

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE STUDENT BODY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN COLORADO

ARTICLE I. NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Student Body.

ARTICLE II. MEMBERSHIP OF THE STUDENT BODY

The membership of the Student Body shall include all students enrolled at the University of Northern Colorado for one (1) or more hours of academic credit as defined by University policy.

ARTICLE III. RIGHTS OF THE STUDENTS

All members of the Student Body shall be entitled to equal rights and privileges as set forth in this Constitution and the Student Senate Bylaws.

ARTICLE IV. STUDENT SENATE

Section 1: Authority and Composition

The official authority to represent the Student Body shall be vested in Student Senate, which shall be comprised of the Student Cabinet and representative members. Student Cabinet positions shall be elected each spring semester. Representative members shall be appointed or elected by their own respective organizations. Each Student Cabinet member and representative member shall be voting members of Student Senate.

Section 2: Governing Authority

Student Senate will be subject to policies enacted by the University of Northern Colorado Board of Trustees, Colorado law and United States law.

Section 3: Powers

1. Student Senate shall be entitled to all power granted to it by this Constitution.
2. Upon a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the entire voting membership, Student Senate shall have the power to adopt, amend, and appeal Bylaws, procedural rules or policies for the operation of Student Senate.
3. Upon a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the entire voting membership, Student Senate shall have the power to represent the Student Body in the development of and recommendations for the allocation and management of all student fees subject to the approval of the University of Northern Colorado Board of Trustees.
4. Upon a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the entire voting membership, Student Senate shall have the power to appear on behalf of and speak for the University of Northern Colorado Student Body in the nation, state, city or University on all matters concerning the students of UNC. Student Senate shall have the responsibility to identify issues concerning the students of the University of Northern Colorado.
5. Upon a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the entire voting membership, Student Senate shall have the power to enact resolutions deemed necessary and appropriate to address the concerns or to promote the best interests of the Student Body. Student Senate has the responsibility to present all resolutions to the appropriate group of individuals and to work towards ensuring their success.
6. Upon a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the entire voting membership, Student Senate shall have the power to establish and abolish standing and temporary committees. All committees shall require a statement of purpose, a description of membership, a specified duration and a set of Bylaws approved by Student Senate. All student appointments shall be administered through a Student Senate appointment process.
7. Upon a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the entire voting membership, Student Senate shall have the power to approve all student appointments to all University related Student Senate standing or temporary committees. All student appointments shall be administered through a Student Senate appointment process.
8. Upon a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the entire voting membership, Student Senate shall have the power to establish and/or sponsor services deemed useful to the needs of the Student Body.
9. Upon a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the entire voting membership, Student Senate shall have the power to establish and sponsor activities and programs deemed useful to the needs of the Student Body and/or the University community.

10. Upon unanimous vote of the entire voting membership, Student Senate shall have the authority to amend this Constitution in order to update personnel titles and changes in office titles with University structure and titles.
 - ** Proxy votes would be acceptable for voting regarding such an amendment.
 - ** These changes shall not affect areas such as compensation, Student Senate member requirements or voting privileges.

Section 4: General Duties

All members of Student Senate shall uphold the Constitution of the Student Body of the University of Northern Colorado, Student Senate Bylaws, and policies; shall be voting representatives of the Student Body; shall function in a open and available capacity to all members of the Student Body, shall obtain and maintain representatives on all Student Senate related committees, shall fulfill these obligations while maintaining an open, informed, and responsible relationship with other members of the Student Body, Student Senate, Student Judiciary and the University; shall maintain communication between those committees and Student Senate. Student Cabinet shall be required to participate in a retreat during the summer semester, which is planned by the Student Body President; shall be required to return to campus 2 weeks prior to the first day of class for training and preparation for the coming year; and shall be responsible for all other duties and assignments.

