Constitution
of the Undergraduate Student Government
of The Ohio State University

Preamble

Wherein students have both the right and the obligation to guide their university, and in the belief that a democratic student government is the best manner through which these are fulfilled, we, the undergraduate students of The Ohio State University, hereby create this government to be called the Undergraduate Student Government of The Ohio State University. With authority derived from the undergraduate student body and existence recognized by the faculty and administration of this university, this student government shall dedicate itself to the betterment of higher education and student life. It shall be accessible to undergraduate students while being attentive to and a voice for undergraduate concerns.

We recognize that certain statutes of the Ohio Revised Code and bylaws of The Ohio State University Board of Trustees govern the administration of The Ohio State University and delineate responsibility and authority in the area of student affairs. Accordingly, we recognize our freedoms with respect to these existing statutes, summarized as follows:

1. The government of The Ohio State University is vested in the OSU Board of Trustees, which may adopt bylaws, rules, and regulations for the governance of the university. The Board of Trustees of any university that receives any state funds in support thereof shall have full power and authority on all matters relative to the administration of said university, as per Ohio Revised Code Statutes 3335.02, 3335.03, and 3335.08 pertaining to The Ohio State University.

2. “Detailed rules and regulations for the organization, administration, and operation of the university may be promulgated, amended, and repealed by the Board of Trustees upon its own initiative or upon recommendation of the university faculty or the Faculty Council” (Section 3335-1-09, Subsection A. of the bylaws of the Ohio State University Board of Trustees).

3. The Ohio State University Board of Trustees is subject to all laws that govern the State of Ohio. Article 1, Section 11 of the Constitution of the State of Ohio provides that "every citizen may freely speak, write, and publish his sentiments on all subjects, being responsible for the abuse of the right."

This government shall be comprised of a unicameral legislature, an executive, and a judiciary, granted their respective powers and responsibilities enumerated herein:
Article I: The Legislative Branch

A. The General Assembly

1. The General Assembly shall serve as the undergraduate student body’s representative and legislative body made up of elected Senators and presidentially appointed Directors.
   a. Every College with an Undergraduate major must have representation in the General Assembly.
   b. Every Living Area must have at least one General Assembly seat on the General Assembly.
   c. The General Assembly reserves the right to add or subtract other constituencies as it sees fit.
   d. The President shall appoint up to nine (9) Directors to sit on the General Assembly.

2. Membership on the General Assembly.
   a. Senators within the General Assembly shall be elected annually by undergraduate students in their respective constituencies,
   b. Cabinet Directors within the General Assembly shall be appointed annually by the President.
   c. A member elected or appointed to the General Assembly shall serve for one year unless they resign or are impeached.
   d. Senators of the General Assembly shall serve as the chief spokespersons and representatives for the undergraduates of their constituencies.
   e. Senators of the General Assembly shall remain accessible and accountable to their constituencies.

3. Powers of the General Assembly
   a. The General Assembly shall retain the sole authority to create, evaluate, and amend bylaws of the Undergraduate Student Government.
      i. Bylaws may not conflict with this Constitution, the University Code of Student Conduct, or any other relevant rules and regulations.
      ii. Bylaws shall become effective when they are passed by the General Assembly and signed by the President and shall remain in effect until they are amended or eliminated.
      iii. All members of Undergraduate Student Government and all candidates in an Undergraduate Student Government general election are bound by any bylaws of the Undergraduate Student Government.
      iv. Bylaws may be created or amended with a two-thirds vote of members present
   b. The General Assembly may override a presidential veto with a two-thirds vote of members present.
   c. The General Assembly shall retain the exclusive authority to censure or impeach any member of the Undergraduate Student Government.
      i. Censure shall require a two-thirds vote of members present.
      ii. Initiation of impeachment proceedings requires a simple majority vote of members present and may only be considered at a general meeting of the General Assembly.
iii. Impeachment shall require a hearing in front of a general meeting of the General Assembly.
iv. Impeachment shall require a two-thirds vote of members of the General Assembly present.
v. The Vice President shall be required to invite the candidate for impeachment to attend the hearing.
vi. The Chief Justice of the Judicial Panel shall preside over all impeachment or censure proceedings.
d. The General Assembly may regulate its membership in any reasonable manner.
e. The General Assembly may legislate opinion on behalf of the Undergraduate Student Government, subject to approval of the President.
i. The President may veto said opinion, in which case it is solely the opinion of the General Assembly.
ii. Should the General Assembly override the Presidential veto, the opinion shall be that of the entire Undergraduate Student Government.

4. Responsibilities of the General Assembly
   a. The General Assembly shall retain the sole authority to create, evaluate, and amend legislation of the Undergraduate Student Government, with exceptions granted herein.
      i. Legislation shall expire at the end of the General Assembly term in which it is enacted, unless otherwise specified.
      ii. Legislation may not conflict with this Constitution, the University Code of Student Conduct, or any other relevant rules and regulations.
      iii. All members of Undergraduate Student Government are bound by enacted legislation.
      iv. Legislation requires a simple majority vote of members of General Assembly present to be passed, except in cases enumerated herein.
   b. The General Assembly shall hold final authority to allocate Undergraduate Student Government funds.
   c. The General Assembly shall approve the organization's budget by a 2/3 vote of the members present.
   d. The General Assembly shall have an Allocations Committee.
   e. Legislative powers not enumerated in this article shall be reserved by the General Assembly.

Article II: The Executive Branch
A. The President
   1. The President shall serve as the chief executive of the Undergraduate Student Government and spokesperson of the undergraduate student body.
   2. The President shall be elected annually by the undergraduate student body for a term of one year.
   3. The President shall have the following powers:
      a. Sign or veto approved General Assembly legislation within one academic week of its passage.
         i. Signed legislation is enacted.
         ii. Vetoed legislation is not enacted, unless over-ridden by the General Assembly.
iii. Legislation neither signed nor vetoed within one academic week of passage shall be considered enacted.

iv. Elections bylaws, elections, appointments, and disciplinary action are not subject to presidential veto.

b. Appoint an Executive Cabinet to act as an extension of Executive authority.
   i. The General Assembly may abolish a cabinet office with a two-thirds vote.
   ii. Nominations by the President shall be confirmed or rejected by the sitting members of the General Assembly. Confirmation shall require a two-thirds vote.
   iii. The President may appoint no more than nine (9) Directors to the Executive Cabinet
   iv. After approval by the General Assembly, the members of the Executive Cabinet shall become full members of the General Assembly.

c. Appoint an Operations Team to assist with management of the Undergraduate Student Government
   i. The Operations Team may consist of the following positions
      (1) Chief of Staff
      (2) Deputy Chief of Staff
      (3) Counselor to the President and Vice President
      (4) Chief Financial Officer
      (5) Marketing Director
      (6) USG Interns Director
   ii. All members of the Operations Team shall serve at the discretion if the President.
   iii. The Operations Team shall be confirmed or rejected by the General Assembly. Confirmation shall require a two-thirds vote.
   iv. The President may add additional members to the Operations Team with consent of two-thirds of the General Assembly.
   v. Exercise powers of speech and debate in general Assembly meetings only with the consent of and at the discretion of the Vice President or when directly questioned.

4. The President shall have the following responsibilities:
   a. Attend general meetings of the General Assembly.
   b. Submit, in the form of legislation, executive appointments to the General Assembly for approval.
   c. Submit, in the form of legislation, a budget and budget structure to the General Assembly for approval by the end of the semester in which the President is elected.
   d. Ensure that an Executive Report is given at every General Assembly meeting.
   e. Ensure that all enacted legislation is carried out.
   f. Ensure that all Judicial Panel rulings are enforced.

B. The Vice President
   1. The Vice President shall be elected jointly with the President.
   2. The Vice President shall serve as the presiding officer of the General Assembly.
3. The Vice President shall have the following responsibilities:
   a. Cast a tie-breaking vote in the General Assembly.
   b. Attend all meetings of the Assembly.
      i. For the purposes of quorum, the Vice President shall not count as a
         member of the General Assembly.
   c. Nominate candidates for executive appointments not filled by the President.
   d. Nominations by the Vice President shall be confirmed or rejected by the
      General Assembly. Confirmation shall require a two-thirds vote.
   e. The Vice President shall be responsible for making appointments to all
      University committees to which the Undergraduate Student Government has
      representation.
      i. Nominations by the Vice President shall be confirmed or rejected by
         the General Assembly. Confirmation shall require a two-thirds vote.

