

Grambling State University



Student Government Association Constitution

Approved April 2013

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PREAMBLE

We the undergraduate students of Grambling State University, conscious of the fact that education is a right to which we are privileged and desirous of upholding principles of true democratic action, of promoting student participation in the overall student policy and decision making process of the university, recognize that each student must respect the rights of other members of the university community and must use proper channels in exercising his or her rights as a student, in order to produce a more effective student governing body, to express the general interest of the student body. In doing so, we believe that the effective processes that pertain to students are paramount in establishing a functional rapport between students and the University's administration, as we do ordain this Constitution of the Student Government Association of Grambling State University in Grambling, Louisiana.

**ARTICLE I
NAME, BRANCHES, SEPARATION OF POWERS, ORDER OF SUCCESSION**

Section 1 NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Grambling State University Student Government Association, hereinafter referred to as the SGA.

Section 2 BRANCHES

The branches of the SGA shall be: (1) The Executive Branch, (2) The Legislative Branch, and (3) The Judicial Branch.

Section 3 SEPARATION OF POWERS

No student may be elected, appointed or serve in more than one capacity outlined in this Constitution, or hold any other office of the Student Government Association, unless allowed in this Constitution. Transfer students who enroll in the Spring Semester of a school year are not eligible to run in the current Spring elections. The SGA Advisor is to aid the students of this organization and uphold the responsibilities outlined in this Constitution.

Section 4 ORDER OF SUCCESSION

Should the SGA President, for any reason become unable to serve the order of succession shall be as follows:

- 1. Vice-President
- 2. Secretary/Treasurer
- 3. Senior Class President

Should the Class President, for any reason become unable to serve the order of succession shall be as follows:

- 1. Vice President
- 2. Secretary/ Treasurer

**ARTICLE II
THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH**

Section 1 POWERS

The Executive Branch shall be the administrative body of the SGA charged with the responsibility of protecting the rights and concerns of all students and acting as a liaison between students and the university's administration.

Section 2 COMPOSITION

The Executive Branch will consist of : (1) Executive Board, (2) Class Cabinets, (3) Board of Elections, (4) President's Council, and (5) Executive Aides. The Executive Board will be composed of the SGA President, SGA Vice-President, SGA Secretary/Treasurer, Chief of Staff, and Chief Justice. The class cabinets will be composed of the Class President, Vice-President, and Class Secretary/ Treasurer. The Board of Elections will be composed of the Elections Commissioner, Deputy Elections Commissioner, the University Administrator, and 3 non-SGA members of the student body. The President's Council will be composed of the SGA Executive Board and the Class Presidents.

Section 3 FUNCTIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH

A. *The Duties and Powers of the SGA President shall be to:*

1. Serve as the official spokesperson for the Student Body
2. Delegate authority as he/she deems necessary on all issues affecting the general student body or members of the SGA
3. Serve as ex-officio (non- voting), acting member of all committees of the Executive Branch
4. Sign or veto bills, proposals, and resolutions of the Senate. The power to veto must be exercised within ten (10) days, including weekends, starting the day after the legislation is presented to the President; otherwise the legislation becomes a law
5. Address the Student Government Association, following the appointees of all officials to issue a State of the Government Address and also meet with the Senate at the first Senate meeting of each month
6. Hold a general student body assembly monthly and address the general SGA monthly
7. Sign all Purchasing Orders (PO) from the SGA
8. Attend all meetings of the council of Student Body Presidents (COSBP), University of Louisiana System board meetings when necessary and any other meetings/functions delegated by the University Administration pertaining to the matters of the student body or SGA
9. Serve as one of the official student representatives on the Grambling State University Student Technology Committee
10. Plan goals and objectives of the SGA during the summer and submit a tentative calendar to the Senate by the fifteenth (15) class day
11. Recommend removal of any elected or appointed officials as deemed necessary to the Senate
12. Submit a tentative Fall and Spring budget by the fifteenth (15) class day of the respective semester to the senate
13. Submit a tentative summer budget by the second week of May
14. Sign and submit Purchase Request (PR) forms to the Senate for purchases one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or more
15. Meet on a monthly basis with the SGA Advisor and Vice President of Student Affairs
16. Work at least twenty (20) hours in the SGA administrative office per week
17. Maintain working knowledge of all governing documents of the SGA
18. Designate Freshman spending budget for the Fall semester
19. Provide a student report upon returning from any SGA-funded trip (via speech, newsletter, etc.)
20. Appoint a Chief of Staff, Chief Justice, and Executive Aides (not to exceed five)
21. Serves as a liaison between all university offices and departments

