SUBJECT: CONSTITUTION OF THE SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY STUDENT ASSOCIATION

PREAMBLE

SECTION 1: We, the students of Southern Utah University (or SUU), to create a fair and representative student government, do hereby establish this constitution (herein "Constitution") for the Southern Utah University Student Association (or SUUSA) (see Article I for the definition of SUUSA).

SECTION 2: The purpose of Student Government inside SUUSA (See Article II Section 1 for definition) is to:

A. Represent the student body in the decision-making and policy-development processes as prescribed in University policy;

B. Voice student concerns to SUU Administration;

C. Promote unity within SUUSA;

D. Review and make recommendations concerning student fees;

E. Support student involvement and activities;

F. Promote quality education in all aspects of student life;

G. Communicate with all its members;

H. Provide leadership opportunities to its members; and

I. Promote an inclusive environment that celebrates the diversity of all SUU students.

ARTICLE I: MEMBERSHIP

Members of Southern Utah University Student Association are all matriculated full-and part-time, undergraduate and graduate Southern Utah University students paying the full corresponding fees. When this Constitution refers to the membership or members of SUUSA it is referring to this population of students.

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ARTICLE II: SUUSA GOVERNANCE

SECTION 1: The governance of SUUSA is comprised of elected and appointed officials. These officials are the Executive Council and the Student Senate. Members of the Executive Council must have and maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale. All other elected and appointed members of SUUSA must have and maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.75 on a 4.0 scale. In certain circumstances SUUSA may grant a probationary period as outlined in the SUUSA procedures. Collectively these representatives are referred to as "SUUSA Student Government" throughout this document.

SECTION 2: In order to be eligible to apply for an appointed position, run for an elected office, and/or hold and maintain any elected or appointed position or office within SUUSA Student Government, an individual must:

A. Be matriculated as a student at SUU;

B. Subject to the provisions in the SUUSA Governance Bylaws, be enrolled in and complete at all times a minimum of twelve (12) semester hours as an Undergraduate student or nine (9) semester hours as a Graduate student;

C. Possess a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.75 (3.0 for Executive Council) on a 4.0 scale to apply for and/or run for an elected or appointed position. During the academic year, elected and appointed officials shall maintain a 2.75 (3.0 for Executive Council) minimum semester GPA; and

D. Must be in good standing with University Conduct.

SECTION 3: Elections for the officers of SUUSA Student Government will be held pursuant to the time frame outlined in the SUUSA Election Bylaws.

SECTION 4: The elections shall be governed by this Constitution and the SUUSA Election Bylaws that are created, reviewed, and revised by the Student Senate

SECTION 5: An elected officer must not assume office or duties until they have taken the Oath of Office.

SECTION 6: Appointed offices in SUUSA Student Government shall be filled after the completion of the General Election or as the need arises following resignation, graduation, or impeachment and removal, or under similar circumstances. An appointed officer will not have

the authority to act in any official capacity until the Student Senate has approved the appointment and the officer has taken the Oath of Office.

SECTION 7: The Oath of Office for all SUUSA Student Government officers must be administered by the Chief Justice. The Oath of Office is administered at an inaugural event that must take place no later than the last day of the spring semester. The Oath of Office will first be administered to all elected SUUSA officers. The newly sworn-in Student Senate will then conduct a special Senate meeting to ratify all newly-appointed officers at this inaugural event. The Executive Council will present the names for each appointed position within their respective governing body to the SUUSA Student Senate. After the ratification, the Oath of Office will then be administered to the newly-ratified officers at this same inaugural event. In the event an elected or appointed officer cannot attend the inaugural event, or in the case of an appointment made necessary by resignation, impeachment and removal, graduation, or under similar circumstances, the Oath of Office should be administered within two weeks of the appointee's approval by the Student Senate and in the presence of two (2) or more witnesses. The Oath of Office may not be taken by proxy.

A. The Oath of Office is administered by having the newly-elected or appointed officer raise their right hand and repeat these words: "I, (stated name), do solemnly affirm that I will faithfully execute the office of (stated office) and will, to the best of my ability, uphold and defend the Constitution of the Southern Utah University Student Association and the laws of the State of Utah."

