



State University of New York at New Paltz
Student Association Constitution

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Article I – Name

Section 1: Official Title

The official name of this organization shall be the New Paltz Student Association and as such is considered, in any part or its whole, a public body.

Section 2: Shorthand

“The Student Association”, “SA”, “NPSA”, etc. may be used when referring to this organization even as it pertains to official business.

Article II - Purpose

The Student Association is the governance system of the student body of SUNY New Paltz and ensures fair representation of the student body in all college-related matters, and fairly distributes and oversees mandatory activity fees.

Article III - Membership

Section 1: Composition

All activity-fee paying students attending SUNY New Paltz shall be members of the Student Association.

Section 2: Rights

Membership in the Student Association guarantees:

- I. Participation in general elections (voting is restricted to activity-fee paying students).
- II. The opportunity to participate in events sponsored by the Student Association.
- III. Attendance in any meeting of the Student Association.
- IV. The right to petition official members of the Student Association on specific issues.

Section 3: Equality of rights

Equality of rights under the Student Association shall not be denied to any student.

Article IV – Governance

Section 1: Division of Responsibility

The governance of the Student Association shall be vested in the Executive Board, the Senate, the Judicial Board, the Council of Organizations, the Programming Board and the Budget and Finance Committee.

Section 2: Voting Rights

- I. No individual in the Student Association may hold more than one (1) voting position on binding governance bodies.
- II. Voting in governance bodies is strictly limited to the members of those bodies.

Article V - The Executive Board

Section 1: Executive Power

The Executive Board shall function as the executive branch of the Student Association.

Section 2: Composition

- I. The Executive Board shall be composed of the following officers:
 - A. President
 - B. Executive Vice-President
 - C. Vice-President of Finance
 - D. Vice-President of Academic Affairs and Governance
 - E. Vice-President of Programming
- II. The term of office for members of the Executive Board shall be twelve (12) months in length commencing on May 15 and concluding on May 14 of the following year (with the exception of the Vice-President for Finance who shall remain until May 31, with the new Vice-President for Finance having signatory powers commencing on the first of June).

Section 3: Responsibilities

Duties and responsibilities of the Executive Board shall include:

- I. Serve as the primary representative body to all outside bodies.
- II. Nominate a person to fill a vacancy within the Executive Board subject to approval of the Senate.
- III. Each member shall present an Executive Board report to the Senate and provide a report for the Council of Organizations meetings.
- IV. Each member shall hold twelve (12) office hours per week on the fourth floor of the Student Union.
- V. Managing and supervising daily administrative operations of the Student Association.
- VI. Implementing the decisions of the Senate and the Council of Organizations.
- VII. Managing and supervising the basic administrative functions of Level One operations (such as office supplies, copying, outside communications - phone/mail).
- VIII. Distributing legislation passed by the Senate to its appropriate audience

Section 4: Powers

- I. Have the power to veto decisions of the Senate by majority vote if the Executive Board believes the decision is not in the best interest of the student body. The Senate must be informed of the Executive Board's veto by the next Senate meeting.
- II. Any decision made by the Judicial Board can be overturned by a 4/5ths senate vote and an executive board confirmation by majority vote.
- III. Serve as nonvoting members of all Student Association houses and committees, except as noted elsewhere.

Section 5: Officers

- I. The duties of the President shall be to:
 - A. Serve as the principal representative of the Student Association.
 - B. Serve as the chairperson of the Executive Board.

- C. Complete the duties of any other member of the Executive Board in the event of that individual's absence.
 - D. Serve as a representative to the Academic Senate.
 - E. Serve as student representative to the College Council.
 - F. Serve as a member of the CAS board.
 - G. Conduct an educational campus-wide forum each semester with the college President
- II. The duties of the Executive Vice President shall be to:
- A. Assume the duties of the President in the event of the President's absence.
 - B. Serve as the student liaison to the College Vice-President for Student Affairs.
 - C. Serve as a member of the CAS Board.
 - D. To maintain a vigilant observation of matters that affects the college at a local, state, and federal level.
 - E. Serve as a Student Association representative to Town Gown.
 - F. Serve as or delegate a student liaison to the following bodies:
 - 1. Landlord Tenant Relations Committee
 - 2. Transportation Implementation Committee
 - G. To appoint a delegate as a student liaison to the New Paltz Police Commission
 - H. Serve as the chairperson of the University Police Department Committee.
 - 1. Oversee the internal election of a Vice-Chair and a Recording Secretary.
 - I. Nominate a student as Chair of Alumni Affairs Committee
 - J. Attend Town Board and Village Board Meetings
- III. The duties of the Vice-President of Finance shall be to:
- A. Serve as chairperson of the Budget and Finance Committee.
 - 1. Oversee the internal election of a Vice-Chair and a Recording Secretary.
 - B. Provide the authorized signature for financial disbursements of the Student Association.
 - C. Prepare and present the Budget and Finance Committee proposals to the Senate, the Executive Board and the Council of Organizations.
 - D. Present an update on the financial status of the Student Association to both the Senate and the Council of Organizations at all meetings.
 - E. Monitoring all approved allocations of Student Association funds in order to ensure that all expenditures are consistent with available funds and adhere to the SUNY Board of Trustees Regulations.
- IV. The duties of the Vice-President of Academic Affairs and Governance shall be to:
- A. Serve as the student liaison to the Provost/Vice-President for Academic Affairs.

