

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION GOVERNANCE COUNCIL BY-LAWS

Revised September 5, 2001

ARTICLE I. PURPOSE AND AUTHORITY

- SECTION I.** The title of the body shall be the Governance Council of the Texas A&M University Student Government Association.
- SECTION II.** This body derives its authority from the Student Government Association Constitution, and is bound by that document. The body will also follow any requirements in these by-laws, unless those requirements are in conflict with the Student Government Association Constitution.
- SECTION III.** The purpose of this group is to establish a vision statement for the Student Government Association, facilitate communication between the branches, vote on items of business, but not proposed changes to the Student Government Association Constitution, and facilitate the implementation of policy initiatives.

ARTICLE II. MEMBERSHIP

- SECTION I.** The membership of the Governance Council shall be determined by the Student Government Constitution.
- (a) Other Vice-Presidents besides the Vice-Presidents designated as voting members may serve as non-voting members of Governance Council at the request of the Student Body President.
 - (b) Other persons may be designated as non-voting members of Governance Council by a two-thirds vote of the Governance Council.
- SECTION II.** Each member of the Governance Council with voting privileges shall hold one (1) vote on the Governance Council.

ARTICLE III. QUORUM

- SECTION I.** Two-thirds (2/3) of the voting membership of the Governance Council shall be required for the Governance Council meeting to be held.

ARTICLE IV. CHAIR

- SECTION I.** The Student Body President shall chair the meetings of the Governance Council.
- SECTION II.** In the event that the Student Body President is unable to chair a meeting of the Governance Council, the Speaker of the Senate shall chair the meeting.
- SECTION III.** If both the Speaker and the Student Body President are unable to chair the meeting, the Chief Justice of the Judicial Board shall chair the meetings of the Governance Council.

SECTION IV. If the Student Body President, the Speaker of the Senate, and the Chief Justice of the Judicial Board are unable to chair the meeting, then the voting members of the Governance Council present shall select a voting member to chair that meeting.

ARTICLE V. MEETINGS

SECTION I. The Student Body President shall be responsible for scheduling meetings of the Governance Council. The Student Body President is responsible for ensuring that all members are notified of the meeting's time and place.

SECTION II. A meeting of the Governance Council may be rescheduled if two-thirds (2/3) of the voting membership of the Governance Council gives prior consent to the new meeting place and time, and if all members are notified of the new place and time.

SECTION III. There shall be at least one Governance Council meeting between each regular meeting of the Student Senate. The Student Body President shall submit to the Governance Council by the second meeting in the fall semester a schedule of the regular meetings of the Governance Council.

SECTION IV. Governance Council meetings shall be open. The members of Governance Council may close the meetings by a two-thirds (2/3) vote.

SECTION V. A special session of the Governance Council may be called by fifty percent (50%) of the voting membership of Governance Council provided all members of Governance Council are informed of the time and place of the special session.

ARTICLE VI. VOTING PROCEDURES

SECTION I. Any items to be voted on shall be submitted to the Student Body President's box forty-eight (48) hours prior to the scheduled Governance Council meeting.

- (a) These measures may be postponed until the next Governance Council meeting by a one-third (1/3) vote of the Governance Council. At the next meeting and all subsequent meetings of the Governance Council the measure can only be postponed by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of Governance Council.
- (b) These items require a majority vote of Governance Council to be approved by Governance Council.

SECTION II. If the Governance Council does not vote for any item up for consideration by the Governance Council because a quorum is not present, then that measure will come up again at the next scheduled meeting of the Governance Council. If a quorum is still not present at the next meeting of the Governance Council, then the members of Governance Council shall be responsible for providing to the Student Body President written correspondence of their vote within four (4) class days after the day of the meeting. Votes submitted after this time shall not be counted. The Student Body President shall then submit a report listing the members of

Governance Council and their votes to the members of Governance Council before the beginning of the next scheduled Governance Council meeting. Any member who believes an error was made in the recording of their vote must submit a request within twenty-four (24) hours to the Student Body President requiring the Student Body President to provide proof of the member's original vote. Proof must be provided within twenty-four hours, or the member's claim will be declared justified and the vote shall be changed to the vote that the member claims.

ARTICLE VII. AMENDING THE BY-LAWS

SECTION I.

These by-laws may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of Governance Council.

SECTION II.

Any member of the Governance Council may propose amendments to these by-laws.