



University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center

HSC Student Government Association's Constitution

(Amended January 21, 2020)

Article 1: Title

The name of this organization shall be the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center Student Government Association (OUHSC SGA).

Article II: Membership

Section 1: Every enrolled student of the OUHSC shall be a member of the OUHSC SGA.

Section 2: Herein is created the Senate of the OUHSC SGA, to be a branch of the Student Government Association.

Section 3: Representation of each College student body of the OUHSC shall be through membership to the SGA Senate.

Clause 1: Colleges receiving membership shall include:

- A. College of Allied Health
- B. College of Dentistry (to include proportional representation of the Dental Hygiene program)
- C. College of Nursing
- D. College of Medicine – MD
- E. College of Medicine – PA
- F. College of Pharmacy
- G. College of Public Health
- H. Graduate College

Article III: Purpose

The purpose of the SGA Senate shall be to represent members of the OUHSC Student Government Association in the regulation and coordination of all phases of student government; to serve as an agency for the maintenance of cordial and cooperative relationships among students, their governing bodies, alumni, faculty, and University administration; to conserve and propagate the ideals and traditions of the health sciences; and to promote honesty and individual achievement in academic affairs. The SGA Senate will promote such activities as it deems valuable in the furtherance of this purpose of mutual concern to the membership of the OUHSC Student Government Association.

Article IV: Student Government Association

The Student Government Association (SGA) shall be defined as the three branches of student government, comprised of the Executive Board, the Executive Council, and the Student Senate as described herein.

Article V: Legislative Branch

Section 1:

Clause 1: Legislative powers of the OUHSC SGA shall be vested in the SGA Senate and student councils in each college as set out herein.

Clause 2: Specific powers shall reside in the SGA Senate unless otherwise delegated to the individual college Student Councils herein.

Clause 3: Membership of the SGA Senate shall be selected for one year terms and shall be elected at large by the individual college Student Councils.

- A. SGA Senators shall comprise the voting members of the OUHSC SGA.

B. Representation is given on a basis of one voting member per 100 students enrolled, with each college constituency guaranteed at least three voting members.

1. For 1-300 students, the college shall receive 2 voting members.

2. For 301-400 students the college shall receive 3 voting members, etc.

C. A list of the SGA Senators shall be provided to the OUHSC SGA by each college constituency president as soon as they are elected.

1. Updated lists shall be provided to the OUHSC SGA as necessary.

D. HSC enrollment numbers shall be presented to the SGA President during the spring of each academic year for deciding the following year's Senate representation.

E. If the individual College Student Councils fail to fill their respective SGA Senate seats, the SGA Executive Board shall select senators from their respective Colleges.

F. In addition to the elected Senators, each college Student Council may select up to two Alternates to serve in the Senate that will have the same duties and responsibilities as a Senator, but will be non-voting members unless the designated Senators are absent and the number of voting members has not been fulfilled by those Senators present for voting.

Clause 4: All SGA Senators shall be subject to the rules of recall of their individual college councils.

Section 2: One-half (1/2) plus one (1) of the SGA Senators shall constitute a quorum to do business. The SGA Senate may be authorized to compel the attendance of absent Senators in such a manner and under such penalties as the SGA Senate may provide.

Section 3: The SGA Senate shall have the right of impeachment and removal of officers by a concurrence of two-thirds (2/3) of the voting membership.

Section 4: The SGA Senate shall recommend campus-wide student rules and regulations and appropriate revenues of the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center Student Government Association.

Clause 1: Every bill, which has been approved by the SGA Senate by a two-third (2/3) vote, shall be presented to the SGA President. If (s)he signs the bill, it will become effective. If (s)he vetoes it, the SGA Senate shall then proceed to reconsider it. If any bill is neither signed nor vetoed by the President within ten days (except Sundays) after it was presented to him/her, the same shall be enacted in like manner as if (s)he had signed it.

Clause 2: Having been enacted by the SGA, all acts except those specifically dealing with the internal operation of the SGA shall be presented to the OUHSC Student Affairs Executive Director and then to the Provost of the Health Sciences Center. If (s)he approves, (s)he shall sign it, but if not, (s)he shall return it with his/her objections to the SGA Senate, which shall proceed to reconsider it. If after such reconsideration, two-thirds (2/3) of the SGA Senate agree to pass the bill, it shall be presented to the President of the University for his/her consideration with the Board of Regents of the University being the next and final tier.

Article VI: Executive Branch

Section 1: The Executive Board of the SGA shall consist of these offices advised by the Executive Director of HSC Student Affairs:

A. President

B. Vice-President/ Senate Chair

C. Secretary

D. Treasurer

E. Campus Activities Board Chair

Clause 1: In the absence of the President, the Vice-President/Senate Chair, Secretary, etc. in the above order, shall preside as acting President.

