

3000 J. Wayne Reitz Union PO Box 118505 Gainesville, FL 32611 352-392-1665

STUDENT SENATE BILL 2025-1193

TITLE: Rules and Procedures Reconstruction Authorization (Volume 3)

AUTHOR(S): Senate President Julia Seifer and Senate President Pro Tempore Aaron Rubaii

SPONSOR(S):

Rule II

Membership of the Senate

(Amended: 2010-113, 2010-117, 2011-116, 2014-106, 2016-117, 2019-124, 2020-1064, 2021-104, 2023-130, 2023-191, 2023-193, 2024-221, 2024-244, 2024-256, 2024-306, 2025-137, 2025-158, 2025-169, 2025-171, 2025-172, 2025-175, 2025-180, 2025-184)

A. Senate President

- 1. The Senate President shall be the chief executive and administrative officer of the Student Senate, directing all legislative processes, enforcing the Rules and Procedures, preserving parliamentary procedure and decorum, and serving as Chair at meetings of the Senate.
 - i. The Senate President reserves the right to issue warnings to individuals for disruptive conduct during meetings. After issuing two warnings to an individual, the Senate President may order the removal of said individual actively disrupting business.
- 2. The Senate President shall serve as a neutral arbiter.
- 3. The Senate President shall work with the Senate President Pro Tempore and Standing Committee Chairs to facilitate progress and unity as a cohesive Senate Chamber, as outlined in Rule II Section I.
- 4. The Senate President serves on the Replacement and Agenda Committee.

B. Senate President Pro Tempore

- 1. The Senate President Pro Tempore shall serve as the Chair of the Replacement and Agenda Committee.
- 2. The Senate President Pro Tempore shall assist the Senate President in fulfilling the duties of said office.

- i. This includes interpreting rules and parliamentary procedures during meetings of the Senate, but these duties may be alleviated with the appointment of a Senate Parliamentarian.
- 3. The Senate President Pro Tempore shall hold Chair at meetings of the Senate whenever the elected Senate President is absent from Chair. In the event of the resignation, removal, or incapacity of the Senate President, the Senate President Pro Tempore shall assume the duties of the office in an acting capacity until a new Senate President is elected by the Senate.

A. Members at Large

- 1. The Senate Members At Large shall serve as voting members of the Replacement and Agenda Committee.
 - i. A Senate Member at Large shall be the Vice Chair for the Replacement and Agenda Committee.
- 2. The Senate Members At Large shall assist the Senate President and the Senate President Pro Tempore in fulfilling the duties of said offices as requested.

B. Standing Committee Chairs

- 1. Standing Committee Chairs preside over their respective committees when performing duties and holding meetings, as outlined in Rule VI.
- 2. Standing Committee Chairs shall appoint a Vice Chair who shall carry out the duties of the Chair in their absence via email to the Senate President and Senate Secretary.
- 3. Standing Committee Chairs shall conduct an audio recording for the entire duration excluding recesses of each Standing Committee meeting. This recording must be submitted to the Senate Secretary prior to the upcoming Senate meeting.
- 4. Each Standing Committee Chair may appoint a Committee Clerk to record minutes for each committee meeting and send them to the Senate Secretary prior to the upcoming Senate meeting. Individuals serving as Committee Clerks can be appointed and alternated at the Chair's leisure.
 - i. These minutes must be submitted to the Senate Secretary prior to the upcoming Senate Meeting.
- 5. Standing Committee Chairs shall submit attendance records for their committee members to the Rules and Ethics Committee.
 - i. Chairs may rule absences from committee meetings as excused or unexcused. For an absence to be excused, committee members must submit their excuse to their committee chair no later than one week following the absence in question.
 - ii. Committee chairs must include these excuses in their attendance report to the Rules and Ethics Committee.

- 6. After the validation of Senate election results each Fall and Spring, following the election of the Senate President and Senate President Pro Tempore, Chairs of each Standing Committee shall be automatically vacated from their committee seat.
- 7. The Senate President shall not act as Chair of any Standing Committee.