- B. Serve as the chairperson of the Constitutional Rules Committee.
 - 1. Oversee the internal election of a Vice-Chair and a Recording Secretary.
 - C. Serve as a representative to the Academic Senate and Academic Affairs Committee from the Executive Board
 - D. Act as coordinator of all student seats of the Academic Committees under Faculty Governance
 - E. Develop goals and objectives for academic issues and concerns and report to the Senate on their progress and direction.
 - F. Coordinate student seats for Student Labor Coalition with majority approval of the Senate
- V. The duties of the Vice-President of Programming shall include:
- A. Serve as the chairperson of the Programming Board and of Student Association Productions.
 - 1. Oversee the internal election of a Vice-Chair and a Recording Secretary.
 - B. Serve as the student liaison to the College Activities office.
 - C. Be responsible for the completion of duties for any member of the Programming Board in case of their absence.
 - D. Develop guidelines for program development on campus.

Article VI - The Senate

Section 1: Legislative Power

The Senate shall function as the upper legislative branch of the Student Association.

Section 2: Composition

- I. The Senate shall consist of twenty-five activity fee-paying students.
- II. The term of office for senators elected for a full term shall be twelve (12) months in length, commencing one day after the end of the semester in which their election took place. The term of office for senators elected for a half term shall be until the following general elections.

Section 3: Responsibilities

- I. Duties and responsibilities of the Senate shall include:
 - A. Initiating legislation pertaining to representing, advocating, and furthering the interest and welfare of the students of SUNY New Paltz.
 - B. Identify and develop goals and priorities for the Student Association.
 - C. Serve as the agency that elects senators to fill standing Student Association Directorships
 - D. Serve as the agency that elects senators to fill standing Student Association Committees including, but not limited to:
 - 1. Budget and Finance Committee [(5 members) in conjunction with a member from the Council of Organization for each House/Board.]

2. Programming Board [(5 members) in conjunction with a member from the Council of Organization for each House/Board.]
 - i. Only up to two senators may sit on both the Budget Finance Committee and the Programming Board at once
 3. Constitution and Rules Committee [(5 members) in conjunction with a member from the Council of Organizations for each House/Board.]
 4. Student Concerns Committee [(5 members) in conjunction with five members nominated and approved by Senate.]
 5. Student Association Productions [(5 members) in conjunction with five members nominated and approved by Senate.]
 6. Social Justice Coalition [(5 members) in conjunction with a member from the Council of Organization for each House/Board.]
 7. Alumni Affairs Committee [(5 members) in conjunction with a member from the Council of Organization for each House/Board.]
- E. Review, amend, and approve the Student Association budget as proposed by the Budget and Finance Committee.
 - F. Initiate amendments to the Constitution.
 - G. Serve as the agency that confirms students to fill student seats on standing, college-wide committees upon nomination of the Student Association President. These include, but are not limited to:
 1. College Auxiliary Services Board (CAS)
 2. Academic Senate and its committees
 3. Student Labor Coalition
 - H. To elect the Senate Chair. That election is to take place in the spring semester and whenever the position becomes vacant.
 1. In order to be a nominee for senate chair the person must have served at least one semester on senate
 - I. Serve as the agency that confirms presidential nominations to the Judicial Board.
 - J. Serve as the agency that confirms Executive Board nominations to the Executive Board when a position becomes vacant.
 - K. Recommend names for consideration by the President of the college for appointment as fiscal designee.
 - L. Establish and disband ad-hoc committees.
 - M. Hear appeals, review, and/or approve any event or expenditure that has been disapproved by the Programming Board and the Budget and Finance Committee.

