

Why did Student Senate conduct the organizational review process?

The UNC Student Senate has a history and culture of addressing individual legislative and organizational issues on a case-by-case basis rather than confronting larger, systematic/structural causes.

In order to address these systematic and structural issues (addressing the illness, not the symptoms) the Student Senate engaged in an organizational review process and is proposing the new Constitution and structure

What are the major changes to the governing structures?

The new Constitution will change the current Student Senate structure to a three-branch model comprised of an Executive branch, Legislative Branch, and Judicial Branch.

- The Executive Branch has a more structured form of organization with role clarity with specific requirements for office for each Executive member.
- The Legislative Branch will have Senators based on year classification rather than Academic College, this provides more access for students by updating the number of Senators from 15 to 25 and allows for more organizations on campus to have representation and involvement in SGA.
- The Judicial Branch has a more clearly defined purpose and more opportunities for students to serve as well as serve to interpret and rule on all questions and grievances pertaining to SGA Constitution and Bylaws.

How did the group decide on the Student Government Association (SGA) model?

Student Senate convened a working group to review and assess different student government models from peer institutions.

The working group (consisting of the Student Trustee, Student Body President, Parliamentarian, two Senators, and a Graduate Student and Undergraduate Student intern) then developed a pro/con list for each of the different organization structures and identified the most appropriate organization aspects to be incorporated into the new UNC student government.

How does this change affect me as a student?

The name and purpose updates are aimed at the organization truly representing the student body and align with our mission of being a coalition of campus groups. The clarification of purpose in the new constitution actively addresses matters of student affairs and experiences and promotes understanding and communication between administrators, faculty, staff, and students.

How do I run for a position next year?

To run for student government next year, grab or download a Election Candidacy Packet, available on Friday, February 24, 2023

Can any student-run for a role with SGA?

Yes, all UNC students are eligible to run for positions for the SGA assuming they meet the minimum qualifications for the position for which they are running.

Here are details regarding the specific eligibility requirements for each of the elected positions with the SGA:

Executive Officers:

To be qualified as an executive officer, in addition to all other specified requirements, a student must have and maintain an institutional grade point average of 2.75 or higher and must be in good judicial standing with UNC.

President:

The President must have completed forty (40) semester hours, thirty (30) of which shall have been completed at any branch of UNC. The individual must have been at least a committee chair or executive officer for one semester in good standing.

Vice President:

The Vice President must have completed thirty (30) semester hours, twenty (20) of which shall have been completed at any branch of UNC. The individual must have been at least a Senator for one semester in good standing.

Recording Secretary:

The Recording Secretary must have completed twenty-four (24) semester hours, twenty (20) of which shall have been completed at any branch of UNC. The individual must have been at least a Senator for one semester in good standing.

Treasurer

The Treasurer must have completed twenty-four (24) semester hours, twenty (20) of which shall have been completed at any branch of UNC. The individual must have been at least a Senator for one semester in good standing.

Parliamentarian

The Parliamentarian must have completed twenty-four (24) semester hours, twenty (20) of which shall have been completed at any branch of UNC. The individual must have been at least a Senator for one semester in good standing.

Senator Positions:

Any enrolled student at UNC with a cumulative grade point average of 2.50 or higher, and in good academic standing, shall be eligible to run for election or be appointed to the Senate.

By a direct vote of the student body, there shall be five (5) Senators elected from each of the following classifications: 1st year, Sophomore, Junior, and Senior

Elections for Sophomore, Junior, and Senior Senators will take place during the Spring 2023 election.

Elections for 1st year Senators will take place during the first 30 days of the Fall 2023 semester.

When would the SGA structure go into effect?

The new SGA structure will be implemented if passed in fall 2023.