

**STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION
CODE OF LAWS
TROY UNIVERSITY
TROY, ALABAMA**

Updated 8/27/2013

TITLE I FORMAT FOR THE CODE OF LAWS

CHAPTER 100 – Systems of the Student Government Association Code of Laws

The following shall be the system of the Student Government Association Code of Laws.

- 100.1** There shall be ten titles, each designed as follows:
- Title I Chapters 100-199 Format for the Code of Laws
 - Title II Chapters 200-299 Executive Branch
 - Title III Chapters 300-399 Legislative Branch
 - Title IV Chapters 400-499 Procedure Division/ Standing Rules of the Senate
 - Title V Chapter 500-599 Committees
 - Title VI Chapter 600-699 Judicial Branch
 - Title VII Chapter 700-799 Election Laws
 - Title VIII Chapter 800-899 Finance Laws
 - Title IX Chapters 900-999 Clubs and Organizations
 - Title X Chapters 1000-1099 Freshman Forum
 - Title XI Chapters 1100-1199 Impeachment
 - Title XII Chapters 1200-1299 Amendments

100.2 Each chapter may be subdivided by means of a decimal arrangement. For instance, chapter 199 may be divided into sections as 199.1, 199.2, 199.3, etc., and may in turn be subdivided by means of further decimal places so that as many subsections are obtained as necessary.

TITLE II EXECUTIVE BRANCH

CHAPTER 200 – Qualifications of the Executive Branch

200.1 To qualify for office of President, Vice President of Legislative Affairs, Vice President for Campus Activities, Secretary, or Clerk the candidate must be enrolled full time in Troy University main campus or full time at Troy University with a portion of hours being taken on eCampus and a portion of hours being taken at the Troy University main campus. The candidate shall have at least an overall 2.50 grade point average on a 4.0 scale and be in good standing (not on probation with the university). Upon election, they shall maintain at least a 2.50 grade point average on a 4.0 scale and remain in good standing (not being placed on probation) with the university during their tenure of office.

200.2 To qualify for the office of President, Vice President of Legislative Affairs, or Vice President for Campus Activities, the candidate shall have been a member of one of the three main branches of the Student Government Association for at least one semester, or shall have served on Freshman Forum as a director. The three main branches include the

Executive, Legislative and Judicial. The President and Vice Presidents shall be at least a sophomore (30 credit hours completed) when elected.

200.3 To qualify for the office of Secretary or Clerk, the candidate shall have been a member of one of the three main branches of the Student Government Association for at least one semester, or shall have served on Freshman Forum as a director or member. The Secretary and Clerk shall have completed at least one full-time semester at Troy University main campus or full time semester at Troy University with a portion of hours being taken on eCampus and a portion of hours being taken at the Troy University main campus.

200.4 Any member of the Student Government Association who is qualified may be a candidate for the office of President, Vice Presidents, Secretary, or Clerk. A candidate shall submit a statement of intent indicating which office is sought with a qualifying fee of ten (10) dollars to the Student Government Association Clerk. This fee is nonrefundable, should the candidate withdraw from the election or be deemed ineligible. If a candidate desires to qualify for an additional office at a later time, then an additional ten (10) dollar qualifying fee must be paid for each office. This fee must be paid by the date designated on the officer application, and if qualified, that individual shall be placed on the ballot.

200.5 All candidates shall sign a grade release statement and a statement of intent that shall declare their knowledge of Student Government Association election laws as well as the laws stated in The Oracle. These materials shall be provided by the Student Government Association in either paper or electronic format.

CHAPTER 201 – Office Limitations

201.1 The Student Government Association President, Vice Presidents, Secretary, and Clerk may not hold the office of President or Vice President in more than two (2) campus oriented organizations recognized by Troy University including the Student Government Association, or hold more than one office in the Student Government Association at the same time.

CHAPTER 202 – Executive Cabinet

202.1 The Executive Cabinet shall be appointed by the President of the Student Government Association and are subject to approval of the Student Senate by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote.

202.2 To qualify as a nominee for the Executive Cabinet, nominees must be in good standing with the university and possess and maintain a 2.25 grade-point average.

202.3 The Executive Cabinet shall consist of a Chief of Staff, a Minority Relations Representative, the Supreme Court Chief Justice and the Traffic Appeals Chairman. Any other positions that the President deems necessary may be added to the Executive Cabinet.

202.4 The Chief of Staff shall coordinate programs and policies as directed by the President, assist the President in preparation of policy for presentation, serve as a check on the President in carrying out his/her duties, serve the President as a check on the Executive Cabinet, assist the President in research of administrative legislation, and fulfill any duties as so prescribed by the Executive Committee and the President.

202.5 The Chief of Staff shall be required to work at least two (2) hours per week in the Student Government Association office.

202.6 Only upon request of an Executive Officer shall an executive appointee be required to attend the Executive Board meeting, excluding the Supreme Court Chief Justice.

202.7 Expulsion from office for all executive appointments shall be at the discretion of the Executive Committee. A two-thirds (2/3) concurrence among Executive Committee members must exist in order to expel a member of the Executive Committee.

202.8 At the discretion of the President and approval of two-thirds (2/3) of the Senate other Executive Appointments may be made at any point in time during the semester.

CHAPTER 203 – The Executive Committee

203.1 The Executive Committee is composed of the President, Vice President of Legislative Affairs, Vice President for Campus Activities, Secretary, Clerk, the Supreme Court Chief Justice, Chief of Staff, and the Chairman of each standing committee.

203.2 The Executive Committee shall meet at least once per week in which the Senate meets.

203.3 The Vice President of Legislative Affairs shall preside over any Executive Committee meeting, and shall have the power to call any meeting thereof.

203.4 In the absence of the Vice President of Legislative Affairs, the secession order as specified in Article IV, section H of the Constitution should be followed.

203.5 In the absence of a Committee Chair, the Co-Chair or a committee member designated by the chairman shall sit in place of that member of the Executive Committee, and shall have all the power, including voting power, as the chairman.