Section 4: Powers

- I. Override:

- A. The Senate shall have the power to override Executive Board vetoes by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of those present.
 - B. Any decision made by the Judicial Board can be overturned by a 4/5ths senate vote and an executive board confirmation by majority vote.
- II. Impeachment and Removal:
- A. Authoritative Body
 - 1. All impeachment powers shall be vested within the Senate with a simple majority vote
 - 2. All removal powers shall be vested within the Senate with a two-thirds majority vote.
 - B. Impeachment of an Executive Board Member
 - 1. Executive Board members may be impeached for failure to complete their weekly office hours.
 - 2. Executive Board members may be impeached for failure to reasonably fulfill their responsibilities as outlined in Article V.
 - C. Impeachment of a Senate Member
 - 1. Senators may be impeached for failure to reasonably fulfill their responsibilities as outlined in Article VI.
 - D. Impeachment of a Committee Member
 - 1. Students elected onto SA committees may be impeached for failure to attend and contribute to their respective meetings.
 - i. The Chair of the respective committee shall propose impeachment to the senate, which shall then operate in accordance with Article XI Section 1.
 - ii. Students elected onto joint committees may be impeached for failure to attend and contribute to their respective meetings.
 - iii. The coordinator of the respective committee shall propose impeachment to the senate, which shall then operate in accordance with Article XI Section 1.

Section 5: Directors

- I. The duties of the Director of Institutional Memory shall include:
 - A. Maintaining Institutional Memory as stated in Article (XIX) of the Bylaws
- II. The duties of the Director of Public Relations shall include:
 - A. Using traditional and innovative means of media to publicize the Student Association to the campus
 - B. Maintaining relationships with campus media stations such as NPCTV, The Oracle, etc.
 - C. Providing briefs and materials for senators to provide announcements to classes
 - D. Organizing weekly tabling events on behalf of the Student Association

Section 5: Officers

- I. The duties of the Senate Chair shall include:
 - A. Serve as the chairperson of the Senate.
 - B. Organize the proposed agenda for the Senate prior to the legislative Senate meetings, which will be approved of by a simple majority of those Senators present.
 - C. Shall hold twelve (12) office hours per week on the fourth floor of the Student Union.
 - D. To make the legislative process more public by informing the student body more thoroughly with:
 - 1. Live televised sessions.
 - 2. Posting all relevant Senate information for access by the Internet, via websites on the Student Association Server.
 - E. Serve as a non-voting participant in all Executive Board meetings
 - F. Track and enforce the attendance policy.
 - G. To inform all Senators when a senator is impeachable.
 - H. Appoint a Senator to report on SA activities to the Residence Hall Student Association.
 - I. Serve as the chairperson of the Student Concerns Committee

The duties of the Senate Vice-Chair shall include:

- A. Serve as the chairperson of the Senate in the absence of the Chair.
 - B. Attend meetings of complementary or subsidiary bodies on behalf of the Senate Chair in their absence.
 - C. Shall hold three (3) office hours per week on the fourth floor of the Student Union.
 - D. Assist the Chair in making the legislative process more public by informing the Student Body more thoroughly with:
 - 1. Live televised sessions.
 - 2. Posting all relevant Senate information for access by the Internet, via websites on the Student Association Server.
 - E. Serve as a non-voting participant in all Executive Board meetings.
- II. The duties of Senators shall include:
 - A. Senators are expected to attend every meeting.
 - 1. Senators are allowed three unexcused absences during the duration of the semester.
 - 2. Lateness or leaving before the meeting adjourns will count as half an unexcused absence.
 - 3. Senators are responsible for telling the Senate Chair of any absence prior to the meeting.
 - 4. If the minimum attendance requirement is not met, the senator can be impeached with proceedings beginning at the next regularly scheduled legislative session of the Senate.
 - B. Represent and advocate for the interests of the student body.
 - C. Attend all legislative and respective committee meetings.

- D. Senators shall hold two office hours weekly within any one of the Student Association Offices within the Student Union.
- E. Be a member of two committees (joint committee and/or an ad-hoc committee) of the Senate.
- F. To legislate and oversee the operations of the Student Association on behalf of the Student Body

Section 6: Legislation

Legislation by the Student Senate shall be handled in the following manner:

