Honor Council member takes his or seat immediately following certification of official results, at the respective organization's next meeting. Category III offices include:
- a. Five senators elected by and from the freshmen class;
 - b. Five senators elected by and from the sophomore class;
 - c. Five senators elected by and from the junior class;
 - d. The number of freshmen, sophomore, and junior Honor Council positions needed to bring each class total to three, twelve, twelve, respectively [elected by and from each respective class].
4. Category IV offices are elected by the second SGA meeting after spring break, with the filing deadline on the previous regular meeting of the Senate Executive Committee. A new senator takes his or her seat immediately following certification of official results, at the next scheduled Senate meeting. Category IV offices include:
- a. Five Diversity Coordinating Board senators elected according to the processes outlined in the SGA Bylaws (refer to II.B.5).
 - b. The senators representing the BSC and DIA.

B. ELIGIBILITY

1. No student is eligible to run for any position after the first term of his or her senior year.
2. Joint candidacies are permitted only in the case of defense advisors and student solicitors.
3. No person may serve simultaneously as a voting member of any of the following: SGA Senate, Honor Council, CCRL, Review Board, Student Conduct Council, Defense Advisor, and Student Solicitor with the exceptions of the SGA President, SGA Vice President, and the class presidents, whose duties are outlined in Article VI of these bylaws.

C. FILING GUIDELINES

1. The Elections Council will publicize filing deadlines, election dates, and eligibility requirements of all elected offices through an email to the entire student body.
2. A student must declare candidacy by signing the following statement in the Dean of Students' Office: "By declaring my candidacy, I agree to abide by the elections and campaign rules as described by the SGA Bylaws and as delineated by the Elections Council. I am aware of the specific duties of this position and further understand that it represents a responsibility which I am prepared to fulfill to the best of my ability. I understand that I may not campaign until the mandatory all-candidates meeting."
3. The filing deadline for any election is 5 p.m. of the day specified with no exceptions.
4. No student may file candidacies for multiple offices within a given category.

D. CAMPAIGN REGULATIONS

Violation of any campaign regulation may result in disqualification. If a candidate has been accused of a violation, he or she will be notified via email immediately by the Elections Council Chairperson. Accused candidates will have two hours after the polls close to plead his or her case to the Elections Council. The following regulations govern all elections.

1. Within eight hours after the filing deadline, the Elections Council Chairperson conducts an all-candidates meeting during which candidates receive information about elections procedures, rules, and expectations. Failure to attend the all-candidates meeting results in the forfeit of candidacy unless the Elections Council Chairperson is notified of a reasonable cause for absence prior to the meeting, or an emergency inhibits the candidate from giving notice. Excusable absences include, but are not limited to: a job, career interview, scheduled medical appointment, and class trip or event.
2. Campaigning of any sort will not be allowed inside of or around any academic building, including but not limited to: Chambers, Sloan, Watson, Dana, E.H. Little Library, Martin Chemistry Building, Visual Arts Center, and Cunningham.

3. No candidate in any election category may receive or spend an amount from any source, including his/her own funds, in excess of \$25.00 for campaign purposes.
4. No candidates for Honor Council, Review Board, Student Conduct Council, Defense Advisor, or Student Solicitor may campaign in any manner. This includes, but is not limited to: campaign fliers, advertisements, campaign announcements, word-of-mouth, and email solicitations.
5. No candidates may begin campaigning until after the all-candidates meeting.
6. Joint campaigning is permitted for all elections in which campaigning is permitted if both candidates desire and each candidate independently declares his/her intentions to the Elections Council. Candidates will not be listed on the ballot together unless the position dictates a joint candidacy.
7. All candidates must abide by the social media campaign regulations explicitly overviewed during the all-candidates meeting.