203.6 In the absence of the Chief Justice of the Student Supreme Court, an associate justice of the Chief Justice's choosing shall sit in place of the Chief Justice, and shall have all the power, including voting power, as the Chief Justice.

203.7 The Executive Committee shall make decisions as prescribed in the Constitution, Code of Laws, and any other rules of the Student Government Association.

203.8 Executive Committee meetings may be closed to the general public if the Executive Committee deems it necessary.

CHAPTER 204 – Salaries

204.1 All Executive Officers shall be paid a stipend based on this Code of Laws for a specified amount of hours per week.

204.2 The total amount of pay due each officer shall be paid on a four (4) week basis.

204.3 Each officer shall work the required amount of hours in the Student Government Association office performing Student Government Association activities in order to receive the established stipend.

204.4 During the Fall and Spring semesters, the President and Vice Presidents shall work at least 15 hours per week, 12 of which should be in the SGA office. The Secretary and Clerk shall work at least 10 hours per week, 8 of which should be in the SGA office.

204.5 During the summer if an officer selects to work and wishes to receive a stipend, they must fulfill the same office hour requirements outlined in Chapter 204.4.

204.6 The President, Vice President of Legislative Affairs, Vice President for Campus Activities, Clerk, and Secretary shall be paid a stipend in an amount to be determined by the Vice Chancellor for Student Service each year. The Executive Officers and Director of Student Involvement may submit a request to change the stipend amount to the Senior Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs if they deem it necessary.

204.7 Each officer must submit university personnel paperwork to be completed and returned to the payroll office in order to receive their stipend.

204.8 Office and duty hours for Executive Officers shall be logged in the Student Government Association office and regulated by the President Pro Tempore and Chief of Staff. Records shall be maintained for one semester, and at the termination of each semester they shall be deleted or disposed of appropriately.

204.9 If an officer fails to meet office hour requirements they will be warned after the first offense. After the second offense one paycheck will be withheld. Upon a third offense, officers may be impeached.

TITLE III LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

CHAPTER 300 – Qualifications of the Legislative Branch

300.1 To qualify for candidacy to the Student Senate, candidates must be in good standing with the University and possess a 2.30 grade-point average on a 4.0 scale from Troy University. Additionally, undergraduate candidates seeking a seat within the at-large delegation must have completed twelve (12) semester hours at Troy University. Each candidate for the Student Senate must submit a statement of intent indicating the position for which they are running and a qualifying fee of five (5) dollars to the Student Government Association. This fee is nonrefundable, should the candidate withdraw or become ineligible. This fee shall be submitted with the statement of intent by a deadline to be set by the Clerk. All candidates shall also sign a grade release statement with the statement of intent.

CHAPTER 301 – Senate Officers

301.1 President of the Student Senate

The Student Government Association Vice President of Legislative Affairs shall be the President of the Student Senate except during the impeachment procedure. The Senate President shall not vote except in the case of a tie. In the absence of the Senate President the line of succession shall be the President Pro Tempore followed in order of succession by: the Chairman of the Constitution and Rules Committee, the Chairman of the Student Welfare Committee, the Chairman of the Academic Life Committee, the Chairman of the Student Life Committee, the Chairman of the Publicity Committee.

301.2 President Pro Tempore and Director of Elections

There shall be an election to elect two Senators by a majority vote of the Student Senate by the second meeting of the Fall Session to serve the following offices for the academic year: President Pro Tempore and Director of Elections. The candidates for these offices shall be at least a sophomore and have at least a 2.50 grade point average when elected. The candidates must have been a member of the Senate for at least one semester, the Freshman Forum for one academic year, or have held an Executive position for the Student Government Association. Additionally, the Chairman of the Constitution and Rules Committee shall be disqualified from holding an elected office in the Student Senate.

301.3 The President Pro Tempore shall serve as the Assistant to the Senate President and be required to work in the Student Government Association office for five (5) hours a week. The President Pro Tempore shall regulate office and duty hours for Executive officers,

which shall be logged in the Student Government Association office. The President Pro Tempore may not be either the Chairman or Co-Chairman of the Constitution and Rules Committee.

301.4 The Director of Elections shall serve as an assistant to the Clerk during elections. The Director of Elections shall be required to work five (5) extra hours per semester in the Student Government Association office.

301.6 The Sergeant-At-Arms shall control the order of the Senate meetings, parliamentary procedure, and will escort and remain with nominees during discussion. The Sergeant-At-Arms shall be a member of the Senate and shall be appointed by the VPLA.

CHAPTER 302 – Composition of the Student Senate

302.1 The Student Senate shall be composed of forty five (45) members in the following areas: Housing, Academic, and At-Large.

302.2 The following apportionment of Senate seats shall be given to the housing delegation who will represents students living in the said residence halls. There will be one seat apportioned for each the following buildings: Clements, Cowart, Gardner, Hamil, Pace, Shackelford, and Newman Center. There shall be two seats apportioned for the following building: Alumni. In addition, there shall be three (3) seats apportioned to represent “special” housing as defined in 302.3 and two (2) seats for Trojan Village Buildings as defined in 302.4.

302.3 Special housing seats shall be divided in the following manner: The Houses on Fraternity Row shall collectively be apportioned one seat; the Houses on Sorority Hill shall collectively be apportioned one seat; and Paden House, Hillcrest House, and the Honors Cottage shall collectively be apportioned one seat.

302.4 Trojan Village 100, Trojan Village 200, Trojan Village 300 and Trojan Village 400 shall be appointed two (2) seats collectively. Those two Senators shall serve all four buildings.

302.5 To qualify for candidacy to a housing delegation seat, the student must be a resident of the said residence hall. If a Senator who represents a housing unit ceases to be a resident of the said residence hall during their elected term, they shall abdicate their office immediately.

