



Student Senate

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STUDENT SENATE BILL 2025-1197

TITLE: Rules and Procedures Reconstruction Authorization (Volume 7)

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

SPONSOR(S):

Rule VI Standing Committees

(Amended: 2009-100, 2009-104, 2009-121, 2009-140, 2010-122, 2011-114, 2011-116, 2011-130, 2014-106, 2014-111, 2016-117, 2018-114, 2018-121, 2019-124, 2019-1104, 2020-1034, 2020-1064, 2021-104, 2022-126, 2023-122, 2023-136, 2023-142, 2023-145, 2023-195, 2024-245, 2024-252, 2024-253, 2024-290, 2024-293, 2024-294, 2025-107, 2025-182, 2025-170)

A. Regulations

- a. Individuals are not permitted to serve on more than one standing committee at a time, excluding the Replacement and Agenda Committee.
- b. If the Chair and Vice Chair are not present at a meeting of a Standing Committee, the committee shall elect a temporary chair from among its membership by a majority of those present and voting. In the case of the Replacement and Agenda Committee, if the Chair (Senate President Pro Tempore) and Vice Chair (Member at Large) are both absent, the remaining Member at Large shall serve as acting chair for that meeting.
- c. 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.

- d. All Standing Committees shall meet at least once every two school weeks at the time and place determined by the Chair, unless there is no business to be heard by the committee.

B. Replacement and Agenda Committee

a. Membership:

- i. The Senate President Pro Tempore, as Chair
- ii. The Senate President
- iii. The leader of every political party
- iv. The Two Senate Members At Large

b. Responsibilities:

- i. The Replacement and Agenda Committee shall prepare the agenda for regular meetings of the Senate
- ii. The Replacement and Agenda Committee may add special rules to the agenda pertaining to the structure of debate and voting with a two-thirds vote of the committee.
 - 1. The committee may not change the threshold required to approve a nominee or legislation.
- iii. The Replacement and Agenda Committee shall nominate individuals to fill all Senate Vacancies, Committee Vacancies, and Committee Chair Vacancies.
 - 1. Individuals who applied for any Senate Vacancies must be notified of the committee's decision within 24 hours.
- iv. The Replacement and Agenda Committee shall review the qualifications of all Executive and Judicial branch nominations that require Senate approval.
- v. The Replacement and Agenda Committee shall offer an interview to all applicants for Senate Vacancies, Summer Vacancies, Committee Vacancies, and Committee Chair Vacancies.
- vi. The Replacement and Agenda Committee will also offer students the ability to submit application materials, including a resume, to be considered during the decision making process.
- vii. The Replacement and Agenda Committee will evaluate all applicants in a fair, unbiased manner to nominate the most qualified individuals to fill respective senate vacancies.

C. Judiciary Committee

a. Membership:

- i. Judiciary Committee Chair
- ii. Judiciary Committee Vice Chair
- iii. 7 Members named to the committee.

b. Responsibilities:

- i. The Judiciary Committee shall review all non-budgetary bills, resolutions, and proposed constitutional amendments submitted to the Senate.
- ii. The Judiciary Committee shall review the qualifications of all nominations to the judicial branch, determining if they are qualified to hold said office.
- iii. The Judiciary Committee shall, a minimum of three weeks before the end of the Fall Academic Semester, submit to the Senate legislation regarding the apportionment of the Senate.
- iv. The Judiciary Committee Chair shall once every Fall and Spring terms, present a workshop on how to draft and submit legislation. This workshop can be done in conjunction with or separate from the New Senator Orientation.
- v. Proposed legislation that is to be reviewed by the Judiciary Committee shall be sent to all Senators by the Judiciary Committee Chair no later than 24 hours before the committee meeting at which it is scheduled to be reviewed.
- vi. The Judiciary Committee may make the following motions regarding legislation:
 1. Pass
 2. Table
 3. Postpone
 4. Fail
 5. Amend
- vii. Each bill postponed by the Judiciary Committee shall be reviewed in the next committee meeting or it shall be considered failed.
- viii. The Judiciary Committee Chair of the committee shall inform the author of the bill as to why it failed using the aforementioned criteria in the meeting the bill was reviewed.
- ix. Only bills passed by the Judiciary Committee shall be sent to the full Senate.
- x. Apportionment:
 1. The Judiciary Committee shall draft legislation to set the apportionment of the Senate, either reapportioning it with a bill amending the section of the Student Body Statutes regarding apportionment or recommending (through a resolution) to the Senate that the apportionment of the Senate be maintained in its current state.
 2. The committee shall begin drafting apportionment legislation, including requesting any relevant data, no earlier than the start of the Summer A term.
 3. Apportionment legislation may not be submitted to the floor of the Senate until the start of the Fall term and must be submitted a

minimum of 3 weeks before the conclusion of the fall academic semester.

4. If the legislation proposed by the committee fails to be adopted by the Senate, the Senate may either recommit the legislation with instructions or may adopt other legislation setting apportionment.