E. ELECTION PROCEDURES

1. All elections of the SGA are to be conducted by secret electronic ballot (from 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.). Elections occur on the day specified, with runoff elections following as reasonably as possible, within three days.
2. Students will vote for a number of candidates equal to the number of persons to be elected for any particular position. By his or her choice, a student may vote for less than the number to be elected.
3. For elections with one available seat: If the top candidate for the position receives a majority of the votes cast, there will not be a run-off for that position. If the top vote-getter in each race does not receive a majority of the votes cast, the election will go to a run-off. The number of candidates allowed to participate in the run-off will be twice the number of available positions. The top vote-getters in each run-off election are elected regardless of percentages.
4. For elections with more than one available seat: If the number of candidates that equals the number of available seats receives a collective total of a majority of the votes, there will not be a run-off for that position. If these top vote-getters in each race do not receive a majority of all votes cast, the election will go to a run-off. The number of candidates allowed to participate in the run-off will be twice the number of available positions. The top vote-getters in each run-off are elected regardless of percentages.
5. Election results are emailed to the student body by 9 a.m. of the day after the election, unless the election procedures have been contested by any Davidson student, faculty, or staff member.
6. In the event of a tie between two candidates, the Elections Council will proceed to a run-off solely between the two candidates as reasonably as possible, within three days. The Elections Council will only take this action if the tie is for an open, available position.
7. In the event a candidate is accused and found guilty of a violation by the Elections Council, he or she can appeal the decision to the Senate Court. The Senate Court will review the case and hear the appeal at their discretion. If the Senate Court chooses not to hear the appeal, the decision of the Elections Council stands as final.

Candidates may only appeal the decision under the following conditions, known as the scope of review: if the accused believes the Elections Council decision was made outside of the authority of the SGA Bylaws, or if the accused can garner the support of four current SGA Senators to support an appeal. The Elections Council will abide by the sanctions set forth by the Senate Court as applicable.

8. Elections are to be officially certified by the Elections Council Chair. The certification document, along with the Chair's signature, must be delivered to the SGA President and Chancellor once results are complete and finalized. The election is considered closed on the Chair delivers the document.

F. TRANSITIONAL PERIOD

During the period between election and inauguration, the SGA President-elect will familiarize himself or herself with the SGA Bylaws and the latest edition of *Robert's Rules of Order*. He or she will also appoint an SGA Chancellor, Treasurer, Director of Public Relations, and Director of Multicultural Affairs.

G. INAUGURATION OF SGA SENATE VOTING MEMBERS

Voting members of the Senate must be sworn in by the SGA President. The incoming SGA President is sworn in by the outgoing SGA President at the meeting following the election of Category III offices. The newly inaugurated president then swears in the fifteen Category III senators. The oath of office is: "I solemnly affirm that I will, to the best of my abilities, perform the duties of the office to which I have been elected."

H. VACANCIES

Vacancies in SGA offices are filled by a majority vote of the Senate present and voting from those normally qualified to run. Exceptions include: the SGA President and Vice President, who are replaced pursuant to Article IV; editors who are replaced by the Media Board; and Honor Council Members, who are replaced at the next regular election. The person appointed serves the remainder of the vacated term of office.

I. CLASS PRESIDENTS

The person receiving the greatest number of votes in each class senatorial election is designated the class president.

J. UNOPPOSED CANDIDACY

If only one candidate files for an elected position of the SGA, the Senate must confirm the candidate's election, except that the Publications Board has sole authority to confirm the election of editors. The sole criterion for confirmation is that the candidate meets the eligibility requirements for the position in question.

K. APPOINTED OFFICES

Appointed offices are non-elected positions responsible to the body which has chosen them through its designated officers. Students holding offices appointed by the SGA President or the Senate report to the Senate upon request of the president, the SEC, or the Senate.

L. OTHER ELECTED OFFICES

Elected offices not noted herein are subject to the duties listed in the Senate-approved document governing their agency.

VIII. Removal From Office

A. IMPEACHMENT OF AN ELECTED SGA OFFICIAL

1. Any elected official of the SGA may be impeached upon probable cause of unethical conduct, failure to perform duties, or other violations of these SGA Bylaws.
2. Twenty percent of an elected official's constituency or six members of the Senate may impeach any elected official. Impeachment consists of drawing up a list of specific allegations signed by the accuser, and presenting this petition, in hand, to the Chancellor of the SGA.
3. In the event of any impeachment, the Senate designates one of the accusers to bring charges to the Senate Court and appoints a defense advisor upon the request of the accused.
4. Within forty-eight hours of Senate action, the SGA Chancellor informs, in writing, by hand, the accused and the chairperson of the Senate Court of the impeachment.