Section 5: Student Cabinet Members

1. Student Body President: The Student Body President shall act as the official representative of Student Senate, shall act as a chairperson at all meetings of Student Senate and vote only in the case of a tie; shall maintain communication channels with the office of the University President; secure a student voice, identify concerns, and keep both Student Senate and the Student Body informed on all decisions and actions affecting the Student Body.
2. Student Trustee: The Student Trustee for Student Cabinet shall participate as an advisory member to the Board of Trustees of the University of Northern Colorado to the extent permitted under the governing documents of that organization; shall be enrolled as a full-time equivalent junior or senior at the University of Northern Colorado; shall have been a resident of Colorado for at least three years; shall fulfill all other requirements as outlined in the Colorado Statutes (Section 23-40-104, CRS as amended); and shall serve as Student Trustee from July 1 to June 30 of each fiscal year.
3. Director of Student Affairs: The Director of Student Affairs for Student Cabinet shall act as a coordinator of the student services for Student Senate; shall act as the personnel officer for Student Senate; shall maintain communication channels with the classified personnel portion of the University and participate as a voting member of the State Personnel Employee's Executive Council to the extent permitted under the governing documents of the organization.
4. Director of Academic Affairs: The Director of Academic Affairs for Student Cabinet shall serve as a voting member of the Undergraduate Council to the extent permitted under the governing documents of that organization; shall maintain communication channels with the office of the Provost; secure a student voice, identify concerns, and keep both Student Senate and the Student Body informed on all decisions and actions affecting the Student Body. The Director of Academic Affairs for Student Cabinet shall maintain communication channels with the faculty portion of the University and participate as a voting member of the Faculty Senate to the extent permitting under the governing documents of that organization.
5. Director of Finance: The Director of Finance for Student Cabinet shall act as a budget officer for Student Cabinet; shall maintain communication channels with the office of the University Vice President for Finance and Administration; secure a student voice, identify concerns, and keep both Student Senate and the Student Body informed of all decisions and actions affecting the Student Body.
6. Director of University Relations: The Director of University Relations for Student Cabinet shall act as the public relations officer for Student Senate; shall maintain communication channels with the office of the University Vice President for University Relations; secure a student voice, identify concerns, and keep both Student Senate and the Student Body informed of all decisions and actions affecting the Student Body.
7. Director of Student Organizations: The Director of Student Organizations for Student Cabinet shall be responsible for the coordination and communication of all activities of the student organizations responsible to Student Senate and shall coordinate special programs as requested by Student Senate.

8. Director of Legislative Affairs: The Director of Legislative Affairs for Student Cabinet shall, as appropriate, represent the needs of the Student Body at the state and university level, support legislation favorable to Student governance and fee issues, along with legislation favorable to the University as a whole.
9. Director of Diverse Relations: The Director of Diverse Relations for Student Cabinet shall work closely with the Director of Student Affairs for Student Cabinet to increase diversity on Student Senate and University committees; shall organize forums on issues elation to gender, race, sexual orientation, religion, and other issues as needed; shall work closely with the cultural centers; shall meet regularly with the University Assistant Vice President for Multicultural Affairs and the University Vice President for University Affairs; and shall work closely with the Student Rights Advocate.

Section 6: Representative Members

1. Councilor for the College of Humanities and Social Sciences College Student Council (CSC)
2. Councilor for the College of Education and Behavioral Sciences CSC
3. Councilor for the College of Natural and Health Sciences CSC
4. Councilor for the Monfort College of Business CSC
5. Councilor for the College of Performing and Visual Arts CSC
6. Residence Hall Association Representative: The Representative for the Residence Hall Association shall be appointed from the Residence Hall Association Administrative Team employed by the Department of Housing and Residence Life by the Residence Hall Association General Council, and shall act as the official representative of the students residing in the Residence Halls.
7. Graduate Student Association (GSA) Representative: The Representative for the Graduate Student Association shall be appointed by the Graduate Student Association, and shall act as the official representative of the Graduate Students.
8. Faculty Senate Representative: A Faculty Representative shall be appointed by the Faculty Senate and shall act as the official representative of the Faculty.
9. State Personnel Employees Executive Council (SPEEC) Representative: A Classified Personnel Representative shall be appointed by the State Personnel Employees' Executive Council, and shall act as the official representative of the Classified Personnel.
10. Professional Administrative Staff Council (PASC) Representative: A Professional Administrative Staff Representative shall be appointed by the Professional Administrative Staff Council and shall act as the official representative of the University's Professional Administrators.

