

# The Constitution of the Student Association of The Catholic University of America

We, the Undergraduate Students of The Catholic University of America, recognizing the need for a united and dedicated voice to advocate policy and provide for the education and enhancement of the life of the student body, do hereby establish this Constitution of the Student Association of The Catholic University of America.

## **ARTICLE I. THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

*Section 1.01* The purpose of the General Assembly shall be to represent and advocate on behalf of The Catholic University of America undergraduate student body about student life, academia, education on university functions, and the general enhancement of the undergraduate experience.

*Section 1.02* The General Assembly shall be composed of twenty-eight (28) delegates, distributed equally among the classes; seven (7) shall be elected from the Freshman class, seven (7) from the Sophomore class, seven (7) from the Junior class, and seven (7) from the Senior class. For the purposes of voting, candidacy, and assumption of elected positions, the following standard earned credit schedule shall be utilized: freshman 0-29 credits, sophomore 30-59 credits, junior 60-89 credits, senior 90+ credits. All members of the General Assembly must have the necessary credits upon the beginning of the fall semester of their term.

*Section 1.03* The General Assembly's term shall begin and end at the time of the spring inauguration. Upon the beginning of each term, the General Assembly shall elect its leadership, including a Speaker who shall lead the body and vote only in cases where it determines the outcome. The Speaker shall have the authority to create ad-hoc committees. The freshman delegates will be elected at the beginning of the following fall semester and their term shall begin upon fall inauguration.

*Section 1.04* All members of the General Assembly shall serve as student advocacy representatives to offices and schools of the university to be outlined in the by-laws.

*Section 1.05* The General Assembly shall meet regularly at a uniform time and place no fewer than two times per month as circumstances permit. All meetings shall be open and an undergraduate student shall not be denied admittance to observe a meeting of the Assembly.

*Section 1.06* The General Assembly shall determine the rules of its proceedings concurrent with a majority vote and adopt by-laws for the Student Association by a two-thirds (2/3) vote.

## **ARTICLE II. THE STUDENT FEE ALLOCATION BOARD**

*Section 2.01* The purpose of the Student Activity and Club Sports Fee is to enhance student life by encouraging student organizations and club sports to offer a diverse range of quality programming. The Student Activity and Club Sports Fee shall be allocated in a manner that is consistent with the mission of The Catholic University of America. To this end, the Student Fee Allocation Board's purpose is to allocate funds to support opportunities for involvement among

the students and broader University community that foster intellectual, social, spiritual, and physical development.

*Section 2.02* The Student Fee Allocation Board is vested with the sole authority to allocate The Student Activity and Club Sports Fee and adopt standard procedures for student organizations to receive funding. It is at the discretion of the Student Fee Allocation Board to adopt, by majority, consequences for student organizations that deviate from procedure.

*Section 2.03* Consistent with the purpose of the General Assembly to provide proper consideration and oversight of the The Student Activity and Club Sports Fee, the General Assembly shall have the power to veto any allocation from the Student Fee Allocation Board by a two-thirds (2/3) vote within five (5) academic days of that specific allocation.

*Section 2.04* The Student Fee Allocation Board shall consist of one (1) director, eight (8) associate members, and two (2) university staff persons. Of the associate members, four (4) shall be elected, one (1) from each of the classes. Four (4) associate members will be appointed by The Director with the advice and consent of the General Assembly. Members of the Student Fee Allocation Board will serve as liaisons between student organizations and the administration.

*Section 2.05* All students seeking to become director or an associate member of the Board shall be vetted in a uniform manner to be outlined by the Student Fee Allocation Board and approved by the General Assembly in the by-laws. A student must be in good academic and disciplinary standing to serve on the Board and may not be the active treasurer in more than one other student organization.

*Section 2.06* The Director of the Student Fee Allocation Board shall be elected from the undergraduate student body. The Director may only vote in instances where her/his vote will determine the outcome. He/She shall be empowered to audit student organizations and clubs sports at her/his discretion. The Director shall compile a detailed report of fee allocations to be presented monthly to the General Assembly.

*Section 2.07* No greater than fifty (50) percent of the Student Activity and Club Sports Fee may be allocated to activities occurring during the fall semester.

*Section 2.08* The Student Fee Allocation Board shall outline an appeal process for student organizations and club sports in the event they do not receive the funding requested.

### **ARTICLE III. REMOVAL FROM OFFICE**

*Section 3.01* Should any member of the Student Association fail to attend to the duties of her/his office as outlined in the governing documents, the General Assembly may remove that individual from office, allowing her/him due process of action.

*Section 3.02* The procedure for carrying out the removal from office shall be defined in the Student Association by-laws.

*Section 3.03* Removal from office shall require a two-thirds ( $\frac{2}{3}$ ) vote of the full General Assembly.

## **ARTICLE IV. THE JUDICIARY**

*Section 4.01* It shall be the responsibility of every student at the University to obey the Honor Code, which prohibits lying, cheating, or stealing, when these actions involve academic processes or University, student or academic personnel acting in an official capacity.

*Section 4.02* It shall be the further responsibility of every student to abide by the Student Code of Conduct, namely to conduct oneself so as not to impair significantly the welfare or the educational opportunities of others in the University community.

*Section 4.03* The Supreme Court of the Undergraduate Students shall be composed of a Chief Justice and four (4) associate justices all appointed by the Speaker and confirmed by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the membership of the General Assembly. The members of the Supreme Court of the Undergraduate Students shall serve from their confirmation to the end of the legislative term while in academic and disciplinary good standing.

*Section 4.04* The Supreme Court of the Undergraduate Students shall have original jurisdiction in controversies concerning executive and legislative action raising questions of law arising under this Constitution or laws enacted under its authority.

*Section 4.05* When provisions of the Constitution are changed, cases and controversies which are pending at the time the change becomes effective shall be tried under the later provisions except when such a change has the effect of creating new penalties or new violations of law.

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## **ARTICLE V. AMENDMENTS**

*Section 5.01* Amendments to this Constitution may be proposed by any member of the Student Association to the General Assembly. All amendment proposals shall be subject to notification one meeting prior to their consideration. A two-thirds ( $\frac{2}{3}$ ) vote of the General Assembly or petition signed by ten (10) percent of the undergraduate student body shall place the amendments to a vote by the Student Body to occur within thirty (30) academic days.

*Section 5.02* An amendment shall be considered ratified when majority of those voting approve the amendment. No fewer than ten (10) academic days written notice shall be served to the campus community via campus media.