D. Budget and Appropriations Committee

a. Membership:

- i. Budget and Appropriations Committee Chair
- ii. Budget and Appropriations Vice Chair
- iii. 7 Members named to the committee.

b. Responsibilities:

- i. The Budget and Appropriations Committee shall examine, amend as needed, and report to the Senate the Activity and Service Fee Budget, all student organization operational budgets, student organization event requests, student organization travel requests, requests for line-item budget changes, and requests for reserve funds.
- ii. The Budget and Appropriations Committee shall hear and decide on all appeals stemming from decisions of the Travel Grant Sub-Committee.
- iii. The Budget and Appropriations Committee may make the following motions regarding legislation.
 1. Pass
 2. Table
 3. Postpone
 4. Fail
 5. Amend
- iv. Each bill postponed by the Budget and Appropriations Committee shall be reviewed in the next committee meeting or it shall be considered failed.
- v. The Budget and Appropriations Committee Chair must send any reserve transfer bills or changes to the originally approved budget to all Senators 24 hours before the duly called budget meeting.
- vi. The Budget and Appropriations Committee Chairperson shall make the Student Senate aware of any approved travel, event, and Student Organization Operational Budget requests in writing within 72 hours of final approval.
- vii. The Budget and Appropriations Committee Chair shall submit into the Senate records all budget requests and other documents submitted to the committee.
- viii. Student Government-Funded Organizations:

1. Any organization requesting funding through the Budget and Appropriations Committee must submit all forms and documents required by the committee.
 2. All Student Government-funded organization requests are to be sent to all Senators at least 24 hours in advance of the committee hearing at which said request should be heard.
- ix. The Student Senate authorizes the Budget and Appropriations Committee to hear event, travel, and Student Organization Operational Budget requests from registered student organizations without requiring a bill of law for approval.

E. Rules and Ethics Committee

a. Membership:

- i. Rules and Ethics Committee Chair
- ii. Rules and Ethics Committee Vice Chair
- iii. 7 Members named to the committee.
- iv. No Senator who is currently on probation for not completing constituency requirements may be appointed to the Rules and Ethics Committee. Any Senator on the Rules and Ethics Committee placed on constituency probation shall be automatically removed from the committee.

b. Responsibilities:

- i. The Rules and Ethics Committee shall investigate whenever a Senator files a petition calling for a Senator's censure, expulsion, or removal as per Rule III Sections C, D, and E.
- ii. The Rules and Ethics Committee shall review all absence excuses and recommend action on these excuses to the Senate.
- iii. The Rules and Ethics Committee shall hear appeals from resignations by non-attendance and may expunge absences from a Senator's attendance record as outlined in Chapter 323 of the Student Body Statutes.
- iv. The Rules and Ethics Committee shall issue warning letters and letters of resignation by non-attendance to Senators as outlined in Chapter 323 of the Student Body Statutes.
- v. The Rules and Ethics Committee shall enforce constituency requirements as outlined in Chapter 324 of the Student Body Statutes.
- vi. Investigation of Senators:
 1. The Rules and Ethics Committee shall set dates and times for hearings regarding the investigation and shall set deadlines regarding evidence submission.
 2. The Rules and Ethics Committee shall serve Senators with notice that they are being investigated by the committee and shall include in this or subsequent notice the times and locations of any hearings

pertaining to the investigation no later than three days prior to a hearing.

3. The Rules and Ethics Committee shall issue all subpoenas required to conduct the investigation as outlined in Chapter 308 of the Student Body Statutes.

F. Information and Communications Committee

a. Membership:

- i. Information and Communications Committee Chair
- ii. Information and Communications Committee Vice Chair
- iii. 7 Members named to the committee.

b. Responsibilities:

- i. The Information and Communication Committee shall organize Senate social events to facilitate unity across the Chamber.
- ii. The Information and Communication Committee shall be responsible for the Senate's public relations, promoting awareness of Senators, initiatives, committees, and legislation to the public.
- iii. The Information and Communication Committee shall ensure that information regarding any open Senate seats is posted on the UF Senate Instagram no later than two days before the Replacement and Agenda Committee conducts interviews for any open seats.
- iv. The Information and Communication Committee shall be responsible for live streaming all Senate meetings from a set location in the Senate Chamber that allows all speakers at the front of the chamber to be audible and visible at all times. The Information and Communication Chair, or their designee, shall be responsible for starting and ending the live stream.
 1. Access to the Senate live stream shall be linked in a visible place on the official Student Government website and the Student Senate Instagram.
- v. Orientation Sessions:
 1. The Information and Communication Committee must hold an orientation session during the Fall, Spring, and Summer Semesters.
 2. The Information and Communication Committee Chair or their designee shall hold an orientation session prior to any new Senator's second regular meeting of the Senate.
 3. These orientations shall be mandatory and attendance is required for all Senators that have not previously attended an orientation or make up orientation.
- vi. Senate Retreats:

1. The Information and Communication Committee must hold at least one Senate Retreat that awards attending Senators a one-half absence credit on their attendance record per legislative term.
 - a. No more than two retreats may count as a one-half absence credit for Senators in the Fall and Spring legislative terms.
No more than one retreat may count as a one-half absence credit for Senators each of in the Summer legislative terms.
2. Senate retreats should not be held during any university-recognized break or holiday if possible.
3. The retreat shall not be held in the Senate Chamber and should be held at a location where no formal Senate business occurs if possible.

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


Julia Seifer
Senate President

10/7/25
Date