

We, the students of the State University of New York College at Geneseo, in order to promote a clear and continuing participation of students in the formulation of aims, objectives, and policies of the University College, do establish this Constitution.

### **Article I – Name**

- A. The name of this organization is the Undergraduate Student Association of the State University of New York College at Geneseo, hereinafter referred to as Student Association.

### **Article II – Student Association**

#### *Section I – Membership*

- A. The membership of the Student Association shall include all full-time and part-time undergraduate student activity fee-paying undergraduate students at the College.
- B. The voting membership shall include all full-time and part-time undergraduate student activity fee-paying students.
- C. Hazing means any act, explicit or implicit, committed by a person, whether individually or in concert with others, against a student in connection with pledging, being initiated into, affiliating with, holding office in, or maintaining membership in any organization or team and which is intended to have the effect of, or should reasonably be expected to have the effect of, humiliating, intimidating or demeaning the student or endangering the mental or physical health of the student, regardless of the person's willingness to participate. Hazing also includes soliciting, directing, aiding, or otherwise participating actively or passively in the above acts. (Approved by College Council Feb. 17, 2012)
  - a. Organizations responsible for incidents of hazing may lose College registration and be excluded from the campus. There will be no hazing involved in the recruitment or maintenance process of membership. (Refer to the Division of Student and Campus Life Student Organization Handbook located at <http://union.geneseo.edu>)

### **Article III – Student Association Executive Committee** (hereinafter referred to as Executive Committee)

#### *Section I – Membership of the Executive Committee*

- A. The Executive Committee shall include eight (8) members, all of whom must be undergraduate voting members of the Student Association with at least six (6) hours in residence for and during their term of office.
- B. The Executive Committee shall include the President, Vice President, and the Directors of Academic Affairs, Business Affairs, Inter-Residence Affairs, Public Relations, Student Affairs and Diversity, and Student Programming. The Director of each office will be the Executive Committee member elected

- to that office. No Executive Committee member shall serve as Director of more than one office unless a vacancy occurs on the Executive Committee.
- C. Members of the Executive Committee must have at least a 2.40 cumulative grade point average prior to entering office and must receive at least a 2.0 semester average throughout the tenure of their position. If a member of the Executive Committee's semester grade point average is between a 2.0 and 2.4, the individual will be required to hold biweekly meetings with the SA Advisor. If a member of the Executive Committee receives a semester grade point average below 2.0 they will be dismissed from their position and their position will be filled as detailed in Article VIII, Section IV, Clause B.
  - D. In the spirit of impartiality and transparency, no member of the Executive Committee may be a member of an executive board or hold a similar leadership role in any other funded Student Association organization for the duration of their time in office on the Executive Committee.
  - E. The Director of Inter-Residence Affairs must be an on-campus resident for at least one semester prior to holding office and for the duration of their time in office.

*Section II – Election of Members to the Executive Committee*

- A. Executive Committee positions of President, Vice President, and the Directors of Academic Affairs, Business Affairs, Inter-Residence Affairs, Public Relations, Student Affairs and Diversity, and Student Programming will be elected at large from and by all voting members of the Student Association.
  - a. Candidates for the position of Director of Inter-Residence Affairs must meet the criteria as outlined in Article III, Section I, Part E of this Constitution.
- B. Elections for the Executive Committee will be held within the two-week period prior to registration for fall semester classes as established by the College. The term of office of the newly elected Executive Committee will begin at the adjournment of the last Student Association business meeting of the spring semester and will end at the adjournment of the last Student Association business meeting of the spring semester of the following year.
- C. If a vacancy should occur prior to the Thanksgiving Vacation as established by the College, the position will be filled by means of an election. If a vacancy should occur during or after the Thanksgiving Vacation as established by the College, the position will be filled at the discretion of the Executive Committee.
- D. In the event of the dismissal or resignation of the President from office, the Vice President will assume the position of President.
  - a. The position of Vice President will be filled adherent to Article III, Section II, Part C.

*Section III – Duties of the Executive Committee*

- A. To be the executive and legislative branch of the Student Association.
- B. To be the sole official representative of the Student Association.

