



Student Government Association Constitution

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Preamble

We, the students of the Illinois Institute of Technology, in order to form an effective and functional student government, do hereby establish and ordain this constitution for the Student Government Association; to develop student programs; to advocate for the needs and concerns of students, academically and otherwise; to represent the general student body to the best of its ability with regards to both demographics and interests; and to assume the fullest responsibility and power of self-government consistent with all municipal, state, and federal laws and the policies of the Illinois Institute of Technology.

Article I. General Organization

1. The name of this organization shall be the Student Government Association of the Illinois Institute of Technology and shall hereby be referred to as the SGA of the University. All references to Illinois Institute of Technology or the

University within this Constitution and the SGA Bylaws inherently include VanderCook College of Music.

2. The SGA shall be organized into the Executive Board, Senate, Judicial Board, and the General Assembly.

Article II. The Senate

Section 1. Members

The members of the Senate, herein referred to as Senators, shall be elected representatives of their respective constituencies. Voting members shall consist of both Senators and any member of the Executive Board who maintains voting privileges within the Senate.

1. Upon presentation of valid Illinois Institute of Technology student identification, a guest is entitled to privileged participation in Senate meetings as outlined in the Standing Rules of the Senate.

Section 2. Election of Senators and Representation

The election of Senators shall be executed and governed according to the SGA Bylaws, and shall serve a term of one academic year. Student representation shall be determined by enrollment in each college of the University, by the number of years attended at the University, by select demographic bodies, and by at-large representation as determined by the SGA Bylaws.

Section 3. Senatorial Requirements

1. Voting members are expected to maintain a satisfactory frequency of attendance as defined by the SGA Bylaws.
2. Senators shall maintain enrollment in the college of their constituency. If at any time a Senator is no longer enrolled in the college they represent, they shall be removed from office but shall remain in good standing with the SGA.
3. Senators selected to represent a demographic body shall remain in good standing with the student organization(s) which they represent, as determined by their respective student organizations. If at any time a senator is no longer in good standing with the student organization, they shall be removed from office but shall remain in good standing with the SGA.

Section 4. Senate's Duties and Powers

The Senate shall serve as the primary legislative and deliberative body of the SGA and shall represent the views of the student body. The Senate has the following duties and powers:

1. Adopt bills and resolutions, which advance the purposes of the SGA as defined in the Preamble of this Constitution;
2. Consider recommendations by the General Assembly, Executive Board, Financial Board, and Judicial Board;
3. When in the best interest of the student body, override a Presidential Veto with a two-thirds vote;
4. When in the best interest of the student body, remove from office any member of the Executive Board, Senate, Finance Board, or Judicial Board as outlined in the SGA Bylaws;
5. Where there may be a conflict of interest in voting material, such as holding a de facto executive position in a student organization that is being proposed before Senate, to vote abstain;
6. When in the best interest of the student body, recognize student organizations with a majority vote as requested by the Office of Student Life,
 - a. In accordance with the pattern of the student organization creation process in the Office of Student Life, new student organizations can present to the Senate at Senate meetings assigned prior by the Executive Vice President;
 - b. Organizations seeking approval will be informed as a part of their processes with the Office of Student Life that they must prepare and present concise answers as agreed upon by the SGA and the Office of Student Life;
 - c. Student leaders seeking approval will be asked to leave during the vote and discussion;
 - d. Organizations that are not approved will be sent a compiled list of recommendations from the entire Senate. This will include a list of issues, requests, and suggestions. This list will be compiled in a short discussion following the disapproval not to exceed five minutes. The Executive Vice President will be responsible for taking notes from the discussion and emailing the student leaders;
 - e. Approved organizations will be reminded that in order to be fully registered they must comply with the step-by-step instructions as provided by the Office of Student Life.

7. Retain all powers vested in the SGA that are not specifically delegated by the Constitution and Bylaws.

Section 5. Meetings

1. The regular meetings of the Senate shall be held weekly during weeks in which fall or spring semester classes are in session. The Executive Vice President shall provide a schedule of meeting times and locations at the beginning of the semester.
2. Special meetings may be called by the Executive Vice President, by the Executive Board, by the President of the University or upon the written request of ten Senators. The purpose of the meeting shall be stated in the call. Except in cases of emergency, at least five calendar days' notice shall be given.
3. Executive sessions may be called by the Senate in the event that there is a topic of a very sensitive nature to be discussed. Everything said or done during an executive session is confidential. To enter executive session, a member of the Senate must make a motion specifying the reason, duration of the executive session, and if applicable, any privileged guests allowed in attendance for the duration of the session; the motion requires a second and is debatable. A majority vote is required to adopt this motion. If the Senate votes to enter executive session, all non-voting attendees who are not a part of the SGA Executive Board must leave the room until the Senate votes to end executive session.
4. Quorum consists of a simple majority of all voting members.