C. The President and Vice President retain all powers necessary and proper to carry out the
   duties of their offices.

Article III: The Judicial Branch

A. The Undergraduate Student Government Judicial Panel
   1. The Undergraduate Student Government Judicial Panel shall serve as the
      organization's judicial branch, with original jurisdiction over all alleged violations
      of this Constitution and rules extending thereof.
   2. The Judicial Panel shall be composed of at least six but no more than nine justices
      elected by the student body
      a. Justices shall serve until the termination of their enrollment as an
         undergraduate student, resignation, or impeachment.
      b. It is the Executive Branch’s responsibility to ensure that the Judicial Panel is
         fully staffed.
      c. Justices shall be elected by a majority of the student body
         i. All Judicial Panel candidates shall run for office independently of any
            other candidates.
         ii. Any vacancy on the Judicial Panel shall be filled through appointment
             by the Executive Branch and confirmed by two thirds of the General
             Assembly
             (1) Appointed justices serve until the next Undergraduate Student
                 Government general election.
             (2) Appointed justices may not have been an elected or appointed
                 member of Undergraduate Student Government in the previous
                 academic year.
   3. The Judicial Panel shall have sole jurisdiction of amending the Undergraduate
      Student Government Elections Bylaws and Procedures.
   4. The Chief Justice of the Judicial Panel shall be selected by the justices in a
      accordance with the Undergraduate Student Government Judicial Panel Standing
      Rules and shall serve as Chief Justice until the termination of his or her undergraduate
      enrollment, resignation, or impeachment.
      a. In the event that the Chief Justice vacates his or her office, the justices shall
         select a new Chief Justice immediately.
5. Judicial Panel Justices shall participate in a training session sponsored by the Office of Student Life before participating in any hearings.

6. The Judicial Panel shall select at least one and no more than three Clerks.
   a. The responsibilities of the Clerk(s) of Court include those listed in this Constitution and any others enumerated in the standing rules of the Judicial Panel.
      i. The Judicial Panel Clerk(s) shall advise justices prior to a hearing about the details of the pending hearing.
      ii. The Judicial Panel Clerk(s) shall maintain the Judicial Panel’s records in good working order.
      iii. At least one Judicial Panel Clerk must be present at each Judicial Panel hearing.

7. At the beginning of every General Assembly term, the Chief Justice shall submit the Judicial Panel’s Standing Rules to the General Assembly in the form of legislation.
   a. Approval requires a simple majority of members of General Assembly present.
   b. The Judicial Panel’s Standing Rules must be in accordance with this Constitution and any Bylaws.

8. The Judicial Panel shall act as the oversight authority for the Undergraduate Student Government general elections.
   a. The Judicial Panel shall have the responsibility of ensuring the overall operation of fair, valid, and nondiscriminatory elections.
   b. The Judicial Panel shall maintain the Undergraduate Student Government Elections Bylaws.
      i. At the beginning of every General Assembly term, the Chief Justice shall submit the Undergraduate Student Government Elections Bylaws to the General Assembly in the form of legislation.
         (1) Approval requires a simple majority of members of General Assembly present.
         (2) The General Assembly may suggest changes but may not directly amend the Undergraduate Student Government Elections Bylaws
      ii. The Undergraduate Student Government Elections Bylaws must be in accordance with this Constitution.

9. Any undergraduate student may file a claim with a Clerk of Court.
   a. This claim must state the violation, the petitioner’s reasoning, and the persons who committed the violation.
   b. Claims may be brought against the Undergraduate Student Government as a whole. In such cases, the President shall be the respondent.
   c. The Chief Justice and four Associate Justices shall hear initial claims.
      i. A Justice shall recuse himself or herself from serving on a Judicial Panel proceeding in any cases in which a conflict of interest arises.
   d. Every claim is guaranteed a fair and speedy hearing in which the parties to the claim may appear.
   e. Parties to a claim may appeal rulings on their initial claim.
i. Appeals must be filed with a Clerk of Court.
ii. Appeals shall be heard by five people:
   (1) Three Associate Justices who did not hear the original claim
   (2) The Chief Justice, who shall not vote on the appeal.
   (3) A representative from the Office of Student Life, who shall not vote on the appeal.

10. The Judicial Panel will render a decision on any claim or appeal within one academic week of the hearing. Decisions must include some combination of the following:
   a. A ruling affirming one or more violations.
   b. A ruling that no violation has occurred.
   c. A recommendation that another body hear the claim.
   d. An order to one or more members of the Undergraduate Student Government or a candidate in an Undergraduate Student Government general election to comply with or execute existing constitutional or statutory obligations.
   e. Disciplinary action requiring the completion of community service as a condition for continued membership in the Undergraduate Student Government.
   f. Disciplinary action resulting in the disqualification of one or more candidates for an elections violation claim.
   g. A ruling that results in the voiding of some action taken by the Undergraduate Student Government.
   h. A ruling that results in the nullification of an action or piece of legislation of Undergraduate Student Government.
   i. A ruling that results in some action not listed in this Constitution.
   j. These rulings must be made in consultation with an ex-officio representative from the Office of Student Life.

11. All Judicial Panel decisions must consider constitutional provisions, statutory text, and past precedent.

12. The Judicial Panel shall issue a majority opinion to be included in its written records and circulated to each party after a ruling has been made on the claim or appeal.
   a. Hard copies of majority opinions shall contain the signature of the Chief Justice.

Article IV: Membership
A. Any undergraduate student may have the ability to actively participate in the Undergraduate Student Government.
B. The Undergraduate Student Government shall have up to nine (9) Undergraduate Student Government Committees
   1. The Undergraduate Student Government shall maintain the following standing Undergraduate Student Government Committees:
      a. Academic Affairs
      b. Diversity and Inclusion
      c. Governmental Affairs
d. Health and Safety

e. Internal Affairs

f. Sustainability and Environmental Affairs

g. Student Affairs

2. The President may appoint a Cabinet Director for up to two ad hoc Undergraduate Student Government Committees

C. Cabinet Directors, appointed by the President and serving in the General Assembly shall lead Undergraduate Student Government Committees.

1. Elected Senators shall serve on at least one (1) Undergraduate Student Government Committee

D. Members of the Judicial Panel and their clerks may not be affiliated with Undergraduate Student Government in any way other than their constitutional role.

E. Members of the Judicial Panel and their clerks may not be candidates in an Undergraduate Student Government general election.

F. Members of the Judicial Panel and their clerks may not be considered for any other position in Undergraduate Student Government.

Article V: Regional Campuses

A. Regional campuses shall be guaranteed representation in the Undergraduate Student Government.

Article VI: Oath of Office

A. The Oath of Office for the President, Vice President, Senators and Cabinet Directors shall be:

1. I promise to faithfully uphold the Constitution of the Undergraduate Student Government of The Ohio State University and to defend the rights of each individual student to the best of my ability.

B. The Oath of Office for Justices of the Undergraduate Student Government Judicial Panel shall be:

1. I promise to faithfully execute the office of Undergraduate Student Government Judicial Panel Justice and to render fair, impartial decisions based on evidence presented.

C. The Oath of Office for the Clerks for the Undergraduate Student Government Judicial Panel shall be:

1. Government of The Ohio State University and execute all of my duties, outlined herein, to the best of my ability. I further promise to remain independent in the execution of said duties.

Article VII: Amendment Procedure

A. This constitution can only be amended by passage of a referendum on the official Undergraduate Student Government annual ballot except in cases listed herein.

1. A referendum is defined as a proposed change to the Constitution placed on the ballot.

2. A referendum can be placed on the ballot by resolution through the General Assembly

   a. The resolution must be approved by the General Assembly with a two-thirds majority at least five weeks before the annual election.

3. An undergraduate student may place a referendum on the ballot via petition

   a. An undergraduate student must collect a petition containing valid undergraduate student signatures amounting to at least twenty-five (25)
percent of the number of undergraduate students who voted in the previous Undergraduate Student Government general election.

4. The proposed amendment shall become part of this Constitution if approved by two-thirds of the students voting in the election in which the amendment initiative appears.

5. Proposed changes take effect for the Undergraduate Student government term in the year following adoption.

6. Should any referenda be in conflict with one another and both pass during the Undergraduate Student Government general election, the General Assembly shall vote to adopt one (1) by a majority vote of all members of General Assembly.

B. In years ending with two (2) or seven (7) or prematurely under special circumstances, a Constitutional Bylaw and Review Commission shall be formed.

1. The Constitution and Bylaws and Review Commission must consist of members of the General Assembly and Executive Cabinet. There also must be one member who is not and has never been associated with Undergraduate Student Government.
   a. The members shall be appointed by the Vice President and confirmed by the General Assembly.

2. The Constitutional Bylaw and Review Commission shall conduct an in-depth review of the Undergraduate Student Government Constitution, the Undergraduate Student Government Bylaws, and the Undergraduate Student Government Elections Bylaws.

3. After completing its review, the Constitutional Bylaw and Review Commission may propose any changes it sees fit to the Undergraduate Student Government Constitution, the Undergraduate Student Government Bylaws, or the Undergraduate Student Government Elections Bylaws.
   a. Any changes proposed must be formalized at least five weeks before the Undergraduate Student Government general election to be placed on the annual ballot.
   b. Proposed changes are adopted if approved by two-thirds of the students voting in the election in which the proposed changes appear.
   c. Proposed changes take effect for the Undergraduate Student government term in the year following adoption.
   d. Members may not hold elected or appointed Undergraduate Student Government office once any proposed changes take effect

4. If a special circumstance is to occur, the Constitution and Bylaws and Review Commission may be established via legislation proposed either by the President or a member of the General Assembly.
   a. The Constitution and Bylaws and Review Commission may only be prematurely established with a two-thirds majority of members of the General Assembly.