C. Party Leadership

- 1. Political parties shall select their Party Leader by signing a petition and submitting it to the Senate President and Senate Secretary in writing. The party member who receives signatures from a majority of the party shall be the Party Leader.
 - i. Political parties shall consist of all of the Senators who have properly indicated their affiliation with that party.
 - ii. Political parties may choose a Deputy Party Leader in the same manner.
- 2. Any political party with ten or more members shall receive representation on the Replacement and Agenda Committee. Party Leaders represent a political party during Replacement and Agenda Committee Meetings.
 - i. A Deputy Party Leader may represent their party in the Replacement and Agenda Committee in the event of a Party Leader's absence or significant conflict of interest.

D. Senate President Appointments

1. Exclusionary Offices: The Senate President may appoint a Senate Parliamentarian and Sergeant at Arms at their leisure. These positions shall be vacated upon each validation of elections.

i. Senate Parliamentarian

- a. The Senate Parliamentarian shall, upon request, assist Chairs in interpreting rules and parliamentary procedures during meetings and committee meetings of the Senate. These powers shall not contravene any powers delineated to the Chair of the Senate or of any committee.
- b. The Senate Parliamentarian shall work to better the Senate's general understanding of parliamentary law and shall help any Senator with issues of parliamentary law.

ii. Senate Sergeant at Arms

- a. The Senate Sergeant at Arms shall maintain order and prevent individuals from disrupting meetings of the Senate as directed by the Chair.
- b. The Senate Sergeant at Arms shall remove individuals disrupting meetings of the Senate as deemed by the Senate President. Prior to removal, the disruptive individual must be issued at least two warnings by the Chair.

- c. The Senate Sergeant at Arms shall prevent Senators entering the room from joining the voting body once a vote has begun or once a quorum call has been made.
- iii. Non-Exclusionary Offices: The Senate President may appoint and dissolve Liaisons and Ad Hoc Committee Members at their leisure.

a. Liaisons

- a. The Senate President may appoint Senate Liaisons to other branches of Student Government and University auxiliaries with the purpose of obtaining information on the proceedings of, and maintaining an open, working relationship with, said parts of Student Government and Campus.
- b. The following Liaisons may exist within the Student Senate:
 - i. Counseling and Wellness Center (CWC) Liaison
 - ii. Community and Belonging Liaison
 - iii. Disability Resource Center (DRC) Liaison
 - iv. Executive Branch Liaison
 - v. J. Wayne Reitz Student Union Liaison
 - vi. Recreational Sports Liaison
 - vii. Student Engagement Liaison
 - viii. Sustainability Liaison
 - ix. University Police Department Liaison
- c. The Senate President may discharge any Senate Liaison. The Senate may, by a two-thirds vote, discharge any Senate Liaison.
- d. Senate Liaisons must also hold Senate seats.
- e. The Senate President will meet with the Senate Liaisons at their leisure.
- f. The positions shall be vacated upon each validation of elections.

b. Ad Hocs

a. See Rule VII Section A.

E. Dean of the Senate

- 1. The longest serving Senator(s) shall be the Dean of the Senate. A Senator's term has to be uninterrupted to be recognized as the Dean of the Senate.
- 2. The Dean of the Senate shall administer the oath of office and swear-in Senatorselect and Senate President if no Justice of the Supreme Court is present.
- 3. In the event that two Senators hold the same length in office, the Senator's last name that comes first alphabetically shall administer the oath of office.

F. Senate Secretaries

- 1. Senate Secretaries are considered part of the Student Government Office Staff.
- 2. The Senate Secretary shall record the minutes of all meetings of the full Senate and conduct record-keeping as outlined by the Rules and Procedures.
- 3. The Senate Secretary shall perform other clerical duties as determined by Student Government Advising and Operations.

G. Executive Committee

- 1. The following Senators shall be members of the Senate Executive Board:
 - i. The Senate President, as Chair
 - ii. The Senate President Pro Tempore
 - iii. Chairs of all Standing Committees
- 2. The Senate Executive Board shall serve as a forum to allow for communication between the standing committees of the Senate and to aid the members in the completion of their duties.
- 3. The Senate Executive Board shall meet at the Chair's leisure, or as otherwise ordered by the Senate by a two-thirds vote.

Proviso: This authorization shall not go into effect until the third Senate meeting following the validation of the Fall 2025 election results.