B. *Duties and Powers of the SGA Vice-President shall be to:*

1. Act in office of the President in the absence or incapacity of the president
2. Preside over the Senate (voting only when the Senate is equally divided) and head the Legislative Branch
3. Serve as ex-officio (non-voting) on all committees and boards of the Legislative Branch
4. Receive and coordinate all reports of the Senate standing committees
5. Provide a copy of the SGA Constitution and Senate By-Laws at the first Senate meeting, along with the calendar of Senate meetings to all Senators
6. Perform all other such duties as are delegated by the SGA President
7. Must work at least twenty (20) hours in the SGA administrative office per week
8. Attend various meetings as assigned by the SGA President, SGA Advisor, or Vice-President of Student Affairs

9. Create and appoint all Senate committees and chairs, excluding standing committees
10. Sign all bills, proposals and resolutions which necessitate the President's signature, brought before the Senate before submission to the SGA President
11. Must serve on the SGA President's Council

C. *Duties and Powers of the SGA Secretary/Treasurer shall be to:*

1. Keep detailed and accurate minutes of all meetings of the entire student body, called by the SGA
2. Be the custodian of all records, documents, and valuable papers of the entire SGA
3. Keep all financial records of the disbursements of funds for the entire Student Government Association
4. Make a bimonthly financial report to the Senate
5. Keep an accurate file of accounts for each area of the SGA
6. Work in conjunction with the SGA President to submit an estimated semester budget to the SGA Senate for the Fall and Spring semesters (Must be submitted within fifteen (15th) class days of the respective semester)
7. Record and prepare documents of all approved disbursements and expenditures of the SGA
8. Collect receipts of all SGA disbursements and submit reports to the SGA Advisor
9. Prepare expense reports of all SGA related travel to the Office of the Vice-President of Student Affairs ten (10) days before travel
10. Coordinate the clerical duties of SGA Executive Board
11. Arrange all general council meetings
12. Meet monthly with the Secretaries/Treasurers of the respective classes to compile all records from the respective classes to maintain all documents of the SGA
13. Attend various meetings as assign by the SGA President, SGA Advisor, or Vice-President of Student Affairs
14. Perform all other duties as may be assigned by the President or Vice President
15. Compose and submit monthly timesheet of SGA officials to the SGA Advisor, and Vice-President of Student Affairs
16. Work at least twenty (20) hours in the SGA administrative office per week
17. Must serve on the SGA President's Council

D. *Duties and Powers of the SGA Chief of Staff shall be to:*

1. Serves as the liaison of all SGA staff
2. Advise the president on implementing initiatives
3. Supervises all SGA appointed Executive Aides
4. Serves as Administrative Assistant for the SGA President
5. Assist in programs and implementing policies as directed by the SGA President
6. Fulfill any duties assigned by the SGA president

