Statute Revision, Addition or
Proposed Constitutional Amendment Form

Date: 2/2/2015
Const. Amendment 1
Senate Bill

Sponsor(s) Molina
Moorhead

Purpose & Description (Use back if more space is needed)

A revision to the Student Body Constitution
striking out Article IV Section 5(A)(5) to

Approved for First Reading

Statute Number Strike Statute Number Insert

Article IV Section 5(A)(5)

Senate Judiciary Chairperson Senate Action
Passed / Failed (Circle One) Passed / Failed (Circle One)
Date Date
Section 5  SELECTION AND VACANCIES

History: Revised by Amendment 2, 56th Student Senate Spring 2004.

A. Justices shall be appointed by the Student Body President confirmed by the Student Senate as follows:

1. Once confirmed by the Senate, Justices shall serve until they graduate, resign, or are impeached, unless the Supreme Court fails to remove them from office. Within six weeks after a vacancy on the Court occurs, the Student Body President shall select a nominee for each vacant position and present these names to the Senate. The Chief Justice of the Student Supreme Court shall be responsible for notifying the Student Body President of any vacancy on the Court.

2. Before choosing a nominee, the Student Body President shall submit the candidate's application forms to the Student Bar Association at the College of Law. The Student Bar Association shall then interview each candidate and submit a written opinion on the fitness and qualifications of each candidate to serve on the Court to the Student Body President. The Student Body President shall then forward one of the candidates to the Student Senate for confirmation.

3. Confirmation shall require a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Senate.

4. No person shall sit on the Supreme Court who is not a student at the Florida State University College of Law of second or third year standing.

5. All Justices of the Student Supreme Court must have completed both the Professional Responsibility and Evidence courses at the College of Law before taking office. A Justice may also sit on the Student Supreme Court if he/she is currently taking these courses during the semester in which he/she is confirmed by the Student Senate.
The issue:

During the first year of law school (for which it takes three years to graduate) you are required to take a course load that is selected for you. Professional responsibility and Evidence are never on the list of those classes. Consequently, the only way a second year law student can sit on the Supreme Court (which accepts applications for the graduation vacancies in the Fall) is to be enrolled in both Professional Responsibility and Evidence in the Fall semester. This drastically shrinks the potential applicants to a handful of second year students that could even apply as very few students enroll in both of these classes their first semester they get to pick classes (mainly because there are a plethora of classes that are only offered once a year or every other year and both Professional Responsibility and Evidence are offered each semester). The result is that the five positions on the court are filled with third year law students and the court has no consistency as a full new court takes over each year leading to inconsistency in the courts opinions and general inefficiency in the procedure of hearing cases and conducting trials.

Having Professional Responsibility as a required course is the most problematic because it is a ‘joke’ class (as it is very common sense rules like don’t steal from clients, don’t sleep with clients, don’t hide evidence) that often students don’t take till their final year. In other words, when taking Professional Responsibility no law student has the “oh I didn’t realize that” moment. Evidence is an important class to have as the Rules of Evidence govern any Original Jurisdiction Complaints the court will hear and are necessary for the court to decide on allowing certain types of evidence or to take judicial notice in their appellate capacity.

The most important classes for a justice would revolve around statutory and constitutional interpretation, all which are a part of and covered in the required first year of classes for a first year law student (Civil Procedure, Constitutional Law I, and Legislation and Regulation). There is already a provision that ensures that any justice will already have taken these classes as a Justice must be a second or third year law student:

Article IV Section 5(A)(4)

No person shall sit on the Supreme Court who is not a student at the Florida State University College of Law of second or third year standing.

Based off of that, here is my proposed change:

Current Language:

Article IV Section 5(A)(5)

All Justices of the Student Supreme Court must have completed both the Professional Responsibility and Evidence courses at the College of Law before taking office. A Justice may also sit on the Student Supreme Court if he/she is currently taking these courses during the semester in which he/she is confirmed by the Student Senate.

Proposed change:
Allocation, Revision or Transfer Form

Amount: 1,524.35 Date: 2/4/15

Senate Bill 15

Sponsor(s) Alejandro Acosta

From Senate Projects
Account Name - Category

To Student Disability Resource Center - 230002 - 110
Account Name - Category

or

Within Organizations Name

From To
Account / Category Account / Category

Purpose & Description (Use back of form if more space is needed)
To purchase Echo smartpens, carrying cases and Notebooks for the Student Disability Resource Center.

