

PURPOSE: To implement numerous changes to improve clarity in the Constitution as well as deal with election security.

INTRODUCED BY: Senators Banipal and Nguyen

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MISSISSIPPI SCHOOL FOR MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE SENATE:

SECTION ONE: The SGA constitution exists primarily to guide how the course of the student government will be run, and evident by certain confusion during the beginning of the year, it is believed that change needs to be made.

Firstly, for Officer elections, the Borda Count Method should be reworded to become clearer. Although the wording provided originally, although accurate, is insufficient and it is believed that the rewording will improve clarity for future Senators. This rewording also matches the most common definition of the Borda Count Method, avoiding confusion on that front as well.

During the Senate elections, multiple accounts of ballot stuffing occurred where people voted more than once. Therefore, a 7th section to Article II has been added detailing the procedure to maintaining integrity in elections in the future. This section includes what changes will be implemented as well as how rules will be enforced.

In Article IV, the section on Decorum had oddly been left blank. Decorum is changed to Senate Rules of Order and clarifies many of the questions Senators once had about how the Senate functioned as well as Robert's Rules of Order.

Then, in a new section 7 of Article IV has been added with specifics on how many Senators need to vote in the affirmation of a bill, resolution, or amendment in order for the vote to pass. Nowhere in the constitution does it clarify these, and certain confusion has been personally expressed.

Finally, there are other smaller changes throughout the constitution that work on further clarity and reducing repetition of points.

It is clear that these adjustments improve the clarity of the constitution, minimizing the necessity of explaining Robert's Rules of Order among other crucial changes. By maintaining the integrity of votes and being clearer on what votes pass, the future concerns with what is not written in the constitution can be prevented. With these benefits, why should this amendment not be passed?

SECTION TWO:

Pursuant to Section 1, the following changes shall be made to the SGA constitution:

Article II – Officer Elections

Section 1 Senatorial Elections

The process for electing Senators shall be as follows:

- 1) All candidates wishing to run must receive approval from the SGA advisor that the student has satisfactory grades and no Level III violations. Candidates will submit their names to the SGA Secretary for referral to the SGA advisor.
- 2) Each residence hall floor will hold its own election.
- 3) Only those on the residence hall floor will have the right to vote on the Senator for his or her floor.
- 4) ~~It is suggested that the Borda Count Method will be used to determine the new Senators for each floor, where voters will rank the nominees in order of preference. A first place vote will be equal to the number of nominees and a second place vote will be equal to the number of nominees minus one. If there are more than two nominees, the process of subtracting one point for each place vote will continue until a final place vote is equal to one point.~~ The Borda Count Method shall be used to determine the election of new Senators for each residence hall floor. Voters will rank candidates in order of preference, with the highest-ranked candidate receiving points equal to the total number of nominees, the second-ranked receiving one point less, and so forth until the last-ranked candidate receives one point. The candidates with the highest cumulative scores shall be elected as Senators.
- 5) The two junior and senior candidates with the most points shall become the Senator-elects.
- 6) In the case of a tie for the second-most points, a runoff election shall be held between the candidates using the same process and the candidate with the most points shall become the Senator-elect.
- 7) The election process is determined by the SGA officers and must be accepted by the SGA advisor prior to the election. Once accepted by the advisor, the process must be announced to the student body.

Section 2

Other Officer Elections

All MSMS SGA elections other than Senate elections shall follow this standard procedure after approval by the Director for Academic Affairs. Candidates will submit their names and desired position to the SGA Secretary for referral to the Director for Academic Affairs.

- 1) The candidates who receive the simple majority of the votes will be declared the winners of the election. If a simple majority is not reached, a runoff election will be held between the top two candidates.
- 2) The winner from the runoff election will also be determined by the candidate who reaches the simple majority of the votes.

Section 3 Campaigning

All MSMS officer elections shall be subject to the following rules concerning campaigning

- 1) Candidates for SGA Office and Class Office are limited to twenty-five dollars of expenditure for their campaign. These funds shall not be provided by the SGA.
- 2) In all MSMS SGA elections, the SGA prohibits the removal or defacement of any campaign materials by any person other than the candidate who appears on the material. If repeated occurrences of removal occur, the SGA shall call upon the Director for Student Affairs.