E. *Duties and Powers of the SGA Chief Justice shall be to:*

1. Preside over the Judicial Branch of the SGA
2. Act as the sole spokesperson for the Judicial Branch
3. Supervise the activities of all judicial courts or committees established, in the regards to their constitutional duties of the SGA
4. Give written notice of the penalty, if any imposed on anyone appearing before the court and give written notice of the court's decision in all cases within twenty- four (24) hours of the decision being made. Such decisions must be made available to the public within forty-eight (48) hours
5. Serve on the University Judicial Review Board as needed by the Director of Judicial Affairs
6. Appoint a Court Clerk
7. Issue order for impeachment of SGA officials after evidence from a full investigation by the Senate Internal Affairs committee and has been presented to the Student Court providing a punishment of removal of office
8. Call meetings of the Supreme Court and preside at such meetings, and schedule conferences between the members of the Supreme Court whenever necessary for the efficient

administration of the Supreme Court. Following the appointment of members of the Supreme Court, the Chief Justice shall call a meeting of all of the members of the Supreme Court to discuss the functions of the Supreme Court. During this meeting, the conduct of hearings, general information, duties and responsibilities of the members, as well the general procedures of the Supreme Court shall be discussed

9. Be responsive to requests by any Supreme Court member for a consensus meeting or session of the full Supreme Court. The Chief Justice must call a meeting if a majority of the members request one
10. Must serve on the SGA President's Council
11. Meet on a monthly basis with SGA Advisor and Director of Judicial Affairs

Section 4 CLASS CABINETS

A. Duties and Powers of Class Presidents shall be to:

1. Act as official spokesperson for respective class
2. Promote the general welfare of the class
3. Preside over all meetings of the class
4. Attend all student body meetings as the official representative of the class
5. Call special meetings of the class as needed
6. Keep the class informed of important issues and problems of the university by hosting monthly meetings with respective classes
7. Supervise and coordinate all actions of the class cabinet
8. Deliver a "State of the Class" address to the full SGA and student body during the SGA President's monthly address to the student body
9. Serve as the official class Student Representatives on the Student Technology Committee
10. Endorse all official class documents
11. Maintain continuous contact with the Senators of their respective class
12. Submit a financial report to the SGA Secretary/Treasurer within five (5) days of a disbursement
13. Submit a plan of work to the SGA Advisor by August 1st of for the ensuing school year via email or hard copy
14. Submit a tentative budget to SGA president by the tenth (10th) class day of the Fall and Spring semester (excluding Freshmen class incoming Fall semester)
15. Through their respective Senators, may present proposals to the Senate for the benefit of their class
16. Initiate at least three non-social class events per semester
17. Must serve on the SGA President's Council

B. Duties and Powers of the Class Vice Presidents shall be to:

1. Act in office of the Governor in the absence or incapacity of the Governor.
2. Assist the Class President with supervising and coordinating activities and programs for their respective classes
3. Report to the Class President on all actions of the class
4. Keep the Class President informed on all pertinent matters that involve the class
5. Attend all class meetings of the respective class
6. Perform such other duties that are delegated to them by the Governor

C. Duties and Powers of the Class Secretary/Treasurer shall be to:

1. Record accurate minutes of all class meetings
2. Be custodian of records, documents, and valuable papers of the class
3. Meet monthly with SGA Executive Secretary/Treasurer
4. Maintain all financial documents and records for respective classes

5. Submit copies of all records (including financial records) of the class to the SGA Secretary/Treasurer during the monthly meetings held with the SGA Secretary/Treasurer.
6. Submit minutes of the meetings and all prepared documents to the SGA Advisor
7. Perform such other duties that are delegated to them by their respective Class President
8. Verify the existence of sufficient funds in the class account before releasing funds
9. Keep all financial records of the disbursement of class funds
10. Prepare a financial report for the Class President to be submitted to the SGA Secretary/Treasurer within five (5) days of a disbursement
11. Work in conjunction with the Class President to submit an estimated semester budget to the SGA President for the Fall and Spring semesters to be approved by the Senate (except for Freshman in the fall semester)
12. Collect receipts of all SGA disbursements and submit report to the SGA Advisor and Office of the Vice-President of Student Affairs
13. Prepare expense reports of all SGA related activities/travel and submit to SGA Secretary of Student Affairs fifteen (15) days before travel
14. Perform such other duties that are delegated to them by the Class President