302.6 Each college of the University (i.e. College of Arts and Sciences, Business, Education, Communication and Fine Arts, and Health and Human Services) shall have two (2) delegates elected to the Senate by the Student body. These delegates must be enrolled in the college in which they seek candidacy. One member from each college shall serve as a member of the Academic Life Committee. The other Senators shall serve on other committees as appointed by the President of the Student Senate. If a Senator who represents an academic delegation ceases to be a student in the school that they represent, they shall abdicate their office immediately.

303.7 There shall be one (1) graduate student elected to represent the Graduate School.

302.8 The remaining seats in the Student Senate shall be elected by the student body at-large.

302.9 Candidates will be allowed to run for one delegation only. A candidate cannot run for two types of seats concurrently.

302.10 The Student Senate shall have one month during the fall and spring academic semesters to reapportion itself if there is a change in the number of residence halls or academic colleges.

CHAPTER 303 – Senator Requirements

303.1 All Senators shall be required to complete twelve (12) Senator Points during the fall semester and eight (8) Senator Points during the spring semester. Failure to complete required Senator Points will result in expulsion of the Senator. The SGA Clerk will be responsible for keeping up with the Senator Hours. The Executive Committee shall have the final authority on what will constitute a Senator Point.

303.2 Any Senator expelled from the Senate as a result of failure to complete their Senator points shall not be permitted to run in the Senate election for the period of one (1) calendar year. All other rules regarding membership shall be detailed in the Standing Rules of the Senate.

Standing Rules of the Senate

TITLE IV PROCEDURE

CHAPTER 400 – Procedure of Meetings

400.1 Two-thirds (2/3) of active senators shall constitute a quorum. A simple majority of votes cast is required to pass legislations, unless otherwise stipulated.

400.2 Each senator shall have the right to speak on the same question in any given meeting. The length of debate for any Senator shall be limited to five (5) minutes. Debate must be relevant to the pending question. The Senate Chairperson shall not be allowed to discuss the merits of any question, except by temporarily stepping down from the chair to do so.

400.3 A Senator shall gain possession of the floor after raising their hand and being recognized by the Chairperson. Senators shall stand while in possession of the floor and shall surrender the floor by retaining their seat.

400.4 Each time there is a senator deleted or added to the roll it shall be noted by the Chairperson and included in the minutes.

400.5 The Chairperson shall preside over all meetings of the Student Senate except during impeachment procedures. In absence of the Chairperson, the line of succession is outlined in Section 301.1.

400.6 All meetings of the Student Senate shall be conducted under the authority of Roberts Rules of Order, Revised.

400.7 The order of business shall be:

1. Call to order
2. Prayer (optional)
3. Pledge of Allegiance (optional)
4. Mission Statement
5. Reading of the Minutes
6. Adjournment to Committees
7. Committee Reports
 - Standing

- Ad Hoc
- 8. Unfinished Business
- 9. Docket
- 10. New Business
- 11. Officer Reports
- 12. Advisor's Reports
- 13. Announcements
- 14. Adjournment
- 15. Good of the Order

CHAPTER 401 – Meetings

- 401.1** The Senate shall meet every Tuesday during the Fall and Spring semesters.
- 401.2** The Senate shall have at least two (2) formal meetings each month, to be decided by the Executive Committee.
- 401.3** The Senate shall not meet on the Tuesday of the week that final exams begin.

CHAPTER 402 – Procedure of a Bill

- 402.1** All bills shall be pre-filed with the Senate Chairperson.
- 402.2** The Senate Chairperson shall assign bills to the Standing Committee with proper jurisdiction to handle the bill or if deemed necessary may appoint an Ad Hoc committee to investigate the bill.
- 402.3** No committee shall have the power to “kill” a bill.
- 402.4** Upon receiving a committee's report of recommendation the Senate Chairperson shall place the bill on the docket for consideration at the next Senate meeting.
- 402.5** Unless there is a motion to suspend the rules, when the docket calls for a bill, the chair shall read the bill by short title. Immediately following the authors' reading of the bill, the chair will ask for a second. After the second, the chair shall read the committee's report of recommendation. After the Committee's recommendation, the chair shall hear any debate or questions that the senators shall have. After sufficient debate period, the chair shall call for a vote on the question. The secretary shall record the Ayes and Nays and note such in the minutes.

CHAPTER 403 – Absences and Tardiness

- 403.1** A member of the Senate, if he/she is absent from a meeting of the Senate, shall forfeit his/her voting rights for that meeting. Each senator may accumulate three unexcused absences per semester, and any additional unexcused absences will result in expulsion.
- 403.2** Absences will be excused for illness, death within the family, military duty, or an emergency cleared by the Executive Committee in writing by noon of the day of said Senate meeting. Any absences other than those aforementioned will be subject to the opinion of the Executive Committee.
- 403.3** Any member of the Senate who has been expelled from the Senate due to an accumulation of unexcused absences shall not be permitted to run in a Senate vacancy election for a period of one (1) calendar year.

403.4 Any member of the Senate not present during roll call will be considered absent. If that member becomes present after roll call, they will be considered tardy and will have full rights and privileges of the Senate with the exception of voting rights.

403.5 Any member of the Senate will be considered tardy after the Chairperson of the Senate has rapped the gavel to start the meeting. Excuses for tardiness will be subject to the opinion of the Executive Committee.

403.6 Two (2) missed office hours or two (2) instances of tardiness are equivalent to one unexcused absence.

TITLE V COMMITTEES

CHAPTER 500 – Committee Structure

500.1 The Vice President of Legislative Affairs of the Student Government Association shall appoint all Ad Hoc committees. Ad Hoc committees shall be governed by the same provisions of a Standing Committee in regard to legislature process within the committee. All Ad Hoc committees shall present a written report to the Vice President of Legislative Affairs at the end of the committee's assignment.

500.2 The President of the Student Senate shall make appointments to six (6) Standing Committees.

500.2.1 The Academic Life Committee shall be responsible for academic and curricular policies concerning Troy University and its students.

500.2.2 The Student Life Committee shall be responsible for student activities and events (i.e., Homecoming, concerts, etc.)