- I. All legislation will take the form of one of five types, and the type and respective effect will be among these:
 - A. A Declaration shall make a statement on behalf of the Student Body.
 - B. A Resolution shall address an issue and call for a solution, possibly delivering a binding decision.
 - C. A Bill shall change the Student Association policy or make any substantive, binding decisions.
 - 1. Bills shall be enacted for a prescribed amount of time not to exceed one calendar year.
 - D. A Bylaw amendment shall make changes to the Student Association Constitution Bylaws.
 - 1. Proposed amendments to the Bylaws will take effect upon approval by a two-thirds (2/3) vote in the Senate.
 - E. A Constitutional Amendment shall propose changes to the Constitution to be placed on a referendum ballot.
- II. In order to be introduced, legislation must have one and only one main sponsor.
- III. In order to be introduced, legislation must have a number, unique among those pieces of legislation of the same type.
- IV. Legislation can have any number of co-sponsors amongst the Senate, and they shall be listed as such.
- V. Legislation will be named as follows: "<Senate Number> Student Senate
 - a. <Type> <Legislation Number>"
- VI. All Legislation shall originate in the Senate and must be approved by the Senate before being submitted to the Council Board for review and discussion.
- VII. All legislation approved by the Senate shall be brought to the Executive Board for review and distribution.

Section 7: Quorum

In order for any official Senate business to be conducted a quorum is required. A quorum shall be defined as fifty percent (50%) plus one of the seated members of the Senate (for Senate business).

Article VII - Council of Organizations

Section 1: Power of the Council

The Council of Organizations shall function as the lower legislative house and the official representative body of all SUNY New Paltz Student Association organizations.

Section 2: Composition

- I. The council shall be comprised of one representative from each Student Association recognized organization.
- II. All Student Association recognized organizations shall serve under one of the following houses:
 - A. Advocacy
 - B. Athletic
 - C. Fine & Performing Arts
 - D. Media
 - E. Social & Cultural
- III. The Council Board of the Council of Organizations shall be comprised of the following officers:
 - A. Council Chair
 - B. House Delegates (6)
 - C. Senator Liaison

Section 3: Responsibilities

- I. The Council of Orgs will elect representatives from each House to the standing boards of the SA (ie: CRC, BFC, Programming, etc).
 - A. In the case of no representative coming forward, The Council of Orgs will elect a willing representative from the entire body.
- II. Each house will also elect one representative to serve their House Delegate to the Council Board
- III. Clubs shall be required to attend all council meetings with a max of 3 absences per semester.
 - A. Clubs and organizations that abide by these rules are in good standing.
 - B. Clubs in poor standing (ie those that miss more than 3 council meetings) will be required to have a meeting/consultation with the Council Chair
- IV. The Council of Organizations shall provide an open forum to hear concerns of students and organizations.
- V. Shall review the Budget & Finance Committee's SA Budget before its ratification by the Senate.
- VI. The Council of Organizations shall nominate and confirm a Chair to serve as chief parliamentarian of the body. The nomination and confirmation process shall take place in the last scheduled meeting in April of each academic year, whenever the position becomes vacant, or as the Council opts to recall the standing chair.
 - A. All Council Chair nomination, confirmation, and recall processes shall be coordinated and supervised by the Vice President of Academic Affairs and Governance

Section 4: Powers of the Council Board

- I. The Council Board shall have the power to review and discuss all Senate legislation and submit proposed changes to the Senate for further consideration.
- II. Shall recommend amendments to the Student Association Constitution and Bylaws for consideration of the Senate.
- III. Shall review of Budget & Finance Committee's SA Budget before its ratification, and recommend amendments for the senate's consideration.
- IV. The Council of Organizations shall have the power to present any issues to senate if they desire.

Section 5: Officers

- I. The duties of the Council of Organizations Chair shall be to:
 - A. Serve as the chairperson of the Council of Organizations.
 - B. Organize the agenda for the Council of Organizations meetings.
 - C. Attend all Senate meetings and inform them of the pertinent actions of the Council.
 - D. Shall hold twelve (12) office hours per week on the fourth floor of the SUB.
 - E. Serve as a non-voting participant in all Executive Board meetings.
 - F. Oversee charter forms and contracts once a semester
 - G. Nominate a senator as Chair of Social Justice Coalition.
 - H. Preside over all meetings of the Rainbow Coalition.
- II. The duties of the House Delegates shall be to:
 - A. Delegate office space
 - B. Review and approve charters
 - C. Bi-weekly report to senate
 - D. Suggest legislation to the senate
 - E. Hold two office hours a week
 - F. Meet with their appropriate houses and chair discussions at Council meetings
 - G. Serve as a voting member of the Council Board
- III. The duties of the Senator Liaison shall be to:
 - A. Serve as non-voting member of the Council Board
 - B. Report to the Council Board on all deliberations and business of the Senate
 - C. Encourage and facilitate legislative discussions amongst the House Delegates
 - D. Act as liaison between Council of Organizations and Senate
 - E. Shall report to the Council of Organizations of all deliberations and business of the Senate

Article VIII - The Judicial Board

Section 1: Judicial Power

All judicial powers of the Student Association shall be vested in the Judicial Board.