Section 5 BOARD OF ELECTIONS

A. Duties and Powers of the Board of Elections

1. Administer all elections and nominations which under the auspices of the Election Code, are to be held for the university student body
2. Print the official ballot
3. Publicize the election and voting procedures
4. Arrange all necessary polling places, ballots, and other items necessary for the proper, efficient, and legal execution of all elections
5. Verify the qualifications of all candidates
6. Investigate all violations
7. Be the official police of the election
8. Recommend changes of the Election Code to the Legislative Branch as deemed necessary
9. Manage all voter registration of local, state and national elections for the student body

B. Duties and Powers of the Elections Commissioner shall be to:

1. Serve as the Chairman of the Board of Elections
2. Supervise and direct the arrangements of the Board of Elections
3. Announce the rules and regulations of the Board of Elections
4. Provide adequate information concerning all elections to all official university media prior to and following each election
5. Provide training for all members of the Board of Elections in their duties and responsibilities prior to each election
6. Maintain as a permanent, public record the final result of all elections
7. Call meetings with the Board of Elections as deemed necessary

C. Duties and Powers of the Deputy Elections Commissioner shall be to:

1. Assist the Elections Commissioner
2. Serve as the Vice-Chairman of the Board of Elections
3. Perform any other specific duty assigned by the Elections Commissioner
4. Meet with the Board of Elections when deemed necessary

D. Duties and Powers of the appointed members of the Board of Elections shall be to:

1. Assist the Board of Elections in making sure the campaign period runs according to the SGA Constitution and Election Code
2. Serve as the official police of the Elections
3. Meet with the Board of Elections when deemed necessary

4. Shall be 3-non SGA members of the student body to serve on the Board of Elections and shall be appointed by the SGA advisor

Section 6 PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL/EXECUTIVE AIDES

A. Duties and Powers of the President's Council shall be to:

1. Must meet every 2 weeks
2. Inform the SGA President on issue's in their respective positions
3. Attend all SGA functions
4. Assist in university and SGA recruiting

B. Duties and Powers of Executive Aides shall be to:

1. Complete duties delegated by the SGA President and the Executive Branch
2. Perform any duties as outlined by the SGA President when the position was appointed

**ARTICLE III
THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH**

Section 1 POWERS

The Legislative Branch shall be the lawmaking body charged with establishing and maintaining responsibilities and duties of the SGA and all of its members. The Legislative Branch shall be the sole custodian of the SGA Constitution, Senate By-Laws, and the Election Code, and shall introduce new legislature as needed.

Section 2 COMPOSITION

The Legislative Branch shall consist of a unicameral house called the Senate, which will consist of 16 members (with voting powers), these members shall be made up of two (2) delegates from each of the four (4) classes that will be elected from the student body by their respective classes, two (2) delegates from each of the four (4) colleges which will be appointed by their respective Dean's. This branch will be presided over by the SGA Vice-President. Other members of this branch whom holds no voting powers shall be the Senate Secretary and the Senate Parliamentarian.

Section 3 FUNCTIONS OF THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

A. Duties and Powers of the President of the Senate shall be to:

1. Serve as the SGA Vice President
2. Preside at all regular and special sessions of the Senate
3. Serve as an Ex Officio member on all senate committees
4. Name and remove the members of all standing committees
5. Prepare and provide copies of the agenda for senate sessions
6. Vote only in the case of equal division of the senate membership
7. Be the official custodian of all Senate documents
8. Serve as a liaison between the Legislative Branch and the other branches of the SGA
9. Accept and be regulated by the provisions of the Senate By-laws
10. Sign all bills, proposals, and resolutions which necessitate the President's signature, brought before the Senate before submission to the SGA President
11. Keep the Senate informed and updated on all official activities of the executive branch
12. Act as the sole spokesperson for the Legislative Branch
13. Appoint a Secretary for the Senate
14. Appoint a parliamentarian for the Senate