Section 6. Special Positions of Senators

The following positions shall be outlined, defined, and governed from the listed guidelines below, in order of function, appointment and confirmation process, duration, and appellation.

The Liaison to the Presses

- a. The Liaison to the Presses, or simply the Liaison, shall be responsible for, as directed by the VP of Engagement and as circumstances require:
 - i. Keeping abreast of TechNews or other media releases pertaining to SGA;

- ii. Facilitating communication between SGA and such media entities;
 - iii. Utilizing such media entities for the benefit of SGA and the student body as a whole; and
 - iv. Responding to relevant releases by such media entities.
- b. The Liaison to the Presses shall be appointed by the VP of Engagement and confirmed by the Senate in a simple majority vote.
- c. The Liaison to the Presses shall serve a term lasting at most, approximately one year, from the conclusion of executive elections until the next conclusion of executive elections — but with no term limit.
- d. The SGA Liaison to the Presses must be a senator of SGA.
- e. The Liaison shall be referred to as “Liaison [Surname]” (e.g. Liaison Smith).

Section 7. Senator’s Oath of Office

The Senator’s Oath of Office shall be administered to the Senate by the Executive Vice President. All incoming and returning Senators shall take the Senator’s Oath of Office, either individually or collectively, before assuming the duties and powers outlined in this Constitution:

I, Senator [Surname], do hereby affirm that I shall justly support and defend the Constitution and Bylaws of the Student Government Association of the Illinois Institute of Technology. I vow to fulfill my obligations to my constituents and my duties as a Senator to the best of my ability.

Section 8. Resignation

In order to remain in good standing with SGA, any Senator desiring to resign from the Senate shall make known of this intent in writing to the Office of the Executive Vice President with two weeks of notice, who then shall present it to the Senate and Executive Board and declare a vacancy in the seat. The Senator will continue to serve until the seat is filled, but no later than the two weeks of notice.

Section 9. Vacancies

In the event of a vacancy in a Senate seat allocated by year, by college, as DEI representatives, or at-large, nominations for applicable Senate seats shall open at the next regular Senate meeting. Candidates must meet the qualifications of the position of Senator as well as the constituency requirements of the vacant seat. The vacant positions shall be elected by a plurality vote of the Senate.

1. In the event of a vacancy in a Senate seat for Greek Life, Residence Hall Association, or Student Athletic Advisory Committee, the applicable organization may elect to fill the vacancy in a method determined by that organization, provided that the organization is in good standing with the Office of Student Life. The incoming Senator elected by the organization must meet all Senatorial requirements and shall be approved by a majority of the Senate.

Article III. The Executive Board

Section 1. Officers

The Executive Board shall consist of the President; Executive Vice President; Chief Justice; Finance Board Chair; Vice President of Academic Affairs; Vice President of Engagement; Vice President of Student Life; Vice President of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion; and Vice President of Research Affairs.

Section 2. Election of Officers

All of the Executive Board shall be elected according to the SGA Bylaws, and shall serve a one-year term, beginning upon the administration of the appropriate Oath of Office, or until their successors take the Oath of Office and assume the duties and powers required of that position as defined in the bylaws. No officer may hold more than one office simultaneously outside their duties.

Section 3. The Executive Board's Duties and Powers

The President

The duties and powers of the President are as follows:

1. Preside over the Executive Board and the General Assembly;
2. Present the concerns, recommendations, and resolutions of the SGA to the proper University officials;
3. Serve as the principal representative of the SGA to the University and any external organization;
4. Veto, after consultation with the Office of Student Life, any bill or resolution adopted by the Senate within one week of Senate approval. The President shall not veto actions involving impeachment, removal from office, a Judicial Board nomination, a Finance Board nomination, or a Finance Board allocation;
 - a. Ensure the automatic approval of any bill or resolution in the case that a veto is not made;
5. Appoint student members to University committees as needed;
6. Appoint, in the case of a vacancy, members of the Judicial Board, to be confirmed by a majority vote of the Senate;
7. Notify all members and advisors in the event of any special meeting, in the method outlined by this Constitution;

