

STUDENT SENATE BILL 2025-1196

TITLE: Rules and Procedures Reconstruction Authorization (Volume 6)

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

SPONSOR(S):

Rule V
Meetings

(Amended: 2014-106, 2016-117, 2019-124, 2019-138, 2020-1064, 2021-104, 2023-118, 2023-124, 2023-127, 2023-147, 2023-191, 2024-144, 2024-201, 2024-239, 2024-240, 2024-246, 2024-267, 2025-115, 2025-143, 2025-154, 2025-157, 2025-159, 2025-179, 2025-180)

A. Regular Meetings

- a. Regular meetings shall be conducted on campus at as consistent a time and location as is possible.
- b. The Replacement and Agenda Committee shall set the time and location for regular meetings at the beginning of each academic term. This decision can be overturned by a majority vote of the Senate.
- c. The Chair of the Senate shall call the Senate meeting to order within 15 minutes of its scheduled time listed on the agenda. If the Chair fails to do so, Rule III Section B dictates succession of Chair of the Senate for that meeting.
- d. The Chair of the Senate shall rule on all points of order and issues of parliamentary law.
 - i. The Chair shall deny the hearing of any dilatory motions and issue a warning for disruptive conduct to any Senator who has made a dilatory motion.
 1. This section shall also apply to incidental motions including, but not limited to, points of information and parliamentary inquiries.
- e. The Chair shall have the unilateral discretion at any time to recess the Student Senate for a set period of time.

- f. A Senator may object to the recess. A vote of a majority of those present and voting is required to sustain the objection.
- g. The Senate President may cancel a regular meeting set by the Replacement and Agenda Committee at their individual discretion. The Senate President must cancel a regular meeting at least 24 hours prior to the start of the regular meeting. The Senate President may cancel a regular meeting with less than 24 hours notice if a meeting space is not reserved or the meeting was not properly public noticed.
- h. The Senate President may not cancel two consecutive regular meetings unless quorum is unattainable due to vacancies or the meeting date coincides with a major religious holiday.

B. Special Meetings

- a. The Senate President or the Student Body President may call special meetings of the Senate.
- b. The Senate President shall call for a special meeting of the Senate upon receiving a petition requesting such bearing the signatures of a majority of sitting Senators. This petition shall include the intended purpose for the special meeting, which must be reflected in the announcement of the meeting and the agenda.
- c. Notice, either written, verbal, or electronic, must be given a minimum of forty eight hours prior to the start of the meeting to all members of the Senate.
- d. The purpose of the meeting must be included in the announcement of the meeting.
- e. The officer who called the special meeting shall prepare the agenda for that meeting following the guidelines in Rule IV Section B, so long as the agenda remain germane to the purpose of the meeting, as mentioned in the call for the meeting.

C. Virtual Meetings

- a. The Student Senate and committees of the Student Senate may only conduct virtual meetings in the event of a federal, state, or local state of emergency as determined by the University of Florida administration impacting the Student Senate's ability to meet in-person.

D. Recess

- a. If the Student Senate is not called back to order within 15 minutes of the time limit for the recess or within 30 minutes after a motion to recess until called back by the chair, then the Chair of the Senate shall fall to the next shalling member in the line of succession pursuant to Rule III Section B. .

E. Debate

- a. Senators who are rightfully able to vote shall be able to speak in debate on the floor.
- b. Any Senator may yield their debate time to a specific Senator or to like-minded speakers.
- c. Debate may be limited or extended by a two-thirds vote so long as each side is afforded an equal amount of time.

- d. If a Senator's speech is hostile to the side whose time they are using, that Senator will be issued a warning for disruptive conduct and any time used by that speech should be returned to the clock.
- e. If there are no Senators wishing to speak on concurrent rounds of con and pro, the Senate will move into final privilege.

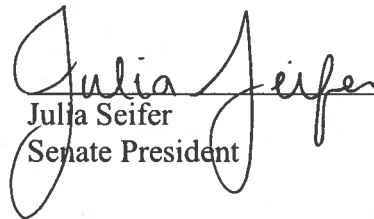
F. Voting

- a. The standard method for all votes shall be by rising vote, unless otherwise denoted in the Statutes or Rules and Procedures.
 - i. The other methods of voting within the Student Senate are counted rising vote and roll call vote.
 - ii. Senators with physical disabilities that prevent them from standing may instead raise their hand to indicate their vote. Senators wishing to use this accommodation must notify the Senate President via email.
 - iii. This accommodation also allows for the individual Senator to be recognized by the Chair of the Senate through raising their hand.
- b. The Chair of the Senate shall declare the outcome of all votes.
 - i. A Senator may call for a Division of the Assembly - thereby requiring the vote to be taken again - if they doubt the outcome of any vote, either because the result appears close or because they doubt that the representative number of members present have voted.
 - 1. When it is clear that there has been a full vote and there can be no reasonable doubt as to which side is in the majority, a call for Division is dilatory.
 - 2. Divisions shall be conducted by counted rising vote. Divisions cannot therefore be applied to counted rising vote.
 - 3. Divisions cannot be called if already moved onto the next item of business.
 - 4. Divisions do not require a second, are non-debatable and non-amendable, and cannot be reconsidered.
- c. No one may cast a vote for another Senator, under pain of penalty as outlined in Chapter 309 of the Student Body Statutes.
- d. No Senator may explain their vote when a vote is taking place. A Senator may only state yes, no, or abstain when voting. If a Senator does not comply with this provision, the Chair of the Senate shall issue a warning for disruptive conduct.
 - i. No Senator may abstain from a vote except in cases wherein voting would present a conflict of interest.
 - 1. Senators who abstain from voting due to a conflict of interest must indicate a reason for the abstention on their voter record by letting the Senate Secretaries know in writing within 24 hours of the end of the Senate meeting. If a reason for abstention is not filed with the

Senate Secretaries within this time period, the Senator shall have an incomplete voter record and shall be given a one-half absence.

- e. No Senator may raise a privileged motion not related to the vote while a vote is taking place.
- f. A Senator has the right to change their vote up until the result is announced.
- g. The Chair shall not vote except in the event of a roll call vote where their vote would affect the result.

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

 10/8/25
Julia Seifer Date
Senate President