SECTION 8: At no time shall any appointed or elected officer concurrently hold more than one (1) office in the SUUSA Student Government.

ARTICLE III: SUUSA ATTENDANCE POLICY

All members of SUUSA must be in attendance of their required meetings. If a member will not be present for a meeting, they must notify the Chair 24 hours in advance. If a member of the Student Senate is absent more than three times from Senate or SUUSA committee meetings, their continued membership shall be brought to the Student Senate for consideration as determined by the Executive Council and outlined in the SUUSA Policies and Procedures. The Executive Council, in coordination with the Student Senate, will determine which meetings are required at the beginning of each semester.

SUBJECT: CONSTITUTION OF THE SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY STUDENT ASSOCIATION

ARTICLE IV: THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH

SECTION 1: The Executive Branch is composed of the Student Body President, the Vice President of Academics, the Vice President of Clubs and Organizations, the Vice President of Finance, the Chief of Staff, and all other directors and assistant directors deemed necessary by the Executive Council.

SECTION 2: The Executive Council of SUUSA Student Government is composed of the Student Body President, the Vice President of Academics, the Vice President of Clubs and Organizations, and the Vice President of Finance. The Student Body President will serve as Chair. Officers of the Executive Council are popularly elected by SUUSA during the spring semester election.

SECTION 3: The President of the Student Programing Board must serve as an Ex Officio member of the Executive Council.

SECTION 4: The Student Body President shall appoint a Chief of Staff to serve on the Executive Council as an Ex Officio member. The Chief of Staff will assist the President in managing all SUUSA Officers and Staff.

SECTION 5: The Chief Justice shall serve as an Ex Officio member of the Executive Council.

SECTION 6: The Student Body President will preside over each SUUSA Vice President. Each Officer of the Executive Council shall chair one (1) of four (4) SUUSA Committees formed from members of the Student Senate.

A. The Student Body President will Chair the Student Life Enhancement Committee.

B. The Vice President of Academics will Chair the Academic Student Senate.

C. The Vice President of Clubs and Organizations will Chair the Clubs and Organizations Committee.

D. The Vice President of Finance will Chair the Budget and Finance Committee.

SECTION 7: All executive powers and responsibilities are vested in the Student Body President. The Student Body President shall:

A. Act as the official representative of SUUSA on and off campus;

B. Preside over the Student Life Enhancement Committee;

1. Train Student Life Enhancement Committee members;

2. Enforce the bylaws, rules of order, and policies established to govern the operations of the Student Life Enhancement Committee; and

3. Appoint new Committee members in the event of a vacancy.

3. Approve or veto all SUUSA budget and allocation decisions made by the Vice President of Finance and the Budget and Finance Committee;

4. Review all bills and resolutions from the Student Senate. The Student Body President may exercise veto power pursuant to Article X;

5. Serve as a member of the Southern Utah University Board of Trustees;

6. Manage all staff members employed by SUUSA Student Government;

7. Assume additional duties and responsibilities as determined necessary by the Executive Council, Student Senate, Southern Utah University policy, or the SUU President's Council;

8. Ensure that the governing bodies and officers of SUUSA comply with all record-keeping provisions and applicable state law (see Article XII); and

9. Serve on the General Student Fee Committee.

SECTION 8: The Vice President of Academics shall:

A. Preside over the Student Senate. The Vice President will not vote, except in the case of a tie;

B. Propose bills on behalf of the Student Senate during the summer semester;

C. Serve as a non-voting member of the Southern Utah University Deans' Council;

D. Serve as the chairperson and spokesperson for the Constitutional Amendment Committee (CAC) (see Article XII);

E. Assume additional duties and responsibilities as assigned by the Student Body President, Executive Council, and Student Senate; and

F. Assume the office of Student Body President if the President is removed from office or vacates.

Section 9: The Vice President of Clubs and Organizations and Organizations shall:

A. Serve as the Chair of the Clubs and Organizations Committee:

1. Train Clubs and Organizations Committee members;

2. Enforce the bylaws, rules of order, and policies established to govern the operations of the Clubs and Organizations Committee and recognized student clubs and organizations; and

3. Appoint new Committee members in the event of a vacancy.

B. Coordinate training for registered SUUSA student clubs and organizations;

C. Maintain the official club calendar in concert with the Clubs and Organizations Committee;

D. Manage the Clubs and Organizations Committee budget; and,

E. Assume additional duties and responsibilities as assigned by the Student Body President, Executive Council, and Student Senate.