500.2.3 The Student Welfare Committee shall be responsible for areas concerning student well-being (i.e., Housing, Parking, Safety, etc.)

500.2.4 The Constitution and Rules Committee shall be responsible for all of the rules governing this constitution as well as the constitutions of organizations that are members of the Student Government Association. This committee shall oversee all members of the Student Government that they adhere to the provisions and responsibilities stipulated in this constitution.

500.2.5 The Publicity Committee shall be responsible for coordinating publicity for all SGA-sponsored events. This committee will also order and distribute items to aid in the promotion of the Student Government Association as necessary.

500.2.6 The Food Advisory Committee shall be responsible for student concerns with all campus dining.

500.3 Membership of each committee shall come from the members of the Senate.

500.4 The Senate Chairperson and Student Government Association President shall be ex-officio members of all committees.

500.5 The Executive Committee shall consist of all Student Government Association Executive Officers, Committee Chairpersons, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, and the Chief of Staff.

500.6 At least six (6) senators representing housing delegations shall serve on the Student Welfare Committee.

500.7 The five (5) senators representing academic delegations shall serve on the Academic Life Committee.

CHAPTER 501 – Committee Procedure

501.1 All Committees shall research and discuss each bill referred to it before making its report of recommendation to the Senate. The report of recommendation should summarize the committee's findings stating from what source evidence was obtained. The final paragraph of the report should state the committee's specific recommendations to the Senate.

501.2 Any Standing Committee has the power to draft legislation on its own initiative, provided that legislation is in keeping with the committee's jurisdiction and objectives. All legislation drafted under such conditions shall be fully researched by the committee of its origination. After such research is completed, the legislation and the committee's report of recommendation shall be sent to the Senate Chairperson who will place the bill on the docket.

501.3 The Committee Chairpersons may appoint a Secretary to record to the committee's activities. These minutes may be submitted as a Committee report as long as they are detailed enough to be useful. Semester reports are due at the last Senate meeting of every semester to be kept on file in the Student Government Association office.

501.4 If the Chairperson calls a committee meeting outside the normal meeting time and it is agreed upon by more than half of the committee members, it will be considered a formal committee meeting. An absence from this meeting will be equivalent to one missed office hour.

501.5 For any committee meeting to be excused, it must be cleared through the Committee Chairperson.

TITLE VI JUDICIAL BRANCH

CHAPTER 600 – Student Supreme Court

600.1 The Student Supreme Court shall be the highest judicial body of the Student Government Association. The decisions of inferior courts (courts of organizations that are in membership with the Student Government Association) may be appealed to the Student Supreme Court, excluding Traffic Appeals Committee cases.

600.2 The Student Supreme Court shall have the power to hear all cases involving violations of rules and regulations of the Student Government Association and general campus conduct. The authority of the Supreme Court shall not be construed to supersede the authority of the administration of this University.

600.3 The Student Supreme Court shall have original jurisdiction in those cases which require an interpretation of the Constitution, Code of Laws or any other set of rules regulating the Student Government Association.

600.4 The Student Supreme Court shall have authority to pass judgments on cases under its jurisdiction and a simple majority shall be necessary for a decision.

600.5 Each justice is required to work a minimum of one (1) hour per election as well as a minimum of two (2) homecoming events.

CHAPTER 601 – Composition of the Supreme Court and Qualifications of Justices

601.1 The Student Supreme Court shall be composed of nine (9) members that reflect the composition of the student body in aspects such as race, gender and ethnicity.

There shall be one Chief Justice, appointed by the Student Government Association President.

601.2 Two-thirds (2/3) of the justices shall constitute a quorum in all cases.

601.3 The Chief Justice shall have served on the Student Government Association Supreme Court at least one (1) semester.

601.4 To qualify as a justice, a person must have been enrolled in school at the time of appointment; should have at least a 2.25 grade point average and maintain an overall 2.25 grade point average while in office and be classified as a sophomore or above (having completed a minimum of 30 hours).

601.5 All justices must be in good standing with the university and maintain good standing with the university throughout the duration of their term. Justices will be held to exceptionally high standards of conduct.

601.6 Appointments of all Student Government Association Supreme Court Justices shall be made by the President and are subject to the approval of two-thirds (2/3) of the Student Senate.

601.7 Each Justice shall notify the SGA of a pending graduation by the second week of their last semester. Justices who are not enrolled must notify the Student Government Association President who shall appoint a new justice to fill the vacancy.

601.8 Each Justice is appointed until graduation at Troy University.

601.9 Upon being appointed Chief Justice, that individual will retain his/her position as Chief Justice until graduation.

601.10 A Justice or Chief Justice may be excused from office upon resignation, impeachment by a Senate decision, or failure to meet qualifications. If a Justice transfers schools, their position is automatically terminated.

CHAPTER 602 – Appeals

602.1 All appeals must be made to the Chief Justice of the Student Government Association within 24 hours after the decision being appealed.

602.2 The organization must present an appeal form and a representative of the organization will be allotted a time to meet with the Executive Council and the director of the event.

602.3 Mediation shall occur. Two members of each organization shall enter a designated room. Only two members from each organization will be allowed in the room. If the members are unable to reach a consensus, the Supreme Court will hear the appeal.

602.4 In order for the Supreme Court to hear an appeal two-thirds (2/3) of the Supreme Court must be present. The Chief Justice will vote only in the event of a tie.

602.5 The Chief of Staff will take minutes during the appeal process. The Chief of Staff will not have voice or vote. If the Chief of Staff is unable to attend, the Chief Justice will appoint a member of the Executive Branch.

602.6 The Sergeant-At-Arms will be present at the appeal.

602.8 The organization filing the appeal may have two (2) members or advisors present to defend the actions of their organization. Both members are allowed to speak on behalf of the organization.

602.9 The Student Government Association Executive Council, Student Government Association advisor, and the director of the event may attend to present evidence and information relative to the case. The director of the event and one other

individual from the named individuals may speak on behalf of the Student Government Association.