B. Duties and Powers of the Senate Pro Tempore shall be to:

1. Be a Senator
2. Be elected by the members of the Senate
3. Preside over the Senate during the absence of the President of the Senate
4. Be present at all Senate sessions

5. Participate in Senate debates and is a voting member except when presiding

C. *Duties and Powers of the Senators shall be to:*

1. Attend all respective class/college meetings
2. Serve as the liaison between their respective classes or colleges and the Senate
3. Report all Senate activities to the class cabinets and respective colleges
4. Report all Class activities to the Senate
5. Approve all Executive Aides appointed by the SGA President (in the event that the appointment is not approved, SGA President must submit another appointee to be approved by the Senate)
6. Approve the SGA budget submitted by the SGA President
7. Override a Presidential veto by two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Senate membership, if deemed necessary and provide that the criteria outlined in the bylaws have been thoroughly followed
8. Prepare documentation for Judicial Branch for impeachment of any SGA official
9. Ensure proper passage of all legislation
10. Conduct official business only when a quorum is in attendance. A quorum shall constitute a simple majority of all occupied seats
11. Take all steps necessary to protect the general welfare of the student body
12. Have the power to request the appearance of all SGA personnel, all elected student members and all other students when deemed necessary at Senate Meetings
13. Be governed by the Senate By- Laws

D. *Duties and Powers of the Secretary for the Senate shall be to:*

1. Not be a member of the Senate, have no power to vote, or participate in any debates
2. Be appointed by the Senate President and approved by the Senate
3. Keep an official record of bills, proposals, and resolutions passed by the Senate;
4. Arrange in conjunction with the President of the Senate, all meetings of the Senate
5. Keep an accurate roll of all active and inactive members of the Senate
6. Gather and keep all minutes of all committees via the secretaries of these committees and submit them to the President of the Senate, SGA Executive Secretary and SGA Advisor
7. Be the custodian of records, documents, and files of the Senate
8. Record all minutes of the Senate's regular and called sessions and submits to the President of the Senate, the SGA Executive Secretary, and the SGA advisor

E. *Duties and Powers of the Parliamentarian for the Senate shall be to:*

1. Not be a member of the Senate, have no power to vote, or participate in any debates
2. Be appointed by the Senate President and approved by the Senate
3. Decide all disputes of parliamentary procedures (using the latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order), has the final opinion on any conflict(s) that may arise
4. Regulate all discipline within Senate meetings
5. Remove anyone who disturbs Senate operations

ARTICLE IV THE JUDICIAL BRANCH

Section 1 POWERS

The Judicial Branch is the Supreme Court charged with interpreting and enforcing the laws set forth by the Legislative Branch as pertaining to the Grambling State University, Student Government Association for SGA and all of its members. This branch has the final decision concerning all matters in the SGA

Section 2 COMPOSITION

The Judicial Branch will be composed of a unicameral house called the Supreme Court, which will consist of eight (8) elected members holding voting powers. Each class will have two (2) Associate Justices. Others members of the Judicial Branch will consist of a Chief Justice and Court Clerk

Section 3 FUNCTIONS OF JUDICIAL BRANCH

A. Duties and Powers of the SGA Chief Justice shall be to:

1. Preside over the Judicial Branch of the SGA
2. Act as the sole spokesperson for the Judicial Branch
3. Supervise the activities of all judicial courts or committees established, in the regards to their constitutional duties of the SGA
4. Give written notice of the penalty, if any imposed on anyone appearing before the court or give written notice of the court's decision in all cases within twenty- four (24) hours of the decision being made. Such decisions must be made available to the public within forty-eight (48) hours
5. Appoint a Court Clerk
6. Issue order for the removal of SGA officials after evidence from a full investigation of the Senate Internal Affairs committee has been presented to the Student Court providing a punishment of removal of office
7. Meet on a monthly basis with the SGA Advisor and Director of Judicial Affairs