Section 7: Student Cabinet Terms of Office

The terms of office for members of Student Cabinet shall commence the first week of the summer session and conclude at the end of the following Spring Semester. Student Senate shall have the option of whether or not to hold formal meetings and office hours during the summer session.

Section 8: Student Cabinet Vacancies

1. Positions within Student Cabinet shall be declared vacant by Student Senate if any member of Student Cabinet is removed from office by a recall election or fails to meet the qualifications for office.
2. Upon a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the entire voting membership, Student Senate shall fill all vacancies of Student Cabinet Directors. All candidates shall be selected through the Student Senate Hiring Procedure; the exception to this appointment process would be the position of the Student Trustee which requires replacement in accordance with state statute.
3. The Student Body President shall have the option of recommending a temporary appointment to Student Senate, not to exceed one (1) academic term or leaving the office vacant for not more than one (1) academic term.

Section 9: Order of Succession

Should the Student Body President be unable to fulfill the responsibilities of President having resigned or otherwise been terminated, the Student Rights Advocate and Student Senate Advisor will organize an unbiased committee to select a new Student Body President from any interested Student Cabinet Directors.

Section 10: Requirements of Representative Members of Student Senate

1. The Faculty Senate Representative, SPEEC Representative, and PASC Representative shall not be required to abide by the Student Cabinet qualifications for office. All other representative members of Student Senate shall abide by the same qualifications and terms of office as Student Cabinet as delineated in the Student Body Constitution and the Student Senate Bylaws.
2. Representative members of Student Senate shall be members of their respective organization while filling the position. Vacancies shall be left to the determination of the represented organization.
3. The general duties of non-elected and representative membership shall be outlined in the Student Senate Bylaws.

Section 11: Administrative Representative

The University President shall designate one member of the Executive Staff to serve as a non-voting, administrative representative.

Section 12: Advisor

1. There will be at least one staff member employed by the University to work with Student Senate as an advisor.
2. Selection of the advisor for Student Senate will be the responsibility of the University after consultation with Student Senate.
3. The qualifications of the advisor will be determined by the University Administration after consultation with Student Senate.
4. The responsibilities of the advisor for Student Senate shall include: To assist in an advisory capacity in the operation and viability of Student Senate and its organization's services and committees; to attend and participate as an active advisor at all Student Senate meetings; to act as an administrative liaison to both Student Senate and the University; to facilitate the resolution of issues presented to or within Student Senate; to assist the Student Body President in personnel decisions related to the elected and appointed members of Student Senate, their evaluations, and interpersonal relations; to meet as needed with all scheduled retreats or in-service training as deemed necessary by Student Senate and fulfill all other duties and responsibilities as required by the University pertaining to this position.

Section 13: Student Senate Meetings

1. Official meetings of Student Senate are open to the public. Meetings dealing with personnel or legal related issues may be closed.
2. Regular meetings of Student Senate shall be held once a week during the fall and spring academic terms. Meetings held during the summer semester shall be held by a majority vote of Student Senate. Regular meetings falling on finals week shall be optional as determined by Student Senate.

Section 14: Special Meetings

1. Special meetings of Student Senate shall be called by petition of at least two percent (2%) if the members of the Student Body or by Student Senate with a majority vote. Special meetings shall be held within two (2) regularly scheduled class days following the Student Body President's receipt of a valid petition.
2. Public notice shall be posted one (1) regularly scheduled class day prior to the date of a special meeting.

Section 15: Town Meetings

1. Student Senate shall call a town meeting open to all members of the Student Body at least once during each academic term.
2. Town meetings shall provide a forum for the expression of opinions and ideas relating to issues facing the Student Body.
3. Public notice of all town meetings shall be posted ten (10) regularly scheduled class days prior to the date of the meeting.
4. Special town meetings shall be called by petition of at least five percent (5%) of the members of the Student Body or by Student Senate with a majority vote. Special Town Meetings of Student Senate shall be held within fifteen (15) regularly scheduled class days following the Student Body President's receipt of a valid petition.