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Section 4 Election Periods

All election periods are decided upon by the SGA officers and must be announced one week in advance. All MSMS SGA elections, including replacement elections, are recommended to take place during the following election periods.

- 1) For the Executive Branch, the election period shall be no more than four weeks after the week containing the second Friday in April for the SGA Officers and no more than four weeks after the week containing the third Friday in April for the Senior Class Officers.
- 2) The Cabinet nomination period shall be the week containing the fourth Friday in April.

3) For the Legislative Branch, the election period shall be the week containing the third Friday of the school year in which the position is to be filled. Senators and Senate Officials shall serve until the completion of the school year during which they were elected.

4) For the Judiciary Branch, the election period shall be no more than four weeks after the week containing the fourth Friday of the school year in which the position is to be filled.

Section 5 Requirements

To hold an elected or nominated position, all SGA candidates and members must satisfy and maintain the following requirements:

1) Any student seeking an elected or nominated position must have a numerical grade average equal to or greater than 85.0 (rounded to three significant figures). The Academic Counselors or the Director for Academic Affairs shall be responsible for the calculation of these averages. The numeric average will be determined by taking the sum of the numeric grades as provided by the faculty to the Academic Counselors and the Director for Academic Affairs, and then dividing this sum by the number of classes a student is taking. Only MSMS classes listed on report cards and evaluated with numeric grades shall be considered. This average shall be cumulative from the student's Junior year.

2) At the end of each nine weeks, if the numeric grade average of any SGA member does not fulfill the requirements set forth in this Section, then that person shall be forced to relinquish their position and the vacant position shall be filled according to the appropriate guidelines.

3) 4) A SGA candidate or member cannot have any Level III violations. If an SGA member does not meet the disciplinary requirements set forth in this Section, then that person must immediately relinquish their position and the vacant position shall be filled according to the appropriate guidelines.

5) At the end of each semester, all Senators will be given the opportunity to resign from the Senate.

6) All candidates seeking an elected or appointed office for their Senior year must be a Senior for the duration of their term. All candidates seeking an Student Government Association 6elected or appointed office for their Junior year must be a Junior for the duration of their term.

7.) Candidates for SGA Vice President must have been a Senator for four Senate meetings

Section 6 Position Titles

No member of the SGA may hold more than one position in the SGA unless there are not enough eligible applicants to fill a body's position(s). In this circumstance, the SGA Officers shall compile a list of students who wish to apply for the unfilled position(s). Provided that the candidates meet all other requirements, such as conduct and grades, they will be added to the ballot to be considered for the unfilled position(s). SGA Officers, Cabinet Secretaries, and Senate Officials shall be expressly prohibited from consideration for unfilled positions to maintain a balance of power.

Section 7 Election Security

To maintain the integrity of the Senate, the following actions are to be taken place for Senate Officer Elections, Executive/SGA Officer Elections, Class Officer Elections, and Junior Judicial Elections:

1) The SGA President and Cabinet shall ensure the security of all SGA elections.

2) All SGA elections are to be conducted by the SGA secretary using a Microsoft Form which is restricted to only MSMS Microsoft accounts and where users can only vote once.

2) Any individual holding any SGA office and performing any of the following actions with the intention of undermining election security will be subject to impeachment and removal by the Senate:

a. Ballot stuffing, or voting multiple times

b. Making false claims

c. Bribery, including monetary or material forms

d. Intimidation

e. Any action that may manipulate the election results to create an unfair advantage

3) Any student who suspects any of these offenses in Section 2 were committed should report a violation to the SGA President. Upon receiving ten (10) such reports, the SGA President shall call a meeting of the cabinet, and upon unanimous agreement of the cabinet that election security was compromised, shall direct the SGA secretary to discard the election results and rerun the election.

Article III – The Executive Branch

Section 1 Definitions

The executive powers of the SGA shall be vested in the Executive Branch, which shall consist of the following: the SGA Officers, the Cabinet, and the Class Officers. The purpose of the Executive Branch is to enforce the Constitution of the SGA and to represent the wishes of the student body to school administration.