B. Duties and Powers of the SGA Associate Chief Justice shall be to:

1. Serve as an Associate Justice
2. Be elected by members of the Supreme Court
3. Preside over the Supreme Court during absence of the Chief Justice
4. Be present at all sessions of the Supreme Court
5. Participate as a voting member except when presiding

C. Duties and Powers of the SGA Supreme Court shall be to:

1. Hear procedural appeals and controversies in which regard the SGA governing documents
2. Have the power to impose all punishment
3. Work collectively with the Judicial Board of Review
4. Have the power to issue a court summons, requiring the attendance of any witness to testify in any matter or cause pending or hearing in the Court
5. Serve as member of Student Judicial Panel with the Office of Judicial Affairs

D. Duties and Powers of the SGA Court Clerk shall be to:

1. Attend all meeting and hearings of the Supreme Court
2. Keep all Court records and perform other such duties as are assigned by the Chief Justice or Associate Chief Justice
3. Maintain on file, the docket of each session at which the Supreme Court hears appearing before it
4. Maintain on file an updated list of all cases and their subject matter. This list will include the case number, title and classification
5. Take minutes at all sessions and hearings of the court
6. Be the official custodian of all documents of the Supreme Court and Judicial Branch

ARTICLE V QUALIFICATIONS FOR OFFICE

Section 1 Requirements

Any person running for/holding an elected or appointed position must be an enrolled, registered, full-time student of Grambling State University.

A. Qualifications for SGA Executive Board shall be:

1. Candidates must have a minimum of sixty Grambling hours when he or she applies for office

2. Must be able to serve the entire term of office (an entire academic school year/consecutive Fall and Spring)
3. Remain a full-time student from the time of election throughout the term of office (an entire academic year/consecutive Fall and Spring semester)
4. Have a cumulative grade point average of 2.8 or above when he/she applies for office and must maintain a 2.8 grade point average throughout the term of office or be subjected to the loss of his or her position
5. Candidates must not have a judicial record issued by the authority of Judicial Affairs at any point during the previous academic year or while serving his/her elected term
6. Must work effectively in the University system
7. Individuals vying for the positions of President and/or Vice President are required to have served two (2) semesters in a constitutional SGA position as well as have held a leadership position (according to their bi-laws) in a registered student organization, athletic or spirit group (President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer)

B. *Qualifications for Class Officials*

(President, Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer, Senators)

1. Have a cumulative grade point average of 2.5 or above when he/she applies for office and must maintain a 2.5 grade point average throughout the term of office or be subjected to the loss of his or her position
2. Remain a full-time student from the time of election throughout the term of office (an entire academic year/consecutive Fall and Spring semester)
3. Must be able to serve the entire term of office (an entire academic school year/consecutive Fall and Spring)
4. Candidates must not have been placed on disciplinary probation or suspension by the authority of Judicial Affairs at any point during the current academic year nor while serving his/her elected term
5. Candidates for Senior Officers must have at least ninety (90) semester credit hours by the beginning of the Fall semester after the election
6. Candidates for Junior Officers must have at least sixty (60) and no more than eighty-nine (89) semester credit hours by the beginning of the Fall semester after the election
7. Candidates for Sophomore Officers must have at least thirty (30) and no more than fifty-nine (59) semester credit hours by the beginning of the Fall semester after the election
8. Candidates for Freshman Officers must show proof of enrollment, have a full time student status of 12 credit hours and maintain this status from the time of applying for office until the end the term. In the event that a Freshmen candidate began school in summer, the 2.5 grade point average requirement also applies
9. Candidates must be in good standing with the university when applying for office and throughout his or her term of office
10. These officials must be elected by their respective class

C. *Qualifications for SGA Appointees*

1. Have a cumulative grade point average of 2.5 or above when he/she applies for office and must maintain a 2.5 grade point average throughout the term of office or be subjected to the loss of his or her position
2. Remain a full-time student from the time of election throughout the term of office (an entire academic year/consecutive Fall and Spring semester)