C. The General Assembly may make technical changes to this Constitution by a two-thirds vote of members of General Assembly, limited to spelling, grammatical, and formatting errors.

D. In the case of a change to University rules or regulations with which this Constitution is in conflict, the General Assembly may amend this Constitution to conform only to said changes by a vote of three-fourths of all members of General Assembly.

**Article VIII: Succession of Office**

A. Succession for the Office of President shall be in the following order:
1. Vice President
2. A member of the General Assembly chosen by a two-thirds vote of members of the General Assembly present.

B. If the Office of Vice President is vacant, the President shall nominate a new Vice President to be confirmed or rejected by the General Assembly.
   1. Confirmation requires a two-thirds vote of members of General Assembly present.

**Article IX: Records**
A. Each branch of the Undergraduate Student Government and its Independent Officers must keep complete, permanent, and written records.
B. Records of the Undergraduate Student Government shall be kept together in a single location.

**Article X: Nondiscrimination Policy**
A. The Undergraduate Student Government and its members shall not discriminate against any individual(s) for reasons of age, color, disability, gender identity or expression, national origin race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or veteran status.
Organizational Bylaws
of the Undergraduate Student Government
of The Ohio State University

Article I: The Assembly
A. The General Assembly
   1. Assembly Constituency
      a. Composition beginning with the election for the 44th Undergraduate Student
         Government Assembly
         i. The Undergraduate Student Government Assembly shall be composed
            of the following General Assembly constituency seats:
           (1) College of the Arts and Sciences – Arts and Humanities - 2 seats
           (2) College of the Arts and Sciences – Natural and Mathematical
                Sciences - 3 seats
           (3) College of the Arts and Sciences – Social and Behavioral
                Sciences - 4 Seats
           (4) College of Business - 3 seats
           (5) College of Dentistry, Medicine, Nursing, and Pharmacy - 2 seats
           (6) College of Education & Human Ecology - 2 seats
           (7) College of Engineering - 3 seats
           (8) College of Food, Agricultural and Environmental Sciences - 1 seat
           (9) College of Social Work - 1 seat
           (10) John Glenn School of Public Affairs - 1 seat
           (11) Exploration - 1 seat
           (12) North Campus Living Area - 2 seats
           (13) Off-Campus and Commuter Living Area - 4 seats
           (14) South Campus Living Area - 2 seats
           (15) West Campus Living Area - 1 seat
         ii. Emissaries
             (1) The regional campuses shall have one Regional Campus
                 Emissary seat in the Undergraduate Student Government
                 Assembly:
                 (a) Emissaries shall be elected in the same manner as
                     Senators.
                 (b) Emissaries shall retain full rights of speech and debate
                     in the Assembly.
                 (c) Emissaries may not vote on or sponsor bills, but may
                     vote on and sponsor resolutions.
                 (d) Emissaries may vote for and run for Undergraduate
                     Student Government Assembly Offices.
(e) If Emissaries choose to serve on a standing Undergraduate Student Government Assembly committee, they shall be held to the same attendance standards as Senators. Emissaries shall retain full speech, debate, and voting privileges in committee.

iii. The Undergraduate Student Trustee
   (1) The Undergraduate Student Trustee acts as an ex-officio non-voting member of the Undergraduate Student Government Assembly.
   (2) The Undergraduate Student Trustee serves for the duration of their trusteeship.
   (3) The Undergraduate Student Trustee shall retain full rights of speech and debate in the Assembly and in all standing Assembly Committees.
   (4) The Undergraduate Student Trustee may not vote on or sponsor bills or resolutions.
   (5) The Undergraduate Student Trustee may not vote for or run for Undergraduate Student Government Assembly Officers.

B. Assembly Officers
   1. There shall be three (3) Assembly officers.
      a. The Vice-President, who shall also serve as the Chair of the Assembly, is responsible for the following, in addition to his or her constitutionally mandated responsibilities:
         i. Chair all Undergraduate Student Government general Assembly meetings.
         ii. Chair the Undergraduate Student Government Assembly Steering Committee.
         iii. Serve as the Undergraduate Student Government Assembly’s chief spokesperson.
         iv. Serve as liaison to the Executive Branch.
         v. Advise the vice-President on University Committee and University Assembly Committee appointments.
         vi. Give legislation to the President within twenty-four (24) hours of passage by the Assembly.
         vii. Coordinate undergraduate efforts in University General Assembly.
         viii. Make regular reports to the Assembly about the business of the University General Assembly.
         ix. Coordinate the transition into the next session of Assembly.
         x. Request a report from the Undergraduate Student Trustee once per quarter.
         xi. Monitor the attendance of members of Undergraduate Student Government appointed to the University General Assembly.
      b. The Assembly Parliamentarian shall:
         i. Preside as Chair of Assembly meetings in the absence of the Vice-President.
ii. Interpret for the Assembly the Undergraduate Student Government Constitution, Undergraduate Student Government Organizational Bylaws, and Undergraduate Student Government Standing Rules of the Assembly, and shall advise the Vice-President on any relevant or applicable rules pertaining to the administration of the duties of the Vice-President.

iii. Interpret all legislation, pending or passed, for the Assembly and aid the Vice-President in acting in accordance with all procedures, rules and legislation of the Assembly.

iv. Update all governing documents after amendment and shall notify the Assembly of any changes to these documents.

v. Advise members of the Undergraduate Student Government when:

1. Pending legislation would overturn, nullify, or not comply with existing legislation or the Undergraduate Student Government governing documents.
2. Mandated actions from governing documents, passed legislation or by nature of office are required.
3. Violation of the Undergraduate Student Government governing documents or passed legislation has occurred; recommended corrective action where necessary.

c. The Secretary of the Assembly shall have the following responsibilities:

i. Provide the minutes of the previous meeting to all members of Assembly no less than twenty-four (24) hours prior to the commencement of an Undergraduate Student Government general Assembly meeting.

1. An extension of that deadline, of any length, may be granted by the Undergraduate Student Government Assembly Steering Committee.

ii. Take attendance at Undergraduate Student Government general Assembly meetings.

iii. Take all minutes of Undergraduate Student Government general Assembly meetings and submit said minutes for the Undergraduate Student Government Assembly’s approval.

iv. Maintain and collect all Undergraduate Student Government Assembly records.

v. Distribute all legislation to appropriate University offices and constituencies.

vi. Shall keep all records of quarterly constituency-related organization meetings by each member of the Assembly, and shall report them to the Vice-President.

vii. Report all members of Assembly who fail to meet constituency related organization outreach requirement to the Vice-President.

viii. Report to the Undergraduate Student Government Treasurer all bills passed by the Assembly within one (1) week of passage.

C. Constituency Outreach
1. Every member of Assembly must attend events pertaining to their constituency as a delegate of the Undergraduate Student Government Assembly to participate in discussion of issues affecting the constituency.
   a. All constituency outreach events must be based around current service in the Assembly and may not be campaign-related events or meetings.
   b. Requirements for constituency events for Emissaries and Commuter Senators may be appealed at the discretion of the Vice-President.
2. Every member of Assembly must attend meetings with administrators directly to their constituency as a delegate of the Undergraduate Student Government Assembly to participate in discussion of issues affecting the constituency.
   a. All meetings must be based around current service in the Assembly and may not be campaign-related events or meetings.
   b. Requirements for meetings for Emissaries and Commuter Senators may be appealed at the discretion of the Vice-President.
3. Every member of the Assembly shall report all events and meetings to the Secretary of the Assembly.
   a. Each report shall detail the makeup of the organization or constituency event, the topics of discussion, the date on which the event occurred, and the contact information for the primary leader of the group.
   b. The same organization or constituency event may be visited multiple times per Senatorial term.
      i. The same organization or constituency event may not be submitted for consecutive reports.
   c. Reports shall be submitted by the following dates and shall reflect events attended during the time period that has elapsed between assumption of office or the prior submission deadline:
      i. Wednesday of the 5th week of Autumn Quarter
      ii. Wednesday of the 10th week of Autumn Quarter
      iii. Wednesday of the 5th week of Winter Quarter
      iv. Wednesday of the 10th week of Winter Quarter
      v. Wednesday of the 9th week of Spring Quarter

D. Legislation
1. Any legislation that deals with the allocation or expenditure of funds shall be labeled a bill.
2. Any other legislation shall be labeled a resolution.
3. All legislation shall be referred to a Undergraduate Student Government committee unless Assembly votes to bring it directly to the Assembly as new business by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of members present.