SECTION 10: The Vice President of Finance shall:

A. Serve as the Chair over the Budget and Finance Committee

1. Train Budget and Finance Committee Members;

2. Enforce the bylaws, rules of order, and policies established to govern the funding and accounts of Clubs and Organizations; and

3. Appoint new Committee members in the event of a vacancy.

B. Oversee the SUUSA budget and provide monthly reports to the Student Senate as well as the Executive Council during the summer semester;

C. Recommend how student fees should be used for the academic year;

D. Serve as a member of the General Student Fee Committee;

E. Appoint controllers to assist in managing all SUUSA funds; and,

F. Assume additional duties and responsibilities as assigned by the Student Body President, Executive Council, and Student Senate.

SECTION 11: The Chief of Staff shall:

A. Assist the Student Body President in managing all SUUSA Officers and Staff;

B. Attend all Executive Council meetings as an Ex Officio member;

C. Head special projects as assigned by the Student Body President and the Executive Council; and,

D. Assist the Student Body President in any other assignment, role, or committee at the discretion of the Student Body President.

SECTION 12: In the event of a vacancy or vacancies within the offices of the Executive Council, the following shall occur:

A. If the office of Student Body President, Vice President of Academics, Vice President of Clubs and Organizations, or Vice President of Finance is vacated for any reason after the individual is elected in the spring semester, but before the start of summer semester, then the first runner-up from the recent election for the position that was vacated shall assume the office.

B. If the office of Student Body President, Vice President of Academics, Vice President of Clubs and Organizations, or Vice President of Finance is vacated outside of the time period prescribed above, or in the event there is not a runner-up from the previous election or the runner-up declines to assume the position, the following shall occur:

1. If the office of Student Body President is vacated, the Vice President of Academics shall assume the office of Student Body President and the remaining Executive Council shall recommend a new Vice President of Academics according to the requirements of the position. This recommendation will then be ratified by the Student Senate.

2. All other vacated Executive Council positions shall be filled by recommendation of the remaining Executive Council based on the requirements of the position. This recommendation will then be ratified by the Student Senate.

3. In the event that all of the Executive Council positions are vacated, the Student Senate will meet with the SUUSA Advisor(s) to decide what the best form of action shall be.

SECTION 13: The Executive Council, along with the ratification of the Student Senate, shall have the power to make all regulations and institute all procedures which shall be necessary and proper for executing the above-mentioned powers, responsibilities and privileges, and all other powers vested by this Constitution in the Executive Council or officer thereof.

ARTICLE V: THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

SECTION 1: The Student Senate is chaired by the Vice President of Academics and is comprised of eight (8) elected Academic Senators, seven (7) appointed individuals from Interest Groups on campus, and one (1) Assistant who shall be appointed by the Vice President of Academics. This assistant is a non-voting member. The Executive Council is to attend all Student Senate meetings, serving as non-voting members. Further explanation can be found in the SUUSA Procedures.

SECTION 2: Academic Senators are popularly elected during the annual SUUSA election. They will serve on the Student Senate as well as on one (1) of three (3) SUUSA Committees as appointed by the Executive Council.

SECTION 3: Each Senator shall serve as a member of the Academic Senate, chaired by the Vice President of Academics. The purpose of this Senate is to:

A. Assist Senators in facilitating academic initiatives;

B. Develop academic policy bills for the Student Senate;

C. Coordinate with the Deans Council to set and achieve goals; and

D. Ensure that Senators are properly representing their constituents.

SECTION 4: Special Interest Representatives shall be appointed by the Interest Group they represent and ratified by the Executive Council. Each Representative shall also serve on one (1) of three (3) SUUSA Committees as appointed by the Executive Council.

SECTION 5: The Student Senate shall meet once a week during the fall and spring semesters and as prescribed by the Student Body President. All voting must be conducted within this allotted time period.