Section 2 SGA Officers

The SGA Officers are the SGA President, the SGA Vice-President, and the SGA Secretary. The SGA Officers must be Seniors for the duration of their term, which shall begin on the last day of school of the SGA Officer elects' Junior year.

1) 2) 3) The Executive Branch shall be headed by the SGA President. The SGA President shall be elected by all provisions of Article I that are applicable to the Executive Branch. The powers vested in the SGA President include:

- A. Presiding over the SGA
- B. Presiding over the Executive Branch
- C. Nominating a group of advisors, the Cabinet, to assist in the execution of the President's duties
- D. E. F. Presiding over all Cabinet meetings
- Removing Cabinet members should it be necessary
- Serving as the representative of the entire Student Body at all public and school events as deemed necessary by the Executive Director
- G. Calling special sessions of any SGA bodies whenever necessary
- H. Leading over one Senate committee as chairperson and ensuring the committee runs as intended

To preside over the Senate, a SGA Vice-President shall be elected. The SGA Vice-President shall be elected by all provisions of Article I that are applicable to the Executive Branch. The powers vested in the SGA Vice-President include:

- A. Presiding over all meetings of the Senate
- B. Serving as the SGA President's assistant
- C. Taking responsibility for all Senate projects
- D. Fulfilling the duties of the SGA President, should the President take a temporary extended absence.
- E. Ensuring that the Director for Academic Affairs checks that all Senators have maintained necessary grade and disciplinary requirements at the end of each nine weeks
- F. Leading over one Senate committee as chairperson and ensuring the committee runs as intended

To keep the SGA under proper organization, an SGA Secretary shall be elected. The SGA Secretary shall be elected by all provisions of Article I

Student Government Association that are applicable to the Executive Branch. The powers vested in the SGA Secretary include:

- A. Receiving and organizing bills from Senators before each Senate meeting
- B. Corresponding with MSMS administrators
- C. Recording attendance for all Senate meetings
- D. Emailing a monthly update of the happenings of Senate to the MSMS student body. The update would consist of the following:
 - a. An overview of bills recently discussed
 - b. The actions the Senate took on the bills (passed, rejected, tabled, etc.)
 - c. Updates on previous bills' adoption or rejection from the

Administration

- d. Upcoming events sponsored by or affiliated with the SGA
- E. Posting a chart listing all members of the SGA and their positions in a publicly accessible place
- F. Leading over one Senate committee as chairperson and ensuring the committee runs as intended

Section 3 SGA Presidential Cabinet

1) To assist the SGA President in the execution of his or her duties, an SGA Presidential Cabinet shall be appointed.

A. After the election of the SGA President-Elect pursuant to all provisions of Article I applicable to the Executive Branch, the SGA President-Elect shall nominate Secretaries to his or her Cabinet as he or she sees fit, with approval from the Director for Academic Affairs

B. The Cabinet shall consist of as many Secretaries for each position as the President deems necessary.

C. D. Secretaries must be Seniors for the duration of their term.

The President is not limited in his/her choices for nominees except by their status as Seniors for the duration of their term and the disciplinary and grade-point average requirements applicable to all members of SGA.

E. It is strongly recommended that the Cabinet consist of the following Secretarial Positions: Alumni Affairs and Elections Commissioner.

F. The Cabinet shall not be limited to these Positions; however, these are the permanent Positions which will be filled by appointment every year. The SGA President shall have the power to add new Cabinet positions as he or she sees fit, provided that the appointments to that Committee are duly made.

2) The Cabinet Members shall perform, but not be limited to, the following duties:

A. The Alumni Affairs Secretaries will be responsible for organizing the Senior Tribute performance and related activities.

The Elections Commissioner will be responsible for certifying all elections in their validity and vote counts and will be the final judge in all matters concerning SGA elections. The Student Government Association 9C. Elections Commissioner will also be responsible for making sure that all provisions of Article I that concern elections are followed in full.

Additional Positions added by the SGA President should receive specific guidelines for their duties directly from the President.

Section 4 Class Officers

1) In order to organize Class events and activities, Class Officers shall be elected. The Class Officers will be the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Historian.

2) All Class Officers shall be elected by all provisions of Article I that are applicable to the Executive Branch. Only those members of the Class for which the Class Officer elections are held may have the right to nominate candidates and vote for them.

