# <u>CONSTITUTION</u>

# INDIANA UNIVERSITY PURDUE UNIVERSITY INDIANAPOLIS

# **UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT GOVERNMENT**

### **PREAMBLE**

We, the undergraduate students of Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis, in order to encourage democratic thought and action through self-governance and to facilitate a collaborative environment to positively impact undergraduate students, the campus and community, do hereby establish this constitution. Additionally, we establish this constitution in order to:

- Provide students the opportunity for representation by a Student Government in consideration of student affairs by Indiana University, as declared in the Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis Code of Student Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct (Part 1, Section C);
- Provide an official and representative undergraduate student government;
- Provide undergraduate students a voice in the affairs of the University;
- Investigate undergraduate student problems and take appropriate action;
- Afford undergraduate students the opportunity to develop leadership skills and experience;
- Provide the means for undergraduate students to maximize their opportunities for learning;
- Establish a community of undergraduate student life that supports learning; and
- To effect change.

**Section 1: Name.** This organization shall be called the Undergraduate Student Government, hereafter referred to as USG

**Section 2: Definitions.** The following terms, whenever appearing in the Constitution with initial capital letters, shall have the following respective meanings:

- An Undergraduate Student of Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI) is a person who
  is admitted and enrolled in any undergraduate credit-bearing course or program in any school or
  division of IUPUI.
- General Elections shall refer to the annual elections of Undergraduate Student Government held no later than the second week of April for Executive office. Eligible to vote shall refer to any Undergraduate Student unless otherwise prohibited within this Constitution.
- 3. A Senator is a person that has been elected from a student organization or council to represent the views of their constituency and have a vote in the Senate. Senators of a school must be enrolled in the school they represent.
- 4. A Student Organization is a school-based or a non-school-based organization which has registered with the Office of Campus and Community Life.
- 5. A Representative is a person from a school-based Student Organization or non-school-based Student Organization who has been elected from his or her organization to represent the views of the organization.
- 6. A Council Representative is any voting member of a recognized Council. A Council Officer is any officer (e.g., President, Secretary, or Treasurer) on a recognized Council.
- 7. Academic Semester is the fall semester or the spring semester.
- 8. A recognized Council is any Council that the Senate recognizes as a legitimate voting body, as described in Article V
- 9. Affidavit of Recognition is a form filed by a recognized student council or organization's President identifying the Council's interest in being involved in the USG, identifying the contact information for the Council's officers, Senators and Alternates, and authorizing the Senators and Alternates to represent their respective group in the Senate.
- 10. Student Activity Fee (SAF) is the mandatory fee assessed by the Office of the Bursar bearing the name the "IUPUI Student Activity Fee."
- 11. Good Standing shall mean that the Undergraduate Student must have completed three credit hours at IUPUI and be in good academic standing as determined by their school or unit and be in good standing with the Office of the Dean of Students. The student must give permission to release disciplinary information as determined by the Office of the Dean of Students.

- 12. An Alternate shall refer to an Undergraduate Student in Good Standing who is enrolled in the school they would be representing and has been appointed by a student organization or council.
- 13. Oversight shall be understood as watchful and responsible care.
- 14. Executive Cabinet refers to the Executive Officers of USG.

**Section 3: Eligibility Requirements for Voting.** Only Undergraduate Students of IUPUI are Eligible to Vote during the General Elections.

#### TITLE I: Senate

### Section 101: Eligibility

- 1. Any Undergraduate Student is eligible to run for a Senate office upon meeting the criteria described in this Article.
- 2. Students running for a school-based or unit-based Senate office must be enrolled in the school or unit for which they are representing when they petition for office and when they hold office.
- 3. The student running for or holding office must be in Good Standing.

### Section 102: Student Senate.

### 1. Purpose

- a. The Senate is the principle legislative body of the USG.
- b. The Senate maintains a network of communication with Undergraduate Students.
- The Senate makes recommendations to the Administration for the welfare of the Undergraduate Students.

#### 2. Membership

- a. The Senate shall be composed of two Senators from each undergraduate degree-granting school and not more than two Senators of any other constituency recognized by the Senate.
- b. Any student councils with undergraduate officer representatives, recognized by the USG, and currently registered to the University through IUPUI Campus and Community Life shall receive two seats within Senate.
- c. Any student organizations with officer representatives, recognized by the USG, and currently registered to the University through IUPUI Campus and Community Life shall receive one seat within Senate.
- d. A Senator may represent up to two different entities (i.e. A Council, a student organization, or a combination of both) however only one vote will be granted when utilizing double representation.
- e. Executive Officers shall serve as ex-officio members of the Senate.