The President also serves as the Finance Board Chair and the duties of the Finance Board Chair are as follows:

1. Preside over the Finance Board in the manner outlined in the SGA Bylaws;
2. Serve as the principal liaison of the Finance Board to the student body and to the Office of Student Life regarding Student Activity Fund appropriations;
3. Publish dates and hearings for the following semester by the last hearing of the current semester;
4. Recuse themselves from any hearing regarding student organization they are hold executive positions on;
5. Hearing Coordination
6. Present the findings and conclusions of the Finance Board to the Senate every month. Specifically, how the Student Activity Fund was allocated.
7. Delegating ledger responsibilities

The Executive Vice President

The duties and powers of the Executive Vice President are as follows:

1. Preside over the Senate;
2. Maintain the Office of the Vice President;
3. Determine and enforce the meeting regulations;

4. Develop and facilitate the SGA Retreat as outlined in the bylaws;
5. Facilitate communication with new student organizations;
6. Administer the Senator's Oath of Office as outlined in Article II, §7;
7. Any duties assigned by the President;
8. In the event of a tie in the Senate, the Executive Vice President casts the tie-breaking vote.

The Vice President of Academic Affairs

The duties of the Vice President of Academic Affairs are as follows:

1. Preside over the Academic Affairs Committee;
2. Assist students in addressing concerns regarding the academic affairs of the University;
3. Serve as an SGA liaison to faculty and administration regarding academic affairs of the University;
4. Represents the student body at the meetings of the University Faculty Council (UFC) and Undergraduate Studies Committee (UGSC) and reports to the executive board;
5. Maintain committee meeting minutes;
6. Maintain the duties and responsibilities afforded to a Senator as a Voting Member of the Senate;
7. Any duties assigned by the President.

The Vice President of Engagement

The duties of the the Vice President of Engagement are as follows:

1. Preside over the Engagement Committee;
2. Ensure that all branches of SGA project a unified image to the Illinois Tech community;
3. Coordinate the events that the student government will have each semester;
4. Serve as an SGA liaison to faculty and administration regarding SGA events;
5. Frequently gain feedback from the student body and host events that help students gain transparency and better engage in their community;
6. Maintain committee meeting minutes;

7. Maintain the duties and responsibilities afforded to a Senator as a Voting Member of the Senate;
8. Any duties assigned by the President.

The Vice President of Student Life

The duties of the Vice President of Student Life are as follows:

1. Preside over the Student Life Committee;
2. Assist students in addressing concerns regarding student life at the University;
3. Serve as an SGA liaison to faculty and administration regarding student life at the University;
4. Facilitate communication with existing student organizations;
5. Maintain committee meeting minutes;
6. Maintain the duties and responsibilities afforded to a Senator as a Voting Member of the Senate;
7. Any duties assigned by the President.

The Vice President of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

The duties of the Vice President of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, or simply the Vice President of DEI, are as follows:

1. Preside over the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee;
2. Serve as an SGA liaison to the University's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee;
3. Facilitate communication with select student organizations which maintain permanent Senator seats, as outlined in Article II §2 and in the Bylaws;
4. Maintain committee meeting minutes;
5. Maintain the duties and responsibilities afforded to a Senator as a Voting Member of the Senate;
6. Any duties assigned by the President.

The Vice President of Research Affairs

The duties of the Vice President of Research Affairs are as follows:

1. Preside over the Research Affairs Committee;
2. Assist students in addressing concerns regarding the research affairs at the University;
3. Serve as an SGA liaison to faculty and administration regarding research affairs of the University especially and in addition to the Office of Research, Office of Sponsored Research and Programs, and Undergraduate Research Journal;
4. Facilitate dialogue with program representatives and heads;
5. Maintain committee meeting minutes
6. Maintain the duties and responsibilities afforded to a Senator as a Voting Member of the Senate;
7. Any duties assigned by the President.

