



THE FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY
STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

73RD STUDENT SENATE Senate Resolution

Resolution #: 55

Primary Sponsors: Linksy and Randall
Co-Sponsors: Little, Nemeth, and Tackett

Whereas: The Rules of Procedure Ad Hoc committee met in Summer 2021 and proposed the attached changes to the 73rd Student Senate Rules of Procedure.

Be it resolved by the Seventy-Third Student Senate at Florida State University that: the following changes be made to the 73rd Student Senate Rules of Procedure:

RULE FIVE – Committees

Committee Appointments: The President shall appoint all committees of the Student Senate. The Senate body may order the Student Senate President to redo committee assignments by a two-thirds (2/3) vote.

- 5.1. Standing Committees shall consist of no less than five voting members.
- 5.2. Ex Officio Members: The Student Senate President and the Student Senate Pro Tempore shall serve as ex-officio voting members of all Senate committees. The absence of an ex-officio voting member shall not count against quorum.
- 5.3. The Student Senate President may appoint a maximum of two non-senators to each Senate committee as non-voting members. Non-voting members shall not be considered for the purpose of determining quorum.
- 5.4. Election and Removal of Standing Committee Chair and Vice Chair
 - a. Committee elections shall occur immediately after the reading of committee assignments following fall and spring inaugurations, Senate shall move to enter committee caucus for the purpose of electing Committee Chairs and Vice-Chairs.
 - b. The overseer of the nominations, speeches, pro-debates, and vote for the Chair position of each of the standing committees shall be one of the following: SGA Director, Student Senate President, and Student Senate Pro Tempore. In the event that one or more of these overseers are absent, the Student Senate President shall designate any additional overseers as they see fit.
 - c. Nominations for Committee Chair and Committee Vice-Chair shall be taken from the committee members and shall require a second. The nominee must accept the nomination. Each candidate shall be allowed, in alphabetical order, to address the standing committee for no more than three (3) minutes in the form of a speech.
 - d. The overseer shall allow no more than two committee members to speak in pro during debate. Each committee member's pro-debate shall last no longer than two (2) minutes. No con-debate shall be permitted during the election process. All nominees not addressing the standing committee shall be requested to leave the immediate area when not speaking, including during all debate on the candidates.

Chairs and Vice Chairs shall be determined by a majority vote of the committee, including the nominees. If no candidate receives a majority, a runoff election will be held between the two candidates who received the most votes in the first round. In the event of a tie in the final round, the Student Senate President shall cast the tie breaking vote.
 - e. At this point, the overseer's role in the election is completed. The Chair now conducts the election for Vice-Chair. The process for the nominations, speeches, and pro-debates for

the Vice-Chair shall be the same as that for Chair. The Chair shall cast a vote in the event of a tie.

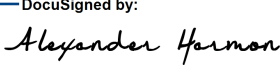
- f. When a Senator vacates a Chair position, an election shall be held to fill the vacancy prior to the resumption of that committee's business. When a Senator vacates a Vice Chair position, the Chair may appoint an interim Vice Chair for the remainder of the meeting or immediately hold elections for the Vice Chair position. If an interim Vice Chair is appointed, an election for the Vice Chair position must be held at the end of the meeting where the vacancy occurred.
 - g. In the event that the positions of Chair and Vice Chair are concurrently vacated, or the Vice Chair wishes to be a candidate for the position, **the Student Senate President, or member of the Office of the Student Senate President as designated by the Student Senate President** shall preside over replacement elections, unless they wish to be a candidate for Chair, in which case the responsibility shall fall to the next most senior member.
 - h. A Chair or Vice-Chair may be removed by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the committee they serve on. Only those who have served on the committee for a minimum of one (1) calendar month shall be eligible to vote on this motion. At least five (5) committee members eligible to vote on the matter must be present for the vote to be held.
 1. The Vice Chair shall preside over the motion and vote to remove the Chair. In the case that the Vice Chair is unavailable, or the committee is voting to remove both the Chair and Vice Chair, the most senior member of the committee shall preside.
 - i. In the event that the Chair or Vice Chair should take temporary leave, as in the case of a summer leave of absence, the new officer's tenure shall last only until the return of their predecessor, upon which time they shall relinquish the title, duties and responsibilities of that office.
- 5.5. Standing Committee Chairs: The Chair of a standing committee shall be a voting member of the committee. However, they shall only vote when their vote is decisive in breaking a tie, in accordance with Robert's Rule of Order. They shall set the calendar, and they shall preside and keep order and decorum of the meetings.
- The Chair of a standing committee shall review and sign all committee reports and shall present them to the Senate. The Chair shall sign such other documents as may be required.
- a. The Chair of a standing committee shall be responsible for establishing the meeting time and place of the committee and shall have the authority to call a meeting of the committee with a 24 hour notice to committee members, the Senate Advisor and the Senate President by phone and/or e-mail.
 - b. The Chair of a standing committee is authorized to invite any individual to appear before the committee for the purpose of submitting information.
 - c. If the Chair wishes to debate a motion, they will do so in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order by relinquishing the chair to a member who has not debated on the current motion. The Chair shall not resume the chair until after the question has been decided.
 - d. The Chair shall, upon request by a primary sponsor of an item or the inability of a primary sponsor to attend a meeting in which the item they are sponsoring is being heard, be empowered to table the item until the committee's next meeting without a motion.
 - e. Standing Committee Vice-Chairs: In the event of the absence of the Chair from any standing committee meeting, the Vice-Chair shall assume the duties of the Chair, and the Chair shall receive one (1) full absence unless excused.
 - f. The Vice-Chair shall act as the recording secretary of all standing committee meetings and shall be responsible for keeping the minutes of the meeting and submitting the minutes to the Senate Program Assistant. The Vice- Chair shall also keep an active contact list of all committee members.