# Meetings

- a. The Senate shall conduct regular meetings during the fall and spring Academic Semesters, and shall establish regular meeting times, which shall be published and posted online and in the student newspaper. These regular meeting times will be determined by the Senate and recorded in the USG Policies.
- b. Special meetings may be determined by the Executive Cabinet or the Senate as necessary to conduct business, with reasonable notice given to the Senate.
- c. Special meetings shall be called when warranted.
- d. A quorum shall be a simple majority of Senators. If quorum is not met Senators present may resolve to a committee of the whole to accomplish objectives, but cannot pass resolutions.
- e. The Senators may exclude non-Senators from any proceeding of a meeting when mandated or recommended to do so by federal, state, or local law. USG Executives and appropriate University officials may remain in the room when the meeting is closed.
- f. The Chancellor or his representative will have floor privileges. Further, persons who have been approved by the USG for a specific report or duty may have floor privileges for that purpose.
- g. No less than ten minutes of each regular Senate meeting shall be reserved for the purpose of any Undergraduate Student who is not a Senator or member of the Executive Cabinet to secure floor privileges in the Senate. This shall be done by petitioning the Senate Leader in advance of the meeting and obtain notification from the Senate Leader that floor privileges have been granted.

# 4. Duties to the Constituency

a. Senators elected from a a student organization or council shall report to their School Council, student organization, or another recognized constituency at their regular meetings to keep their membership informed of USG issues and events.

# 5. Duties to the Senate

- a. Senators shall be present at all regular and special meetings of the Senate.
- b. Senators shall act in accordance with attendance requirements in Article VIII. Should both Senate seats be declared vacant, the student organization or council forfeits voting privileges as described in Article V. If only one Senate seat is declared vacant, the student organization or council loses that vote in the Senate.
- Senators shall serve on at least one Committee for which they are approved by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate.
- d. Senators may designate an Alternate who shall have voting privileges in the absence of the Senator and will be counted toward establishing a quorum and toward attendance requirements.
- e. Senators shall confer with the students within their recognized student organization or council, to learn and to represent the interests of their constituents.

# Section 103: President Pro Tempore of the Senate.

- 1. Shall be elected according to requirements in Article VII and shall serve a one-year term from the date of election in the current year to May 14 of the following year.
- Shall preside over regular and special meetings of the Senate. When wishing to express their opinion of an issue on the floor of the Senate, they must ask the Vice President to preside for the duration of the opinion.
- 3. Shall obtain copies of all resolutions to be introduced in the Senate and ensure they are correctly formatted before being presented to the Senate.
- 4. Shall assist the Secretary in keeping an up-to-date list of recognized student council or organizations and advise them when their Senate seat is in jeopardy immediately following the first meeting at which a Senator or Alternate was not present.
- 5. Shall ensure that meetings of the Senate where they preside are in order with the Parliamentary Authority outlined in Article XII.
- 6. Shall serve as an ex-officio member of all standing and ad hoc Senate Committees, with the exception of any Committee where a conflict of interest exists, as determined by the Senate.
- 7. When presiding, shall vote in the Senate only in the case of a tie.
- 8. Shall attend all Executive Cabinet meetings and have voting privileges.
- 9. Is an elected and recognized Senator during term
- 10. Shall hold a Committee Chair meeting at least once per month that Senate meets.

# **Title II: Councils and Organizations**

# Section 201: Recognition.

- 1. The USG empowers Undergraduate Student Councils and Organizations to represent and support students and organizations within their school or unit.
- 2. To be recognized by the USG as a School Council, an organization must adhere to one valid council structure as described in structure a, b, or c below.
  - a. All Council Representatives and Council Officers are elected in the General Election by Undergraduate Students enrolled in the associated school or unit. At least 51% of the Council Representatives must be enrolled in the school. At least 51% of the degree-granting departments in the school must be represented on the Council; or
  - b. All Council Representatives are elected at the General Election by Undergraduate Students enrolled in the associated school or unit. At least 51% of the Council Representatives must be enrolled in the school. At least 51% of the degree-granting departments must be represented on the Council. All Council Officers shall then be elected by the Council Representatives; or
  - c. All Council Officers are elected at the General Election by Undergraduate Students enrolled in the associated school or unit. All Council Representatives shall be elected from within member organizations of the School Council.
  - d. School Councils shall have at least five Undergraduate School Council Representatives.

- 3. To be recognized by the USG as a Council or Organization, the unit must meet the following requirements.
  - a. Councils shall be Undergraduate Student governed where all Council Officers and Council Representatives are Undergraduate Students and are elected by Undergraduate Students.
  - Student organization membership of any council or organization can be made up of undergraduates and graduates, however Senate representatives must be undergraduate students
  - c. Councils and Organizations shall have Officers that include a president, a treasurer, and a secretary. Officers may also serve as Representatives in structure a and structure b. No officer shall be both the president and the treasurer.
  - d. Councils and Organizations shall regularly schedule meetings at least once per month for each month the Senate meets.
- 4. A council must petition the Senate through a bill to become a Recognized Council.