SECTION 6: The Student Senate is to:

A. Commit to at least one Senate meeting a week as prescribed by the Student Body President as well as one meeting a week within their appointed Committees;

B. Vet, review, and discuss all bills sent by the three (3) Committees and Academic Senate. Once the review process is over the Student Senate shall vote to ratify or reject the reviewed bill. If a bill does not meet the requisite votes from the Student Senate it is sent back to the Committees for revision.

C. Approve all implemented policies and procedures for the fair and orderly use of identified student space, equipment, and resources within SUUSA jurisdiction.

D. Ratify all SUUSA budgets at the beginning of each fall semester for the next academic year.

E. Approve funding requests from SUUSA student clubs and organizations that are above $200.

F. All funding requests from non-registered student groups or individuals must be brought to the Student Senate.

G. Ratify all appointed Executive Council members in the event of a vacancy.

H. Participate in campus-wide committees, as needed.

SECTION 7: In order for the Student Senate to have quorum, they must have two-thirds (⅔) of the standing Student Senate present during the scheduled weekly meeting. If the Student Senate

does not obtain quorum, they will be unable to vote on any bills. In special circumstances, the Student Senate may utilize an online vote/conference to conduct business. Votes for the Student Senate meetings may not be submitted via proxy.

SECTION 8: During the Student Senate meetings each bill will be read by an appointed representative of the committee sponsoring the bill. A bill must have two-thirds (⅔) majority vote in order to pass. When passed, a bill shall have all the privileges and authority written within its presented format.

SECTION 9: The Assistant to the Senate will take role during all Student Senate meetings, and will notify all organizations and advisors of any absences. The Chief Justice shall serve as Parliamentarian of the Student Senate.

SECTION 10: The Student Body President can veto any approved bill according to Article X.

SECTION 11: During the summer semester, the Student Senate shall not be in session. In the summer semester, the following procedures shall be in force:

A. During this time, the Vice President of Academics may make proposals of budget requests to the Chief Justice for review;

B. All bills and budgets made under these circumstances should be counseled with Student Senate members when possible;

C. No bills pertaining to policy or Constitutional review may be considered during the summer semester. Only bills pertaining to funding requests may be proposed;

    1. No more than twenty percent (20%) of the Student Senate budget may be allocated during this summer semester.

D. The Chief Justice shall review bills and budgets for constitutionality and shall have power to dismiss any such with a written note explaining why the proposal(s) were unconstitutional; and,

E. If approved by the Chief Justice, these bills and budgets may be signed or vetoed by the President. If signed, they will act in full force until the Senate is in session.

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ARTICLE VI: SPECIAL INTEREST REPRESENTATIVES

SECTION 1: The Special Interest Representatives are comprised of seven (7) students appointed from designated Student Organizations to be a member of the Student Senate for the academic year. Each representative will be a voting member of the Student Senate.

SECTION 2: The Executive Council will select the designated Student Organizations and number of representatives. The selected Student Organization shall then choose a representative(s). All Representatives must be ratified by the elected Executive Council.

SECTION 3: If a Special Interest Representative is absent for more than three (3) Student Senate meetings, the Student Senate will then review the status of the Student Organization's membership.

SECTION 4: If a Student Organization wants to change their representative, they must go through the ratification process as prescribed in the SUUSA procedures.

ARTICLE VII: SUUSA COMMITTEES

SECTION 1: There are three (3) Student SUUSA Committees: Student Life Enhancement, Clubs and Organizations, and Budget and Finance. Each Committee is comprised of members of the Student Senate. Members will be assigned by the Executive Council.

SECTION 2: The duties of the Committees will be to compose, vet, and review any bills or recommendations before presenting them to the Student Senate. If a bill does not meet the minimum standards written within the SUUSA procedures, then a Committee can reject the bill.

