



The State University of New York  
Student Assembly

1617-052  
Ramsay

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### **MEMORANDUM 1617-052**

**TO: Members of the Student Assembly**

**FROM: Arthur Ramsay, Director of Communications**

**ENDORSED BY: Rules Committee, Executive Committee**

**DATE: April 7, 2017**

**SUBJECT: Bylaw Revision – Article VIII (Committees)**

#### **Action Requested**

I recommend that the Student Assembly of the State University of New York (SUNYSA) adopt the following resolution to amend Article VIII of the Bylaws of the Student Assembly to reflect the evolvement of the needs of the Assembly and its Executive Committee.

#### **Resolution**

Whereas the State University of New York is a vast organization composed of over half a million students, faculty, and staff; and

Whereas the Student Assembly of the State University of New York represents the students of the University and is the “official organization by which State University students participate in University-wide governance”<sup>1</sup>; and

Whereas the Student Assembly has the authority to adopt and amend its own Bylaws consistent with the Policies of the Board of Trustees<sup>2</sup>; and

Whereas the Student Assembly has established through its Bylaws four Standing Committees, namely the Rules, Government Relations, Campus Relations, and Community College Affairs Committees<sup>3</sup>; and

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<sup>1</sup> Policies of the Board of Trustees of the State University of New York, Article XVII, Title A, Section 2.

<sup>2</sup> Policies of the Board of Trustees of the State University of New York, Article XVII, Title E, Section 1, Clause A.

<sup>3</sup> Bylaws of the Student Assembly of the State University of New York, Article VIII, Section 1, Subsection A, Clauses 1-4.

Whereas the Student Assembly has evolved over time and there is a need for a revision of the Standing Committees to ensure future success of the Student Assembly and its subsidiary bodies; and

Whereas certain current ad-hoc committees are likely to remain relevant for extended periods and may benefit from the greater continuity that is guaranteed to standing committees; therefore be it

Resolved that Article VIII of the Bylaws of the Student Assembly, as last modified by the Student Assembly in April 2016, be and hereby is, repealed and replaced to reflect the following pending action by the General Assembly; and be it finally

Resolved that copies of this resolution and the newly amended Bylaws of the Student Assembly be forwarded to the Trustees of the State University of New York, Assistant Vice Chancellor Elizabeth Droz, the Executive Committees of the University Faculty Senate and Faculty Council of Community Colleges, and the Presidents of the several SUNY Student Governments, and all other parties deemed necessary and proper by the Secretary of the Student Assembly or the designee thereof.

## **ARTICLE VIII – COMMITTEES**

1. Purpose
  - 1.1. The Student Assembly shall conduct business through standing and ad-hoc committees.
  - 1.2. Appointments to both standing and ad-hoc committees shall be made by the President or their designee and confirmed by the Executive Committee.
  - 1.3. The Executive Committee shall retain the right to waive confirmation of committee appointments by tacit consent.
2. Membership, Attendance and Removal
  - 2.1. Committee membership shall be open to all SUNY students, faculty, and staff.
  - 2.2. The official roster of each committee shall be maintained by the Secretary and the official means of communication shall reflect it.
  - 2.3. Any member of a committee may be removed by the Chair of the committee for repeated absences or for neglect of duties. All removals shall be communicated to the President and Secretary. The Executive Committee may reinstate any member to a committee by a two-thirds majority.
3. Standing Committees
  - 3.1. There shall be three Standing Committees of the Student Assembly: the Committee on Rules, the State-Operated Campuses Committee, and the Community Colleges Committee.
  - 3.2. All meetings of standing committees shall be open to the public
  - 3.3. Committee on Rules
    - 3.3.1. The Rules Committee shall consider the constitutionality of all legislation prior to consideration by the Executive Committee.

- 3.3.2. All legislation referred to the Committee shall be reported to the Executive Committee or the Student Assembly with a recommendation for further action.
  - 3.4. State-Operated Campuses Committee
    - 3.4.1. The State-Operated Campuses Committee shall act as a resource to all individual student governments at the state-operated and statutory colleges.
    - 3.4.2. All representatives from the Doctoral-Granting Institutions, University Colleges, and Agriculture, Technology, Statutory and Specialized Colleges shall serve by virtue of their offices on the Committee with full privileges.
    - 3.4.3. The President of the University Faculty Senate shall serve as an ex-officio, non-voting member of the Committee, with all other privileges reserved.
  - 3.5. Community Colleges Committee
    - 3.5.1. The Community Colleges Committee shall act as a resource to all individual student governments at the community colleges.
    - 3.5.2. All representatives from the Community Colleges shall serve by virtue of their offices on the Committee with full privileges.
    - 3.5.3. The President of the Faculty Council of Community Colleges shall serve as an ex-officio, non-voting member of the Committee, with all other privileges reserved.
4. Ad-Hoc Committees
  - 4.1. Ad-hoc committees shall be created at the discretion of the President or their designee
  - 4.2. When the function of an ad-hoc committee has been executed, the committee shall be disbanded.
  - 4.3. All ad-hoc committee meetings shall be open to the public.
5. Committee Officers
  - 5.1. Chairs of standing and ad-hoc committees shall designate one (1) Vice-Chair and one (1) Clerk.
  - 5.2. The Vice-Chair shall assist the Chair in executing the work of the committee as requested by the Chair. The Vice-Chair shall also act as Chair in the absence of the Chair.
  - 5.3. The Clerk of the Committee shall prepare all committee documents and distribute them to members of the committee and the Secretary.