

**CONSTITUTION
OF THE
STUDENT GOVERNMENT
ASSOCIATION
OF
PURDUE UNIVERSITY
FORT WAYNE**



STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

**RATIFIED April 8, 2018
AMENDED September 24, 2018
RATIFIED October 8, 2018
AMENDED April 25, 2022
AMENDED July 23, 2024**

PREAMBLE

We, the members of the student body of Purdue University Fort Wayne, recognizing the need for a representative and functional form of student government, do hereby establish this student government association, known as the Student Government Association (SGA), as the student governing body of this institution. We hold this constitution to be the fundamental law governing ourselves and our successors, now and hereafter, taking precedence over any other instruments governing SGA and subject only to the policies and regulations of Purdue Fort Wayne and any higher local, state, and federal laws.

The purpose of Student Government Association shall be to improve the student body's academic, cultural, mental, physical, and social welfare; safeguard the academic and individual freedoms of the members of the Purdue Fort Wayne student body; formulate policies governing the activities and welfare of the members of the Purdue Fort Wayne student body; advise the administration and faculty on the student viewpoint concerning matters of student interest; and seek and support legislation pertinent to the best interests of the Purdue Fort Wayne student body.

ARTICLE I: STUDENT BILL OF RIGHTS

SECTION 1: Discrimination

Under no circumstances shall SGA discriminate on the basis of age, color, disability, race, sex, gender identity, ethnicity, military status, national origin, political belief, religious creed, sexual orientation, marital status, or any other class protected by Purdue Fort Wayne policies and local, state, and federal laws.

SECTION 2: Due Process

No student or student organization shall be denied equal protections and due process by any branch or officer of SGA on any organizational matters.

SECTION 3: Eligibility

Students or student organizations shall not be denied reasonable eligibility for any opportunity or service provided by SGA except in situations outlined through official documents, policies, or legislation.

SECTION 4: Public Information

No student or student organization shall be denied free and open access to official SGA records.

SECTION 5: Confidentiality

Any and all personal student information handled by SGA shall be kept confidential to protect the identity of individuals and prevent the abuse of potentially sensitive information.

SECTION 6: Right to Appeal

Any student or student organization shall have the right to appeal to the Judicial Court any decision made by an officer or branch of SGA. Appeals against the Judicial Court shall be heard by the PFW Campus Appeals Board.

SECTION 7: Right to Organize

No members of SGA shall be denied the right to form organized political factions within the organization.

ARTICLE II: LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

SECTION 1: Legislative Authority

The Student Senate of the Student Government Association of Purdue University Fort Wayne, hereinafter referred to as the Student Senate, shall be the legislative branch of SGA with all of the legislative powers granted herein.

SECTION 2: Student Senate Membership

Part A: Requirements

Student Senators must:

- i. Be registered for a minimum of 3 credit hours at Purdue Fort Wayne for the duration of office and
- ii. Have and maintain a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or better on a 4.0 scale while in office (students with no established grade point average shall not be prohibited from joining, provided they establish and maintain a grade point average of 2.0 after their first semester) No member of the Student Senate may serve in any other branch of SGA while serving on the Student Senate.

Part B: Student Senate Duties

It shall be the duty of the Student Senate to:

- i. Uphold and adhere to this Constitution and any other documents binding to the Student Senate, and perform such duties as are designated therein
- ii. Responsibly represent the student body and identify issues affecting the student body
- iii. Charter student organizations
- iv. Allocate Student Activity Fee monies in accordance with university regulations and procedures
- v. Approve or disapprove of all appointments submitted by the Student Body President and Student Body Vice President of Legislation with a simple majority vote of Senate members present
- vi. Approve the annual SGA Allocations budget

Part C: Senator Terms

Terms for members of the Student Senate shall be one year. Each term shall begin on the day immediately following the first academic day of the fall semester and end on the first academic day of the following fall semester. Students seeking to fill a vacancy on the Student Senate may join at any time in the first 8 weeks of the Fall and Spring semester. After those 8 weeks, anyone interested in joining senate may not become a voting member of senate until the following semester.