E. University General Assembly
1. Membership
   a. The Undergraduate Student Government shall fill seats in the University General Assembly pursuant to University Rules. Seats shall be determined by the Vice-President of the Undergraduate Student Government, and shall be assigned as follows, in decreasing order, until all seats are filled:
i. The Vice President of the Undergraduate Student Government shall hold a seat in the University General Assembly, with full speaking and voting rights.

ii. All members of the Undergraduate Student Government Assembly Steering Committee shall hold seats in the University General Assembly.

iii. All Undergraduate Student Government Senators shall have the option of holding a seat.

iv. All Undergraduate Student Government Directors shall have the option of holding a seat.

v. Emissaries shall have the option of holding a seat.

vi. Any remaining seats may be filled by any registered undergraduate student.

b. All initial appointments to the University General Assembly shall be submitted for approval by the second week of the Session.

   i. Confirmation shall require a two-thirds (2/3) vote of members present.

   ii. Should a vacancy occur, the Vice-President must submit a new appointment within two (2) weeks.

c. Representatives of the Undergraduate Student Government who sit concurrently on the University General Assembly shall be held to the same standards of attendance and decorum set forth in the Assembly Standing Rules and these bylaws on the floor of the University Assembly.

2. University General Assembly Committee Representatives

   a. All initial appointments to University General Assembly Committees shall be submitted for approval by the second week of Autumn Quarter.

      i. Should a vacancy occur, the Vice-President must submit a new appointment within three (3) weeks of the vacancy occurring.

   b. All University General Assembly Committee appointees are required to submit an annual report to the Vice-President by the penultimate regularly scheduled general Assembly meeting detailing the business conducted by the committee on which he or she has served during the session and any initiatives he or she undertook, including their current status.

F. Impeachment, Censure and Resignation

1. Censure shall be defined as the formal condemnation of a member of the Undergraduate Student Government.

   a. Censure shall only be imposed at general meetings of the Assembly.

   b. Motions for censure shall be initiated by resolution. Those subject to censure must be notified at least seventy-two (72) hours prior to any vote on the resolution of his or her censure.

   c. Those subject to censure shall be permitted to speak before the Assembly in rebuttal to any charges brought against them.

2. Impeachment shall be defined as the initiation of, inquiry into, and arbitration of formal charges against a member of the Undergraduate Student Government.

   a. Grounds for impeachment shall be in accordance with the most recent version of Roberts Rules of Order.
b. Proceedings shall be initiated by resolution. Those subject to impeachment shall be notified at least seventy-two (72) hours prior to any vote on the resolution of his or her impeachment.

c. Impeachment proceedings shall be conducted in general meetings of the Assembly.
   i. The Vice-President may not chair his or her own impeachment.

3. Any Undergraduate Student Government member who resigns shall do so with a written resignation.
   a. Appointed members of Undergraduate Student Government shall submit their resignations to the office or body who appointed them.
   b. Members of Assembly shall submit their resignation to the Vice-President.
   c. The Vice-President shall submit his or her resignation to the President and the Secretary of the Assembly.
   d. The President shall submit his or her resignation to the Vice-President.
   e. The Vice-President shall submit his or her resignation to the President and the Parliamentarian.

4. If any member of the Undergraduate Student Government is no longer an enrolled undergraduate in good standing during Autumn or Spring Semesters, that individual forfeits his or her office.

G. Removal by Cause of the Vice-President, Attendance Policy

1. Any member of the Assembly may be removed from the Undergraduate Student Government Assembly for cause by the Vice-President.
   a. The Vice-President shall immediately inform the Secretary and Parliamentarian of all removals from Assembly.
   b. Any member removed by Cause of the Vice-President shall be notified immediately and may appeal the removal at the next regular Assembly meeting.
      i. A member removed may be reinstated in Assembly by a two-thirds vote of members present.

2. The grounds for removal shall be:
   a. Poor Attendance, described as one of the following:
      i. Six (6) unexcused absences from either General Assembly Meetings or Committee Meetings without sending an alternate (not inclusive of emergency or special meetings called), per Assembly session or four (4) unexcused absences per semester, whichever comes first.
   b. Failure to meet responsibilities of a Member of Assembly
      i. Failure to report two (2) constituency event and meeting reports to the Secretary of the Assembly.
      ii. Failure to submit one (1) constituency report to the Secretary of the Assembly in one (1) semester.

H. Senatorial Alternates

1. Members of the Assembly shall have an acceptable alternate.
   a. The following may not serve as acceptable alternates:
      i. Persons who are not undergraduates enrolled at The Ohio State University.
ii. Members of the Judicial branch of the Undergraduate Student Government.

2. Alternates must be sworn in before they are allowed to serve.

3. Alternates may be sent in the place of members of Assembly to:
   a. General Assembly meetings.
   b. Assembly Committee meetings.
   c. Undergraduate Student Government Commission meetings.

I. Undergraduate Student Government Committees

1. General Powers & Responsibilities of Undergraduate Student Government Issue Committees
   a. Undergraduate Student Government Committees shall be responsible for the consideration of all legislation referred to them by the Vice-President, and the preparation of all reports required by these Bylaws or deemed necessary at the discretion of the Chair.
   b. The primary sponsor of the legislation shall retain full speech and debate rights while the committee is considering their piece of legislation.
      i. In the event the sponsor is the chair of that committee they shall relinquish their role as chair while the resolution is being considered.
   c. All Undergraduate Student Government Committees shall be responsible for keeping their own Bylaws, subject to annual approval by the Assembly Steering Committee by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of members present.
   d. Committees must consider any legislation sent to them during the quarter in which it was sent.
   e. When legislation is passed out of a committee, the legislation shall be sent to the Assembly Steering Committee.
   f. Multiple Committees may be assigned to review any given legislation.
   g. Quorum and standard operating procedure for committee meetings shall be determined in each committee’s bylaws.
   h. All committees shall keep minutes of their meetings.

2. Membership of Committees
   a. Each member of Assembly shall be seated on at least one of the Undergraduate Student Government Committees within one (1) week of assuming their seat within the Assembly.
   b. The Vice-President, with ratification by a majority vote of members present of the Steering Committee and a majority vote of members present of the Assembly, shall appoint each member of the Assembly to an Undergraduate Student Government Committee.
   c. At no time shall any committee be comprised of less than three (3) members, not including the chair of that committees.

3. Issue Committee Chairs/Directors
   a. Committee Chairs, who shall also serve as Directors, shall be responsible for:
      i. Holding timely committee meetings.
      ii. Announcing committee meetings in the Assembly.
      iii. Reporting the business of their committee to the full body at the following Assembly Meeting.
iv. Deciding, in conjunction with the Steering Committee, the direction for their committee.

v. Appointing, with the approval of a majority of members of their committee present, a Secretary, from the membership of the committee, who shall record all minutes and file them with the Secretary of the Assembly after approval by the committee.

vi. Submitting a report at the conclusion of the current Assembly session. This report shall include:
   1. The business of the committee throughout the sessions.
   2. Current committee projects.

b. A Committee Chair’s term of office shall commence with his or her approval by the Assembly and end with the current Assembly session, or with their resignation or impeachment.

4. Issue Committee Vice-Chairs/Deputy Directors
   a. Deputy Directors, who shall also serve as Vice-Chairs, shall be responsible for:
      i. Aiding the Director of the Committee in pursuit of projects
      ii. Serving on the General Assembly Allocations Committee
   b. Deputy Directors shall be elected Senators chosen by the General Assembly

5. Standing Assembly Committees
   a. Steering Committee
      i. The Steering Committee shall be comprised of the Vice-President, the Assembly Parliamentarian, the Secretary of the Assembly, one (1) Director, and three (3) Deputy Directors, (1) Elections for the Steering Committee shall follow the elections of the Deputy Directors, and take place in the same manner as is laid out in the Standing Rules of the Assembly
      ii. The Steering Committee shall serve as an oversight committee of Standing Assembly Committees, ad hoc Assembly committees, and independent commissions.
      iii. The Steering Committee shall set the agenda for each general Assembly meeting by majority vote of members present.
         1. The Steering Committee may not change any legislation over which it does not have original jurisdiction.
         2. The Steering Committee may send back to a committee any legislation which warrants further review or is in conflict with the Constitution, these Bylaws, or the Standing Rules of the Assembly.
            a) The Steering Committee may not send legislation to any committee other than that from which it came.
         3. The Steering Committee may make editorial changes to legislation.
            a) Should editorial change(s) be made by the Steering Committee, the primary sponsor reserves the sole right to propose said editorial change(s) be restored to as they were before being changed by the Steering
Committee, by a simple majority vote of the Assembly members present.

iv. In the event of a tie vote in the Steering Committee, the issue shall be decided per the preference of the Vice-President.

v. The Steering Committee shall have original jurisdiction over all legislation that pertains to the structure of the Undergraduate Student Government.

(1) The Steering Committee shall evaluate the Assembly and its committees in order to recommend changes to the body when warranted.

(2) The Steering Committee shall proactively seek out methods to improve individual Senatorial accountability and efficiency.

vi. Any legislation that goes to the Steering committee must be placed on an Assembly Agenda in the quarter in which it was passed by the committee or commission from which it came.

vii. The Steering Committee may call additional meetings of the Assembly by a majority vote of the committee, with a twenty-four (24) hour notice given to members of Assembly.

b. Allocations Committee

i. The Allocations Committee shall be a standing committee of the General Assembly whose responsibilities and rules shall be detailed as Appropriations Procedures.