Section 16: Quorum

Quorum shall be defined as fifty percent (50%) plus one (1) of the voting membership of Student Senate. A quorum must be present for any official vote of Student Senate. The Chair shall be

considered as a voting member of Student Senate for purposes of determining the existence of a quorum.

Section 17: Rules of Procedure

Every member of the Student Body shall have the right to attend Student Senate meetings, to be recognized by the Chair, and to participate in all deliberations within procedural restrictions. Any addition to the agenda submitted to Student Senate requesting an official meeting requires either the signatures of ten percent (10%) of the members of the Student Body or the endorsement of at least one Student Senate member, and approval by the Chair.

Section 18: Parliamentary Authority

The most recent issue of *Roberts Rule of Order* of parliamentary procedure shall be used for all questions not contained in this Constitution and the Student Senate Bylaws.

ARTICLE V. STUDENT CABINET ELECTIONS

Section 1: Election Code

All regular and special elections of the Student Body shall be governed by a Student Senate Election Code Bylaw that shall specify all rules, regulations, procedures, dates, and other information deemed pertinent to the election by Student Senate.

Section 2: Regular Elections

1. Regular elections shall occur during the spring semester each year.
2. Election of Student Cabinet members shall be held during each regular election.
3. Public notice of regular election shall be given not less than twenty (20) regularly scheduled class days prior to the election.

Section 3: Special Elections

1. Special elections in the form of referendum, initiative, or recall on specific issues shall be called by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the entire voting membership or by petition containing the signatures of a minimum of ten percent (10%) of the members of the Student Body stating the specific issues to be resolved.
2. Petitions involving a special election must be reviewed by the Student Legal Service Coordinator to be sanctioned as lawfully valid.
3. Such elections shall be held not more than fifteen (15) regularly scheduled class days, excluding the last week of classes in any academic term, following the Student Body President's receipt of the petition or a vote of the council.

Section 4: Determination of Results

All elections shall be decided by a plurality vote of the qualified student electorate votes cast in a regular or special election.

ARTICLE VI. STUDENT RIGHTS ADVOCATE

Section 1: Purpose

The Student Rights Advocate acts as a liaison between Student Senate and Student Judiciary, and acts as a resource in addressing student complaints.

Section 2: Duties

1. Attends Student Senate meetings and relevant Student Senate committee meetings as a neutral non-voting representative of Student Judiciary.
2. Attends Student Judiciary meetings in a neutral non-voting capacity, and performs administrative duties for the Student Judiciary.
3. Acts as the Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity coordinator for Student Senate and Student Judiciary.
4. Acts on student complaints regarding academic/student discrimination, Affirmative Action, and Equal Opportunity as allowed by the law and the policies of the Student Body and Student Senate.
5. Works to inform students of their academic and student rights.
6. Maintains communication channels with the University Director of Human Resource Services and the Dean of Students.

ARTICLE VII. STUDENT JUDICIARY

Section 1: Jurisdiction

The Student Judiciary shall hear all appropriate complaints filed against any person or group employed by, funded through, or volunteering through Student Senate acting in the performance of their duties. Student Judiciary shall make decisions upon a majority vote.

Section 2: Composition

The members of the Student Judiciary shall consist of five Student Justices.

Section 3: Advisor

The advisor for the Student Judiciary shall be appointed by the Dean of Students. The advisor shall not hold voting power.

Section 4: Student Justices

1. Student Justices shall be selected by the Assistant Vice President of Student Engagement and confirmed upon a two-thirds (2/3) vote of Student Senate.
2. Each Student Justice shall hold voting power.

Section 5: Appointments and Vacancies

In the event of a vacancy, a Student Justice shall be nominated by the Assistant Vice President of Student Engagement. Nominees shall be confirmed upon a two-thirds (2/3) vote of Student Senate.