Section 2: Composition

- I. The one (1) Chief Justice, and four (4) Associate Justices of the Judicial Board shall be nominated by the president.
- II. A justice must be a member of the Student Association.
- III. Each justice shall serve until they resign, or are impeached and removed, or are no longer an activity-fee paying student at SUNY New Paltz.
- IV. The Chief Justice, Associate Justices, or any confirmed Justices may not be a standing member of the Senate, Executive Board, or any Student Association committees

Section 3: Nomination

- I. The President shall nominate all Justices and will be confirmed by a 2/3rd majority vote by the Senate.
- II. Alternate Justices are eligible to be nominated for the position of Associate Justice or Chief Justice, subject to confirmation by 2/3rd majority vote by the Senate.
- III. Associate Justices are eligible to be nominated for the position of Chief Justice, subject to confirmation by 2/3rd majority vote by the Senate.

Section 4: Responsibilities

- I. The duties and responsibilities of the Judicial Board shall include, but not be limited to, the following:
 - A. Appoint the four (4) Associate Justices to serve as student representatives to the Campus Review Board to discuss fiscal policy disputes with the College President's fiscal Designee over mandatory activity-fee management.
 1. In the case of an Associate Justice being unable to serve as a student representative to the Campus Review Board meeting, the Alternate Justices shall attend in their lieu
 - B. Hold public hearings in cases of controversy or dispute. Deliberations can be held in private. All decisions shall be handed down in writing to the Senate and concerned parties, and shall be made public. Reasoning behind the decisions shall also be included.
 - C. Interpret and review the constitutionality of all actions of the Student Association and its various substructures.
 1. The constitutionality of any Student Association official binding decision needs to be determined by the Judicial Board. These decisions shall not have a retroactive impact.
 - D. Shall serve as the final mediating body in any disputes related to Student Association activity.
 - E. Shall serve as the ad hoc committee along with CRC to help oversee elections
 - F. Meet every two weeks during the fall and spring semesters and when warranted.

Section 5: Powers

- I. The Judicial Board shall have original and appellate jurisdiction over any actions of, or disputes between the Senate and Executive Board.

- II. The Judicial Board shall have appellate jurisdiction over the Budget and Finance Committee, Programming Board, Council Board, and Research Board.
- III. All Judicial Board decisions are binding on any branch of the Student Association

Section 6: Officers

- I. The duties of Chief Justice shall include:
 - A. The Chief Justice shall have the power to convene a Judicial Board Hearing.
 - B. The Chief Justice shall be the Chair of all Judicial Board meetings and shall have the power to convene such meetings.
 - C. The Chief Justice shall report at each Judicial Board meeting on any information that may be of importance to the Judicial Board, including, but not limited to, actions of the Senate, actions of the Executive Board, or constitutional changes.
 - D. The Chief Justice shall hold four (4) posted office hours a week.
 - E. In the case of the Chief Justice being unable to attend the Senate meeting, the Chief Justice can appoint one Associate Justice to attend in their lieu.
- II. The duties of an Associate Justice shall include:
 - A. The Associate Justice shall hold one (1) posted office hour a week.
 - B. The Associate Justice shall participate in the hearing process.
 - C. The Associate Justice shall attend all Judicial Board meetings.
 - D. The Associate Justice shall also carry out reasonable duties assigned by the Chief Justice.
- III. The duties of an Alternate Justice shall include:
 - A. The Alternate Justice shall attend all Judicial Board meetings.
 - B. The Alternate Justice must attend at least one Judicial Board Hearing.

Article IX - Joint Committees of the Student Association

Section 1: Constitution and Rules Committee

The duties and responsibilities of the Constitution and Rules Committee shall include, but not be limited to:

- I. Assist Senators with proposing legislation.
- II. Formulating and proposing amendments to the Constitution and the By- laws for the Senate, Council of Organizations, Executive Board, Programming Board, and Judicial Board.
- III. Proposed amendments to the constitution must be presented to the Senate for approval, upon approval these amendments must be presented to the entire student body and shall take effect once the constitutional requirements are met.
- IV. Proposed by-laws must be presented to the Senate for approval, upon approval by a two-thirds (2/3) vote, these by-laws shall take effect.
- V. Conducting, overseeing, documenting and certifying the results of elections.