3) The Senior Class Officers will take office on the last day of school during their Junior year and will hold office ~~for one year or~~ until the last day of the school year after which they took office. All Senior Class Officers shall be responsible for running a community service project and assisting in Orientation activities, graduation activities, class reunions, and all Class activities.

4) Junior Class Officers will take office as soon as the final vote counts are tabulated and will hold office until the last day of school of their Junior Year. All Junior Class Officers shall be responsible for all Junior Class activities and fundraising for the Prom.

5) The powers vested in the Senior Class President include:

- A. Being in charge of social activities of the Senior Class
- B. Being in charge of all Class Reunions

- C. Calling Senior Class Officer meetings when necessary
- D. Presiding over all Senior Class Officer meetings
- E. Examining all transactions proposed by the Senior Class treasurer for approval by the Class Advisor
- F. Presenting to the MSMS students a plan for the community service project (or projects) of the year by the last week in October
- G. Requesting a graduation speaker
- 6) The powers vested in the Junior Class President include:
 - A. Being in charge of social activities of the Junior Class
 - B. Calling Junior Class Officer meetings when necessary
 - C. Presiding over all Junior Class Officer meetings
 - D. Examining all transactions proposed by the Junior Class treasurer for approval by the Class Advisor
- 7) The powers vested in both the Junior and Senior Class Vice-Presidents include:
 - A. Serving as assistant to the Class President
 - B. Assisting all other Class Officers when necessary
- 8) The powers vested in both the Junior and Senior Class Secretaries include:
 - A. Keeping accurate minutes of all Class Officer meetings
 Student Government Association 109) B. Assisting all other Class Officers when necessary
 - C. Performing various duties assigned by the Class President
- The powers vested in both the Junior and Senior Class Treasurers include:
 - A. B. Keeping accurate record of all funds collected or spent by the Class
 - Being able to present accurate records of the Class's financial standing at any point in time
 - C. Presenting at each Class Officer meeting a list of all new transactions and the current balance of the Class Treasury
 - D. Ensuring that all records are open to the SGA President and the SGA Advisor(s)
- 10) The powers vested in the Senior Class Historian include:
 - A. B. Keeping accurate record of any and all activities of the Senior Class
 Making a Class slideshow that reflects upon the Class's experiences at MSMS.
- 11) The powers vested in the Junior Class Historian include:
 - A. Keeping accurate record of any and all activities of the Class
- 12) The Senior Class Officers shall inform their respective class of the activities concerning them at the end of each month.

Section 5 Succession

- 1) Throughout the school year, it is possible one or more members of the Executive Branch may be unable to perform his/her duties for an extended period of time. The following system shall be implemented to have members of the SGA temporarily succeed other members. All temporary successions shall occur after the member has been absent from school for ten consecutive days of class, or on the first day of a planned absence which will undoubtedly last ten days or more.
 - A. For the SGA Officers, the SGA President shall be succeeded by the SGA Vice-President, the SGA Vice-President by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, and the SGA Secretary by a member of the Senate duly appointed by the President.
 - B. For the Class Officers, the Class President shall be succeeded by the Class Vice-President, and the Class Vice-President by a member of the Class Officers duly appointed by the President.
 No other successions need be made.
- 2) Temporary successions will occur when the SGA Secretary becomes aware of the extended absence of an individual. When the individual's absence reaches ten consecutive days of class, or the SGA Secretary becomes aware of a future absence, the SGA Secretary will inform the Director for Academic Affairs of the office to be succeeded and the intended successor. Temporary successions will only be valid during the absence of the member being succeeded. When the member

temporarily succeeded returns, he or she resumes the position., .

3) If in the act of temporary succession another position becomes vacant, a temporary succession for the vacated position shall occur immediately.

Student Government Association 11 [Section 6 Resignation](#)

In the event that a member of the Executive Branch resigns their position or is no longer eligible to hold their position, that member will be replaced through implementation of a nominations process. Once the nomination has been made by the appropriate procedure, the Senate will vote on the nominee(s). A majority vote of the Senate shall be required for a replacement. The Senate's decision shall be binding.