Section 4. Appointed Members

1. Chief Justice

- a. Act as the representative and spokesperson of the Judicial Board;
- b. Administer the Oath of Office to the incoming Executive Board as outlined in §6 of this Article.
- c. Convene meetings of the Judicial Board when necessary, or when so requested by a Justice;
- d. Notify the President of any decision or upcoming hearing of the Judicial Board. The President and Chief Justice shall disseminate this information to the members of the SGA as each deems appropriate;
- e. Be responsible for communicating with campus media in regards to the decisions of the Judicial Board;
- f. Vote in the Judicial Board only in the case of a tie;
- g. Be responsible for soliciting applicants and conducting interviews for applicant justices;
- h. Recuse themselves from any hearing regarding student organization they are hold executive positions on;
- i. The Chief Justice shall be appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate, in a simple majority vote;
- j. Hold a seat on the University's Campus Judicial Board.

2. The Administrative Justice

- a. The Administrative Justice shall act as a representative of the Judicial Board in the absence of the Chief Justice;
- b. Complete any duties as assigned by the Chief Justice; and
- c. Shall be appointed by the Chief Justice;
- d. Shall serve a term lasting at most, approximately one year, from the conclusion of executive elections until the next conclusion of executive elections — but with no term limit.

3. The Executive Secretary

- a. The Executive Secretary, or simply the Secretary, is responsible for being knowledgeable and well-studied in Robert's Rules of Order, and for capably advising the Senate and Senate Chair on questions of such;
- b. Is further responsible for moving persons in and out of the Senate Chamber as circumstances demand, including but not limited to: briefing said parties prior to the meeting; informing said parties when they are required to temporarily vacate the chamber, and informing said parties when it is appropriate for their departure from the meeting;
- c. Recording and maintaining minutes at Executive Board meetings; recording and maintaining minutes during senate or appointing a proxy to do so.
- d. Shall be referred to as "Secretary [Surname]" (e.g. Secretary Smith) in all official publications;
- e. Shall be appointed by the Senate Chair and confirmed by the Senate, in a simple majority vote;
- f. Shall serve a term lasting at most, approximately one year, from the conclusion of executive elections until the next conclusion of executive elections — but with no term limit.

a. The Executive Assistant

- i. The Executive Assistant shall be responsible for ensuring the general function of the SGA;
- ii. Is responsible for the following functions:
 1. Keeping record of attendance at Executive Board, Senate, and Committee Meetings;
 2. Working actively on recruiting members to the Student Government;
 3. Monitoring absences and reaches out to absent Senators at every meeting;
- iii. May be further responsible for any additional duties the Executive Vice President may assign and shall work for the Office of the Executive Vice President.
- iv. It shall be referred to as “Assistant [Surname]” (e.g. Assistant Smith) in all official publications.
- v. Shall be appointed by the Senate Chair and confirmed by the Senate, in a simple majority vote.
- vi. Shall serve a term lasting at most, approximately one year, from the conclusion of executive elections until the next conclusion of executive elections — but with no term limit.

Section 5. Devolvement of Duties

In the event that the President is not capable of performing his/her duties, the Executive Board shall appoint a President Pro-Tempore from within the board to assume the duties and powers of the President until the President is capable of performing their duties. If the President cannot perform their duties for more than 14 consecutive calendar days, the Senate may then, by a two-thirds vote, declare a vacancy in the Office of the President.

Section 6. Meetings

An Executive Board meeting shall be called by the President or by written notice of at least three Executive Officers.

Section 7. Transitional Meetings

After the election, results have been announced and the last regular meeting of the spring semester, at a time defined by the outgoing President, both the outgoing Executive Board and incoming Executive Board shall meet for the

purpose of officer transition and training. The incoming executive board shall be sworn in at the first regular senate meeting after the transitional meetings, or the last regular senate meeting of the semester, whichever happens first.

Section 8. Oath of Office

The Oath of Office shall be administered by the current Chief Justice at the regular Senate meeting immediately following the transitional meeting. All incoming Executive Officers shall take the following Oath of Office before assuming the duties and powers outlined in this Constitution:

I, [name], do hereby affirm that I shall justly support and defend the Constitution and Bylaws of the Student Government Association of the Illinois Institute of Technology. I vow to fulfill my obligations to my fellow students and faithfully execute my duties as [office] to the best of my ability.

Section 9. Resignation

In order to remain in good standing with SGA, any Executive desiring to resign shall make known of this intent in writing to the Office of the Executive Vice President with two weeks of notice, who then shall present it to the Executive Board and declare a vacancy in the seat. The Executive will continue to serve until the seat is filled or an Interim is appointed, but no later than the two weeks of notice.