A. The Student Life Enhancement Committee will be chaired by the Student Body President. The major duties of this committee will be:

1. Propose, implement, and monitor special projects;

2. Address the social and academic needs of all SUU students;

3. Create and maintain opportunities to receive feedback from the student body; and

4. Work together with any other committee or ad hoc committee to enhance student life at SUU.

B. The Clubs and Organizations Committee will be chaired by the Vice President of Clubs and Organizations. The major duties of this committee will be:

1. Organize trainings for all SUUSA clubs;

2. Organize, approve, and regulate all registered Student Clubs and Organizations;

3. Host regular Inter Club Council (ICC) meetings during the fall and spring semesters;

4. Develop and maintain student co-curricular transcripts;

5. Coordinate semi-annual club fairs; and

6. Work together with any other committee or ad hoc committee to support clubs and organizations at SUU.

C. The Budget and Finance Committee will be chaired by the Vice President of Finance. The Budget and Finance Committee shall utilize controllers in a non-voting capacity. The major duties of this committee will be:

1. Review and monitor all funding requests and make recommendations to the Student Senate;

2. Approve or deny any funding requests under $200;

3. Monitor all SUUSA budgets and accounts; and

4. Work together with any other committee or ad hoc committee to support SUUSA.

ARTICLE VIII: THE JUDICIAL BRANCH

SECTION 1: The Judicial Branch shall be composed of the Chief Justice and two (2) Associate Justices. The Chief Justice and Associate Justices will comprise the SUUSA Supreme Court.

SECTION 2: The Chief Justice shall be appointed by the SUUSA advisors after each election cycle.

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SECTION 3: The Chief Justice shall appoint two (2) Associate Justices. These appointees must be confirmed by two-thirds (⅔) vote of the Student Senate.

SECTION 4: A member of SUUSA may be eligible for appointment to the SUUSA Supreme Court if they satisfy the eligibility requirements enumerated in Article I and Article II Section 2. If appointed, they must forfeit any current role within SUUSA.

SECTION 5: The Chief Justice and Associate Justices shall serve a term of one (1) year, beginning at the start of the summer semester.

SECTION 6: The Chief Justice will:

A. Preside over the Supreme Court during their regular meetings, and during the review and hearing processes unless they are the subject of review or have an active grievance filed against them;

B. Act as the spokesperson for the Supreme Court;

C. Preside over the impeachment and/or removal of any elected or appointed officials unless they are the individual being impeached and/or removed;

D. Review all proposed summer legislation proposed by the Vice President of Academics for constitutionality;

1. The Chief Justice is required to meet biweekly with the Vice President of Academics to review bills.

E. Serve on the Student Life Enhancement Committee;

F. Appoint Associate Justices to the Supreme Court; and

G. Serve as Parliamentarian of the Student Senate.

SECTION 7: Associate Justices will:

A. Serve as members of the SUUSA Supreme Court;

B. Assume the Chief Justice position—appointed by the Executive Council—in case of a vacancy; and

C. Serve on either the Clubs and Organizations Committee or the Budget and Finance Committee, assigned by the Chief Justice.

SECTION 8: The SUUSA Supreme Court will:

A. Hear and decide duly-filed grievances against appointed and elected officers of SUUSA Student Government;

B. Hear and decide duly-filed grievances against student clubs and organizations;

C. Hear and decide violations of the election bylaws;

D. Certify and publish election results;

E. Fulfil other responsibilities as outlined in the SUUSA Governance Bylaws;

F. Periodically review the SUUSA Constitution, governing body bylaws, and all policies and procedures to ensure they are consistent with each other and this Constitution; and

G. Serve as student representatives on the University Appeals Board.

SECTION 9: In the event that a member of the Supreme Court declares to run for an elected office within SUUSA Student Government, the Executive Council will appoint a SUUSA officer to fulfil their duties during the election process in their place. Upon the close of the election process, the Justice shall resume their complete role.

ARTICLE IX: STUDENT GOVERNMENT ADVISORS

SECTION 1: Student Government Advisors are determined by the Vice President of Student Affairs.

SECTION 2: The Student Government Advisors shall:

A. Be present at all meetings of the Student Senate as well as any meeting of which their presence is requested;

B. Work with SUU's Division of Academic Affairs, assuring proper student representation on all Academic Committees; and

C. Act as consultant to the Student Government.

SECTION 3: If an Advisor is unable to attend a required meeting, they may select a designee from the Student Affairs Division to represent them during their absence.

SECTION 4: The Student Government Advisors do not have a vote on the Student Senate or Committee meetings, but may provide advice and voice concerns or opinions.