6. Undergraduate Student Government Issue Committees

a. Academic Affairs

i. The Committee on Academic Affairs shall have original jurisdiction over all legislation pertaining to academic issues within the university.

ii. The Committee on Academic Affairs shall seek out academic issues within the university that should be addressed by the Undergraduate Student Government and educate other members of the Assembly on those issues.

iii. The Committee on Academic Affairs shall only be comprised of Senators representing Colleges and Regional Campus Emissaries.

iv. The Committee on Academic Affairs shall make a good faith effort to meet regularly with the Undergraduate Student Government representative on the Council on Academic Affairs.

b. Diversity and Inclusion

i. The Committee on Diversity and Inclusion shall have original jurisdiction over all legislation pertaining to the implementation of the university nondiscrimination policy, matters related to the proper representation of and accommodation for protected classes and on-campus minorities, and recommend policies that foster an environment of civility, tolerance, and mutual respect.

ii. The Committee on Diversity and Inclusion shall be charged with the task of insuring that the way The Ohio State University implements diversity appropriately reflects the sentiment of the student body.
iii. The Committee on Diversity and Inclusion shall seek out and advocate for issues pertaining to underrepresented students and groups of the student body, with the intent of properly representing its diverse constituency.

iv. The Committee on Diversity and Inclusion shall make a good faith effort to meet regularly with the Undergraduate Student Government representative on the University Assembly Diversity Committee, student organizations that represent the mission of this committee, as well as with members of the Office of Diversity and Inclusion and the Office of Student Life Multicultural Center.

c. Governmental Affairs
   i. The Committee on Governmental Affairs shall have original jurisdiction over all legislation pertaining to:
      (1) Federal, state, or local governmental action that impacts students
      (2) The University’s interaction with entities outside of it
      (3) The Undergraduate Student Government’s interaction with other entities

d. Health and Safety
   i. The Committee on Health and Safety shall have original jurisdiction over all legislation pertaining to:
      (1) Promoting the physical and mental well-being of the student body
      (2) Advocating for the continuous implementation of safety measures throughout the University area
   ii. The Committee on Health and Safety shall make a good faith effort to meet regularly with the Wellness Center, OSU Police Department, and the Columbus Police Department to collaborate on projects to the betterment of the student body.

e. Internal Affairs
   i. The Committee on Internal Affairs shall work to recruit members to join the organization in whatever capacity it sees fit
   ii. The Committee on Internal Affairs shall also serve as the organization’s marketing

f. Student Affairs
   i. The Committee on Student Affairs shall have original jurisdiction over all legislation pertaining to non-academic student interaction with the university.
   ii. The Committee on Student Affairs shall seek out non-academic issues that should be addressed by the Undergraduate Student Government and shall educate other members of the Assembly about those issues.
   iii. The Committee on Student Affairs shall only be comprised of Living Area Senators and Emissaries not otherwise prohibited.
   iv. The committee on Student Affairs shall make a good faith effort to meet quarterly with student members of the University Committee on Student Life.
7. Ad hoc Assembly Committees
   a. The Assembly may create ad hoc committees to concentrate on specific issues of importance to undergraduate students.
   b. Assembly ad hoc committees shall be governed by a charter, evaluated by Steering and passed by the Assembly with a majority vote of members of Assembly present.
      i. Ad hoc Committees charters shall include the following:
         (1) The Committee’s purpose or objective.
         (2) The Committee’s organization, including but not limited to, its leadership.
         (3) The manner of selection of the chairperson of the committee.
         (4) Method(s) of voting and standing rules of the committee.
         (5) Other requirements imposed by the Assembly.
   c. Members shall be appointed via mechanisms established in the committee’s charter.
   d. An ad hoc committee may only be disbanded by a majority vote of members of the Assembly present.
   e. A final report must be presented to the Assembly within two (2) weeks of the committee’s disbandment, including but not limited to:
      i. Purpose of the committee.
      ii. Any conclusions drawn from the committee.
      iii. Any recommendations from the committee.
      iv. Any policy initiatives as a result of the committee and information about them including, if applicable, their vote counts in committee.
      v. Other information, as required per the committee’s charter.

8. Conference Committees
   a. A conference committee shall be called to order when legislation is assigned to multiple committees simultaneously and conflicting legislation has been passed by each of these committees.
      i. A “conflict” is defined as any differing point between committees’ passed version of given legislation.
      ii. If there are no conflicts between legislation passed by any committees, the legislation in question shall directly proceed to the Steering committee to be placed on the agenda.
   b. A conference committee shall include the Chair and Vice Chair of any committee that has evaluated the legislation in question.
   c. The Speaker of the Assembly shall chair any and all conference committees.
   d. Legislation shall pass from a conference committee by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of members present and shall proceed directly to the Steering committee to be placed on the agenda.

J. Transitions Between General Assembly Sessions
   1. General Assembly sessions shall commence on the sixth Wednesday of Spring Quarter.
   2. Last Regular General Assembly Meeting of each Session
a. The last regularly scheduled General Assembly meeting of each session must be attended by all members of the General Assembly, Senators-elect and Emissaries-elect for the next General Assembly session.
b. The Vice-President and Assembly Parliamentarian are responsible for listing and explaining all duties and responsibilities of all General Assembly Offices and Committees at the last regularly scheduled general meeting of the session.

3. Reports
   a. All members of General Assembly are required to submit an annual report to the Secretary of the Assembly by the penultimate regularly scheduled General Assembly meeting detailing the business conducted by him or her during the session and any initiatives he or she undertook, including their current status.

4. All Senators-elect and Emissaries-elect shall be provided with the following, by the last regularly scheduled General Assembly Meeting:
   a. A copy of the current Constitution, Bylaws, Elections Bylaws, and all enacted legislation that will still be in effect when they take office.
      i. These materials shall be provided

5. All Senators-elect and all Emissaries-elect must have read the Constitution and Bylaws of the Undergraduate Student Government before the first general meeting of the new General Assembly session.

K. Rules of Order
1. At all times, the General Assembly shall abide by the rules of order for parliamentary bodies contained in the most recent edition of Robert’s Revised Rules of Order, except when they are superseded by the Undergraduate Student Government General Assembly Standing Rules, these Bylaws, and the Undergraduate Student Government Constitution.
   a. Standing Rules of the Undergraduate Student Government General Assembly shall remain in effect in the same manner as the Undergraduate Student Government Constitution and Undergraduate Student Government Organizational Bylaws.
   b. Standing Rules of the Undergraduate Student Government General Assembly may in no way conflict with Undergraduate Student Government’s Bylaws or Constitution.
   c. No motion to amend shall be in order unless one or both of the following are true:
      i. The legislation is brought directly to the General Assembly floor by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of members present.
      ii. The legislation requires a two-thirds (2/3) vote of members present for its passage.
2. Any ruling on the Undergraduate Student Government Standing Rules may be initially appealed before the General Assembly and shall be overruled with a two-thirds (2/3) vote of members of General Assembly present.
3. Challenges to any ruling on the Undergraduate Student Government Constitution, Organizational Bylaws, or any legislation shall be made solely to the Undergraduate Student Government Judicial Panel.

Article III: Financial Procedures
A. Chief Financial Officer Reports
1. The Chief Financial Officer must submit a weekly, up-to-date, itemized report listing all expenditures to the President, Vice-President, and General Assembly.

2. The Chief Financial Officer’s weekly report must appear on the agenda for all General Assembly meetings.

B. Disbursement within the General Assembly

1. Should a member or committee of the General Assembly require funds less than one hundred (100) dollars to carry out any action necessary to his, her, or its basic function, then he, she, or the committee chair may request the disbursement of such funds.
   a. The Vice President and the Chief Financial Officer must approve the request.
   b. The funds shall not be used for any kind of transportation or lodging.

2. Should the request be for over one hundred (100) dollars, it must be submitted to the Allocations Committee in the form of a bill.

C. Undergraduate Student Government Treasurer

1. In addition to the duties mandated by the Undergraduate Student Government Constitution, the Chief Financial Officer of the Undergraduate Student Government shall:
   a. Serve as the Chair of the Allocations Committee
   b. Maintain records of all financial transactions.
   c. Work with the appropriate University Staff to process paperwork for transactions.
   d. Ensure that all members of Undergraduate Student Government submit proper paperwork for financial transactions.
   e. Provide financial records to the public when requested.

2. The Treasurer shall disperse all expenditures for a committee only from the funds of that committee unless otherwise authorized by the General Assembly.

D. Budget Submission

1. The first budget must be presented to the General Assembly in the agenda as new business at least two (2) General Assembly meetings before the last scheduled General Assembly meeting of the Spring Quarter.

2. All other budgets must be submitted to the General Assembly in the agenda as new business no later than the twenty-first day of the term to which the budget applies.

Article IV. Appropriations Procedures

A. The Executive Budget

1. The Executive portion of the budget consists of the sum of all committee budgets and the President’s budget.

2. Executive budgets must be line-itemed.

3. No portion of the Executive budget may be allocated to another student organization.

4. Only a certain proportion of the Executive budget may be miscellaneous or unallocated.
   a. No more than 7.5% of an Executive Cabinet Committee’s portion of the budget may be miscellaneous or unallocated.
   b. No more than 10% of the Executive portion of the budget may be unallocated.