Organization Director Alan Acosta Phone Number 850-644-9569

Itemized Expenditures: Only use this area if ALL expenditures can be listed. If ALL do not fit then use Part 2 for expenditures.

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<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Unit Price</th>
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<td>Echo Smartpens</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Carrying Cases</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Notebooks (4 Notebooks per pack)</td>
<td>$24.95/pack</td>
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Total 1,524.35

Senate Finance Committee Chairman
Passed / Failed (Circle) Date

Senate Action:
Passed / Failed (Circle) Date

Other

Other
**Allocation, Revision or Transfer Form**

**Amount:** $5,000  
**Date:** 2/4/15

**Senate Bill:** 16

**Sponsor(s):** Munoz

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**From:** Senate Projects

**Account Name - Category:**

**To:** Asian American Student Union

**Account Name - Category**

or

**Within:**

**Organizations Name**

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**Purpose & Description (Use back of form if more space is needed):**

To bring Jose Antonio Vargas to speak at FSU in March, 2015 on his experiences as an undocumented immigrant.

**Organization Director**  
**Phone Number**

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**Itemized Expenditures:** Only use this area if ALL expenditures can be listed. If ALL do not fit then use Part 2 for expenditures.

<table>
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**Total**

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**Senate Finance Committee Chairman**

**Passed / Failed (Circle) Date**

**Other**

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**Senate Action:**

**Passed / Failed (Circle) Date**

**Other**
THE SIXTY-SEVENTH STUDENT SENATE

Resolution 11

Sponsored by: Senator Moorhead

WHEREAS: The Asian American Student Union (AASU) is having their "Asian American Music, Poetry, and Dance" (AAMP’D) event, and

WHEREAS: The event will be held on Thursday, April 9, 2015, and

WHEREAS: Local performers and spoken word artists are being contracted for services rendered, and

WHEREAS: Express permission is needed from Senate to spend more than $3,000 for a speaker(s)/performer(s), therefore

BE IT RESOLVED BY THIS SIXTY-SEVENTH STUDENT SENATE AT THE FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY THAT:

The Sixty-Seventh Student Senate gives AASU permission to spend more than $3,000 for their AAMP’D event.
THE SIXTY SEVENTH STUDENT SENATE

Sponsor: Senator Engelbrecht

Resolution 12

Whereas, the Florida State University Student Government Association (FSU SGA) is charged with advocating for the interests of the student body at The Florida State University at the local, state and federal government levels:

Whereas, FSU SGA recommends the following to the Florida Legislature for the overall enhancement of student life and learning within the State of Florida.

Whereas, FSU SGA recognizes the success of the Honorably Discharged Veteran Assistance Program Gap Scholarship (HDVAP) from the 2014 session. FSUSGA strongly recommends the legislature turn this program into a recurring budget request, as well as increase the amount of funding to cover more student veterans.

Whereas, FSU SGA sees many of our student life buildings reaching a critical stage in their age and maintenance, and encourages further approval of bonding of the Capital Improvement Trust Fund Fee.

Whereas, FSU SGA recognizes declining rates in the enrollment of African American and Black students at FSU and recommends $2 million in state funding to rebuild our Black Student Union facilities.

Whereas, FSU SGA vehemently opposes HB 4005 and SB 176, which would allow for the concealed carry of firearms on college campuses.

Whereas, FSU SGA supports the legislative priorities of The Florida State University, including the increase of Preeminence and STEM funding by $5 million per category, as well as reinstating the Courtelis Facilities Matching Gift Program.

Whereas, FSU SGA strongly supports initiatives from the Governor’s budget plan including a tax-free textbook holiday, in addition to the extension of the Bright Futures Scholarship Program into the summer semester, therefore

Be it resolved by the 67 Student Senate that this resolution represents the will and legislative priorities of the FSU SGA and Student Body for the 2015 Legislative Session.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be sent to:

Governor Rick Scott, State of Florida
President Andy Gardner, Florida Senate
Speaker Steve Crisafulli, Florida House
President John Thrasher
President Stefano Cavallaro
Dr. Mary Coburn