- VI. Establishing an ad-hoc committee along with Judicial Board for the express purpose of conducting and overseeing elections.
- VII. Vice-Chair of committee will be nominated by the VPAAG and confirmed with majority vote of the committee
- VIII. Provide a report for each senate meeting

Section 2: Budget and Finance Committee

- I. The duties and responsibilities of the Budget and Finance Committee shall include the following:
 - A. Conducting an initial review of requests prior to the formulation of the Student Association budget.
 - B. Preparing a budget for review and approval by the Student Association Senate.
 - C. Meet weekly for review and for approval of appropriate fund requests.
 - D. Provide a report for each senate meeting
- II. Special considerations:
 - A. Moneyed Referenda
 - 1. Moneyed referenda shall take place via constitutionally mandated processes
 - B. Reserve Account
 - 1. A constant sum of \$50,000 shall be held in an interest bearing account, to be made available in the event of a delay in the activity fee collection process.
 - 2. Excess funds not required for current budgeted expenditures may be invested, but such investments shall be limited to those that guarantee the preservation of principal, in accordance with SUNY Board of Trustees Guidelines
 - C. Dues
 - 1. Organizations funded by the Student Association may not charge dues to their members, nor require them to pay dues to affiliated organizations.
 - 2. Voluntary donations to the organization are acceptable
- III. The Budgetary Process
 - A. Fiscal Calendar
 - 1. The Student Association Budget shall run yearly from July to June of the following year. The Budget and Finance Committee will prepare a budget for Senate review no later than the third (3rd) week in April.
 - B. Structure
 - 1. The structure of the budget shall be as follows: The total sum of the budget shall be allocated into these three areas:
 - i. Level One: Operations
 - ii. Level Two: Services Board (The Services Board shall include S.A. services as determined by the Executive Board.)
 - iii. Level Three: Council of Organizations

- a. The Budget shall be approved by the Senate and then sent to the President of the college for review and approval.
 - Unappropriated Monies
 - Unappropriated monies within the budget shall be under the purview of the Senate. Motions to spend such monies may be referred to other bodies for recommendations.

Section 3: Student Association Productions

The duties and responsibilities of Student Association Productions shall include the following:

- I. To act as a programming arm of the Student Association
- II. Have at least one big event during each year.
- III. Use the rest of the budget to hold smaller programs or in the larger program, by majority vote of the committee.
- IV. Nominations shall be made in Council of Organizations and must be confirmed in Senate.
- V. Members are expected to:
 - A. Plan, organize and staff events held by Student Association Productions
 - B. Chair or act as a member of the subcommittees of Student Association Productions
 - C. The specific subcommittees are created by the committee in accordance with their current needs, potentially including:
 1. Financial
 2. Marketing
 3. Hospitality
- VI. Provide a report for each senate meeting

Section Four: Alumni Affairs Committee

- I. The duties and responsibilities of the Alumni Affairs committee shall include, but not be limited to the following:
 - A. Create and nurture relationships between New Paltz students and alumni and will facilitate cooperation with various agencies, clubs, organizations, and faculty. The committee is charged with creating workshops centered on networking and career planning with alumni guest speakers
 - B. Connect individual students and various student groups with Alumni pertaining to their specific major, clubs/organization, career interest path, etc.
 - C. Formulate workshops with students and alumni
 - D. Invite Alumni guest speakers sought out by organizations for specific programs
 - E. Provide a report for each senate meeting

- F. The one (1) activity fee paying student serving as the Chair will be nominated by the Executive Vice President and confirmed by 2/3 majority vote by the Senate.
- G. One of the ten (10) Student representatives will serve as Vice-Chair following appointment by the committee.
- II. The duties and responsibilities of the Chair of the Alumni Affairs Committee shall include, but not be limited to, the following:
 - A. Serve as the Committee liaison to the Director of Alumni Relations.
 - B. Organize meeting schedules and times for the Committee.
 - C. Oversee the Committee meetings and determine the agenda
- III. The duties and responsibilities of the Vice-Chair of the Alumni Affairs Committee shall include, but not be limited to, the following:
 - A. Oversee the meeting if the Chair is not able to attend
 - B. Serve as the Committee liaison to clubs and organizations on campus, including but not limited to SA, RHSA, and NRHH.
 - C. Carry out all reasonable duties assigned by the Chair.
- IV. The duties and responsibilities of the Student Representatives of the Alumni Affairs Committee shall include, but not be limited to, the following:
 - A. Advertising the events sponsored by the Alumni Affairs Committee.
 - B. Student outreach