Constitution Article III Section 10:

Section 10. Vacancies

In the event of a vacancy in the office of the President, the Executive Vice President shall assume the office of the President. For all other elected Executive Board vacancies, nominations for the applicable office shall open at the following regular Senate meeting. Candidates must meet the qualifications as outlined in the SGA Bylaws. The President must hold interviews for each candidate and submit the most suitable candidate to the Senate for review. The Senate will hold a majority vote to elect the candidate to the position.

1. The President may either nominate an Interim to hold a vacant Executive position until it is permanently filled, or choose to temporarily distribute duties to existing members. The Interim will be automatically dismissed from their duties after the permanent candidate is sworn into office.

Article IV. Committees

Section 1. Meeting and Attendance

1. All Senate committees shall meet as specified in the SGA Bylaws, with every Voting Member expected to maintain a satisfactory frequency of attendance in at least one committee of their choosing as defined by the SGA Bylaws.
2. In the event that a committee fails to meet a mandatory minimum attendance as determined by the Chair of the Senate, some senators may be moved to a committee to ensure the function of every committee.
3. Guests privileged to attend ordinary senate meetings may also be privileged to attend any committee meeting, upon determination by the Executive Vice President.

Section 2. Vice Chairs

The chair of every committee shall have the power to appoint a vice-chair that shall permanently attend that committee. The vice chair shall keep record of meeting minutes during committee meetings, as well as perform any duties assigned by the chair. The vice chair may assume the duties of the chair of their committee in the absence of the chair.

Section 3. The Academic Affairs Committee

The Academic Affairs Committee shall be chaired by the Vice President of Academic Affairs. It shall be the duty of this committee to investigate matters and to suggest action to improve the academic programs and endeavors of the University.

Section 4. The Engagement Committee

The Engagement Committee shall be chaired by the Vice President of Engagement. It shall be the duty of this committee to promote the affairs of the SGA and to help ensure that all branches of SGA project a unified image to the Illinois Tech community through campus media, the curation of SGA events, and any other available means. The Engagement Committee shall also maintain the logo, slogan, and other media material of the SGA. The logo, slogan, and any other such permanent and emblematic media of SGA may be changed only after the approval of a simple majority vote of the Senate.

Section 5. The Student Life Committee

The Student Life Committee shall be chaired by the Vice President of Student Life.

It shall be the duty of this committee to investigate matters and to suggest action in order to improve the quality of student life, to provide student leadership opportunities, to facilitate dialogue between existing student organizations and the SGA, and to recognize outstanding students.

Section 6. The Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee

The Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee shall be chaired by the Vice President of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. It shall be the duty of this committee to guide the SGA in matters of ensuring inclusion of all student demographics within the student advocacy process, and to work with student demographics to elect senators as laid out in Article II, Section 2 and in the SGA Bylaws.

Section 7. The Research Affairs Committee

The Research Affairs Committee shall be chaired by the Vice President of Research Affairs. It shall be the duty of this committee to investigate matters and to suggest action to improve the student research programs and endeavors of the University, to connect students with research opportunities, to facilitate dialogue between researchers, research administration and leadership, and the SGA, and to recognize outstanding student research.

Section 8. Executive Election Committee

The Executive Election Committee shall consist of students appointed by the Executive Board as outlined in the SGA Bylaws. It shall be the duty of this committee to govern Executive Elections in a manner fair to all candidates and well-representative of the SGA as outlined by the SGA Bylaws.

Participation in this committee does not satisfy a Senator's requirement to serve on a standing committee of the Senate.

Section 9. Senate Election Committee

The Senate Election Committee shall consist of students appointed by the Executive Board as outlined in the SGA Bylaws. It shall be the duty of this committee to govern Senate Elections in a manner fair to all candidates and well-representative of the SGA as outlined by the SGA Bylaws. Participation in

this committee does not satisfy a Senator's requirement to serve on a standing committee of the Senate.

Section 10. Special Committees

A special committee shall be created temporarily by a majority vote of the Senate as the Senate deems it necessary to carry on specialized tasks of the SGA.