Part D: Petitioned Seats

i. Purdue Fort Wayne Seats

The Student Senate shall consist of 15 petitioned members representing the student body at-large. Students seeking to fill a vacancy in an at-large seat must meet all membership requirements and present an official petition supporting him or her for the office bearing the signatures of 100 currently enrolled Purdue Fort Wayne students to the Student Government Advisor for verification and approval.

ii. Indiana University Fort Wayne Seats

As part of Senate funds come from Indiana University Fort Wayne Students, 2 additional At-Large seats (outside of the 15 PFW Petitioned Seats) shall be allocated to students in Indiana University Fort Wayne programs. Students seeking to fill a vacancy in an at-large seat must meet all membership requirements (including enrollment in at least 3 PFW credit hours) and present an official petition supporting them for the office bearing the signatures of 100 currently enrolled Indiana University Fort Wayne students to the Student Government Advisor for verification and approval.

Part E: Appointed Seats

i. Academic Appointed Seats:

The Student Senate shall also consist of members appointed by the most senior faculty member or a designee of their respective academic units (college, school, or division). The number of appointed seats per academic unit shall not exceed one per every 300 students enrolled in that unit based on the most current enrollment records, but each academic unit shall have at least one appointed seat.

ii. Student Service Seats

The Student Senate shall also consist of Student Service seats appointed by the most senior staff member or a designee of their respective departments. Student Service seats include appointments from the following departments:

1. IUFW – 3 appointed Indiana University Fort Wayne Students selected by the Director of

- Student Success, Engagement and Retention, or a designee of IUFW
- 2. Office of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion – 3 appointed PFW students selected by the Chief Diversity Officer, or a designee of ODEI
- 3. Athletics – 2 appointed PFW student athletes appointed by the Athletic Director or a designee of the Athletics department.
- 4. Student Housing – 2 appointed Student Housing seats (PFW Resident Assistant or PFW Student Housing resident) selected by the Director of Student Housing or a designee of Student Housing
- 5. Student Activities Board (SAB) – 1 appointed PFW Student Activities Board member selected by the Assistant Director of Student Life or a designee of The Office of Student Life
- 6. Military/ROTC- 1 appointed PFW student selected by the Office of Military Student Services or designee of ROTC.

All Appointed Senators shall have a meeting with their respective appointer at least once per semester and present a report at the last senate meeting of each semester.

SECTION 3: Student Senate Meetings

The Student Senate shall conduct regular meetings in accordance with Senate Bylaws and legislation. All meetings of the Student Senate shall be open to the public unless previously closed in accordance with the Student Senate Bylaws. Disputes concerning closed meetings shall be resolved by the Judicial Court. Quorum shall be met with a simple majority of total voting Senators in the Student Senate.

SECTION 4: Student Senate Powers

The Student Senate shall have the power to:

- i. Recall non-Judicial appointments with a 2/3 majority vote of the Student Senate members present
- ii. Recall Judicial Court appointments with a 2/3 majority vote of the Student Senate members present
- iii. Override presidential vetoes of proposed legislation with a 2/3 majority vote of Student Senate members present
- iv. Pass legislation and resolutions that advance the purposes of SGA to the proper parties

ARTICLE III: EXECUTIVE BRANCH

SECTION 1: Executive Authority

The Executive Branch of the Student Government Association of Purdue University Fort Wayne, hereinafter referred to as the Executive Branch, shall have all of the executive powers granted herein.

SECTION 2: Executive Branch Membership

The membership of the Executive Branch of SGA shall consist of the:

- Student Body President
- Student Body Vice President of Legislation
- Student Body Vice President of Finance
- Student Government Advisor(s)
- Executive Bureaucracy.

The Student Government Advisor and members of the Executive Bureaucracy shall have no voting rights in the Executive Branch. No member of the Executive Branch may serve in any other branch of SGA while serving in the Executive Branch.