602.7 The Supreme Court Justices will hear the case of the organization filing the appeal in the following order:

- a. Evidence will be submitted to the Supreme Court prior to commencement of the hearing. Each justice shall have a copy of the evidence submitted. Evidence must be submitted to the Supreme Court prior to the commencement of the hearing for it to be admissible in the court.
- b. The Sergeant-At-Arms will read the section of legislation that has been violated, the appeal form and the previous decision.
- c. The organization filing the appeal will have an opportunity to explain and defend the actions of their organization, incorporating any submitted evidence they wish.
- d. The director of the event or the Student Government Association Executive Council members will explain the violation and address their concerns, incorporating any submitted evidence they wish.
- e. The Supreme Court will ask any questions they may have regarding the events, information and evidence. The questions must be directed toward and answered by the two individuals representing the organization(s) or the two individuals representing the Student Government Association.
- f. Upon completion of questioning, the Supreme Court will be dismissed to discuss the appeal. This discussion shall be recorded.

602.10 A hand-written ruling should be written and signed by the Supreme Court Justices that are present.

602.11 The ruling should be typed and submitted into the record books.

602.12 The ruling shall be handed down to each party involved.

602.12 All Supreme Court Justices should have a vote. Members of the Supreme Court are not allowed to have any direct involvement with their organization during the week of the event. Supreme Court Justices should remain neutral. Supreme Court Justice shall wear no organizational paraphernalia other than that of the SGA during the week of the event.

602.13 In cases where the Supreme Court has the authority of original jurisdiction, as outlined in 600.3, the Supreme Court shall follow the procedure outlined in Chapter 602.

CHAPTER 604 – Meetings

603.1 The Supreme Court shall be allowed to meet on Tuesday between the hours of 6:00 and 8:00 while the Senate is meeting. The Supreme Court shall be called into session by the President if a majority of the Executive Committee concurs.

603.2 The Chief Justice shall reserve the power to call a meeting of the Supreme Court.

603.3 The Student Supreme Court shall maintain a permanent file of its activities. The Chief Justice and the Chief of Staff shall maintain the records of the Supreme Court.

603.3 The President shall be empowered and obligated to remove any member of the Student Government Association Supreme Court accumulating two unexcused absences from the meetings of said court, if the justice was notified one week in advance of the meeting's time and place. Any appeals shall be made to the Student Senate. A two-thirds (2/3) approval from the Senate shall reinstate a justice to the court.

603.4 For any court meeting absence to be excused, it must be approved by the Chief Justice in writing during the week following the absence.

CHAPTER 604 – The Traffic Appeals Committee

604.1 The purposes of the Student Government Association Traffic Appeals Committee shall be to provide a regular means for Troy University students to appeal traffic citations issued by the University Police and to review the traffic code, at least once during each academic year, making recommendations to the appropriate officials. The Traffic Appeals Committee, like the Supreme Court, shall reflect the composition of the Student body.

CHAPTER 605 – Composition of the Traffic Appeals Committee and Qualifications of Members

605.1 The Traffic Appeals Committee shall be composed of one (1) Chairman, two (2) Committee Members, and two (2) Alternate Committee Members.

605.2 Three (3) Committee Members (including the chairman) must be present for Committee proceedings.

605.3 The Chairperson shall have served on the Student Government Association Traffic Appeals Committee at least one semester before appointment to the position of Chairperson, unless four-fifths (4/5) of the Senate votes to suspend this rule. Once appointed Chairperson, this person will remain until their graduation.

605.4 To qualify as a committee member, a person must have been enrolled in school at least one semester and, at time of appointment, have at least a 2.25 grade-point average, and be in good standing with the university. Committee members must remain in good standing with the university throughout the duration of their term.

605.5 Committee members shall be appointed until their graduation.

605.6 All appointments to this Committee shall be made by the President of the Student Government Association, given to the Constitution and Rules Committee for final say, and are subject to the approval of the Student Senate by two-thirds (2/3). Notification of their graduation date shall be furnished to the Student Government Association at the beginning of their last semester in school.

605.7 The President of the Student Government Association shall be empowered and obligated to remove any member of said Committee. Any appeal of the removal shall be made to the Supreme Court.

605.8 For any Committee meeting absence to be excused, it must be approved by the Chairman in writing during the week following the absence.

605.9 Impeachment of any member or members of the Traffic Appeals Committee is set forth in Title XI of the Student Government Association Code of Laws.

CHAPTER 606 – Powers of the Traffic Appeals Committee

606.1 The Traffic Appeals Committee shall reserve the power to hear individual complaints regarding traffic tickets. The recipient of the ticket will have up to three (3) minutes to explain their situation. The recipient of the ticket must attend the regularly scheduled Traffic Appeals Committee.

606.2 If the recipient of the ticket cannot attend the regularly scheduled meeting, they may submit a written statement of two hundred (200) words or less to be reviewed during the regularly scheduled meeting.

606.3 Each ticket appeal will be reviewed and the Traffic Appeals Committee will either revoke the ticket or deny the appeal.

606.4 If the ticket has been written for the incorrect amount, the Traffic Appeals Committee reserves the right to change the ticket amount to the amount that has been specified for the infraction in question.

606.5 The Traffic Appeals Committee may not change the amount of the ticket to any amount other than the correctly specified amount for the infraction in question.

606.6 The Traffic Appeals Committee decisions are final. There is no appeals process beyond Traffic Appeals Committee.

TITLE VII ELECTION LAWS

CHAPTER 700 – Elections

700.1 All Executive Officers of the Student Government Association shall be elected on the Wednesday that is four weeks prior to Spring Break. If circumstances are such that the election cannot be held on this date, a new date may be set with approval of the Student Senate by a two-thirds (2/3) vote.

700.2 All Senators shall be elected on the Wednesday that is two weeks after Spring Break to serve the following academic year. Elections for vacant senate positions shall be held in the semester following the vacancy on a date to be set by the Clerk.