- 5.6. Standing Committee Business: No standing committee may do business without the presence of a quorum of the committee. **A quorum shall be defined as more than half of the voting members of the committee.** Committees shall create and publish their own rules on the SGA website, as long as those rules do not violate any rules in these Rules of Procedure, SGA Statutes, or the Student Body Constitution. The Committee Chair shall be responsible for the safekeeping of such rules. Committee rules of procedure must pass by a simple majority vote.
- 5.7. Committee Referral: The Student Senate President shall refer all bills and constitutional amendments to the appropriate standing committee for consideration and action, and the Student Senate President may refer any resolution to committee or directly to the calendar for second reading. In the occurrence of a bill being referred to multiple committees, the committee assignments shall be considered a sequential order. The bill must be passed in sequence by all the relevant committees to be placed on Second Reading. Each committee shall hear the most recently passed version of the bill. A bill passing an individual committee shall proceed with any amendments to the next committee for consideration. Failure of a bill by any assigned committee shall result in the defeat of the bill and it shall be removed from the Calendar.
- Any senator can move to appeal a referral by the President and motion for a different or additional committee to hear the bill or that, in the case of multiple committee assignments, a bill not be referred to a specific committee. Such motions require a majority vote to pass. This provision shall not be interpreted as limiting the Student Senate President's discretion to refer any measure to any other committees.
 - A senator may also move that a bill on first reading be read in its entirety by the presiding officer and moved to second reading the same session it is introduced. **If objected to, it shall go to a two-thirds (2/3) vote of Senators present is required for the motion to pass.**
 - The Student Senate President may refer any resolution to committee(s) or directly to the calendar for second reading, except for changes to the Rules of Procedure or resolutions commending or condemning a specific person or group, which must go to the Rules Committee.
- 5.8. Committee Meetings: No committee shall take formal action upon measures except at public meetings, notice of which has been published or announced to the Senate session. Each committee member shall be contacted by phone or electronic mail by the Chair at least twenty-four hours prior to the call to order of said committee meeting.
- The date, time and location of any and all committee meetings shall be determined by the Chair of the committee. Standing committees shall meet at least once weekly unless otherwise determined by the Student Senate President.
 - All meetings of committees shall be open to the public at all times, subject to the presiding officer's right to maintain order and decorum. Only members of the committee may speak on measures before the committee unless the committee waives the rules to allow a non-member to offer additional information to the discussion. A non-committee member shall not be allowed to participate in debate on any measure unless permitted by the Chair. Committee meetings shall be held in an on-campus location at the discretion of the committee.
 - Only those measures of which notice of introduction has been given and/or measures which have originated in committee may be acted upon at a committee meeting.
- 5.9. Committee Reports: Each committee shall file written reports. Committee reports must be filed with the Senate Program Assistant no later than noon of the day of the next Senate meeting. Reports of a committee meeting/activity shall include:
- Member attendance list
 - Amendments to measures before the committee and votes on those amendments.
 - Final votes on measures.

- d. Pertinent discussion the committee feels should be brought to the attention of the Senate.
 - e. The date and time of the meeting and the date and time of the next meeting.
- 5.10. It shall be the responsibility of each committee to report back to the Senate on all measures referred to the committee. The Chair of a committee or their designee shall present the committee report on the Senate floor. Any member of a committee may also give an additional report on the committee's actions.
- 5.11. The President shall have the power to create ad hoc committees and appoint their members and Chairs. Non-Senators may participate as voting members of ad hoc committees. Under no circumstances shall an ad hoc committee prevent any measure from reaching the floor of the full Senate.
- a. An ad hoc committee may also be created by a motion made during New Business. The motion shall be debatable and only pass with a two-thirds (2/3) vote. The Student Senate President shall have the power to appoint the members and Chairs of ad hoc committees created by motion.
- 5.12. The Student Senate President may establish subcommittees of standing committees and shall appoint their members and Chairs. The Student Senate President shall consult with the Chair of the parent committee regarding the appointment of subcommittees.
- 5.13. The Sweepings and Central Reserves Committees shall be special standing committees and defined in and subject to the limitations of Chapters 411 and 412 of the Student Body Statutes. These committees shall not be considered standing committees for the purpose of comprising the Rules Committee.
- 5.14. Senate Funds Distribution Committees – Immediately following Spring Inauguration, the Senate shall elect one senator to serve as the Chair of the Resource for Travel Allocations Committee (RTAC) and one Senator to serve as the Chair of the programming Allocations Committee (PAC). The Chairs of RTAC and PAC will not serve on any Standing Committee according to §807.4C, Student Body Statutes.
- a. The decisions of both Senate Funds Distribution Committees shall be compiled into a resolution by each committee's chair weekly and placed on the Consent Calendar upon passage by the Finance Committee.
 - b. If a member misses more than half of a funding board presentation for which they have been appointed to, then they are subjected to missing the final deliberation meeting at the discretion of the Chair
- 5.15. In the event that the Student Senate President refers any bill, resolution, or constitutional amendment, in accordance with Rule 5.07 to a committee, failure to call a meeting will result in an absence for the committee Chair and Vice Chair with the exclusion of breaks and holidays in accordance with the Florida State University Academic Calendar unless excused by the Student Senate President.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to:

Alexander Harmon, Student Senate President
Renee Wang, Student Senate President Pro Tempore
Nastassia Janvier, Student Body President
Jacalyn Butts, Assistant Director of Student Governance & Advocacy

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 OFFICIAL: _____ 10/8/2021 | 9:13 AM EDT
Student Senate President

**Senate Vote: UNANIMOUS CONSENT
PASSED: September 29th, 2021**