B. PROCEDURES FOR REMOVAL FROM ELECTED OFFICE

1. The Senate Court will normally convene no sooner than seventy-two hours and no later than seven days following impeachment notification. The Court Chairperson may grant an extension.
2. The Senate Court may establish its own trial procedures. They must be written and presented, in hand, to all concerned not less than forty-eight hours prior to the hearing. Basic procedures must be approved by the Senate.
3. The Chairperson of the Court rules on all matters of procedure.
4. Removal from office must rest upon proof, beyond a reasonable doubt, through evidence presented to the Senate Court. A unanimous vote for conviction constitutes removal.
5. Unless reasonable cause is presented, in writing, by hand, to the Court Chairperson, the trial will proceed as scheduled, whether the accused is present or not.
6. If, at any time, the Senate Court determines that there has been a possible Honor Code violation, the case is immediately referred to the Honor Council.

7. If a student is convicted by the Honor Council, the student is automatically removed from office, unless the sanctions invoked do not affect his or her status as a fully participating student. If the student is acquitted by the Honor Council, or if his or her status as a fully participating student is unaffected, his or her removal trial continues where previously halted.
8. No student may be tried more than once for the same offense.

C. RECORDS

Records of impeachment and removal from trials are maintained in the SGA files. The SGA Chancellor is responsible for these files. Trial records must be certified by the Court Chairperson.

D. RESIGNATION

Any elected or appointed official of the SGA may resign his or her position, effective immediately, at any time by submitting a written statement of his or her intention to the SGA Chancellor, who shall notify the Senate at its next meeting. If a senator from an organization described in II.B.4 of these bylaws is impeached or resigns, the organization must elect a new senator within two weeks.

E. IMPEACHMENT OF SENATORS FOR ABSENTEEISM

The SGA Chancellor informs the SEC of any attendance policy violations and the SEC determines whether such cases should be brought before the Senate Court. In the event of an impeachment by the SEC, the accused must be notified by the SGA Chancellor at least twenty-four hours prior to the convening of the Senate Court. The SEC designates a prosecutor and, if requested, a defense advisor.

IX. Student Organizations Chartered by the Senate

A. CHARTERED ORGANIZATIONS

A student organization at Davidson College which is chartered by the SGA:

1. Is granted official status within the Davidson College community and may represent itself outside the community;
2. May request funds from the SGA Treasury through the Senate and/or funds from the Activities Tax Council; and
3. Receives a higher priority in the scheduling of campus facilities than an unchartered organization.

B. ONGOING CHARTERS

1. Publications (*The Davidsonian*, *Quips and Cranks*, and *The Wildcat Handbook*) are collectively chartered through the Media Board and need not be rechartered on an annual basis.
2. SGA Boards, as enumerated in Article V of these bylaws, are granted ongoing charters.
3. The Union and United Community Action are also granted ongoing charters.

C. STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS NOT REQUIRING CHARTERS

1. Social organizations on Patterson Court leasing facilities from Davidson College do not require charters from the SGA. They are chartered by the Trustees of Davidson College.
2. The Student Judiciary, as defined in the Code of Disciplinary Procedure, does not require a charter from the SGA. Its legitimacy is derived from the Davidson College Constitution.
3. SGA Committees and Councils, enumerated in Article V of these bylaws, do not require charters from the SGA. By virtue of their relationship to the Senate, they are granted the benefits of chartering listed in IX.A.

D. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS OF A CHARTER

The Senate shall grant charters to those organizations that:

1. Demonstrate the capacity to make a sustained and positive contribution to the Davidson College community; and
2. Do not have a purpose that significantly overlaps with that of an already chartered organization.

E. APPLYING FOR A CHARTER

1. Applications for charters are submitted to the Charters and Bylaws Committee, which forwards such requests to the Senate with recommendations at any time the committee deems necessary.
2. In order to apply for a charter, prospective organizations must first be registered with the Student Activities Office for 45 days and provide the following items to the Charters and Bylaws Committee:
 - a. Name;
 - b. Purpose;
 - c. Approximate number of members;
 - d. A brief explanation of the organization's activities (250 words max);
 - e. Constitution, bylaws, and other governing documents;
 - f. A statement that the organization intends to abide by the nondiscrimination policy of the college as stated in the Official Record of Davidson College; and

- g. Other necessary information that the Charters and Bylaws Committee deems necessary.
3. A majority vote of the Senate present and voting is required to approve a charter. Charters will be active upon completion of these requirements.
4. A charter is valid for one year from its date of approval. Charters are to be renewed each spring before ATC allocations.
5. Applications for renewal of charters must provide the same information necessary for the initial granting of a charter as well as other information that the Charters and Bylaws Committee deems necessary.
6. An organization denied a charter or whose charter is not renewed can request that the Senate reconsider its decision. Such a request should be presented to the SEC and provide all information required to receive a charter and justification for requesting the Senate to reconsider its decision. The SEC may forward the charter request to the Senate with a recommendation.
7. The granting or renewing of a charter by the SGA is not an endorsement of the organization receiving the charter, its membership, or its beliefs held in common.

