CONSTITUTION OF THE STUDENT BODY ASSOCIATION

Preamble

In order to provide effective participation of students in college governance, to act for the students in matters involving the students’ interests, to help maintain a high quality of life on campus, and to work with the administration, staff and faculty to build and preserve a learning community, the students of Millsaps College do hereby establish this Constitution.

Article I. General Organization

A. Jurisdiction
   1. The jurisdiction of the Student Body Association Government includes all apportionment of Student Body Association funds consistent with the policies of Millsaps College, the administration, and the Board of Trustees;
   2. Includes any and all areas of student activities, concerns, and needs as delegated by the Board of Trustees.

B. Government
   1. The government of the Student Body Association shall be composed of the Student Body Association Executive Board, the Student Senate, The Student Conduct and Review Council, and the Honor Council.

C. Membership and Rights
   1. All Millsaps students who pay the Student Body Association student activity fee;
   2. All members shall have the full right to vote in Student Body Association elections;
   3. The Millsaps Student Body Association is governed by the Student Body Association Executive Board, the Student Senate, The Student Conduct and Review Council, and the Honor Council;
   4. All Members may choose to pursue all elected or appointed positions of student government unless there is a conflict of interest.

Article II. The Executive Board

A. Construction
   1. The acting officers are President, First Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary and Executive Director of Programming.

B. Members and Functions
   1. President
      a. Acts as the official host to all dignitaries and student groups visiting campus and acts as the official representative of the SBA to all campus groups and organizations;
      b. Serves as an ex-officio member of the Board of Trustees;
c. Appoints one student ex-officio member who will serve a term of one full academic year to each of the following Board of Trustees committees with the Senate’s approval: Academic Affairs, Student Life, and Business Affairs;
d. Will serve as chairperson and have full authority over the SBA Executive Cabinet.
   (1) The Executive Cabinet will be tailored by the President, which can consist of formal and informal advisors;
      (a) May remove any of his/her appointees.
   (2) The SBA Executive Board Secretary serves as Chief of Staff to the President.

2. Vice President
   a. Serves as ex-officio member of all Senate ad-hoc Committees;
   b. Shall develop and plan all SBA retreats and banquets;
   c. Shall serve as a liaison between the SBA and the Alumni Council;
   d. Shall collect nominations by SBA Officers and Senators and applications for the All-College Council, the Honor Council, and the Student Conduct and Review Council nominees to the Senate for appointment or approval;
   e. Shall chair all interviewing and selection committees for the Honor Council and the Student Conduct and Review Council.
   f. Presides as chairperson over Senate Meetings.

3. Treasurer
   a. Receives and evaluates all budget requests from groups requesting funds and submits a comprehensive budget proposal to the Senate;
   b. Informs all campus groups of proper budgeting and expenditure procedures and assists these groups in all budget related matters;
   c. Facilitates the requisition procedure with the Business Office to ensure that all financial transactions of the SBA are completed;
   d. Keeps current and accurate records of SBA expenditures;
   e. Evaluates special requests for the funds from the General Account.

4. Secretary
   a. Serves as Chief of office operations to the SBA Executive Board;
   b. Charged with maintaining a calendar;
   c. Charged with recording minutes during Senate minutes;
   d. Serves as head of public relations;
   e. Maintains a running list of all clubs and their leaders;
   f. Makes reservations for the SBA;
   g. Charged with scheduling SBA retreats and banquets.

5. Executive Director of Programming
   a. Shall oversee all external SBA Programming
   b. Shall serve as chairperson and have full authority over the Programming and Activities Council (PAC)
   c. Facilitates all training of PAC members
   d. Shall facilitate all PAC meetings
   e. Charged with maintaining a PAC events calendar
   f. Serves as the direct contact with the PAC advisor
   g. Shall create and present an end of year report to the SBA Executive Board and Senate.

6. Executive Director of Diversity Council
   a. Shall oversee all matters pertaining to the Diversity Council;
   b. Shall serve as chairperson and have full authority over Diversity Council;
   c. Charged with maintaining a Diversity Council events calendar;
d. Advises the Senate, the Executive Board, and the Dean of Inclusion and Involvement with issues and affairs concerning the Diversity Council;
e. Shall dictate the frequency of meetings and the location of the meetings in addition to the required monthly meetings;
f. Appoint ad hoc representatives to the Diversity Council with Senate’s advice and consent by a two-thirds majority.

C. Election and Terms of Office
1. Each officer shall be elected by a majority vote from the Student Body;
2. All terms of the SBA Executive Board Officers will be concurrent with the calendar year beginning with the spring semester and concluding with the close of the fall semester;
3. In the case of a vacancy, a special election will occur in which the Senate nominates and elects a new officer by majority vote.

Article III. The Student Senate

A. Powers and Jurisdiction
1. The Senate shall have legislative power over all areas of student life that fall under the Student Body Association;
2. The Senate shall serve as spokesperson for the Student Body Association on all matters of student concern.