700.3 The individual receiving a plurality of votes in the Senate election shall be awarded the concerned seat. In the event a vacancy shall occur the individual receiving the next highest number in the election shall be awarded the concerned seat. In the event the seat was uncontested, the seat will be available in the next vacancy election. The Clerk of the Student Government Association shall be responsible for maintaining these records. This clause applies to Senate seats only; Executive Officer vacancies shall be filled according to Article IV, Section H of the Constitution.

700.4 All elections sponsored by the Student Government Association shall be held by secret ballot. The time, place, and date of such elections shall be publicly announced seven (7) calendar days in advance.

700.5 In the Student Government Association Executive Election candidates must receive a majority of votes cast to be elected. If no majority is received in the initial ballot, a run-off election between the two (2) candidates receiving the most votes shall be held within one (1) calendar week after the initial election. In all other elections sponsored by the Student Government Association, candidates must receive a plurality of votes cast to be elected.

700.6 The advisor to the Senate and the Clerk shall secure the ballots and all other election records for seven (7) calendar days after the election, after which they shall destroy and or delete the ballots and all other election records, unless a member of the Student Government Association reports a violation of any Election Law. This report must be made in writing to the SGA Clerk within seven (7) calendar days after the election in which the alleged violation occurred.

700.7 There shall be no candidates added to the ballot after the application deadline has passed in any Student Government Association election.

700.8 In all elections, two members of the Senate and one of the following individuals shall be present at all times at the polling place: President, Vice President of Campus Activities, Vice President of Legislative Affairs, Clerk, Secretary, Supreme Court justice or Director of Elections.

700.9 In General Elections there shall be an absentee ballot box located in the Student Government Association office seven calendar days before Election Day. All absentee votes must be cast the day prior to the election.

700.10 To cast a vote in any Student Government Association sponsored election, each Troy University student must present the requested identification information at the polling place. Refusal to comply will result in the student not being allowed to vote.

700.11 The voting procedure shall be as follows:

a. The student will present their own Trojan ID card to the SGA member working the polling place outside of the polling place doors.

b. The SGA member will verify the student's name and ID number in the Troy University student roster by initialing next to the student's name.

c. The student will sign their name next to the initials of the SGA member.

d. The student will receive a voting pass, which they must take into the polling place.

e. The student will turn in the voting pass to the SGA member inside of the polling place, and in turn will be granted permission to use one of the computers specifically designated for on-line voting.

f. The student must leave their backpack, purse or any other personal affects at the outer boundary of the polling place. SGA members will monitor this area.

g. The student's ID card must remain visible during the entire voting process.

h. The student may not speak to anyone in the polling place or remainder of the room while voting.

i. The student may not use their cellular phone while voting in the polling place.

j. The student will enter the required information to log in to the voting system.

k. After completing the voting process, the student will pick up their personal affects left at the outer boundary of the polling place and directly leave the polling place.

l. The student may not remain in the polling place following completion of the ballot for any reason.

700.12 Fraudulent voting is strictly prohibited. It is illegal for any student to assume the identity of another student for any purpose. If a student is caught partaking in fraudulent voting practices, the SGA will pursue the case. Fraudulent voting activity is defined as but not limited to:

a. Voting with a student ID number, student ID card, social security number, email address or any other piece of information requested at the polling place that does not belong to the student presenting it.

b. Voluntarily giving your student ID number, student ID card, social security number, email address or any other piece of information requested at the polling place to any other individual.

c. One individual voting multiple times.

d. Tampering with the outcome of the election results.

e. Violating a single or multiple guideline illustrated in the Oracle, University Technology Policy, or any other standard set forth by Troy University.

f. Unethical conduct, which shall be determined by the SGA Executive Council and the university administration.

700.13 If an individual or organization is caught partaking in fraudulent voting activity during Homecoming elections, the punishment will include but not be limited to the following:

a. That individual will be banned from participating in any competitive Homecoming activities during their tenure at Troy University.

b. That individual will not be considered eligible to run for Homecoming Court during his or her tenure at Troy University.

c. The organization participating in fraudulent voting activities will be disqualified from the Homecoming competition and the organization in question will not be allowed to compete in Homecoming the following year, or length of time determined by the Supreme Court.

d. Members of the organization who are currently on the Homecoming Court ballot will be removed from the ballot. No member of the organization in question will be able to be nominated for Homecoming court year following the offense, or a length of time determined by the Supreme Court.

e. The SGA Supreme Court will hold a hearing and will determine whether further action needs to be taken.

f. The matter may be referred to the Troy University Judicial Affairs Committee for further discussion and appropriate action.

700.14 If an individual or organization is caught partaking in fraudulent voting activity during an Executive Officer Election, Senate Election, or Vacancy Election, the punishment will include but not be limited to the following:

a. That candidate and any individuals involved will be banned from any type of membership in the SGA, elected or appointed, during his or her tenure at Troy University.

b. The SGA Supreme Court will hold a hearing and will determine whether further action needs to be taken.

c. The SGA Executive Council will write a referral to the SGA Supreme Court of suggested punishments.

d. The matter may be referred to the Troy University Judicial Affairs Committee for further discussion and appropriate action.

700.15 In sections 700.13 and 700.14, the term ‘organization’ is defined as two or more individuals working together in fraudulent voting activities that are members of a single organization.

CHAPTER 701 – Campaign Laws

701.1 All campaign laws and violations are subject to the regulation of the Clerk who shall be assisted by the Director of Elections.

701.2 There shall be no campaigning of any form within the building in which the polling place is located on the day of the election. This includes any of the campaign materials listed in sections 701.7-701.22. This rule will be enforced at the discretion of the Clerk and Director of Elections.

701.3 It is the candidate's responsibility to make sure that no one is wearing a candidate's campaign material or distributing a candidate's campaign material on the day of the election inside the building where the polling place is located.

701.4 The Clerk is responsible for removing all signs posted in the building where the election is being held prior to the opening of the polls.

701.5 All campaigning may begin the day that applications are due at 4:00 p.m. No campaigning may occur prior to this time. If campaigning occurs prior to this time, the candidate will be disqualified.