B. The Allocations Committees

1. All allocations of the Undergraduate Student Government shall be administered by the Allocations Committee
2. The Chief Financial Officer shall serve as Chair of the Allocations Committee
   a. The Chair of the Allocations Committee shall be non-voting except in the case of a tie.
   b. The voting membership of the Allocations Committee shall consist of the deputy directors of USG Issue Committees.
3. The Allocations Committee shall review all budgets and grants proposed by members of the Executive, Legislative, or Judicial branches.
   a. The Allocations Committee shall create all bylaws and standing rules to govern their review process that shall be superseded by the Undergraduate Student Government Constitution, The Undergraduate Student Government Organizational Bylaws and the Standing Rules of the General Assembly.
4. A student organization may appeal to USG any denial of funding by the Allocations Committee.
   a. An appeal must be initiated within seven (7) days of a student organization’s receipt of the notice of denial.
   b. All such appeals should be directed in writing to the Chief Financial Officer, who will forward them on to the full Assembly for consideration.
   c. The General Assembly may overturn a decision of the Allocations Committee with two-thirds (2/3) vote of members present.

C. Student Organization Disbursements
1. Standard Funding Categories
   a. Events
      i. The funding limit for events is fifteen hundred (1500) dollars.
   b. Conferences
      i. The funding limit for conferences is fifteen hundred (1500) dollars.
   c. Trips
      i. The funding limit for trips is fifteen hundred (1500) dollars.
      ii. No funding for trips may exceed twenty-five (25) dollars per traveler.
2. USG Organizational Development Grants
   a. Organizational Development Grants are to be given to student organizations to help them develop their organization.
   b. Grants may be provided to organizations that have been founded or restarted within two (2) years of the application for a USG Organizational Development Grants.
   c. Organizations may apply for this grant at the beginning of a semester.
      i. The specific deadline is to set by the Allocations Committee.
      ii. Organizations may only receive one (1) grant.
   d. The grant shall be valued at two hundred fifty (250) dollars.
   e. Any further requirements for the grant and the application process shall be defined by the bylaws of the Allocations Committee.
3. Funding Deadlines
   a. Allocations requests shall be submitted to the Allocations Committee on a rolling basis.
4. All disbursements to a student organization outside the Undergraduate Student Government must be preceded by completion of the Undergraduate Student Government funding contract.
5. No funding shall be awarded retroactively.

Article V: Record Keeping
A. Student Organization Disbursements
   1. The Undergraduate Student Government shall keep the following records and shall post them on the Undergraduate Student Government website for public viewing:
      b. All legislation passed by the General Assembly, failed by the General Assembly, failed in Committee or vetoed by the President with the veto upheld, and vetoed by the President with the veto overridden.
         i. All legislation shall have clear indication of passage or failure in the General Assembly or Committee
         ii. All legislation shall have clear indication of signature or veto by the president.
         iii. All legislation shall have clear indication of veto override vote result if applicable.
      c. Agendas from all Undergraduate Student Government General Assembly meetings.
      d. Minutes from all Undergraduate Student Government General Assembly meetings.
      e. Minutes from all Undergraduate Student Government Issues committee meetings.
      f. Reports from all Undergraduate Student Government Issues committees.
      g. Reports from all Undergraduate Student Government Independent Commissions.
      h. Voting records for all members of the General Assembly on all votes when applicable.
      i. Attendance records from all Undergraduate Student Government General Assembly meetings and committee meetings.
      j. All constituency reports from individual members of the General Assembly.
      k. All budgetary information.
      l. Executive reports from the President and Vice President.
      m. Name, contact information, committee, and term expiration date for all University General Assembly Committee and University Committee appointees.
      n. Decisions of the Undergraduate Student Government Judicial Panel.
      o. Undergraduate Student Government election results.
   B. Records shall be archived at the conclusion of each General Assembly term by the Secretary of the General Assembly, Judicial Panel Clerk(s), the President or designee, and the Press Secretary.

Article VI: the Judicial Branch
A. Purpose
   1. The purpose of the judicial branch is to ensure that the bounds of the constitution are enforced, that the actions of the Undergraduate Student Government adhere to the bylaws, and to mediate in disputes regarding elections and campaigns. All judicial
proceedings shall be conducted in accordance with the procedures set forth in the Undergraduate Student Government Standing Rules of the Judicial Panel.

B. Rights

1. In judicial cases, the following rules apply to both parties.
   a. Either party shall be given 24 hours notice of his or her upcoming hearing.
   b. The defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty.
   c. The burden of proof is on the plaintiff.
   d. One person may be brought to trial to serve as the plaintiff or defendant’s legal counsel.
      i. Legal counsel must be a current undergraduate student of the Ohio State University.
      ii. Each party must notify the Clerk of Court when they have appointed legal counsel.
   e. Either party may question any and all witnesses called.
   f. All rights guaranteed to either party as students of The Ohio State University are applicable in judicial hearings.
   g. All parties retain the right to be present and to question any such witnesses called.

2. In judicial cases, the following rights apply specifically to the defendant:
   a. To stand trial against the plaintiff.
   b. To not be retried for an offense already heard by either the Undergraduate Student Government Judicial Branch or a higher court.
   c. To see all evidence and witness lists to be used against them in the hearing.
   d. Multiple defendants have the right to separate hearings.

3. In judicial cases, the following rights apply to all undergraduate students.
   a. To submit amicus curiae briefs.
Elections Bylaws
of the Undergraduate Student Government
of The Ohio State University

Article I: The Campaign Process
A. Candidate Eligibility
   1. To be a candidate for Undergraduate Student Government elections, one must be a
      registered undergraduate student at The Ohio State University and may not be on
      disciplinary or academic probation or warning from the time nominating petitions are
      approved and through the first day of the elected term.
   2. No candidate can have a pending application for graduation prior to the first day of
      the elected term.
   3. Candidates and candidate teams for office who wish to be placed on the official
      election ballot must collect the necessary number of signatures by the deadline set by
      the Undergraduate Student Government Judicial Panel.
   4. Candidates for the Offices of President and Vice President shall run in tandem.
   5. No candidate or candidate team can run concurrently for more than one elected
      position in any Undergraduate Student Government general election.
   6. All Living Area Senators must be students at The Ohio State University Columbus
      campus and live in the area that they represent at the beginning of the Autumn
      Quarter following the general election and must reside in that area for the remaining
      term of office.
      a. Off-campus area: University Village, all commercially-owned residences
         within the bounds of the Columbus Campus, and all residences within the area
         bounded by the Olentangy River and the NYC Railroad Tracks, from east to
         west, and Arcadia Avenue through West Dodridge Road and Fifth Avenue,
         from north to south, excluding all University Residence Halls.
      b. Commuter Area: All areas outside of the defined off-campus area.
      c. The North, South, and West Campus Living Areas exclusively consist of the
         residence halls designated by University Housing as being within the divisions
         “North,” “South,” or “West.”
   7. The Regional Campus Emissary must have attended a regional campus for one (1)
      full semester prior to his/her term of office and must have attended that regional
      campus within one (1) year of petition validation for the election cycle in which they
      are seeking election.
   8. A College or School Senator must be enrolled in the college that they are to represent
      at the time of petition validation and through his or her elected term.
      a. An Exploration Senator must be designated as “Exploration” by The Ohio
         State University at the time of petition validation and must have been an
         Exploration major for one (1) full semester prior to his or her term of office.
      b. A Continuing Education Senator must be designated as “Continuing
         Education” by The Ohio State University or have been previously designated
as “Continuing Education” by The Ohio State University for at least one (1) semester at the time of petition validation. A Continuing Education Senator may only serve for four (4) terms.

B. Petitions and Nominations

1. Submission Protocols
   a. All petitions to be submitted shall be subject to the rules and regulations stated in the Elections bylaws.
   b. Signatures contained within the petition must come from registered and active Ohio State University undergraduate students.
      i. The Judicial Panel shall verify and validate all petitions submitted.
      ii. Any unqualified signatures shall be rejected as invalid, but shall not invalidate other valid signatures on the same petition.
      iii. No petitioner shall allow any undergraduate student to sign any name other than his/her own to all petitions.
   c. Every page of the petition shall bear the name of the circulator, verifying that he or she identified the purpose of said petition and witnessed that all signatures placed upon it were made by eligible students to the best of his/her knowledge, for that page to be valid.
   d. Before filing a petition with the Judicial Panel, the circulator of a petition may strike out any signature he or she does not wish to present as part of that petition.
   e. Any person may remove their own signature before it is filed with the Judicial Panel by striking out his or her name on said petition.

2. A list of official candidates and candidate teams, shall be posted by the Judicial Panel on the Undergraduate Student Government website, within forty-eight (48) hours of validation of signatures.

3. All official candidates, candidate teams, and/or sponsors of official referenda, and initiatives shall be notified in writing and e-mail of their status by the Judicial Panel by the fifth Friday of Spring Semester.