SECTION 3: Executive Officers

Part A: Requirements

Executive Officers must:

- i. Be registered for a minimum of 6 credit hours at Purdue Fort Wayne at the time of election and for the duration of office.
- ii. Have and maintain at least a 2.0 cumulative grade point average on a 4.0 scale and be enrolled in at least 3 PFW credit hours throughout the duration on their term.

Part B: Executive Officer Terms

Terms for Executive Officers shall be one year. Each term shall begin on the day immediately following the last academic day of the spring semester and end on the last academic day of the following spring semester.

Part C: Meetings

The Executive Officers shall conduct regular meetings. All meetings of the Executive Officers shall be closed unless stated otherwise.

SECTION 4: Student Body President

Part A: Executive Authority

The Student Body President of the Student Government Association of Purdue University Fort Wayne, hereinafter referred to as the Student Body President, shall serve as the spokesperson for the student body and the chief executive for SGA.

Part B: Executive Duties

It shall be the duty of the Student Body President to:

- i. Represent SGA at official Purdue Fort Wayne events
- ii. Administer the policies, procedures, and programs of SGA as established by the Student Senate
- iii. Make reports and recommendations to the Student Senate and other decision-making organizations as deemed necessary or appropriate
- iv. Call and preside over meetings of the entire membership of SGA
- v. Sign or veto (with written objection) all Student Senate legislation, or specific lines of legislation, within five business days of passage by their respective bodies and return them to the Student Body Vice President of Legislation. Legislation not acted on and delivered by the Student Body President within five business days will stand as decided upon by their respective bodies.
- vi. Appoint Judicial Court Justices with approval by a simple majority vote of the Student Senate members present

Part C: Executive Powers

The Student Body President shall have the power to:

- i. Submit appointments for campus and university-wide boards, committees, and directorships which have student representation for approval by a simple majority vote of the Student Senate members present
- ii. Appoint other directors, as needed, to assist the Student Body President with daily operations of the Executive Branch with approval by a simple majority vote of the Student Senate members present
- iii. Recall presidential committee appointments with approval by a simple majority vote of the Student Senate members present
- iv. Issue executive orders as may be necessary to exercise the duties and responsibilities of the office

SECTION 5: Student Body Vice President of Legislation

Part A: Executive Authority

The Student Body Vice President of Legislation of the Student Government Association of Purdue University Fort Wayne, hereinafter referred to as the Student Body Vice President of Legislation, shall assist the Student Body President in matters concerning the Student Senate.

Part B: Executive Duties

It shall be the duty of the Student Body Vice President of Legislation to:

- i. Serve as the President of the Student Senate
- ii. Call and preside over meetings of the Student Senate
- iii. Appoint the Pro Tempore of the Student Senate and a Senate Clerk and Parliamentarian with the concurrence of a simple majority vote of the total Student Senate membership
- iv. Appoint chairpersons to standing and ad hoc Student Senate committees with the concurrence of a simple majority vote of the total Student Senate membership
- v. Appoint Student Senators to Student Senate committees as necessary
- vi. Assist with the implementation of Student Senate legislation, programs, recommendations, and resolutions
- vii. Provide incoming Student Senators with all necessary information pertinent to their service to SGA

Part C: Executive Powers

The Student Body Vice President of Legislation shall have the power to:

- i. Cast a tie-breaking vote in Student Senate
- ii. Call special Student Senate meetings when necessary
- iii. Act as a non-voting ex-officio member of all the Student Senate committees
- iv. Have access to all official records of the Student Senate

SECTION 6: Student Body Vice President of Finance

Part A: Executive Authority

The Student Body Vice President of Finance of the Student Government Association of Purdue University Fort Wayne, hereinafter referred to as the Student Body Vice President of Finance shall serve as the financial officer for SGA.