3. Must be able to serve the entire term of office (an entire academic school year/consecutive Fall and Spring)
4. Candidates must not have been placed on disciplinary probation or suspension by the authority of Judicial Affairs at any point during the previous academic year nor while serving his/her term

D. *Qualifications for Board of Elections*

1. Students vying for the positions of Election Commissioner and Deputy Election Commissioner must be elected.
2. Have a cumulative grade point average of 2.5 or above when he/she applies for office and must maintain a 2.5 grade point average throughout the term of office or be subjected to the loss of his or her position
3. Remain a full-time student from the time of election throughout the term of office (an entire academic year/consecutive Fall and Spring semester)
4. Must be able to serve the entire term of office (an entire academic school year/consecutive Fall and Spring)
5. Candidates must not have been placed on disciplinary probation or suspension by the authority of Judicial Affairs at any point during the previous academic year nor while serving his/her term

**ARTICLE VI
ELECTIONS**

Section 1 TIME

For the spring semester, the pre-election and election period will be determined by the SGA Advisor and SGA President. In the fall semester, the pre-election period shall be held on the second (2nd) week of school and the election week shall be held during the third (3rd) week of school.

Section 2 TRANSITION PERIOD

The transition period is the period in which outgoing officer's informs incoming officers on current policies and procedures and acquaints them with the university administration, procedures, documents, and all existing business of the SGA and all of other business deemed necessary. The transition period begins the day after the election results are finalized, and shall last until the candidate-elect takes the oath of office.

Section 3 OFFICE TENURE

- A. All elected SGA officials (excluding freshmen) shall assume office on the day after spring commencement
- B. All officials shall take oath of office in the fall semester
- C. Appointed officials shall assume office after being approved by the Senate
- D. All officials shall serve until the day of spring commencement
- E. Freshman will assume office immediately after the election results have been verified and confirmed by the University President.

**ARTICLE VII
IMPEACHMENT**

Section 1 POWERS

The Legislative Branch shall have the sole power to initiate the impeachment process of any SGA elected or appointed official. The Judicial Branch shall possess the sole power of impeachment. Impeachment is accusing an official of wrong conduct or neglect of duties in office. Grounds for impeachment shall include

unethical student behavior as indicated in Grambling State University's Student Code of Conduct.

Section 2 IMPEACHMENT PROCESS

- A. To initiate the process of impeachment, a general student must submit a grievance to the Senate
- B. If the Senate considers the impeachment documentation noteworthy after thorough investigation, the Senate to the Judicial Branch will file a Declaration of Impeachment
- C. Once the Declaration of Impeachment is filed by the Senate to the Judicial Branch, the Supreme Court convenes to further consider the charges to proceed with a hearing
- D. The hearing shall be scheduled within ten (10) working days after the notice of Impeachment. At the hearing, testimonies will be heard; and evidence will be considered. The accused individual's presence is requested, but is not required. His/her absence will not be held against him/her. However, if the accused does not appear, authority will be granted to continue the hearing within 24 hours. If at any time the impeachment process charges are withdrawn, the impeachment process will end
- E. If the Supreme Court, by two-thirds majority vote, deems that impeachment is necessary, a Notice of Impeachment must be submitted to the impeached within 24 hours of the vote. No person shall be removed through impeachment.
- F. If deemed necessary by proper authority (SGA Advisor, Vice President of Student Affairs, and Judicial Officer) judgment may extend further than removal from office and disqualification to hold an office of the SGA

**ARTICLE VIII
REMOVAL OF AN OFFICER FROM AN ELECTED OFFICE**

Section 1 REMOVAL OF AN ELECTED OFFICER

Any officer may be removed from office due to any of the following conditions/violations:

- A. By imposed disciplinary sanction by the University Judiciary Office
- B. By petition signed by more than fifty percent (50%) of the enrolled undergraduate student body makes it mandatory upon the Student Government Association to submit a calling for the removal of office and presented to the Chief Justice.
- C. By impose sanction by the Vice President for Student Affairs
- D. By resignation or voluntary/involuntary removal from school
- E. The University has the right to remove any student officer that poses a threat or violates the Student Code of Conduct

**ARTICLE IX
VACANCY OF AN ELECTED POSITION/RECALL**

Section 1 VACANCY OF AN ELECTED POSITION

In the event there is a vacancy for any reason of an SGA Executive Office after an individual has been elected to office, the following procedure shall be followed:

- A. The SGA senate and Executive Officers will be responsible for conducting the application process to fill the position(s), as well as selecting/nominating the applicant(s) to apply the vacant SGA Executive position.
- B. If a position is not filled in the Spring, the available position will then be put back on the ballot during Fall elections

Section 2 RECALL OF AN ELECTED OFFICIAL

Method: Any action taken by the students as follows:

- 1. A petition signed by thirty percent (30%) of the undergraduate student body make it mandatory upon the Student Government Association to submit and of its decisions to the body by referendum within three (3) days after petition is received by the President for

- balloting therein.
2. A hearing with the candidates under recall must be conducted within three (3) days following the date the petition was submitted, excluding weekends with the Board of Elections, Advisors, and Administrators.
 3. A two-thirds vote of the undergraduate student body shall be necessary to affect the recall of the Executive Officer.
 4. A two-thirds vote of the undergraduate student body class shall be necessary to affect the recall of a Class Officer.

ARTICLE X MEETINGS

Section 1 MEETINGS OF THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH

1. The Executive Board shall meet weekly
2. Class Cabinets shall meet weekly
3. Executive Aides shall meet every 2 weeks
4. President's Council shall meet every 2 weeks
5. Board of Elections shall meet as deemed necessary
6. Class Presidents shall hold class meetings monthly

Section 2 MEETINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

1. The Senate shall meet every 2 weeks
2. Senate committees shall meet every 2 weeks but on alternate weeks of Senate meetings

Section 3 MEETINGS OF THE JUDICIAL BRANCH

1. Supreme Court shall meet monthly

ARTICLE XI ADMENDMENTS

Section 1 ADMENDMENTS

1. The Legislative Branch shall propose amendments to this Constitution or amendments may be proposed by a petition signed by ten (10) percent of the student body
2. All amendments to this Constitution become Bylaws for a period of a year, after this elapsed time, amendments must be presented to the student body for approval.
3. Two-thirds (2/3) vote of the present members of the Senate give required approval.
4. All Senate-approved amendments shall be publicized before the student body not less than seven (7) days, after which a vote of the student body shall be held.

Section 2 PROCEDURE

To amend any part of this Constitution, proposed amendments must be introduced in writing by a member of the Senate at a regular senate meeting. Upon release by the committee(s), the amendments shall be read a second time during the senate meeting.

Section 3 LIMITATIONS OF AMENDMENTS

No more than three (3) sections of any one (1) article of this Constitution may be amended during the course of an academic year. Any further revisions after such limitation shall require passage by the Senate.

- A. The revised Constitution shall be adopted when ratified by a majority of those voting in a campus wide referendum.

ARTICLE XII RATIFICATIONS

Section 1 RATIFICATIONS

1. The Senate shall approve this Constitution by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the present members
2. Following Senate approval, the student body shall ratify the Constitution by a majority vote in a special election. This election shall be held following public display of constitution for at least seven (7) days. The Election Commission shall conduct this election
3. This Constitution shall in effect from the day of student body approval

**ARTICLE XIII
SEPARATION OF POWERS**

Section 1 SEPARATION OF POWERS

1. No student may be elected, appoint or serve in more than one capacity outlined in Constitution or hold any other office of Student Government, unless allowed in the Constitution. Transfer Students who enroll in the Spring Semester of a year are not eligible to run in the upcoming spring elections.

All other Constitutions are hereby repealed