4. Nominating Petitions
   a. The name(s) of the candidate or candidate team must appear on each nominating petition.
   b. To appear on the official ballot for Undergraduate Student Government office, a candidate or candidate team must obtain the necessary number of valid signatures on the petition to be submitted for certification by the Judicial Panel by the fourth Friday of Spring Semester:
      i. For each President/Vice President Candidate Team: seven hundred fifty (750)
      ii. For each Senator: fifty (50)
   c. By filing a petition with the Judicial Panel, candidates and candidate teams agree to abide by the Undergraduate Student Government bylaws.

5. Initiative and Referenda Petitions
   a. An initiative petition shall express the opinion of the Undergraduate Student Body or shall establish a financial or policy directive for the Undergraduate Student Government
b. A referenda petition will place a possible change to the Undergraduate Student Government Constitution on the ballot for consideration.

c. A petition, without any signatures, must be submitted to the Judicial Panel the second Friday of Spring Semester for review.
   i. This petition must contain intended language as it would appear on the ballot.
      (1) The Judicial Panel shall initially aid petitioners in phrasing all ballot language.
      (2) All ballot language shall be posed in the form of a question (e.g. “Shall the OSU Undergraduate student government…?”).

d. After initial submission from the petitioner, the Chief Justice of the Judicial Panel shall forward all petitions to the Vice-President of Student Life (or designee), and the Advisor of the Undergraduate Student Government for ballot language review.
   i. They will have until the end of the 3rd Friday of Spring Semesters to return the ballots with revised language. If necessary, these officials may consult with the petitioners.

e. The Judicial Panel will then return an official copy of the approved language to the petitioner on or before the fourth Monday of Spring Semester, written on an official petition forms.

f. Final petitions must be submitted to the Judicial Panel by 5:00 pm on the sixth Friday of Spring Semester bearing the full text of the approved initiative or referendum’s language at the top of the petition along with the signature of at least three hundred (300) valid signatures.

Article II: Campaign Procedures

A. Candidate Conduct
   1. Campaign Materials
      a. Candidates, candidate teams, and slates may not disseminate libelous or slanderous information against another candidate. This is a type III bylaw.
      b. No candidate or campaign member shall post a flyer over, conceal, or otherwise deface any material created by the Judicial Panel. This is a type II bylaw.
      c. No candidate or campaign member shall post a flyer over, conceal, or otherwise deface any material created by another candidate. This is a type II bylaw.
      d. All websites maintained by a candidate, candidate team, or slate are subject to review by the Judicial Panel and must adhere to the rules and regulations in these bylaws. Such websites must have a visible link to the Judicial Panel Elections webpage on each page of their website. This is a type I bylaw.
      e. All e-mail advertising a specific candidate must include a disclaimer at the bottom of the email that reads, “Please reply to sender requesting removal from e-mail list if you do not wish to receive further e-mail from this candidate. If you still receive e-mail from this candidate please contact the Judicial Panel at osuelections@gmail.com.” Any such request must be honored within twenty-four (24) hours. This is a type I bylaw.
i. Each uniquely worded email or mail merge sent without the disclaimer, regardless of the number of recipients, counts as an individual violation of the type I bylaw.

f. No candidate, candidate team, or slate may use supplies, materials, or equipment from the Ohio Union Resource Room for any campaign activity. This is a type IV bylaw.
   i. This prohibition includes any material used by student organizations for purposes of endorsing a candidate, team, ballot issue, or slate.

2. Campaigning
   a. Campaigning may not interfere with classroom activities. This is a type III bylaw.
   b. No person may campaign within a student-computing site during voting days. This is a type IV bylaw.
   c. Candidates, teams and slates may not solicit for votes or campaign before campaign season begins. This is a type III bylaw.
      i. Candidates, candidate teams, and slates may solicit, verbally, electronically, or in writing, for assistance in campaigning from individuals at any time.
      ii. Candidates, candidate teams, and slates may produce campaign materials and create, but not publish, a website at any time.
   d. All campaigning must follow guidelines set by Facilities Operations and Development Posting and Chalking Guidelines, Residence Life, Student Code of Conduct, City of Columbus, State of Ohio, and Federal Law. This is a type III bylaw.
      i. The Judicial Panel will take necessary steps to disseminate this information.
   e. The Judicial Panel reserves the right to name areas off-limits for campaigning. No campaigning may be done in these areas. This is a type II bylaw.
      i. The Chief Justice of the Judicial Panel must give all candidates notice of what areas are off-limits and how long they will be considered so at least twenty-four (24) hours before an area is declared off-limits.
   f. No campaigning of any sort is allowed in any office in the Center for Student Leadership and Service. Furthermore, no person may use any Undergraduate Student Government resources or Student Government Suite resources for any campaign activity. This is a type IV bylaw.
   g. No candidate or campaign team may use resources or materials purchased or maintained with Student Activity Fee money. This is a type V bylaw.
   h. Campaigning shall begin on the seventh Sunday of Spring Semester at 8:00 pm, pending the approval of all candidate and candidate teams. Campaigning shall end immediately upon the end of voting at 11:59 pm on eight Friday of Spring Semester.

3. Miscellaneous
   a. Write-in candidates are expected to adhere to the Elections Bylaws with regard to campaigning and all other guidelines therein. If, after a write-in candidate has been elected, he or she is found to have been in violation of the elections bylaws, said candidate will be subject to disqualification.
b. Only the Judicial Panel may maintain polling sites of any sort. This is a type II bylaw.
c. All campaigns must submit the names of their campaign manager(s) and treasurer(s). This is a type I bylaw.
   i. The campaign manager and treasurer can be the same person or the candidate him or herself.
   ii. This list must be submitted with nominating petitions. Changes or updates must be submitted within twenty-four (24) hours of said change.

B. Slates
1. Slates must register with the Judicial Panel – by the end of finals week of Winter Quarter – a complete list of all member-candidates, campaign managers, and treasurers. Only eligible candidates shall be added to a slate. Slates must inform the Judicial Panel of any membership changes within twenty-four (24) hours of the change. This is a type I bylaw.
2. Each candidate team, candidate, or slate is responsible for the actions.
3. A candidate may at no time be a member of more than one slate. For the purposes of this rule, late membership is defined as stated in the glossary of these bylaws, respecting the fact that slates may choose to endorse other slates.
4. Member-candidates reserve the right to voluntarily withdraw from a slate until the start of campaigning.
5. A slate is completely responsible for any and all of their respective campaign members liable for any and all bylaws violations of which that slate, member candidates of that slate, or any other slate campaign members are found guilty.
   a. Penalties against a slate, slate member-candidate, or slate campaign member are counted as part of the value of the slate’s campaign.
   b. If, for whatever reason, a slate is disqualified, every member-candidate is disqualified from the election.
      i. The exceptions to the above rule are:
         (1) If, for whatever reason, a member-candidate is individually found ineligible for candidacy, the slate suffers no penalty.
         (2) If, for whatever reason, a member-candidate is individually found to have falsified a document, the slate suffers no penalty.
6. Shared campaign expenses involving more than one individual senatorial candidate or slate shall be counted with the full value of each expense used with the intent of influencing an individual’s voting decisions toward each candidate or slate’s value. This is a type II bylaw.
7. A campaign may choose to remove a member from their slate at any time, by notifying the member and the rest of the slate.
   a. The slate will still be responsible for any penalties incurred while the person was a member of the slate.

C. Campaign Finances
1. Reports and Submissions
   a. All individual candidates and slates must maintain an online ledger. This is a type III bylaw.
i. Online ledgers must be updated daily beginning on the first day of official candidacy.
b. The Judicial Panel reserves the right to audit a campaign and require the submission of a Campaign Value Report within twenty-four (24) hours of notification. This is a type III bylaw.

2. Spending Limits
   a. Spending limits shall be determined according to composition of a campaign, as follows:
      i. No Presidential/Vice Presidential campaign shall be valued at more than two thousand (2000) dollars in total. This is a type IV bylaw.
      ii. No Senatorial candidate’s campaign shall be valued for more than one hundred (100) dollars. This is a type IV bylaw.
      iii. No Senate slate’s campaign shall be valued for more than one hundred (100) dollars per member-candidate or no more than two thousand (2000) dollars in total, whichever is less. Member-candidates of slates do not have individual spending limits. This is a type IV bylaw.
      iv. A campaign consisting of a Presidential/Vice-Presidential candidate team and one (1) or more senatorial candidates shall observe a base value limit for a maximum of two thousand (2000) dollars in total. This is a type IV bylaw.
         (1) Campaigns of this nature are permitted to have more senatorial candidates than financially equitable, but the maximum spending limit shall remain at thirty-five hundred (3500) dollars or two thousand (2000) dollars plus the sum of one hundred (100) dollars per Senatorial Candidate, whichever is less. This is a type IV bylaw.
   b. Only campaign expenses used with the intent of influencing an individual’s voting decisions, including, but not limited to, campaign materials promoting candidates, slates, and teams such as t-shirts, flyers, and food shall be included in a campaign’s value.
      i. No internal organizational and operational expenditures shall be included in a campaign’s value. However, these expenditures must still be recorded as part of the Campaign Value Report.
   c. No money raised for the purpose of campaigning in an Undergraduate Student Government election may be spent on or affiliated with alcohol, excluding campaigning in any establishment that serves alcohol. This is a type I bylaw.
   d. Any and all campaign expenditures of a slate, member-candidate, or other slate campaign member are counted only once and only towards the value of the slate’s campaign.
      i. This includes, but is not limited to, t-shirts featuring the names of multiple candidates, chalk, flyers featuring the name of only one (1) candidate, and websites.