SECTION 5: A Student Government Advisor may consider vetoing a bill/decision if:

A. It is not aligned with the SUUSA or University mission and vision;

B. Infringes upon, or harms student rights; and/or

C. It is not designated use of the SUUSA student fee.

Any veto made by a Student Government Advisor must be followed by a formal letter of explanation as to why the bill/decision was vetoed. This must be submitted in writing to SUUSA within 24 hours. Vetoes made by the Student Government Advisor can be appealed by any member of the SUUSA Student Government.

The appeal must be brought to the Vice President of Student Affairs. Upon receipt of the appeal request, the Vice President of Student Affairs must:

A. Review a letter of appeal written by a(n) SUUSA member(s);

B. Review advisor's letter of explanation for veto; and

C. Offer an opportunity for an open forum to hear further concerns (advisors cannot attend).

SECTION 6: The Student Government Advisors may be reviewed at the end of the academic year by the Student Senate. A report must be provided to the Vice President of Student Affairs for their consideration.

ARTICLE X: PRESIDENTIAL VETOES AND VETO OVERRIDE

SECTION 1: Any SUUSA bill, resolution, budget and funding proposal, or policy passed by a two-thirds (⅔) vote of the Student Senate shall take effect when it is signed by the Student Body President.

SECTION 2: The Student Body President has the authority to veto any bill, resolution, budget and funding proposal, or policy passed by the Student Senate. A vetoed measure must be returned to the Student Senate accompanied by the reasons for vetoing the measure and any recommendations the Student Body President may have for improving the measure. Reasons and recommendations must be shared in a written memorandum.

SECTION 3: The Student Senate may override a Presidential veto on any bill, resolution, funding proposal, or policy by passing the exact same measure with a three-fourths (¾) vote. With an affirmative override vote, the measure will take effect.

A. Vetoed measures cannot be amended and then passed by three-fourths (¾) vote. An override can only be applied to a measure that remains unchanged.

B. When necessary, Presidential recommendations should be used by the Student Senate to create a new bill, resolution, funding proposal, or policy that complies with recommendations provided.

SECTION 4: Should the Student Body President fail to sign or veto a bill, resolution, funding proposal, or policy within three (3) school days of receipt, the measure will automatically become effective on the next day.

ARTICLE XI: IMPEACHMENT AND REMOVAL

SECTION 1: An officer of SUUSA Student Government may be impeached for:

A. A violation of this Constitution, any SUU policy, handbook, code of conduct or municipal, state and federal law;

B. A violation of the Election Bylaws or other applicable bylaws; or

C. Failure to satisfy the duties and responsibilities of one's office as specified by this Constitution.

SECTION 2: The impeachment process is comprised of the following steps:

A. Petition to impeach

1. A member of SUUSA may initiate the impeachment process by filing a petition with 100 printed names with signatures and corresponding T-numbers filed with a member of the Supreme Court. The petitioner must

also specifically state the alleged violation of policy so a student signing the petition can make an informed decision as to whether they want to sign.

2. The petition must be verified by the Supreme Court with the assistance of the SUUSA Advisor no later than one week after it was received by a member of the Supreme Court.

B. Formation of an Impeachment Committee

1. If the petition is verified as complete and legitimate, the Chief Justice must form an Impeachment Committee within three (3) school days of verifying the petition.

2. The Committee will consist of:

a. The Chief Justice;

b. Two (2) Associate Justices;

c. Three (3) voting members of the Student Senate;

d. Two (2) SUU students selected at large; and

e. SUUSA Advisor.

3. There must be a majority of ⅔ membership present in an Impeachment Committee meeting in order to conduct official business.

4. The Chief Justice and Associate Justices shall choose the voting members of the Student Senate and at-large students in an effort to appoint an unbiased committee.

5. No one being considered for impeachment may be a member of the Impeachment Committee.

6. The Chief Justice shall serve as the Chair and spokesperson of the Impeachment Committee and shall have one (1) vote. In the event that the Chief Justice is absent, the Chief Justice shall assign one of the Associate Justices to Chair the proceedings.

C. Review and Evaluation of the Allegation

1. The impeachment committee shall undertake deliberations on the validity and merit of the allegations, and should thoroughly review and evaluate all the available evidence.