701.6 Candidates may not use any form of campaigning other than those approved by the SGA, which are outlined in sections 701.7-701.22.

701.7 Candidates may distribute flyers through the Troy University Post Office. Post Office flyers may be the size of half of a sheet of standard 8 ½ by 11 inch typing paper or smaller. If mailing through the Post Office is done, it must be distributed in the Post Office boxes no less than forty-eight (48) hours prior to the election with permission from the Office of Student Involvement, the Clerk or the Director of Elections.

701.8 Candidates may have up to two (2) professional banners made or printed to hang on campus. These banners may be placed in the ground using stakes or may be hung from surfaces on campus. If a banner is hung from a building or fixture on campus, the administration reserves the right to request that it be moved. Candidates must comply promptly with the administration's wishes.

701.9 Candidates may paint car windows and place magnets on cars. The owner of the car must agree to have these forms of campaign material placed on their vehicle. The car paint should in no manner obstruct the driver's vision.

701.10 Candidates may distribute flyers to students living in dorms. These flyers may be the size of half of a sheet of standard 8 ½ by 11 inch typing paper or smaller.

701.11 Candidates may make appointments with organizations to speak at meetings. Candidates may not distribute any items other than those listed in sections 701.7-701.22.

701.12 Candidates may use social networks such as Facebook or MySpace or YouTube to campaign. Facebook flyers and similar advertisements are permitted.

701.13 Candidates may have campaign signs that are the size of a standard 8 ½ by 11 inch sheet of typing paper or smaller. These signs may only hang in designated circulation areas.

701.14 Candidates may purchase or make up to 10 yard signs, no larger than 24 x 12 inches to place on campus.

701.15 Candidates may print stickers to distribute.

701.16 Candidates may make up to three (3) large handmade signs or banners, no larger than a twin size sheet, or 66 x 96 inches. These signs or banners may be placed in the ground using stakes or may be hung from surfaces on campus. If a sign or banner is hung from a building or fixture on campus, the administration reserves the right to request that it be moved. Candidates must comply promptly with the administration's wishes.

701.17 Candidates may have a Web site promoting their candidacy. The Web site may not allude to other candidates in any way, shape or form.

701.18 Candidates may have posters, no larger than 11 x 18.

701.19 Candidates must participate in the SGA televised debates. The SGA will facilitate the debates and provide moderators. Format and questions are to be determined by the SGA Executive Council and Director of Elections.

701.20 Candidates may choose to participate or not participate in the SGA Brag Board Day. Candidates will be allowed to set up a campaigning station for a designated time period in a designated area. The SGA will provide each candidate with a table, and will coordinate all logistics. The candidate may have the following at their Brag Board Day table:

- a. One brag board with information about the candidate. No other candidate may appear on a brag board except for the candidate to whom the brag board belongs.
- b. 250 flyers, no larger than $\frac{1}{4}$ sheet of regular $8\frac{1}{2} \times 11$ inch paper.
- c. A laptop computer used to display a Web site, Facebook group, Power Point slides, or any other form of technological campaigning. The laptop computer may emit no sound or music.
- d. A query sheet to take up interested student's email addresses for an emailing list. Candidates may email the students who voluntarily sign up. Students must fully understand what they are signing up for. A student may at any time request to be added or removed from the list.
- e. One tablecloth.
- f. One assistant to help the candidate field questions, hand out materials, etc.

No more than one assistant will be allowed per table.

701.21 Candidates may order t-shirts only if approved by the Executive Officers. The t-shirts may only feature one color of ink. The request to order t-shirts must be submitted by the application deadline. The Executive Officers will vote at the SGA Executive Council meeting following the application deadline as to whether t-shirts will be allowed.

701.22 Candidates may make campaign suggestions to the Executive Council. The suggestion must be submitted in writing by the application deadline. The Executive Council will vote at the SGA Executive Council meeting following the application deadline as to whether the campaign suggestions will be allowed.

701.23 Candidates are required to remove all campaign materials within the twenty-four (24) hour period following the closing of the election polls. Failure to do so will result in appropriate action, which will be determined at the discretion of the Clerk.

701.24 The destruction of campaign materials prior to or on Election Day or on Election Day will be strictly prohibited. Violations will be punished at the discretion of the Clerk.

701.25 Falsifying information or submitting false information on the application. (For example, grades, signatures, classification) will be strictly prohibited. Violations will be punished at the discretion of the Clerk. The candidate who submitted the falsified application will be ineligible.

701.26 Any Troy University student shall have the right to report campaign and election violations to an Executive Officer. Any violations must be reported within seven (7) days after the election in which the supposed violation has occurred. Complaint forms are available in the SGA office.

701.27 Any slanderous or libelous action must be reported to the SGA Director of Elections or Clerk immediately. These actions will not be tolerated. If such actions occur, the matter will be dealt with at the discretion of the Executive Council and the Director of Elections. The Supreme Court will hold a hearing. The issue may be submitted to the Troy University Judiciary Committee for further action.

701.28 Any candidate who is a member of the SGA will be relieved of their SGA election-related duties during the election period and on Election Day.

701.29 If any Executive Officer is a candidate, he or she will forfeit all election-related responsibilities. In this scenario, the Executive Officer will hold no executive powers related to the election, nor hold any discretionary power. The following will assume the aforementioned powers for each office:

President – Executive Assistant
Vice President of Campus Activities – Sergeant at Arms
Vice President of Legislative Affairs – President Pro Tempore
Secretary – Chief of Staff
Clerk – Director of Elections

701.30 All candidates will be required to abide by any additional regulations that may be imposed at the time that candidate files intent or during the campaigning period or on Election Day.

701.31 Any candidate found in violation of the aforementioned rules and regulations will be subject to punishment including disqualification. The Executive Committee shall decide if a violation has occurred and what punishment, if any, shall be prescribed.

701.32 The SGA Executive Council and Director of Elections, as well as director of the event in question, reserve the right to investigate candidate and campaign conduct at any time for any reason.