Article III: Voting Procedures
A. Ballots
   1. Only the candidates and candidate teams that have been certified by the Judicial Panel will appear on the ballot.
2. All initiatives and referenda shall appear on the ballot in the form of a Judicial Panel approved summary and hyperlink to the full text.
3. A space for write-in candidates or candidate teams will be provided.
4. Candidate names for each position shall be randomized with respect to order on each voter’s ballot.
5. Neither Judicial Panel recognized slate affiliations nor a lack thereof shall be published on the ballot.

B. Election Validation
1. The official certified results of the election will be announced no later than 5:00 pm on the sixth Friday of Spring Semester, or after all Judicial Panel proceedings have been exhausted, whichever occurs later.
2. Any person disrupting the election validity procedures shall be subject to University disciplinary action.
3. Up to two people representing a candidate, candidate team, slate, or initiative may be present at the time that votes are counted and published.
4. All ballots of valid voters will be counted.

C. Voter Qualification
1. All registered and paid undergraduate students of The Ohio State University are valid voters.
2. Each eligible voter shall have the opportunity to vote for the following:
   a. One (1) President/Vice-President candidate team
   b. As many Living Area Senate candidates as there are seats in the constituency in which the voter lives.
   c. As many College Senate candidates as there are seats in the constituency in which the voter is enrolled.
   d. Each eligible voter may vote yes or no for each initiative or referenda placed on the ballot.

D. Tied Elections
1. All ties will be broken in accordance with the Constitution of the Undergraduate Student Government and its Bylaws.
2. All ties shall be resolved by convening the elected Senators as determined by methods in the Standing Rules of the General Assembly.

E. Contesting the Election
1. The validity of any election or any item on the ballot may be contested by any person by filing a petition to the Undergraduate Student Government Judicial Panel.
   a. Petitions must be filed with the Judicial Panel no later than seven days following the election certification announcement.
2. For a recount, the petition must contain signatures amounting to 10% of the total number of students who voted for the contested election or ballot item.
3. The Judicial Panel will act immediately on any valid petition.
4. Candidates who are announced as the winners of the election whose elections are contested will be seated unless otherwise determined by the Judicial Panel.

F. Voting Days
1. Voting will begin at 12:00 pm of the eighth Wednesday of Spring Semester and end 11:59 pm of the eighth Friday of the third week of Spring Quarter.
Article IV: Elections Governance Procedures

A. Penalties

1. Violating these bylaws carries a penalty. All penalties are counted as part of a campaign’s value and must be reported on Campaign Value Report. These penalties will represent the value of the advantage a candidate, candidate team, or slate has gained through bylaw violation.
   a. Violating any type I bylaw has a maximum penalty of twenty (20) dollars per instance of violation.
   b. Violating any type II bylaw has a maximum penalty of one hundred (100) dollars per instance of violation.
   c. Violating any type III bylaw has a maximum penalty of two hundred (200) dollars per instance of violation.
   d. Violating any type IV bylaw has a maximum penalty of disqualification or two hundred (200) dollars per instance of violation.
   e. Violating any type V bylaw has a minimum penalty of disqualification.

2. For every Judicial Panel order concurrent with a penalty, the penalty doubles every twenty-four (24) hours after the parties to the decision have been notified and the concurrent order has not been carried out.

3. If the decision is appealed, this provision is suspended until a decision on the appeal is made.

B. Enforcement

1. The Undergraduate Student Government Judicial Panel reserves the sole authority to resolve any conflicts or allegations of violations of these bylaws.

2. All candidates, candidate teams, and slates are to follow the Election bylaws and any directives given by the Judicial Panel.

3. The Judicial Panel will notify the Undergraduate Student Government Advisors, candidates, candidate teams, and slates of their ruling via e-mail of their decision in accordance with the Undergraduate Student Government Constitution.
   a. The Judicial Panel will promptly notify provide all relevant parties with copies of all rulings immediately upon receipt.
   b. Judicial Panel Elections Governance Procedures

C. Conduct of the Judicial Panel

1. No member of the Judicial Panel can:
   a. Be a candidate for any other Undergraduate Student Government position.
   b. Aid any candidate, candidate team, or slate, in any way.

2. All members of Judicial Panel must remain neutral in all issues pertaining to election matters and voting throughout their entire term.

3. Each Member of the Judicial Panel may vote in the Undergraduate Student Graduate election.

D. Contact with Judicial Panel

1. The Chief Justice of the Judicial Panel, or a designated justice of clerk, must publicize a phone number and e-mail address at which he or she can be reached.

2. Candidates may not falsify any documents submitted to the Judicial Panel at any time. This is a type IV bylaw.

E. Judicial Panel Responsibilities
1. The Chief Justice of the Judicial Panel shall have the responsibility of ensuring the overall operation of fair, valid, and nondiscriminatory elections.
2. The Chief Justice of the Judicial Panel shall contact the Office of Student Judicial Affairs for all requests to contest the election.
3. The Judicial Panel will have a minimum of four (4) mandatory candidate information sessions during the Fall and Spring Semesters and before the deadline for submission of petitions to inform students seeking candidacy of the rules and election procedures.
4. Judicial Panel must compile an information webpage with information about each candidate, candidate team, and slate and host them on the Judicial Panel’s official website.
5. The Judicial Panel must hold at least one (1) Presidential debate.
6. The Judicial Panel must create all forms mentioned in these bylaws.
7. The Judicial Panel must notify the Ohio Union staff supervisor for the Ohio Union Resource Room of the Judicial Panel bylaws.

F. Elections of the Judicial Panel
1. Candidates for the Judicial Panel must meet all candidate eligibility and petition requirements.
2. Candidates for the Judicial Panel may not join any type of slate and must run completely independent of all other candidates for any elected positions in Undergraduate Student Government.
3. Candidates for the Judicial Panel may not spend more than $100.00 on their election campaign. This is a Type IV Bylaw.

G. Amendment Procedures
1. Judicial Panel reserves the right to propose all amendments to and correct any spelling, or grammatical errors of the Judicial Panel bylaws.
2. Any changes to the Elections Bylaws must pass the General Assembly by simple majority vote.
   a. The Assembly may not propose or modify any amendments to the Elections Bylaws.
Article V: Elections Glossary

“Campaigning” is defined as any action whose purpose is to persuade anyone to vote a certain way in the upcoming Undergraduate Student Government elections. Campaigning specifically does not include the actions of endorsement, defined elsewhere in this glossary.

“Campaign member” is defined as any individual that assists in campaigning.

“Campaign season” the period lasting from 8:00 pm EST Sunday evening of the second week of spring quarter-until the end of voting 11:59 pm EST Friday night of the third week of spring quarter.

“Campaign Value Report” is defined as a detailed report of all transactions and penalties of a campaign. This document includes all items purchased and donated in kind as well as a photocopy of all receipts. Value of donated labor shall not be included in a Campaign Value Report.

“Candidate” is defined as a person who has signed the Judicial Panel Official Recognition of Candidacy Form and is approved by the Judicial Panel.

“Candidate Team” is defined as a single entity composed of a candidate for the office of President and a candidate for the office of Vice President running in tandem. All candidate teams are considered as slates; either “Mixed” or “Presidential” dependent upon composition.

“Classroom Activities” are defined as the instruction or examination of students within a facility on the property of The Ohio State University.

“Computing site” is defined as any OSU Library, or OIT-sponsored Laboratory.

“Endorsement” is defined as a written or oral declaration of formal support for a candidate, candidate team, slate, initiative, or referenda by any group or individual.

“Libel” is a false written statement or report that can injure a candidate’s, candidate team’s or slate’s reputation.

“Member-candidate” is defined as a senate candidate or presidential candidate team (as one entity) who is a member of a slate.

“Slander” is a false verbal statement or report that can injure a candidate’s, candidate team’s or slate’s reputation.

“Slate” is defined as any group of candidates (two or more) for the Undergraduate Student Government who campaign together, including Presidential/Vice-presidential teams. A slate is treated by these bylaws as a unitary entity.
A “Presidential Slate” refers to a slate which only contains a Presidential/Vice-presidential Candidate Team.

A “Senatorial Slate” refers to a slate which only contains candidates for Undergraduate Student Government Senate.

A “Mixed Slate” refers to a slate which contains both a Presidential/Vice-Presidential candidate team and candidates for senate.

“USG Election” is defined as the annual process for the selection of members to the Undergraduate Student Government. It may also include voting on initiatives and referenda.