

Rules of the Student Government Association of *Christopher Newport University*

After much thought, I think the name Student Government Association (SGA) is something we should keep. The name is widely recognized and since most people are already familiar with an SGA at their high school, middle school, elementary school etc. They already understand the basic function of one.

Even though we may not necessarily “govern” as a government per say would, using the name SGA I still feel is a good idea.

The argument of a “tarnished” name: I feel the name is not tarnished – and that every few years the student body is completely replaced. The people that were around a couple years ago have now graduated and others will soon graduate.

Having a title such as president or vice president automatically seems to give your more clout when speaking with faculty and administration. Coming up to people as the “Vice Chairman of the Student Directorate” seems to me much less recognizable than the vice president of the Student Government Association. No explanation is needed to explain to them your position and since we function mainly as a lobbying organization – any legitimate authority we can get will help.

P.S. We wouldn’t need to buy a new domain name...haha

Forward

BE IT RESOLVED that the Student Body of Christopher Newport University, in order

- to create a consolidated forum of elected representatives within the Student Body for student involvement in the execution of the University;
- to represent the intellectual capital of the Student Body to the Administration of the University;
- to promote the views, further the welfare, and execute the will of the Student Body;
- to allow ~~ensure~~ the voice of every member of the Student Body to be heard and accurately represented to the Administration.

sets forth these rules of organizational procedure and governing responsibilities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following hereby be resolved as the rules of the *Student Government Association of Christopher Newport University* (SGA) until the completion of the next amendment or ratification procedure.

Organization of the Delegation Members of the Student Directorate

(a) Delegation *Members of the SGA* shall have the general management of the SGA based upon the *Rules of the SGA* as ratified by the Student Body of Christopher Newport University or amended by the Delegation. The Delegation will consist of four ~~two~~ (2) Delegates from each College of the University as defined by the most

current official course catalog of Christopher Newport University ~~ratified by Christopher Newport University's Board of Visitors~~ as of the last election cycle. If graduate programs exist in the current catalog, then the Delegation will also consist of one (1) Delegate of graduate studies.

(b) Members of the Delegation of Students must be degree seeking students of Christopher Newport University as defined by the Registrar's office of Christopher Newport University. All students filing an application to hold a position in the Delegation of Members must ~~agree to~~ sign a waiver to release the information on your degree seeking status to the Elections Committee. Therefore "student" is defined by this definition.

Method of Election for Officers, and members of the Delegation

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Deliberative_assembly

(a) If more than four (4) Delegates run for membership from any given College, or more than one (1) Delegate runs for membership from any given Graduate Program, then the one or two seats will be placed on the ballot with the qualified candidates for election by the Students of the specific College.

(b) If any seat is not filled, the President and Vice-President may make an appointment of a Student for the unfilled position. If the President and Vice-President cannot come to agreement then a vote on one appointment nominee by the President and one appointment nominee by the Vice-President may be heard and voted upon by the seated Delegation Members.

(c) Before any general election, the President, Vice-President, or a surrogate with written consent of either, must send a call for elections to the head of each College and each Graduate Program. This letter must be sent within one month prior to elections and may be reason **for immediate dismissal of the President and Vice-President without execution.**

(d) Students wishing to seek election must file paperwork with the current Executive Committee for one (1) position not less than two weeks prior to the date called for election.

(e) Students wishing to run or vote for the four (4) Delegate positions within their respective College, must be a Student of that College. (i.e. Students of one college are not allowed to vote or run for a position in another college.)

(f) Students wishing to run or vote for the one (1) Delegate from the Graduate Programs at Christopher Newport University, you must be a Graduate Student. Graduate Students also enrolled in an Undergraduate College may only vote in one race. You will need to provide the Executive Committee with your decision within one week prior to elections.

Term of Office for the Delegation of Members of the Student Directorate

- **Call for election of the delegation will be one week after J Session in January**
- **The call for election of the President and Vice-President will be one week after Spring Break.**
- **Elections must be called within one fiscal year of the start of the prior election. If the election is contested in any way.**

Officers for the Student Directorate of Christopher Newport University

(a) The Officers of the Student Directorate Executive Committee shall consist of:

(1) One (1) President and one (1) Vice-President with the power to execute the vested interest of the Student Body. The Student Body must elect the President and Vice-President in a general election. The President and Vice-President may be removed from office if impeached by a 2/3rd majority vote of the Delegation.

(2) One (1) Chief of Staff (appointed by the President).

(3) The Chair of the Delegation's four standing committees.

(4) One (1) Financial Advisor as appointed by the President and confirmed by the Delegation.

(b) The Members of the Student Directorate Executive Committee shall consist of:

(1) A Faculty advisor as appointed by the President and Vice-President.

(2) An Administrative advisor as appointed by the President and Vice-President

(3) As many ex-officio officers as the President and Vice-President care to appoint.

(c) All agree upon acceptance of the position, they may not resign until the President nominates a replacement that is then confirmed by the Delegation.

Membership –

All full-time degree-seeking students in academic good standing at Christopher Newport University shall be eligible for membership in all branches of the Student Government Association (SGA).

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Ratification Procedure

(1) 2/3rds of the Delegation with “aye” being counted in the tally, “nay” being counted in the tally, and abstentions being discarded from the tally.

A resolution may be brought before the Student Delegation by any student if they have obtained 2/3^{rds} of the student body’s signatures in support of the resolution.

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- A. The standing committees are: Education, Student Life, Facilities and Auxiliary Operations, and Parking/Dining/Housing.

The SGA shall hold the power to appoint representatives to relevant committees that affect student welfare

The most recent President Emeritus shall speak at the commencement ceremonies at the end of each Spring semester.

The President may appoint members of the student body not limited to officers and members of the delegation to aid the University in the selection of a commencement speaker.