B. Composition
1. Executive Board Officers shall attend senate meetings regularly but they are not considered members of the Senate;
2. Senators shall be elected by general election and composed of the following representatives: Four Freshmen, Four Sophomores, Four Juniors, Four Seniors;
3. The Senators shall be elected by members of their constituencies.
4. In the event that a Senate seat becomes available in the fall semester or spring semester, the SBA President will appoint a new Senator who will serve until end of term, pending a majority vote approval of the senate;
5. If more than three Senate seats are vacated over Winter Break, a special election shall be held in the spring semester to fill these seats, and the Senators will serve until end of term, if three or less Senate seats are vacated over Winter Break, the SBA President will appoint a new Senator who will serve until end of term, pending a majority vote of approval of the senate;

Article IV. The Student Conduct and Review Council

A. Jurisdiction of Powers
1. The Student Conduct and Review Council shall have jurisdiction over review of questions arising from constitutional interpretation and procedure, and student disciplinary cases except in cases involving extreme psychological and/or emotional problems which will be determined by and handled by the Dean of Students;
2. Acts in accordance with the College Code of Conduct;
3. Shall have authority to levy monetary fines, service hours, alcohol education classes, probations, suspensions, expulsions, as well as other sanctions;
4. The President of the College has prerogative of review in all matters of student discipline. The authority of the President to assume jurisdiction in cases of
student discipline is reserved for those instances where, in his/her judgment, the best interests of the College would be served;

5. Shall have the authority to reopen cases due to the appearance of additional evidence;
6. Any decision made by the SBA President may be overturned by a majority vote of quorum of the Student Conduct and Review Council and replaced by the Council’s own decision. The Student Conduct and Review Council can refuse to hear any case by a majority vote and the President’s decision will then be final.

B. Composition
1. Eleven voting members shall be appointed as follows: two faculty members appointed by the Dean of Students with the approval of the President of the College; one administrative staff member appointed by the Dean of Students; eight student members appointed by the SBA Vice President and the chairperson of the Student Conduct and Review Council, to be approved by the majority of the Senate;
2. The Assistant Dean of Students for Residence Life, or his/her designee, shall serve in a non-voting advisory capacity;
3. All voting members will serve a one year term;
4. All members shall be chosen in the spring term of each year or appointed when vacancies occur;
5. The Student Conduct and Review Council shall have the power to choose its own chairperson and executive structure.

Article V. The Honor Council

A. Jurisdiction of Powers
1. The Honor Council shall preside over cases involving breaches in the Honor Code including but not limited to cases involving academic cheating, plagiarism, and unruly behavior in the classroom.

B. Composition
1. Nine voting members and one non-voting member shall be appointed as follows: three faculty members representing each division of the College appointed by the Dean of the College with the approval of the President of the College; seven student members appointed by the SBA Vice President and the chairperson of the Honor Council, to be approved by the majority of the Senate;
2. Student members consist of one non-voting freshmen, two sophomores, two juniors, and two seniors;
3. If necessary, The Dean of the Else School shall nominate two graduate students, to be approved by the majority of the Senate;
4. All members shall be appointed when vacancies occur.

Article VI. Impeachment

A. Grounds for Removal of a SBA Executive Officer, Senator, Honor Council member, or Student Conduct and Review Council member
1. Breach of faith with the Student Body Association;
2. Not carrying out specific obligations of the office in which they serve;
3. Not carrying out obligations as a member of the Student Body Association.
B. SBA Executive Board and Senate impeachment procedure
   1. A majority vote of the Senate shall be required before a formal impeachment procedure can begin;
   2. All charges shall be reviewed by the Student Conduct and Review Council;
   3. Three-fourths of the Senate must find a Senator or Executive Board member guilty of the charges before removal.

C. Student Conduct and Review Council impeachment procedure
   1. Two voting Student Conduct and Review Council members must send a report to the SBA Senate before a formal impeachment procedure can begin;
   2. All charges shall be reviewed by the Honor Council;
   3. Three-fourths of the Senate must find the Student Conduct and Review Council member guilty of the charges before removal.

D. Honor Council impeachment procedure
   1. Two voting Honor Council members must send a report to the SBA Senate before a formal impeachment procedure can begin;
   2. All charges shall be reviewed by the Student Conduct and Review Council;
   3. Three-fourths of the Senate must find the member guilty of the charges before removal.

Article VII. Conflicts of Interests

A. No member of the Student Body Association shall hold more than one of the following offices at one time: Senator, Student Conduct and Review Council member, Honor Council member, Student Body Association

Article VIII. Amendments

A. An amendment may be introduced only by a Senator. The proposed amendment must then receive a two-thirds majority vote of the Senate in order to pass.

B. An amendment shall become effective upon ratification by a majority vote in a Student Body Association election.

Article IX. The Diversity Council

A. Purpose
   1. To bring together different organizations in Millsaps to represent the needs for various interest groups on campus;
   2. To promote the needs for each organization in a cohesive manner;
   3. To create more intersectional events organized and held jointly by two or more different student groups;
   4. To advise the Student Senate and Associate Dean of Inclusion and Involvement in creating changes that benefit the needs of the community.

B. Composition
   1. A representative of each of the following organizations:
      a. International Student Organization
      b. Jewish Cultural Organization
      c. Millsaps International Buddy System
      d. Millsaps Masala
      e. Millsaps Pride
      f. Muslim Student Association
g. Pan-African Student Alliance  
h. Progressive Christians  
i. Any other cultural or religious organization approved by the Associate Dean of Inclusion and Involvement

2. Ad Hoc positions open for members that represent special interest groups;  
a. Executive Director and Associate Dean of Inclusion and Involvement would appoint representatives with the Student Senate’s advice and consent by a two-thirds majority vote by the Student Senate.

3. The organizations listed are responsible for electing a single representative to serve on the Diversity Council for a year term;  
a. If a vacancy arises on the Diversity Council, it is the responsibility of the unrepresented organization to refill the seat. The Diversity Council is required to meet once a month.