Part B: Executive Duties

It shall be the duty of the Student Body Vice President of Finance to:

- i. Maintain and audit all financial records and accounts of SGA
- ii. Ensure that all expenditures follow university guidelines and procedures
- iii. Prepare expense reports or other reimbursements for members of SGA and process to the appropriate university department or individual
- iv. Prepare paperwork for funding approved by the Student Senate
- v. Issue monthly financial reports to the Student Senate and the Executive Branch
- vi. Issue a Semester Financial Report at the end of each fall and spring semester which will be open to audit by the Student Senate
- vii. Serve as co-office manager alongside the Student Government Advisor
- viii. Serve as the chair of the SGA committee assigned to the development of the yearly budget as described by the SGA Financial Guidelines and the Purdue Fort Wayne Student Activity Fee Manual
- ix. Issue previous fiscal year financial report of the Student Senate and the Executive Branch within the first four official meetings of the fall semester to those respective branches.
- x. Work with administrators, faculty, and staff to voice student opinions regarding issues relating to academic matters on campus
- xi. Serve on the University Budget Committee

Part C: Executive Powers

The Student Body Vice President of Finance shall have the power to:

- i. Make recommendations to any branch of SGA concerning the expenditure of funds
- ii. Create ad-hoc committees over matters relating to academic affairs

SECTION 7: Student Government Advisor

Part A: Administrative Authority

The Student Government Advisor of Purdue University Fort Wayne, hereinafter referred to as the Student Government Advisor, shall serve as a representative of the university administration and

exercise their authority on all matters pertaining to SGA.

Part B: Administrative Duties

The Student Government Advisor shall:

- i. Provide assistance and advice to all members of SGA
- ii. Oversee any necessary training for members of SGA
- iii. Oversee any general office business
- iv. Serve as co-office manager alongside the Student Body Vice President of Finance
- v. Provide leadership and bring issues before any branch of SGA
- vi. Sign off on all SGA financial paperwork

SECTION 8: Executive Bureaucracy

The Executive Bureaucracy shall:

- a. Consist of the:
 - SGA Pro Tempore
 - Legislative Affairs Committee Chair
 - Ways and Means Committee Chair
 - Public Relations Committee Chair
 - SGA Executive Assistant(s)

The Student Body President and SGA advisor(s) will oversee the Executive Bureaucracy in accordance with the SGA Executive Bylaws.

ARTICLE IV: JUDICIAL BRANCH

SECTION 1: Judicial Authority

The Judicial Court of the Student Government Association of Purdue University Fort Wayne, hereinafter referred to as the Judicial Court, shall be the judicial branch of SGA with all of the judicial powers granted herein.

SECTION 2: Judicial Court Structure

Part A: Membership

The Judicial Court shall consist of one Chief Justice and six Associate Justices. Each Justice shall have equal voting power on the Court. The Chief Justice shall be elected from the full membership of the Court. The Court shall also establish its own additional officer positions and order of succession.

Part B: Nomination and Confirmation

Judicial Court Justices shall be nominated by the Student Body President and confirmed by a simple majority vote of the Student Senate members present.

SECTION 3: Judicial Court Justices

Part A: Requirements

Members of the Judicial Court must

- i. Be registered for a minimum of 3 credit hours at Purdue Fort Wayne at the time of appointment and for the duration of office
- ii. Must have and maintain a 2.0 cumulative grade point average on a 4.0 scale; students with no established grade point average shall not be prohibited from joining, provided they establish and maintain at least a 2.0 grade point average after their first semester. No member of the Judicial Court may be a member of any other branch of SGA while serving on the Judicial Court.

Part B: Duties

It shall be the duty of the Judicial Court to:

- i. Uphold and adhere to this Constitution and all other established SGA binding documents
- ii. Act as a trial court for election disputes, for disputes between branches of SGA, and for impeachment proceedings outlined in this Constitution
- iii. Act as an appellate court for issues concerning the Constitutionality of proposed legislation, policies, or actions of any branch of SGA, for appeals concerning recalls or removals from office

not originally overseen by the court, and for any other issues of due process concerning any branch or officer of SGA

- iv. Issue advisory rulings on all proposed amendments to this Constitution

Part C: Justice Terms

Judicial Court Justices shall not be prohibited from serving more than one term, but they must be reappointed by the student body president every academic year to maintain their membership.