2. At the conclusion of deliberation, the Chief Justice shall conduct a secret ballot vote of the Impeachment Committee. If the majority of Impeachment Committee members find merit in the allegation, then the officer shall be impeached.

3. The review and evaluation of the allegation shall take no longer than 10 school days commencing from the time the impeachment committee is formed. Official notice of the impeachment committee's decision shall be given in writing to the accused officer and the Vice President of Academics within 48 hours of the decision, and the notice shall initiate the removal process.

SECTION 3: The removal process is comprised of the following steps:

A. Student Senate Hearing

1. Upon the Vice President of Academics receiving official notice of the Impeachment Committee's decision, they will schedule a special session of the Student Senate to hold a hearing to consider removal of the impeached office. This special session will be scheduled to provide the impeached officer with at least five (5) school days to prepare for the hearing, and must occur during a week when classes are in session. Written notice of the date and time of the special session will be given to the impeached officer once the special session is scheduled.

2. The special session will provide the impeached officer the opportunity to hear the evidence and arguments being presented against them, and also to present evidence in their favor.

3. The impeached officer may have an Advisor help prepare and attend the hearings. An Advisor may not speak or directly advocate for the accused officer during the hearing to prevent undue influence from an authority figure.

4. The Vice President of Academics shall preside over the hearing unless they are the impeached officer for whom the session has been called. In the event the Vice President has been impeached, the Student Body President shall preside over the meeting.

5. A quorum of the Student Senate must be in attendance at the special session in order for the hearing to commence. At least one (1) SUU administrator from the Division of Student Affairs must be present at the hearing.

6. This special session of the Student Senate will not be open to the public.

7. The session will proceed according to the following format:

   a. Once the session is called to order by the presiding officer, the Vice President of Academics (or the Chief Justice when applicable) will read the allegation from the petition to impeach and also read the decision of the impeachment committee.

   b. The impeached officer shall be allotted a reasonable amount of time to present any evidence, argument, or witness to the Student Senate. Members of the Senate will have an opportunity to ask any questions following the impeached officer's presentation.

   c. Following the questions, the impeached officer will be allowed to provide a summation and any closing remarks they feel will be helpful to the Student Senate prior to its deliberations.

   d. Following the impeached officer's summation, they will be required to leave the hearing so the Student Senate can debate the merits of the accusation and determine the appropriate outcome. The debate shall alternate between proponent and opponent speeches and will be governed by the Student Senate's adopted rules of order.

   e. After the debate, the presiding officer shall put the question of removal to the Student Senate and conduct a vote.

f. All votes will be collected and the presiding officer will announce the result of the vote. Only a vote of three-fourths (¾) of the votes cast in the Student Senate hearing will result in the removal of the impeached officer.

8. All proceedings of the Student Senate's removal hearings are confidential. Only the Student Senate's decision will be made public.

B. Official Notice of the Student Senate's Decision

1. The presiding officer shall draft a letter and provide a copy of the hearing minutes to the impeached officer regardless of the outcome.

2. When the Student Senate's decision results in removal, the letter will also include notice of an opportunity to appeal.

SECTION 4: The Appeal Process

A. An impeached and removed officer of SUUSA may appeal the Senate's decision to the Dean of Students. Appeals must be filed within one week of the Student Senate's decision.

B. The impeached and removed officer may only appeal the Student Senate's decision if they believe there was a violation of due process and/or have additional evidence that was not available before or during the Student Senate's decision.

C. An appeal to the Dean of Students shall be the final step. The Dean of Students' determination will be final and may either uphold or reject the Student Senate's decision.

D. In the event the Dean of Students rejects the Student Senate's decision, the impeached officer will retain their office.

SECTION 5: Throughout the impeachment, removal, and appeal process, the accused officer will continue to function in their official capacity and receive the benefits of their office.

SECTION 6: Once a decision to remove has been confirmed at all levels, the impeached and removed officer shall have all benefits of their office revoked.

SECTION 7: The Executive Council, by a two-thirds (⅔) vote, may release appointed officials from their positions and revoke all associated benefits without the impeachment and removal process. The only exception will be the Supreme Court who must be impeached and removed.