- C. To discuss, recommend, and/or legislate policies of concern to the Student Association.
- D. To prepare and approve the budget of the Student Association in the spring semester for the following year.
- E. To approve all actions taken in the name of the Student Association.
- F. To appoint a treasurer who shall approve all expenditures taken in the name of the Student Association that are in concurrence with Student Association Financial Policy and guidelines of the State University of New York Board of Trustees, which are to promote and provide a clear and continuing participation of students in the formulation of programs of cultural, educational, recreational, social, tutorial, athletic, student publican and other aims, objectives, and policies of the University College.
- G. To approve all appointments made by the Student Association President.
- H. To approve at least one faculty or administrative advisor appointed by the Student Association President.

*Section IV – Meetings*

- A. A quorum will be a simple majority of the members of the Executive Committee.
- B. Meetings of the Student Association shall be each week in the fall and spring semesters while classes are in session. Meetings of the Student Association shall also be held at least three (3) times during the summer months.
- C. Meetings of the Student Association shall be open to all members of the College community except when the Executive Committee is in Executive Session.
  - a. In Executive Session, the Executive Committee shall have no legislative power.
- D. Meetings of the Executive Committee shall be called by the Student Association President or upon request by two (2) members of the Executive Committee.
- E. Meetings of the Student Association shall be run according to parliamentary order stated in Robert’s Rules of Order, Revised, or rules of order adopted by the Executive Committee.
- F. Minutes of all meetings of the Student Association shall be filed by the Student Association Director of Programs, Personnel, and Finance.

**Article IV – Duties of the Members of the Executive Committee**

*Section I – Duties of the President*

- A. To preside over all Student Association meetings.
- B. To make all necessary appointments with the approval of the Executive Committee.
- C. To represent the Student Association at appropriate College functions.
- D. To oversee the operation of all offices.
- E. To perform all duties pertaining to the office of President.

- F. To file a year-end report no later than one (1) week after the succeeding Executive Committee assumes office.
- G. To train the Vice President in duties pertaining to the office of President in the event that the Vice President would temporarily serve in this capacity.

*Section II – Duties of the Vice President*

- A. To assume the duties of the President in the absence of the President.
- B. To assume the position of President in the event of the President's dismissal or resignation from office.
- C. To act as a liaison between the Student Association and the College Senate.
- D. To perform all duties pertaining to the office of Vice President.
- E. To file a year-end report no later than one (1) week after the succeeding Executive Committee assumes office.

*Section III – Duties of the Directors*

- A. To be the chairpersons of their respective offices.
- B. To carry out action of the Executive Committee in their respective areas.
- C. To perform all duties pertaining to their respective offices.
- D. To file a year-end report no later than one (1) week after the succeeding Executive Committee assumes office.

**Article V – Standing Committees of the Executive Committee**

*Section I – Membership of Standing Committees*

- A. Academic Affairs Committee membership shall consist of one (1) voting student from each academic department offering a major; elected or appointed by the academic department.
- B. Geneseo Campus Activities Board membership shall consist of programming committees headed by respective chairs and members elected or appointed at the discretion of the Geneseo Campus Activities Board Executive Board as prescribed by the Geneseo Campus Activities Board Constitution.
- C. Inter-Residence Council membership shall consist of one (1) student representative for each 100 students per residence hall or unit. Should the residential population of the College fluctuate, the Inter-Residence Council Executive Board reserves the right to determine the appropriate number of representatives from each hall or unit.
- D. Directors of the Business Affairs, Public Relations, and Student Affairs and Diversity offices shall appoint respective subcommittee members at their own discretion.

*Section II – Duties of the Officers of the Executive Committee*

- A. To establish their own by-laws with the approval of the Executive Committee.
- B. To establish their own procedures.
- C. To recommend to the Executive Committee action to be taken in the respective areas.

## **Article VI – Undergraduate Student Association Elections Committee (USAEC)**

- A. The Undergraduate Student Association Elections Committee, hereinafter called USAEC, is a standing committee of the Executive Committee.

### *Section I – Chairperson*

- A. The chairperson of the USAEC will be appointed by the Student Association President with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee.
- a. This appointment will be made by the first Student Association meeting of the fall semester.