Part D: Vacancies

Vacancies on the Judicial Court shall be filled through an appointment from the Student Body President with a simple majority approval of the Student Senate membership. Upon the vacancy occurring, the Student Body President shall make an effort to find a replacement. Justices appointed to fill a vacancy shall complete the remainder of the term of the seat in which they are appointed for based on the class of the seat.

SECTION 4: Judicial Court Meetings

The Judicial Court meetings shall be open to the public however deliberations regarding specific decisions before the Court may be closed to the public. Minutes of all open meetings must be recorded and kept on file in the SGA office. Quorum shall be met with a simple majority of the Judicial Court membership.

SECTION 6: Judicial Court Powers

The Judicial Court shall have the power to:

- i. Issue advisory rulings concerning the Constitutionality of proposed legislation, policies, or actions of any branch or officer of SGA. Advisory rulings may only be requested by the branch or officer responsible for originally issuing the proposed legislation, policy, or action
- ii. Interpret the meaning of this Constitution when issues of clarity or subjectivity affect legislation, policies, or actions proposed or undertaken by any branch or officer of SGA. Official decisions on interpretations by the Court shall be binding to SGA.

SECTION 7: Decisions

Part A: Requests for Judicial Action

Any individual or organization may request a Court ruling or review, provided such a request is in accordance with the procedures established by the Court. All requests for Court actions shall be distributed to all members of SGA and the Student Government Advisor.

Part B: Hearings

Upon receiving a request for a Judicial Court decision, the Court must either issue a written notice of its meeting to consider the issue or provide written grounds for its decision not to consider the issue. The notice shall be made available to all members of SGA, the Student Government Advisor, and the student body through electronic mail and any other methods established by the Court. A meeting to consider the issue must occur at least one week after notice of the meeting has been issued.

Part C: Judicial Decisions

All decisions of the Judicial Court shall be issued in writing. All decisions shall contain a brief restatement of the case, any pertinent findings, a majority or plurality decision of the Court that is signed by all agreeing Justices, and any dissenting opinions that is signed by all dissenting Justices. All concerned or affected parties, all members of SGA, and the Student Government Advisor shall be notified of the Court's decision. A copy of all Court decisions shall be kept on file in the SGA office.

ARTICLE V: ELECTIONS

SECTION 1: Election

Part A: Election Authority

The Election Board of the Student Government Association of Purdue University Fort Wayne, hereinafter referred to as the Election Board, shall administer the SGA elections alongside the SGA Adviosrin accordance with policies and procedures outline in this Constitution and the SGA Election Code established by the Student Senate.

Part B: Membership Requirements

- i. Members of the Election Board must
 - a. be registered for a minimum of 3 credit hours at Purdue Fort Wayne for the duration of office
 - b. have and maintain a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or better on a 4.0 scale while in office (students with no established grade point average shall not be prohibited from joining, provided they establish and maintain a grade point average of 2.0 or better after their first semester).
- ii. Election Board members cannot:
 - a. be seeking any elected position within SGA during the academic year in which the election is held
 - b. be members of any other branch of SGA for the duration of their service on the Election Board.

Part C: Duties

Election Board duties shall be defined and established in the SGA Election Code.

SECTION 2: Candidates

Each candidate for any elected position within SGA must prepare a petition supporting their candidacy signed by a minimum of 250 Purdue Fort Wayne students.. This petition must be submitted to the Election Board in the manner established by the Election Board.

SECTION 3: Voters

Any individual enrolled and in possession of a PFW or IUFW ID card in which the election is being held may vote in SGA elections upon meeting reasonable criteria outlined in this Constitution and the SGA Election Code.

SECTION 4: Results

Any candidate or a specifically designated representative for a candidate may file an appeal or request a recount of the election within 24 hours of the unofficial election results. Any such request or appeal must be made in writing and be submitted to the Election Board and the Student Government Advisor.

ARTICLE VIII: VACANCY FROM OFFICE

SECTION 1: Resignation

Any member of SGA may resign for any purpose at any time.

Part A: Student Body President

Student Body President must submit a letter of resignation to the Student Government Advisor.