1) The SGA President: In the event that the SGA Vice-President declines to assume the Presidency.

2) The SGA Vice-President: In the event that the President Pro Tempore of the Senate declines to assume the Vice-Presidency, nominations will be accepted from any eligible Senior who wishes to run for SGA Vice-President.

3) The SGA Secretary: In the event that the Secretary of the Cabinet declines to assume the office of Secretary, nominations will be accepted from any eligible Senior who wishes to run for SGA Secretary.

4) A Cabinet Secretary: The SGA President shall nominate a member of the student body to fill the vacancy, with Secretaries being replaced by Seniors. The nomination will then be confirmed by a vote of the Senate.

5) The Class President: In the event that the Class Vice-President declines to assume the Presidency, nominations will be accepted from any eligible member of the class who wishes to run for Class President.

6) A Class Officer other than the Class President: The Class Vice-President shall be succeeded by a member of the Class Officers duly nominated by the President and approved by a majority vote of the Senate. For all other officers, and in the event that a succeeding Class Officer declines office presented to them, nominations will be accepted from any eligible member of the class wishing to run for the position.

[Section 7 Checks and Balances](#)

The following powers shall be vested in the Executive Branch:

1) The SGA President shall have the power to veto any bill or amendment that is approved by the Senate. The SGA President's veto may be overruled if the Senate's vote is a two-thirds majority.

Article IV – The Legislative Branch

[Section 1 Legislative Powers](#)

The legislative powers of the SGA shall be vested in the Legislative Branch, which shall consist of the Senate.

[Section 2 Senators](#)

Each Residence Hall Floor shall have four elected Senators, two Juniors and two Seniors, unless no Junior or Senior is eligible or amenable to accept nomination. Each floor shall elect these Senators by all provisions of Article II applicable to the Senate. Each Senator shall serve from the time of their election until the last day of school for that school year unless they resign or are impeached.

1) Each Senator shall have one vote in matters before the Senate. The powers vested in each Senator include:

A. Voting or abstaining on any motion presented before the Senate

B. Writing bills, which may be either a proposed change to the Student Handbook or an expression of opinion that does not necessarily affect the Student Handbook.

C. Writing constitutional amendments, which propose a modification to the SGA Constitution,

2) 3) D. Introducing a bill to be voted on by the Senate

Any bills to be considered by the SGA Senate must be properly submitted by an SGA Senator. To submit a bill for the consideration of the Senate, a Senator must submit the legislation to the SGA Vice-

President or SGA Secretary before study hours on the Sunday prior to a Senate meeting (unless stated otherwise by an SGA Officer). If a Senator fails to meet this deadline after being assigned to write a bill for the following meeting, they shall receive a tardy on their senatorial record. The legislation shall then be sent to the Senators by the SGA Secretary to allow for study and preparation and will be presented and voted on at the next gathering of the Senate.

A Senator shall be removed from office when three unexcused absences per semester are accumulated by that Senator, or he or she violates the requirements set forth in Article I, Section 9. Three tardies for any reason shall be counted as one unexcused absence, and any tardy over fifteen minutes late shall be counted as one unexcused absence. The SGA Secretary must warn a Senator when he or she has accumulated two unexcused absences. Homework shall not be considered a valid reason for an excused absence unless the Senator has been absent from class. A Senate absence may be excused for the following reasons:

Student Government Association 13A. Out of town visitors

B. Illness

C. Being out of town

D. Playing in a sporting event (does not include practices)

E. Actively participating in any MSMS sanctioned event

F. Any situation submitted to the SGA President, SGA Vice-President or SGA Secretary and approved at least two hours prior to the Senate meeting

If a Senate absence is excused under these terms but an absent Senator's bill and/or resolution is presented, the absent Senator has the option to prepare a present Senator to present their bill and/or resolution on their behalf. If a Senator misses two consecutive meetings, they must prepare another Senator to present their bill and/or resolution.

Section 3 Senatorial Officers

The Senate shall contain the following offices to be assumed by Senators:

1) A President Pro Tempore to be elected by their peers.