F. REVOKING A CHARTER

An organization's charter may be revoked if two-thirds of the Senate determines that the organization:

1. Has continually failed to fulfill its purpose within the Davidson College community despite persistent warnings and assistance from the Charters and Bylaws Committee;
2. Has violated the anti-discrimination policy;
3. Has engaged in unethical conduct; or
4. Has violated other rules outlined by these bylaws.

X. SGA Finances

A. STUDENT FEES ALLOCATION

1. Organizations desiring funds from the Student Activities Tax Council must submit a line-item financial record from the previous year and a proposed budget for the following year to the ATC by March 25. The fiscal year for organizations receiving funds from the ATC is from the first day of freshmen orientation in the fall through the day before freshmen orientation the next fall. The ATC must announce the allocations for the coming year by April 15.
2. First year organizations may request up to by no more than \$350.00.
3. In the event that all money is not allocated from the student activities tax, chartered organizations can apply for extra funds the following school year according to the guidelines set by the ATC.

4. The allocations of the ATC take effect through a majority vote of the Senate present and voting. If a majority is not achieved, then the ATC must reconvene and revise the allocations according to the will of the Senate.

B. SGA FUNDS

1. Only the SGA Senate may disburse funds from the SGA Treasury. Funds may only be used in accordance with their appropriation.
2. Any SEC member may disburse up to \$50.00 from the SGA Treasury without prior approval from the Senate but with the consent of the Treasurer. The Senate must be informed of all such emergency allocations at the next meeting.

C. RECORDS

1. The financial records of the Senate, the campus organization tax account, and the Union Board are open to inspection by members of the student body and the College Business Office during reasonable hours. These records must be audited at the end of each fiscal year at the direction of the college treasurer.
2. The SGA Treasurer maintains all financial records of the SGA.

XI. Adoption, Amendment, and Referendum

A. ADOPTION

These bylaws will be adopted in the following manner:

1. They are considered approved by the Senate upon a two-thirds vote of its entire voting membership in a roll call vote.
2. Next, they are considered approved by the student body upon a majority vote of those voting in an SGA referendum. This referendum will be held not less than five and no more than fourteen days following final Senate approval of these bylaws.
3. Next, these bylaws are considered approved by the Trustees of Davidson College when accepted in a manner pursuant to these bylaws.
4. Prior to implementation, these bylaws, as approved by the Trustees, must be ratified by a two-thirds vote of the entire Senate.
5. These SGA Bylaws take effect simultaneously with the Davidson College Constitution, at a time directed by the Trustees of Davidson College. Adoption of these bylaws constitutes a repeal of any previous SGA Constitution and Bylaws.

B. AMENDMENT

1. The process for amending these bylaws may be initiated by (i) a referendum triggered through a written petition signed by either ten percent of the student body and presented to the SGA Chancellor or a majority of the Senate present and voting

- or (ii) a formal proposal presented during a regular meeting and voted upon at the next regular meeting.
- a. In an instance where a referendum is required, the student body must vote no fewer than five and no more than fourteen days following the receipt of the petition or the vote of the Senate as outlined in XI.B.
 - b. An amendment proposed for adoption by the Senate required the approval of two-thirds of all voting members of the Senate for final passage.
2. Unless specifically designated otherwise, amendments take effect the day after adoption.
 3. These bylaws must, in every case, be consistent with the Davidson College Constitution, the Trustee Bylaws, and the Faculty Bylaws. Amendments to these bylaws are subject to trustee approval.

C. REFERENDUM

1. Upon written petition signed by ten percent of the student body and delivered to the SGA President, or upon a majority vote from the Senate, the Elections Council will conduct an SGA referendum on any matter. A majority vote of those voting is sufficient to pass an issue in referendum.
2. In addition, the student body may nullify any act of the Senate by a two-thirds vote in the referendum.
3. Any referendum will be held no fewer than five and no more than fourteen days after the president's receipt of a petition or after a Senate vote.