Article V. The Finance Board

The Finance Board shall be chaired by the Finance Board Chair. Between nine to fifteen students, appointed by the SGA Executive Board, and confirmed by the Senate as outlined in the SGA Bylaws may hold a seat. Each seat shall be expected to serve a complete term lasting at most, approximately one academic year, from the conclusion of senate election until the next conclusion of senate elections. It shall be the duty of this committee to allocate Student Activity Funds to student organizations. The creation of the Student Activity Fund ledger shall be pursued as follows:

1. The Finance Board, under the direction of the Finance Board Chair, shall organize a fair process in which all student organizations have the chance to submit a budget which is pursuant to the Finance Board Policy.
2. The Finance Board shall hold hearings to review every budget submitted to the Board and distribute funds equitably in the interest of the general student body.
 - a. At least one full time staff member of the Office of Student Life must be in attendance for any Finance Board hearing;
 - b. Members privileged to attend Finance Board hearings are decided at the discretion of the Finance Board Chair or the Executive Vice President;
 - c. Any member of the student body who wishes to appeal one or more parts of the draft ledger may appropriately contact the Finance Board Chair, in writing;
 - d. Any outstanding appeals that cannot be resolved to the satisfaction of all parties can be further appealed to the Judicial Board.
3. The Office of Student Life shall consider the final draft of any ledger and approve it in a manner so decided by the Office. Upon approval of a ledger, disbursement of the Student Activity Fund shall happen upon the data of disbursement as decided by the Finance Board Chair;

- a. The Office of Student Life should always approve of any ledger if there are no outstanding student appeals towards the ledger, and there is no part of the ledger that violates Illinois Tech policy, state law, or federal law;
- b. In the case that the Office of Student Life disapproves of a ledger, the reasoning for such must be given in writing to the Finance Board Chair.

The Finance Board Chair, or a member of the Finance Board designated by the Finance Board Chair, shall present allocation of the Student Activity Fund in a regular manner at least once a calendar month, at the first regular Senate meeting of every calendar month.

The Finance Board Policies shall serve to supplement these founding documents, in order to further specify and coordinate the Board in its duties. These policies shall always include procedure for office hours, appeals, and any special policies regarding irregular allocations of the Student Activity Fund.

Article VI. The Judicial Board

Section 1. Members

1. The Judicial Board shall consist of seven members, herein referred to as Justices, who are appointed as outlined in the SGA Bylaws. Appointment of members shall be determined jointly between the President and the Chief Justice, and approved by a majority vote of the senate. One member shall serve as the Chief Justice and one as the Administrative Justice, whose appointment is outlined in Article III, Section 4
2. The Chief Justice shall preside over the Judicial Board, fix the time and place of Judicial Board hearings and meetings, and perform the duties outlined by the SGA Bylaws.
3. The qualifications required to serve as an Justice of SGA shall be to have and maintain good academic standing, according to the Office of Student Life.
4. The Administrative Justice shall serve as the Executive Assistant of the Judicial Board and shall perform the duties outlined in the SGA Bylaws.

Section 2. Duties and Powers

The Judicial Board shall serve as the investigatory and trial board for disciplinary procedures of and within the SGA; serve to hear appeals of Finance Board decisions; hear requests for impeachment; and hear any other petition or

appeal regarding a decision of the SGA. Upon approval of the Dean of Students, designated Justices shall also serve as members of the University Judicial Board as outlined in the Student Handbook.

Section 3. Petitions and Appeals

Any Petition or Appeal should include all evidence for the complaint attached to the Petition. The petitioner may reach out to the Chief Justice in writing to request an extension of the evidentiary deadline; however, the deadline may not be extended past seventy-two hours before the hearing.

Upon receiving a Petition, the Chief Justice shall convene an Executive Session of themselves and the Administrative Justice where a determination to grant the Petition shall be made. If the Chief and Administrative Justice cannot agree on whether to hear a case, an Executive Session shall be called consisting of all Justices. If more than one third of Justices vote that the case has merit, it shall be heard.

A brief in opposition to the Petition must be filed by the respondent in any case at least forty-eight hours before the hearing unless the Chief Justice agrees to shorten this time in writing. The Administrative Justice shall distribute the opposition brief to the petition to the other Justices, the Judicial Board Advisor, and the original petitioner and file one for the official record within twenty-four hours of the Judicial Board's receipt of the opposition brief.

Only members of the student body, staff, faculty, or administration of Illinois Tech shall participate as petitioners, witnesses, respondents, or counselors of the student body. The Chief Justice and Administrative Justice together may expand this list on a case by case basis. The inclusion of participants not mentioned above shall not occur if the Chief Justice and Administrative Justice cannot reach an agreement to include the outside parties.