The powers vested in the President Pro Tempore include:

A. Assuming all duties and powers necessary to preside over the Senate in the absence of the Vice-President

2) A Sergeant at Arms to be elected by their peers. The powers and responsibilities vested in the Sergeant at Arms include:

A. Preparing all aspects of the Senate chamber in advance

B. Ensuring dress code policy is enforced

C. Escort unruly Senators out of the chamber at discretion of the Vice-President

3) A Senate Ambassador to be elected by their peers. The powers and responsibilities vested in the Senate Ambassador include

A. Scheduling meetings with the Executive Director monthly to discuss the passed bills and the reasonings behind them.

B. To bring the Executive Director's opinions into Senate meetings when discussing future bills.

4) Committees regarding residential life, mental health, and academics, respectively, shall consist of one SGA officer serving as chairperson and two Senators serving as members to be elected by their peers. A Senator may only serve on one Committee. The powers vested in the Committee include:

a. Working towards a goal, doing so by gathering information through means such as polling the student body and communicating with MSMS administration

b. Being knowledgeable about the student body in their assigned committee's oversight

c. Holding meetings as they fit, with at least one meeting required per month to discuss bill ideas and results from polling the student body

d. Presenting monthly Senate reports to inform Senators of progress toward goals, such as disclosing polling data

e. Committees may be dismantled for the remainder of the school year if

the Senate deems it necessary through a three-fourths majority vote.

Student Government Association 145) Elections shall be administered through secret ballot, and the Senator receiving simple majority shall obtain the position.

Committee members shall be elected every quarter.

Section 4 Resignation

Should a Senator resign or be impeached, a replacement Senator representing the same residence hall and holding the same standing as junior or senior shall be elected. The replacement election shall take place as follows:

- 1) A mass email shall be sent to the class in which there is an opening.
- 2) Each candidate shall obtain approval from the Director for Academic Affairs.
- 3) If only one candidate applies for the position, that candidate will automatically become the Senator.
- 4) If more than one candidate applies, each candidate shall give an up to two minute speech on their merits as a Senator during the same Senate meeting takes place. The voting shall be throughout members of the standing Senate.

Note: The "mass election" of replacements that may take place after the resignation opportunity in December should be conducted in the manner of the beginning-of-the-year Senate elections.

Section 5 ~~Decorum~~ Senate Rules of Order

All Senate meetings will be conducted in an orderly manner. To this end, the following rules shall be held at all times:

1. Presiding Officer:
 - a) The SGA Vice President shall serve as the presiding officer of the Senate.
 - b) In the absence of the Vice President, the President Pro Tempore shall preside over Senate proceedings.
2. Bill Scheduling and Consideration:
 - a) The Vice President shall have the authority to bring bills to the floor and schedule them for debate and vote on behalf of the Senate.
 - b) If at least half of the Senate votes to overrule the Vice President's scheduling decision, the bill shall be postponed or reordered as decided by the Senate.
 - c) When a bill is brought to the floor, the author of the bill shall be recognized first to introduce and explain the bill before debate begins.
 - d) No main motion shall be required to introduce a bill for debate.
 - e) After all scheduled bills have been debated, any Senator may introduce their bill even if it was not previously scheduled for presentation.
3. Debate Structure:
 - a) Each bill shall undergo two distinct periods of debate:
 - i) Friendly Debate: During this period, amendments that are germane to the bill, as determined by the bill's author, may be proposed. If the bill's author approves the amendment, the amendment is passed without a vote. If the amendment is rejected by the bill's author the amendment is rejected without a vote. The SGA Vice-President has the authority to decide whether an amendment is friendly or critical, and amendments deemed critical during Friendly debate are rejected.
 - ii) Critical Debate: If a Senator motions to move to a period of critical debate, and the motion is seconded and passed by a two-thirds majority, the bill shall enter a period of critical debate. During this period, any amendment may be proposed and debated. Amendments must be passed with the vote of two-thirds of the Senate.
 - b) When the Senate moves from Friendly Debate to Critical Debate, the speaking precedence shall be reset, and the presiding officer shall maintain a new list of Senators wishing to speak.
 - c) A motion to move to the previous question may be introduced to end debate and proceed to a vote on the bill, requiring a simple majority to pass.
4. Motions: The following motions shall be permitted during Senate proceedings and require the specified vote thresholds for passage:
 - a) Motion to Amend: A Senator may propose changes to a bill.
 - i) During Friendly Debate, only amendments deemed germane by the bill's author may be

considered, and a simple majority vote is required.