### *Section II – Membership*

- A. A minimum of three (3) and not more than ten (10) members (excluding the Chairperson) shall be appointed to the USAEC by the Student Association President with the advice of the Chairperson of USAEC and the consent of the Executive Committee.
- B. No member of the USAEC (including the Chairperson) may be an appointed or an elected representative, or a candidate for, any elected student office that falls under the jurisdiction of the USAEC.
- C. Any voting member of the Student Association shall be eligible for appointment to the USAEC.

### *Section III – Duties of the USAEC*

- A. Receives its powers and obligations from the Executive Committee in accordance with the Constitution.
- B. The USAEC shall establish its own procedures with the approval of the Executive Committee.

## **Article VII – Student Court**

### *Section I – Membership*

- A. Five justices are to be appointed by the Student Association President with the advice and consent of the members of the Executive Committee.
- B. Of the chosen five justices, one will be appointed by the Student Association President, with the advice and consent of the members of the Executive Committee, to serve as the Chief Justice of the Court.
- C. All justices must have at least a 2.0 cumulative grade point average prior to and during term of office.
- D. Justices shall serve as long as they maintain voting membership in the Student Association or until their resignation/dismissal from office.
- E. No member of the Student Court will also be a member of the Executive Committee.
- F. No member of Student Court will hear a case involving an organization in which he/she is an executive officer.

### *Section II – Duties and Powers of the Student Court*

- A. To establish its own procedures with the approval of the Executive Committee, to be reviewed every two years during the week of spring elections.
- B. Duties of the Student Court
  - a. To recommend to the Executive Committee appropriate action in all cases involving violations or validity of all Student Association policies and actions based on a majority opinion of the Court.
  - b. A verdict of “guilty” for impeachment of an Executive Committee member may only be rendered when at least a simple majority plus one (1) member of the Court votes for impeachment.

## **Article VIII – Initiative, Referendum, Impeachment, Dismissal**

### *Section I – Initiative*

- A. Any member of the Student Association may initiate a bill to the Executive Committee.

### *Section II – Referendum*

- A. The members of the Student Association may review a bill by referendum upon the presentation of a petition to the Executive Committee with the signatures of fifteen (15) percent of the members of the Student Association. The Executive Committee must legislate the referendum within one (1) week of the presentation of said petition. The referendum shall be held by the USAEC within three (3) weeks of the date legislated by the Executive Committee. This bill will become effective upon approval of two-thirds (2/3) majority with at least twenty (20) percent of the voting membership of the Student Association voting.

### *Section III – Impeachment*

- A. The Student Association has the right to initiate impeachment proceedings against Executive Committee members upon the presentation of a petition of signatures of fifteen (15) percent of the members of the Student Association with specific charges mentioned.
- B. Student Court will hear all impeachment cases.

### *Section IV – Dismissal*

- A. A member of the Executive Committee will be dismissed if they receive a semester grade point average below 2.0 during their time in office, as detailed in Article III, Section I, Clause C.
- B. The open position caused by the dismissal of a member of Executive Committee will be filled at the discretion of the Executive Committee, except in the event of the dismissal of the President, in which case the procedures outlined in Article III, Section II, Clause D will take effect.

## **Article IX – Amendment**

- A. Amendments to this Constitution proposed by any member of the Student Association must be approved by at least two-thirds (2/3) majority of the vote cast by at least twenty (20) percent of the total voting members of the Student Association.

**Article X – By-Laws**

- A. The Executive Committee has the right to establish by-laws by two-thirds (2/3) majority of the Executive Committee.

**Article XI – Ratification**

*Section I*

- A. This Constitution shall be ratified by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote with at least twenty (20) percent of the Student Association voting.

*Section II*

- A. This Constitution shall replace and supersede all previous constitutions and nullify all previous policies established by the Student Association that are in conflict with this Constitution.

*Section III*

- A. The policies of the State University of New York Board of Trustees, College and State University regulations, and State and Federal law shall supersede the policies of the Student Association where applicable.

*Section IV*

- A. In the event that any article or section is to be nullified, all other articles are to be maintained.

*Section V*

- A. This Constitution shall become effective on April 1, 2016.