ARTICLE XII: CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

SECTION 1: Amendments to this Constitution will be considered by the Constitutional Amendment Committee (CAC) composed of the following individuals:

A. The Vice President of Academics (Chairperson and Spokesperson);

B. The Vice President of Clubs and Organizations;

C. Three (3) Senators appointed by the Vice President of Academics;

D. Three (3) Directors appointed by the Vice President of Clubs;

E. One (1) Director from the Student Programming Board appointed by the President of Student Programming Board;

F. Two (2) Special Interest Representatives from the Student Senate appointed by the Executive Council; and

G. Two (2) students appointed at large by the Student Body President.

The majority of the CAC must be present in order to conduct official business. Each member shall have one (1) vote on all items submitted to them. A majority vote of the CAC is required for an amendment to pass the CAC.

SECTION 2: Any member of SUUSA may propose an amendment to this Constitution.

A. Proposed amendment(s) not made by the CAC must be accompanied by a petition signed by at least five percent (5%) of the total SUUSA membership.

B. The petition must include the following information:

1. A written statement clearly defining the change to constitution;

2. A written rational statement explaining the changes to the constitution; and

3. Each student's signature, printed name, and T-number for the purpose of verifying the legitimacy of the petition.

C. The written/proposed amendment(s) from the CAC shall be forwarded to the SUUSA Student Senate for its consideration.

SECTION 3: If the Student Senate agrees to the amendment(s) as presented to them, it will be forwarded to the President's Council for their consideration. If the Student Senate does not agree with the amendment(s) as it is presented to them, then the Student senate should (1) commit or refer the amendment(s) back to the CAC or the sponsor of the petition for further revisions with recommendations noted or (2) postpone the amendment(s) indefinitely. Any revisions to the amendment(s) after being committed back to the CAC should be forwarded to the President's Council to ascertain their agreement.

SECTION 4: Once the CAC, the Student Senate, and the President's Council agree on the amendment(s), the membership of SUUSA will have the opportunity to approve or disapprove the amendment(s) during the general election or a special election called for the purpose of amending this Constitution. If the amendment(s) fails to garner the support of a majority of the SUUSA membership voting in the election, the amendment(s) is voided and cannot be reintroduced during the same academic year it was placed on the ballot. If the amendment(s) garners the support of a majority of voters voting in the election, the amendment(s) will be incorporated into this Constitution. Once voting is over, the newly-formed Constitution will go to the SUU Board of Trustees for its approval. Should the Board of Trustees reject this Constitution as amended, it is void and cannot be reintroduced until the next academic year.

ARTICLE XIII: RATIFICATION AND REVIEW OF THE SUUSA CONSTITUTION

SECTION 1: The SUUSA Constitution will be ratified by:

A. A two-thirds (⅔) vote of the Student Senate;

B. A majority vote of the SUUSA membership voting in the election;

C. The SUU President's Council; and

D. The SUU Board of Trustees.

SECTION 2: Once ratified by the above-mentioned entities, this Constitution shall be effective at the end of the current Academic school year.

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SECTION 3: The entire SUUSA Constitution shall undergo an official review by the officers of SUUSA every three (3) years following its ratification. During a review year:

A. The Student Body President shall appoint a committee of four (4) members from the Student Senate: two (2) from the previous Student Senate and two (2) from the current Student Senate. If there are no eligible Senators from the previous Academic year then four (4) members from the current Student Senate may be used.

B. The committee shall be formed by a newly-elected Student Body President during the first month of their term of office. The formation of the committee should take place during the spring so the appointed officers have the summer to review and consider the strength of this Constitution.

C. At the beginning of the immediately ensuing fall semester, the Review Committee will meet and recommend amendments, if any, to the CAC. The amendment process will then proceed as outlined in this Constitution. (see Article X).

ARTICLE XIV: TRANSPARENCY IN GOVERNANCE

SECTION 1: The governing bodies and officers of the SUUSA Student Government will follow the Utah Open Meetings Act and the Government Records and Access Management Act (GRAMA).

SECTION 2: All bills, resolutions, applications for funding, receipts, meeting minutes, and other documents will be kept on file for four (4) years and be available for public inspection. The Student Body President will have the responsibility to ensure this record-keeping occurs, and may assign the Chief of Staff to oversee this function.