ii) During Critical Debate, any amendment may be considered if two-thirds of the Senate approves.

b) Motion to Table: A Senator may move to temporarily set aside a bill. If seconded, it shall be voted on without debate and requires a simple majority for passage.

c) Motion to Call the Question: A Senator may move to end debate and proceed to an immediate vote on the bill under discussion. If seconded, this motion requires a two-thirds majority for approval.

d) Motion to Reconsider: A Senator who voted with the prevailing side may move to reconsider a bill previously decided upon. If seconded, it shall be debated and voted on accordingly, requiring a simple majority for passage.

e) Motion to Adjourn: A Senator may move to end the session. If seconded, the motion is put to an immediate vote without debate and requires a simple majority for passage.

i) Before passing a motion to adjourn, the Vice President must ask for Senators to present bills for future sessions, prioritizing Senators who have not yet presented a bill.

f) Motion to Pass Without Objection: A Senator may request that their motion be passed without objection.

i) If no Senator objects, the motion shall be adopted without a formal vote.

ii) If any Senator objects, the motion must proceed to a vote according to its designated threshold.

g) Point of Order: A Senator may raise a Point of Order at any time to address a breach of procedure. The presiding officer shall immediately rule on the validity of the point.

h) Point of Information: A Senator may raise a Point of Information to request clarification on a matter being discussed.

i) Motion to Appeal the Decision of the Chair: If a Senator disagrees with a ruling made by the presiding officer, they may appeal the decision. If seconded, the Senate shall vote to uphold or overturn the ruling. A simple majority is required to overturn the decision.

j) Motion to Request an Electronic Vote: A motion to conduct an electronic vote shall be in order if seconded by at least one-fifth (1/5) of the Senate if a voice vote was taken on the preceding motion. Upon passage of this motion, the voice vote shall be discarded, and a vote on the preceding motion shall then be conducted electronically by the SGA Secretary.

5. Voting Procedures:

a) The Vice President shall determine whether a vote is conducted via voice vote or electronic vote, except in cases where an electronic vote has been properly requested under Section 4(j).

b) The SGA Secretary shall conduct all electronic votes.

6. Titles of Address:

a) Senators shall address all MSMS Senate-sponsoring Faculty as "The Honorable [Last Name]."

b) All Senators shall be referred to as "Senator [Last Name]."

7. Decorum:

a) Senators shall always maintain professional conduct, adhering to parliamentary procedure as outlined in Robert's Rules of Order.

b) Any Senator found to be in violation of decorum may be reprimanded or removed from the chamber at the discretion of the presiding officer.

Section 6 Checks and Balances

The following powers shall be vested in the Legislative Branch:

1) The Senate shall have the power to approve or reject the Cabinet's budget. A simple majority vote of the Senate will approve the budget.

2)The Senate shall have the power to override the Presidential veto outlined in Clause A of Section 2. A two-thirds majority vote of the Senate must approve the motion to override.

Section 7 Emergency Legislative Procedure

1)In the case of emergency or unusual circumstances after Senators have been elected that halt Senate meetings, including, but not limited to, over breaks and amidst sudden changes in the school year, the Senate shall have the power to vote on legislation outside of meetings. Voting shall be done through an electronic form. Bills must be approved by the SGA advisor before being sent to the Senate. The criteria to pass a piece of legislation shall remain the same as during Senate meetings.

2)In the case of emergency or unusual circumstances before Senators have been elected, the student body shall vote on legislation that is submitted to the SGA Secretary from a student.

Voting shall be done through an electronic form. A simple 2/3

Student Government Association 15majority among voters 72 hours after the form has been sent must be met and the SGA advisor must approve in order to pass a bill.

Section 8 Voting Procedure

Hereby outlined are the requirements to pass legislation:

1) For a Bill which amends the Student Handbook, a simple majority among Senators is required as well as approval by Administration.

2) For a Resolution, a simple majority among Senators is required as well as approval by Administration.

3) For a **Constitutional** Amendment, a two-thirds majority among Senators is required.