Part B: Other members of SGA

Any other member must submit a letter of resignation to the Student Body President or their presiding officer and the Student Government Advisor.

Part C: Notification

The Student Government Advisor shall provide notification of the resignation to the presiding officer of the branch in which the vacancy occurred, and if applicable, the next in line of succession.

SECTION 2: Impeachment

Part A: Regulations

- i. All incoming membership of the Student Senate shall be frozen once impeachment proceedings commence and until the subject is removed or until any step in the impeachment or removal processes fails.
- ii. In the event membership terms expire during any step in the impeachment or removal processes, membership terms shall be extended until the subject is removed or until any step in the impeachment or removal processes fails.
- iii. All resignation letters shall be submitted in writing to the Student Government Advisor during impeachment or removal proceedings.

Part B: Ground for Impeachment

Any member of SGA may be impeached for:

- i. Violation of the University's Code of Conduct and Student Rights and Responsibilities or other university policies.
- ii. Violation of this Constitution or other SGA policies and regulations.
- iii. Theft, misappropriation, or misuse of funds or property of Purdue Fort Wayne or SGA.
- iv. Acts of fraud or dishonesty.
- v. Any other grounds that severely diminish the individual's suitability to perform the duties of their office.
- vi. Failure to fulfill one's duties by the standard of SGA advisor(s).

Part C: Articles of Impeachment

- i. The articles of impeachment must include the name and the office of the accused, the name of the accuser, and a detailed list of the charges of impeachment by including, if at all possible: the offense(s) the accused is alleged to have committed by citing the relevant section of these regulations, the date(s), time(s), place of the alleged offense(s), thorough details of the action that was committed, and other relevant circumstances or information.
- ii. The articles of impeachment shall be submitted in writing to the Student Government Advisor before petitioning.
 - a. The Student Government Advisor shall have two full business days to verify that the articles of impeachment were received.
 - b. The Student Government Advisor shall verify the documents by signing and dating all pages of the articles and relevant documents and maintain a copy.
 - c. Once verified, the Student Government Advisor shall immediately distribute a copy to all concerned, affected parties, and all members of SGA.
 - d. The Student Government Advisor shall provide an official petition form to the accuser(s) and notify the accuser(s) that they may start petitioning. No individual shall be forced to sign without further evidence or rationale.

Part D: Petition to Initiate Impeachment

- i. The official petition shall state, "I have read the verified articles of impeachment and all relevant documents and I hereby petition to initiate impeachment proceedings."
- ii. The official petition shall then be submitted in writing to the Student Government Advisor with a verified petition containing the signatures of either:
 - a. 3% of the student body, or
 - b. Signatures of simple majority of the total voting members of the Student Senate.
- iii. The Student Government Advisor shall have up to two full business days to verify the signatures upon notification and receipt of the articles of impeachment. Upon verification of the signatures for the articles of impeachment, the Student Government Advisor shall immediately notify all concerned, affected parties, and all members of SGA.

Part E: Impeachment Proceedings

- i. Attendance for voting members at impeachment proceedings shall be mandatory, only emergencies may be accepted as excused as defined by the Bylaws or otherwise excused by the Student Government Advisor.
 - a. Unexcused absence for impeachment proceedings may constitute as a removable offense by the Bylaws for voting members of the Student Senate.
- ii. The impeachment proceedings shall be held at least three but no later than fourteen Purdue Fort Wayne academic days from the verification of signatures of the articles of impeachment.
- iii. The Chief Justice of the Judicial Court, or the Student Government Advisor in the event the Chief Justice is being impeached, shall schedule an emergency all-SGA meeting.
 - a. The Chief Justice shall chair the meeting
 - b. If the Chief Justice is the subject of the proceedings, the next Justice in line based on the order of succession established by the Judicial Court shall chair the meeting.
 - c. If there is no available Justice to chair the meeting then the Student Government Advisor shall act as neutral arbiter and objectively chair the impeachment proceedings and shall not have voting rights. The subject of the articles of impeachment may not vote in any impeachment proceedings.
- iv. Simple majority of the total voting Student Senate membership shall constitute a quorum for impeachment proceedings. Removal from office shall become effective immediately upon a 2/3 vote of the total attending voting members, provided that at least a simple majority of the attending voting members of the Student Senate members vote to remove the individual from office.
- v. Upon such a vote, the individual shall be removed from office and disqualified to hold any position within the SGA for one calendar year from the removal from office. No other penalty may be imposed at the impeachment proceedings.