The Chief Justice may vote when the Justices are deciding the case. Both a majority and minority opinion shall be prepared and entered into the judicial record. The written decision shall list which Justices found for the petitioner and which found for the respondent.

If a student organization wishes to change their Finance Board probationary recognition status outside the normal process by which such statuses change, the change of current status shall be heard by the Judicial Board and approved by simply majority vote within the Judicial Board. Requests for a change in recognition status must be made to the Executive Vice President and the Finance Board Vice Chair. The Finance Board Vice Chair's opinion on the

change in status may be provided to the Judicial Board, to be presented to the Judicial Board by the Finance Board Vice Chair, or a designee appointed by the Finance Board Vice Chair, while the change in status is discussed.

Section 3. Quorum

Four Justices shall constitute a quorum.

Section 4. Term of Office

All Justices shall serve a term of at least one year term beginning at the time they are confirmed by the Senate, or until their successors are confirmed. A justice may serve a term longer than one year until the Justice leaves office for any reason, including a change of relationship to Illinois Tech.

Section 5. Office Holding Limitations

No Justice may serve on the Finance Board, as a Senator, or as an Executive Officer. No Justice shall serve as the Chief Justice and the Administrative Justice simultaneously.

Section 6. Vacancies

In the event of a vacancy, the President shall appoint a replacement, which shall be confirmed upon a majority vote of the Senate to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the outgoing Justice's term. Incoming Justices shall meet the qualifications outlined in the SGA Bylaws.

Article VII. The General Assembly

Section 1. Assembly Members

The members of the General Assembly shall be any full-time or part-time, undergraduate or graduate students of the University.

Section 2. Assembly's Duties and Powers

The General Assembly shall serve as a deliberative body of the SGA and as a means to keep the student body informed of the actions of the University and the SGA. The duties and powers of the General Assembly are as follows:

1. The General Assembly shall serve as an open forum for informal discussion, debate, or presentation of information pertaining to SGA and University matters;
2. The General Assembly may make recommendations to the Senate;

- a. Any recommendation adopted by the General Assembly is automatically added to the agenda for the next regular Senate meeting. Any motion shall be offered to the Senate as it was carried by the General Assembly and shall be either adopted or rejected by the Senate;
 - b. All recommendations adopted by the General Assembly shall be presented by the President to the Senate; and
3. The General Assembly shall not amend this Constitution or the Bylaws of the SGA or adopt legislation on the behalf of the SGA.

Section 3. Regular Meetings

The regular meetings of the General Assembly shall be held three times during each semester, on dates determined by the President.

Section 4. Special Meetings

Special meetings may be called by the President, by the Executive Board, or upon the written request of fifteen students from at least three of the colleges of Illinois Tech. The purpose of the meeting shall be stated in the call. Except in cases of emergency, at least five calendar days' notice shall be given.

Section 5. Quorum

More than three-quarters of the number of members attending the last regular senate meeting, but no less than ten, shall constitute a quorum.

Article VIII. Other Authority

The SGA Bylaws and the Finance Board Policies shall serve to supplement and further clarify this document. Further, the rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the SGA in all cases in which they are applicable and in a manner consistent with this Constitution, Bylaws, or any special rules of order the SGA may adopt.

In the event any member of the student body wishes to pursue the impeachment of a member of the SGA, that person maintains the right to submit a Petition of Impeachment to the Chief Justice, wherein a copy shall be given to the SGA advisor. An executive session of the Justice Board and at least one SGA advisor shall be held within ten days of the submission, concerning the petition. If the Justice Board votes in favor of impeachment, the Senate shall hear a summary of the arguments in the impeachment petition, and vote, in secret, to approve up to, but not exceeding, the penalties recommended by the

Justice Board. A three-fourths vote shall be required to remove any member of the SGA from office, and a two-thirds vote shall be required to approve any other penalties. Any penalties may be appealed to the Dean of Students within three business days of the Senate's vote.

This Constitution may be amended only by the Senate at any Senate meeting which meets quorum with a two-thirds majority vote. The SGA Bylaws may be amended only by the Senate at any Senate meeting which meets quorum with a majority vote. All suggested amendments should be sent out to the senators to review at least forty-eight hours in advance of the senate meeting where they will vote.