701.33 The SGA Executive Council and Director of Elections, as well as director of the event in question, reserve the right to issue punishment for any conduct deemed unethical or any conduct that does not portray Troy University in a positive manner not mentioned or outlined in this Code of Laws.

TITLE VIII FINANCE LAWS

CHAPTER 800 – Appropriations of Funds

800.1 The Student Senate shall allocate funds appropriated and approved by the Troy University administration for the use of the Student Government Association.

800.2 Any student or student organization that requests funds must submit a proposal to the Vice President of Legislative Affairs. The proposal shall outline the reason funding is requested, exactly what the money will be spent on, and exactly how much money is requested.

800.3 The VPLA shall forward any proposals for funding to a committee that shall investigate and discuss the request. If the committee agrees with the request, it shall write a request for funds in bill form and submit it to the Student Senate.

800.4 The Student Senate shall debate the funding bill and decided by a majority vote if funds shall be allocated. The President shall be entitled to veto the bill, and the Senate shall have the power to override, as per standard bill procedure.

TITLE IX CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

CHAPTER 900 – Chartering Procedure

900.1 Any organization wishing to organize on the Troy University campus must apply through the Student Government Association and the Office of Student Involvement.

900.2 After approval from the office of Student Involvement, the completed materials shall be passed to the Committee on Constitution and Rules, which will review the material and issue an opinion to the Student Senate.

900.3 For recognition, the organization must be approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Student Senate.

900.4 If a petition for charter fails, the organization will be notified in writing and has ten (10) school days to appeal to the Student Supreme Court. Further appeal may be made in writing to the Senior Vice Chancellor for Student Services and Administration, who may grant a charter.

CHAPTER 901 – General Provisions

901.1 A chartered organization shall have the following privileges: use of university facilities for meetings and advertisements; recognition by the Palladium, the Tropolitan, The Oracle, and other official college catalogues; and eligibility to apply for an allocation of funds from the Student Senate.

901.2 Any changes to the purpose or constitution of a chartered organization must be submitted to the Office of Student Involvement and to the Committee on Constitution and Rules for review at least ten (10) days prior to the official change.

CHAPTER 902 – Organization and Charter Review

902.1 All organizations' constituents must meet the guidelines and standards set forth in their constitution.

902.2 Failure to meet the guidelines and the standards set forth in their constitution will result in a review by the Supreme Court and a staff review (Student Affairs member).

TITLE X FRESHMAN FORUM

CHAPTER 1000- Composition and Duties

1000.1 The Freshman Forum shall be made up of forty (40) incoming freshman chosen in the Fall Semester by the Freshman Forum Directors. Within the first two weeks of school each applicant will be interviewed by the Freshman Forum Directors, the VPCA, and the SGA President. The VPCA and President shall have no voice/vote, but be present only for observation purposes. The Freshman Forum Directors will rank all applicants and the top forty (40) applicants will be appointed to the Freshman Forum.

1000.2 The Freshman Forum shall be required to work at least one (1) office hour per week doing business for the Student Government Association or adhere to a work schedule set forth by the Freshman Forum Directors. This will be required only for weeks in which a Freshman Forum meeting is held.

1000.3 Two (2) missed office hours shall be considered an unexcused absence.

1000.4 Two (2) unexcused absences shall result in dismissal from the Freshman Forum.

CHAPTER 1001- Leadership and Committees

1001.1 The Freshman Forum shall be under the advisement of the Vice President for Campus Activities and the supervision of the Freshman Forum directors.

1001.2 Two Freshman Forum directors shall be appointed by the incoming VPCA each spring after Executive Elections, but before Senate Elections. The appointees are subject to a two-thirds (2/3) senate approval vote. The Freshman Forum Directors will be required to work three (3) hours in the SGA office each week. Should one or both Freshman Forum Directors vacate their position(s), the Vice President of Campus Activities shall appoint one or two new directors based on qualifications. Freshman Forum Directors shall not be able to run for any other SGA elected position while holding the office of Freshman Forum Director.

TITLE XI IMPEACHMENT

CHAPTER 1100 – Authority

1100.1 The Student Government Association Senate shall have the sole authority in all impeachment hearings.

1100.2 The Chief Justice of the Student Supreme Court shall preside over all impeachment hearings except in the impeachment of the Chief Justice in which case the Vice-President for Legislative Affairs shall preside.

CHAPTER 1101 – Procedure

1101.1 Two members of the Student Senate shall bring impeachment charges against any Senator, Executive Officer, Student Supreme Court Justice, Traffic Appeals Committee member, or any other elected or appointed officer of the Student Government Association.

1101.2 Impeachment hearings shall begin in the Senate with the introduction of a resolution by the two Senators. The resolution should state the specific offenses in one of the following two (2) categories:

1. Neglect of duties as specified in the Student Government Association Constitution.
2. Misconduct as described by University standards as they are stated in The Oracle.

1101.3 The Attorney General shall act as the prosecution. The accused has the right to the legal defense of his/her choice.

1101.4 A three-fourths (3/4) majority of the entire senate must be present for impeachment proceedings, and the resolution must pass by a three-fourths (3/4) majority vote of those senators present and voting.

1101.5 If a member shall be convicted during the impeachment trial held by the Senate, the member shall be removed from office immediately upon conviction. The lines of succession, if applicable, shall be enforced at that time.

1101.6 Upon impeachment, the Senate shall reserve the right to disqualify said member from running for election in the future.

TITLE XII AMENDMENTS

Chapter 1200 – Procedure for Amendments

1200.1 Amendments to the Code of Laws may be initiated by approval of the Student Senate by a two-thirds (2/3) vote.

1200.2 Amendments must be approved by the President of the Student Government Association within ten (10) days of its passage of the senate. The Amendment shall take effect after the tenth day if no action is taken by the president.

1200.3 The President's veto shall be over-ruled if a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the Senate votes to over-ride the veto.

Chapter 1201 – Ratification

1201.1 The Code of Laws shall be ratified as outlined in Chapter 1200.