Section 2: The executive power of the OUHSC SGA shall be vested in the SGA President who shall, at the time of his/her election and for the entire term, be a member of the OUHSC Student Government Association.

Clause 1: In the case of the removal of the SGA President from office, resignation from office, or his/her inability to discharge the powers and duties of the office, those powers and duties shall fall upon the SGA Vice-President/Senate Chair.

Clause 2: If the SGA President leaves office during the academic year of his/her presidency, an election shall be held at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the SGA Senate.

Section 3: The SGA President shall nominate and appoint all officers of the OUHSC SGA not otherwise provided.

Section 4: The SGA President, or a member of the Executive Board, shall represent the OUHSC Student Government Association on official occasions and in conjunction with HSC Student Affairs, coordinate student activities and services. (S)He may convene the SGA Senate in special session with one week's notice and shall take care that all acts of the SGA Senate are faithfully executed.

Section 5: The SGA Senate shall create such organizations as shall be necessary to the implementation of the President's powers and duties.

Article VII: Meetings

Section 1: The SGA President shall be able to call a general meeting of the SGA Executive Council.

Section 2: The OUHSC SGA Vice President shall be able to call a general meeting of the SGA Senate.

Section 3: Any member of OUHSC SGA may initiate legislation.

Section 4: Any bill being considered for passage by the SGA Senate may, by a majority two-third (2/3) vote of the SGA Senate, be approved.

Article VIII: Budget

Section 1: Operating expenses of the OUHSC SGA shall be 10% of all student activities fee monies. The remaining 90% shall be returned to the respective college student councils. This transfer shall come from student activity fees and shall be made directly from the bursar's office to the Student Association account.

Clause 1: Funding shall be based upon current enrollment.

Section 2: An approved budget shall be established by the SGA and approved by quorum vote of the SGA Senate, then forwarded to the Executive Director of HSC Student Affairs for his/her approval. Said budget shall be established by October 15 and revised as necessary.

Section 3: Support of activities not included in the SGA budget may be received by special request by either a college student council or University recognized special interest group. Proposed budgets must be passed by a two-thirds (2/3) quorum vote of the Executive Council.

Article IX: Officer Elections

Section 1: The SGA Senate shall elect the executive board during the month of April.

Section 2: Any OUHSC SGA member may run for any executive office.

Section 3: Candidacy nominations for executive board positions shall open one month prior to the date of the election and shall remain open up until midnight the Sunday immediately preceding the day of elections.

Clause 1: Candidates may only be initially nominated to one (1) executive board position.

Section 4: Executive board candidates must be present at the time of election, or provide an official proxy.

Section 5: Executive board candidates shall be voted on by the SGA Senators and current Executive Board.

Clause 1: Filled seats in which the senator is absent may only be filled by alternate as described in Article X, Section 3.C.1 of Senate Bylaws.

Clause 2: If any SGA Senate seats for a College are vacant, the college may fill those seats by their Alternate seats.

Clause 3: If an Executive Board member steps down from his/her position prior to the end of the calendar year, timely notification of the open position will be distributed across campus (through Daily News, email or another comparable method). Potential candidates must submit a brief platform to the remaining Executive Board members at least one week prior to the next general SGA meeting. Eligible voting members of the SGA Senate at the next meeting will hold an election.

Clause 4: If an Executive Board member steps down from his/her position after the end of the calendar year, the responsibilities will be distributed among the remaining board members to ensure optimum continuity of ongoing projects until a new officer can be appointed by the Executive Board.

Section 6: The following shall be the order of the executive board elections:

1. President
2. Vice President/Senate Chair
3. Secretary
4. Treasurer
5. Campus Activities Board Chair

Clause 1: Candidates who have lost their initial election may choose to run in the elections of the positions that occur subsequently.

Clause 2: Candidates who decide to run in the subsequent election in the event that they lose their initial election must notify the current President at the time of their nomination.

Section 7: Officers shall begin their term of office immediately, and shall subsequently resign from their respective SGA Senate position if applicable.

Section 8: Terms of office shall last one year i.e. April to April.

Article X: Amendments

Section 1: Amendments may be proposed to this constitution. Such proposals are to be submitted in writing to the Secretary or made by motion of at an SGA Senate meeting. Proposed amendments shall be tabled a minimum of two (2) weeks before being voted upon.

Section 2: Amendments must be approved by two-thirds (2/3) voting membership of the SGA Senate.

Section 3: All amendments, after SGA Senate vote, must be approved by HSC Student Affairs, who will then notify the HSC Provost.

(Previously amended April 8, 2019, March 27, 2012 and October 18, 2009)