Section Five: The Social Justice Coalition

- I. The duties and responsibilities of the Social Justice Coalition shall include the following:
 - A. Provide underrepresented groups an opportunity to organize and foster an inclusive campus.
 - B. Introduce initiatives for the Senate and Executive Board to implement in order to build awareness for the experiences of underrepresented students.
 - C. Serve as a liaison between the Senate and social, cultural, and advocacy organizations, and will plan and organize programs and initiatives on campus that promote social awareness of underrepresented groups.
 - D. Carry out the will of the Chair as long as it falls reasonably within the charge of the coalition.
 - E. Provide a report for each senate meeting
 - F. The one (1) senator serving as the Chair of the Social Justice Coalition will be nominated by the Council of Organizations Chair and confirmed by 2/3 (two-thirds) majority vote by the Senate
- II. The duties and responsibilities of the Chair of the Social Justice Coalition shall include, but not be limited to, the following:
 - A. Organize and manage the weekly meetings.
 - B. Schedule monthly meetings with the Title IX Coordinator

Article X – Meetings

Section 1:

The Executive Board shall meet at least once every week and as conditions warrant

Section 2:

The Senate shall meet legislatively at least once every week and as conditions warrant.

Section 3:

The Judicial Board shall meet at least once a week and as conditions warrant.

Section 4:

The Council of Organizations shall meet at least once every two weeks and as conditions warrant.

Section 5:

The Constitution and Rules Committee shall meet at least once every week and as conditions warrant.

Section 6:

The Budget and Finance Committee shall meet at least once every week and as conditions warrant.

Section 7:

The Programming Board shall meet at least once a week and as conditions warrant.

Section 8:

All other SA joint committee meeting times shall be decided at the discretion of their respective committee chair.

Article XI - Open Meetings

- I. Open meetings may only consist of the student body, outside bodies approved to be on the agenda, and direct SA personnel.
- II. Definitions: The Executive Board, Student Senate, Council of Organizations, Judicial Board, the Programming Board, as well as all Committees of the aforementioned bodies shall be herein referred to as Governing Bodies.
- III. All meetings of Governing Bodies in which substantive decisions are made must take place on the Campus of the State University of New York at New Paltz.
- IV. Public notice of the time and place of a meeting of a Governing Body in which substantive decisions are made must be scheduled at least forty-eight (48) hours prior thereto shall be given to the student body and shall be conspicuously posted in multiple public locations at least twenty-four (24) hours before such meeting.
- V. Emergency Meetings: In the event that a Governing Body must meet to make a substantive decision without being able to give twenty-four (24) hours prior notice to the student body, the Student Senate must approve the minutes of this meeting by a two-thirds (2/3rds) vote or all substantive decisions that were made become null and void.
- VI. Executive Session: Executive Session is when all outside bodies (determined by the discretion of the Governing Body in question) must

remove themselves from that meeting of said Governing Body, and may be called for by a majority vote of a Governing Body, only in the event of circumstances pertaining to:

- A. Matters, which will imperil the public safety if disclosed.
- B. Any matter which may disclose the identity of a law enforcement agent or informer.
- C. Information relating to current or future investigation or prosecution of a criminal offense, which would imperil effective law enforcement if disclosed.
- D. Proposed, pending, or current litigation.
- E. Collective bargaining negotiations.
- F. Personnel.
- G. Preparation, grading, review, or administration of examinations.
- H. Proposed acquisitions, sale or lease of real property, or the proposed acquisition or sale of securities held by a public body.

Article XII - General Elections

Section 1: General Elections of Officials

The General Election of officials shall occur in the following manner:

- I. All positions on the Executive Board shall be elected at large.
- II. All Senators shall be elected at-large

Section 2: Requirements

All elected officials must be in good academic standing throughout the duration of their term in office or be subject to forfeiture of their position.

Section 3: Timetable

The timetable for elections shall be as follows:

- I. Election of the Executive board shall take place in the Spring semester on or about April 30.
- II. Elections for 15 seats of the Student Senate shall occur on or around December 10th; elections for 10 seats of the Student Senate shall occur on or around April 30 (in conjunction with the Executive Board elections). Students who received the top 10 most votes will receive a full-year seat, and the remaining elected students will receive a half-year seat. Elections in the Fall semester shall occur on or around December 10th; elections in the Spring semester shall occur on or around April 30th (in conjunction with the Executive Board elections).

Article XIII - Election, Candidate and Campaign Guidelines

Section 1: Candidacy Requirements

- I. All candidates must obtain and return a Student Association candidacy form along with their unofficial transcript to the Vice President of Academic Affairs and Governance a minimum of ten business days prior to the election.

- II. Candidates must have a cumulative gpa of at least 2.0.
- III. Candidates must not partake in the planning or coordination of the Student Association elections.