Section 6: Term of Office

Student Justices shall serve until they are no longer a member of the Student Body, are removed from office through the Student Justice removal process, or fail to meet the qualifications for office. Student Judiciary shall have the option of whether or not to hold formal meetings during the summer session.

Section 7: Student Judiciary Meetings

Meetings of Student Judiciary shall be held at least bi-weekly during the fall and spring academic terms. Meetings falling on finals week shall be optional as determined by Student Judiciary.

Section 8: Procedural Rules and Policies

Upon a two-thirds (2/3) vote of Student Judiciary, the Student Judiciary shall have the power to adopt, amend, and appeal procedural rules or policies for the operation of Student Judiciary.

Section 9: Appeals

Students have the right to file a written appeal of all Student Judiciary decisions to the Dean of Students Office as delineated in the Student Handbook.

ARTICLE VIII. QUALIFICATIONS

Section 1: Qualifications for Student Cabinet, Student Judiciary, and Student Rights Advocate

1. Must be a member of the Student Body while entering or fulfilling the term of the office.
2. Must have a cumulative University of Northern Colorado or equivalent college cumulative grade point average above or equal to 2.50 on a 4.00 scale. Once in office, must maintain a cumulative grade point average above or equal to 2.30 on a 4.00 scale. No student shall be eligible for or hold office whose academic term grade point average is less than a 2.00 while in office. In courses where "S-U" grading is used, as "U" shall be classified as less than a 2.00. In the case of serious illness which has been documented by a physician or family emergency beyond a student's control that impedes the student's ability to complete courses in which the grade of an "I" is given, the student shall be put on a probationary period to be defined by a 2/3 vote of Student Senate. The student will be given four weeks from the first day of the new academic semester to replace the "I" with a grade of "C" or better and still maintain a GPA of 2.30 or better. In the case of a masters or doctoral proposal, thesis, or dissertation process lasting more than one semester in which the grade of "NR" is given, the student will have the following semester to replace this with a satisfactory grade "S". A letter documenting satisfactory progress will be required from the research advisor supervising the student.
3. Must be full time students as designated by University Policy during each term in office. Credit hours completed in the summer semester, with the exception being those completed by the

Student Body President and the President for Graduate Students, are considered optional. A minimum of three (3) credit hours must be completed by those officers.

4. In order to remain eligible to hold office, a student must fulfill their job requirements as defined in this Constitution or face removal. Such removal will be defined in the Student Senate Bylaws.

ARTICLE IX. REMUNERATION

Section 1: Amount of Remuneration

1. Members of Student Cabinet and the Student Rights Advocate shall receive remuneration equivalent to the current full-time undergraduate, in-state tuition and student fees designated by the University for that full academic term.
2. Student Justices shall receive remuneration equivalent to one quarter (1/4) of the current full-time undergraduate, in-state tuition and student fees designated by the University for that full academic term.

Section 2: Remuneration Policy

1. Remuneration shall be prorated on a daily basis. Proration shall be determined from the first official day of employment to the last official day of employment as designated by the University, including finals week, excluding weekends and holidays.
2. If removed from office, compensation shall cease upon date of removal.
3. This remuneration is subject to funding by student fees and is not subject to appropriated State funds. The remuneration may be terminated or reduced if the funding is canceled or reduced during the term of office.

ARTICLE X. PUBLIC ACCESS TO INFORMATION

In order to ensure open and responsible information sharing, all documents of Student Senate and Student Judiciary, not dealing with student grievances, personnel, or legally related items, shall be open and available to the public on all regularly scheduled class days and during normal business hours.

ARTICLE XI. AMENDMENTS

Amendments to this Constitution may be passed by a majority of the Student Body voting in a regular or special election.

ARTICLE XII. RATIFICATION AND REVIEW

This Constitution shall be reviewed by a majority of those members of the Student Body voting in a Constitutional election. This Constitution shall require an ongoing review in not less than three (3) years and not more than seven (7) years and shall be reviewed both in its entirety and as amended.

Revised, April 2010