

1 **STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION RULES**

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3 **ARTICLE I NOMINATIONS FOR STUDENT SENATE**

4 **SECTION 1-1**

5 Persons wishing to run for Student Senate or SOSU SGA Executive positions must
6 register with the SOSU SGA Elections chair. The Elections chair shall provide a
7 registration packet containing election rules, information, and a candidate information
8 form. This packet shall be made available in, and be submitted to, the Office for Student
9 Life, the Office for Student Affairs, and the SOSU Student Senate office.

10
11 **SECTION 1-2**

12 The registration packet must be submitted to any of these locations prior to the
13 Candidates' Meeting. Upon approval from the Office for Student Affairs regarding
14 Articles II and IV of the SOSU SGA Constitution, the person's name shall be placed on
15 the ballot.

16
17 **SECTION 1-3**

18 It is also the responsibility of the candidate to report any change of enrollment after filing
19 for candidacy. Failure to do so will result in the candidate's disqualification.

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21 **ARTICLE II ELECTION RULES AND REGULATIONS**

22
23 **SECTION 2-1**

24 There shall be three regularly scheduled elections. Election for officers and no more than
25 20 of the Student Senators will be held during April of the spring semester, four (4)
26 weeks prior to finals week. The election held for the remaining open Student Senate
27 seats will be held during the fourth (4) academic week of the fall and spring semesters.
28 Student Senate will pass an act providing for such an election no later than the first (1)
29 academic week of both the fall and spring semesters. Student Senate will also allow one
30 week between the time in which election packets are turned in and the elections for CIDT
31 to post the elections in a timely manner.

32 **SECTION 2-2**

33 Of the twenty-five (25) seats, twelve (12) seats shall be designated in the following
34 manner:

- 35 A. Two (2) seats reserved for Greek organizations (Panhellenic and IFC)
- 36 B. One (1) seat reserved for the Department of Art, Communication, and Theatre
- 37 C. One (1) seat reserved for the Department of Aviation
- 38 D. One (1) seat reserved for the Department of Occupational Safety and Health
- 39 E. One (1) seat reserved for the Department of Educational and Instructional
40 Leadership
- 41 F. One (1) seat reserved for the Department of Behavioral Sciences
- 42 G. One (1) seat reserved for international students
- 43 H. One (1) seat reserved for the Department of Political Science
- 44 I. One (1) seat reserved for the John Massey School of Business
- 45 J. One (1) seat reserved for Chemistry, Computer and Physical Sciences

46 K. One (1) seat reserved for Mathematics and Biological Sciences
47

48 To aid in the selection process, both department chairs and organizations' advisors shall
49 be called upon to recommend an eligible student. Their recommendation should be based
50 on the student's involvement on campus, leadership ability, and work ethic. This
51 recommendation shall speak to the student's overall character.
52

53 **SECTION 2-3**

54 Absentee ballots will be made available to the members of the student body and may be
55 cast in the Office for Student Affairs on the two (2) class days before the election.
56

57 **SECTION 2-4**

58 No campaigning for SOSU SGA positions, such as hanging posters or distributing other
59 campaign materials will be permitted until one week prior to the election, and following
60 the scheduled candidates meeting.
61

62 **SECTION 2-5**

63 Any candidate who displays poor campaign practice by destroying an opponent's
64 material, in any way intentionally interferes with an opponent's campaign, or participates
65 in any campaigning practices that violate the rules and regulations specified by the
66 elections chair for that election will be disqualified from the election. Poor campaign
67 practices include:

- 68 1. The tearing down, defacing, or any other destruction of an opponent's posters,
69 leaflets, stickers, banners, etc.
- 70 2. The printing of false and abased literature aimed at degrading his or her opponent.
- 71 3. The slandering or libel of an opponent.
- 72 4. Charges of poor campaign conduct, whether specified in the By-laws or not, will
73 be brought before the Supreme Court.
74

75 **SECTION 2-6**

76 If the Supreme Court, by a majority vote, finds the candidate guilty of any of the above or
77 similar offenses, the candidate will be disqualified from the election in question and
78 subsequent elections for one year following the offense and judgment.
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80 **SECTION 2-7**

81 In all elections a spending cap shall be enforced in the amount of \$140. The value of non-
82 monetary donations shall be determined by the SOSU SGA advisors and be considered
83 "election spending." The elections chair shall request receipts of campaign related
84 purchases upon any allegation of over expenditure.
85

86 **SECTION 2-8**

87 All election spending shall be tallied separately by candidate with each item, event, or
88 cost of support being tallied separately. Nothing in these rules shall be construed as to
89 allow the collapsing or combining of individual candidate budgets, materials, or events.
90

91 **ARTICLE III HOUSE RULES**

92 **SECTION 3-1**

93 The SOSU Student Senate in the course of business, duties, responsibilities, and
94 procedures shall abide by the House Rules.

95
96 **SECTION 3-2**

97 The Secretary of the Senate or another individual identified for this task by the chair shall
98 read the title and content of all legislation.

99
100 **SECTION 3-3**

101 The minutes are to be taken at meetings of the Senate and distributed within one (1)
102 week. The minutes of the Senate meeting shall contain:

- 103 1. Attendance List
- 104 2. Committee Reports
- 105 3. Summary of Business and Informal Discussions
- 106 4. Copies of all Legislation
- 107 5. Announcements

108
109 **SECTION 3-4**

110 The minutes shall be distributed to all Student Senators and to all others deemed
111 necessary by the Secretary of the Student Senate.

112
113 **SECTION 3-5**

114 In order to assure attendance when Quorum is not present the members in attendance at a
115 regularly scheduled meeting may issue a "Call of the Senate" by a simple majority vote
116 of the members present, this motion will take precedent before any motion except that of
117 adjournment.

118
119 After a "Call of the Senate" has been ordered, no motion is in order, even by unanimous
120 consent unless directly related to the call.

121
122 In the event that a "Call of the Senate" is made, the Chair will recess for the amount of
123 time needed to attempt to make contact with any members not present.

124
125 If the absent membership fails to appear, in order to fill quorum before the body is forced
126 to adjourn, the penalty for absence from a regular meeting will count as double.

127
128 **SECTION 3-6**

129 Questions of procedure shall be addressed in the following order:

- 130 1. Constitution
- 131 2. By-laws
- 132 3. House Rules
- 133 4. Robert's Rules of Order

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136 Updated as of Spring 2018 by Luana Antuono