Section 2: Election Guidelines

- I. To ensure fair and equal SA elections, the following actions are prohibited:
 - A. Slandering (Comments or criticisms on personal matters not made public by the damaged party, non issue or platform based remarks.)
 - B. Vandalizing (writing, drawing, or removal of flyers.)
 - 1. No person shall take, steal, burn, destroy or damage any property, be it personal or otherwise, on the College campus or other property under College control or belonging to another member of the College community. In addition, no person shall in any manner whatsoever deface any property under the ownership or control of the College.
 - C. Intimidating Voters
 - 1. Voters must not feel pressured or coerced into supporting a candidate
 - 2. Candidates may not directly approach students with electronic devices while the polls are open.
 - 3. Candidates may not talk with electronic devices while the polls are open.
 - 4. If a voter feels pressured they can notify the Chief Justice who will conduct a hearing in conjunction with the Judicial Board regarding the alleged offense.
 - D. Posting flyers anywhere other than public bulletin boards as stated in the Student Handbook.
 - E. Use of Resources that include, but are not limited to, a New Paltz affiliated e-mail, Blackboard, and SA affiliated e-mail lists.
- II. Campaign material may only include:
 - A. A maximum budget of \$11 from SA to go towards printing at the NP print shop.
- III. Candidates must take down all campaign material after the elections
- IV. If a candidate is in violation of the aforementioned guidelines, then any activity paying student should bring it to the attention of the Judicial Board no later than 24 hours after the polls close.

Section 3: Special Case Scenarios

- I. In the event that any general election results in a tie, the candidates shall present themselves before Senate, and the Senate shall vote and approve a candidate based on the candidates' presentations.
- II. In the event that a senator resigns within the first six legislative sessions of ~~his~~ ~~or her~~ their term, the candidate with the next highest vote count originating in the same general election as the resigning senator, shall take the seat of the resigned senator until the following general election.

- A. If the list of alternates has been exhausted, the vacant seat will be open to any activity fee paying students who must present themselves to the senate.
- B. The senate shall serve as the body which, through a vote, selects the student(s) to fill the vacant seat(s).

Article XIV - Amending the Constitution

- I. Amendments to the Constitution proposed for ratification by a vote of the activity-fee paying student body may be placed on a special election ballot by either of the following methods:
 - A. A petition signed by ten percent (10%) of the total student body may be submitted to the Student Association Vice-President for Academic Affairs and Governance.
 - B. Any member of the Senate may submit an amendment to the Constitution for review by the Senate. It shall require a two-thirds (2/3) majority of those members present in order to be placed in a constitutional election.
- II. Legislation may be passed pending Amendments to the Constitution in the event that the legislation requires the constitutional amendment to be enacted.
- III. All constitutional amendments shall be placed before the student body by the following General Elections. It must be within receipt of the Student Association Vice-President for Academic Affairs and Governance one week before said elections.
- IV. For any proposed constitutional amendment to be ratified, at least ten percent (10%) of the activity-fee paying students must cast ballots on the constitutional proposition. Of the ballots cast, a simple majority will ratify the proposed amendment to the Constitution.

Article XV - Altering the Activity Fee

In order to alter the student activity fee, the entire student body must have the opportunity to vote in favor or against the proposed changes. The majority vote of the students will be held binding on the Student Association. The Student Association will honor the reasons for which the students changed the activity fee.

Article XVI – Referenda

Section 1:

In order for a referendum to be placed before the student body for a vote, a petition with the signatories from ten percent (12.5%) of the total student body must be submitted to the Student Association Vice-President of Academic Affairs & Governance.

Section 2:

The election for a referendum must be held within twenty-one (21) days of receipt by the Student Association Vice-President of Academic Affairs and Governance of the petition calling for the referenda while classes are in session.

Section 3:

Referenda may only reallocate funds, which were previously allocated by referenda.

Section 4:

To be held binding by the Student Association, 12.5% of the student population must cast a vote on the referendum, and a majority of the votes cast shall bind the Student Association.

Section 5:

No referenda can be run that can have the effect of allocating funds for more than two (2) years.

Article XVII - Constitutional Review

Constitutional Review shall occur at least every two years and at the end of the academic year whenever a constitutional or bylaw amendment occurred that previous semester.

- I. Entailing review for consistencies across and within the documents of SA.
- II. Considering possible large-scale changes.

Article XVIII - Historical Reference

The Vice President for Academic Affairs and Governance shall be responsible for keeping a physical and digital record of all changes to the Constitution and Bylaws including a copy of the document before the changes and a copy of the document after the changes.

Article XX – Ratifications

Five hundred (500) activity-fee paying students must vote in the constitutional election for this constitutional election to be valid. This Constitution shall be ratified by a simple majority of the votes cast. From this point on this information has been drawn from the Bylaws to place in the Constitution.