SECTION 3: Vacancy

In the event that an SGA office becomes vacant through any other means, the Student Government Advisor shall provide notification of the vacancy to the presiding officer of the branch in which the vacancy occurred and, if applicable, the next in line of succession. The position shall be filled in accordance with the order of succession.

SECTION 4: Order of Succession Part A: Succession Options

The choice of filling a vacancy is open to any member of SGA next in line in the order of succession. If a member declines the option to fill a vacancy, the succession process is moved to the next qualified member according to the order of succession.

Part B: Student Body President

If the office of the Student Body President becomes vacant, the order of succession for the presidency shall be:

- i. the Student Body Vice President of Legislation (elected)
- ii. the Student Body Vice President of Finance (elected)
- iii. the Student Body Vice President of Legislation (appointed)
- iv. the Student Body Vice President of Finance (appointed)
- v. the Pro Tempore of the Student Senate
- vi. a Student Senator elected by a majority vote of the Student Senate

Part C: Student Body Vice President of Legislation

If the office of the Student Body Vice President of Legislation becomes vacant, the order of succession shall be:

- i. the Pro Tempore of the Student Senate with a majority approval of the Student Senate
- ii. a Student Senator elected by a majority vote of the Student Senate

Part D: Student Body Vice President of Finance

If the office of the Student Body Vice President of Finance becomes vacant, the order of succession shall be:

- i. the Chairperson of the Ways and Means Committee with financial jurisdiction with a majority approval by the Student Senate
- ii. a Student Senator elected by a majority vote of the Student Senate

ARTICLE VII: REFERENDUM

SECTION 1: Initiative

Any PFW student shall have the right to petition for a referendum to gather a simple nonbinding opinion of the student body to the Student Government Advisor by submitting a petition containing the signatures of at least 1% of the student body.

SECTION 2: Process

Upon verification of signatures by the Student Government Advisor, the referendum shall be distributed to all members of SGA and submitted to the Student Senate for an at least simple majority approval of members present. The question and available answers for the question shall be simple and not be worded in such a way which would give misleading information or to obtain misleading opinions from the student body; the merit of the vote shall be based upon this assessment. Upon approval, the referendum shall be submitted to the Election Board to be placed on the ballot during the annual elections.

SECTION 3: Requirements

- i. The voters shall not be forced to respond to the referendum
- ii. There shall be only one question per referendum
- iii. There shall be no more than five referendums per election. If there are more than five referendums submitted, then the Election Board shall select the top five with the most signatures. Ties shall be broken by a simple majority vote of the election board

- iv. The deadline for referendum submissions to the Election Board per election shall be stated in the SGA Election Code

ARTICLE VIII: RECORDS

All documents that are open to the public, including but not limited to: agendas, minutes, bills, resolutions, etc., shall be made reasonably available to the public.

ARTICLE IX: AMENDMENTS

SECTION 1: Method

This Constitution may be amended upon by a 2/3 majority vote of the total Student Senate voting membership as well as Judicial Court. Attendance shall be mandatory at meetings if amendments to this constitution are on the agenda and available to be acted on; only emergencies may be accepted as excused as defined by the Bylaws or by the Student Government Advisor. Once amendments are accepted, they are binding documents that are ratified by default. Upon an amendment being approved by the Student Senate the Student Government Advisor shall edit the official Constitution document and distribute the most recent version of the document to every member of SGA.

ARTICLE X: BYLAWS

Each branch of SGA shall be responsible for establishing, maintaining, and adhering to its own Bylaws. Each branch shall only have the power to amend or replace its own set of Bylaws with a 2/3 majority vote of the Student Senate.