### Section 202: Documentation.

- 1. To be considered an active Council, the Council must be representative of a school or unit with an active Senator and have completed the documentation requirements for the current academic year, including filing the most recent Affidavit of Recognition as outlined below.
- All Councils and Organizations shall submit to the Secretary an Affidavit of Recognition that is approved
  by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate identifying the fall semester Officers and Representatives
  and an Affidavit of Recognition identifying the spring semester Council Officers and Council
  Representatives in the fall semester.
- 3. All Councils shall record minutes at Council meetings and shall submit the minutes to the Secretary within 60 days of each meeting.
- 4. School Councils associated with degree-granting schools may include other Undergraduate Students with a declared intended major in the associated school as voting constituents if so specified in the provisions of the Council Constitution or By-Laws. Students with a declared intended major in a non-degree-granting school who are voting constituents in a degree-granting school shall no longer be voting constituents in the non-degree-granting school.

### Title III: Executive

# Section 301: Eligibility.

- Only Undergraduate Students in Good Standing prior to petitioning may be considered as a candidate for an Executive Office of the USG.
- All Executive Officers must continue to be in Good Standing during each Academic Semester of their term of office.
- 3. Executive Officers may not hold more than one office in the USG concurrently. Executive Officers may not concurrently serve as a Representative or Officer of any student organization or council.
- 4. A Senator from a recognized student organization or council who takes office within the USG does not forfeit his or her seat within the Senate but rather entitles the recognized Council to send a new Senator in his or her place.

# Section 302: USG Executive Cabinet.

- Shall consist of the USG President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, and any other officers or appointed positions deemed needed by the President of the USG.
- 2. Shall determine the need for and hire employees with Oversight by a properly appointed and designated Budget Officer of the University.
- 3. Shall advise the President on matters relevant to the performance of the duties of the office of the President, and vote on actions to be taken for the USG Senate between meetings of the Senate. Actions solely the responsibility of the Executive Cabinet do not require a vote.
- 4. Members of the Executive Cabinet may write bills, resolutions, and amendments for consideration by the USG Senate.
- 5. The Executive Cabinet shall orient new Executive Cabinet members to their duties and responsibilities as well as to pending issues facing the USG.
- 6. Meetings of the Executive Cabinet:
  - a. The Cabinet shall meet at the direction of the President.

- b. The President shall solicit input from the Cabinet and the President Pro Tempore on proposed actions of the Executive Cabinet.
- c. Formal Cabinet meetings should occur regularly, to coordinate the actions of the Executive Cabinet, and to provide the opportunity for input from the members. The USG advisor should be invited to attend all Cabinet meetings.
- d. The Chief Justice of the USG Supreme Court shall serve as advisory for any issues that either the Executive Cabinet or the Chief Justice deem necessary.
- 7. Actions of the Executive Cabinet taken on behalf of the Senate shall be reviewed at the next regular Senate meeting. Such actions which are not approved by the Senate shall be reconsidered at its next meeting before any further action is taken.

### Section 303: President.

- 1. Shall be elected in the General Election and shall serve a one-year term from May 15 of the current year to May 14 of the following year.
- 2. Shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the USG, hold the title President of the Undergraduate Student Government, and shall direct the actions of the Executive Cabinet of the Undergraduate Student Government
- 3. Shall attend meetings of the Senate where he or she shall present a report on the actions of the Executive Cabinet, and be available to answer questions. The President may designate another member of the USG to speak for the President. The President's designee shall retain all privileges of the designee's usual office.
- 4. Shall address the Senate on the state of all aspects of student government during each Academic Semester.
- 5. Shall attend public meetings of the Indiana University Board of Trustees and make a report of those meetings to the Senate. The President shall attend All University Student Association (AUSA) meetings. The President may attend public meetings of the Purdue Board of Trustees. The President may designate another member of USG to attend those meetings that the President can not attend or to present the report from the Board of Trustees meetings to the Senate in the President's absence.
- 6. Shall represent USG to all other agencies and organizations.
- 7. Shall have Veto power over all bills of the USG Senate, although the Senate may override such a Veto by a two-thirds vote of those Senators present and voting.
- 8. Shall deliver the State of Student Life Address to Undergraduate Students within 4 weeks of the beginning of the spring Academic Semester.
- Shall serve as an ex-officio member of all USG Committees, with the exception of the Elections
  Committee when the President is running for re-election, or any other Committee where a Presidential
  conflict of interest exists.
- 10. Shall have the authority to appoint, with the confirmation of the Senate, students to fill staff positions in the Executive Cabinet.
- 11. Shall act as a liaison to the IUPUI Graduate Student Government (GSO) and shall meet with the President of the GSO whenever common concerns arise. Shall attend general meetings of the IUPUI Graduate Student Government (GSO). The President may designate another member of the USG to meet with the GSO. The President's designee shall retain all privileges of the designee's usual office.
- 12. Shall serve as an ex-officio member of the IUPUI Faculty Council, and report on Council business to the Senate at the meeting immediately following the most recent Faculty Council session.
- 13. Shall perform the traditional duties of the Executive Cabinet, and any other duties as delegated by the Senate.

# Section 304: Vice President.

- 1. Shall be elected in the General Election and shall serve a one-year term from May 15 of the current year to May 14 of the following year.
- 2. Shall hold the title of President of the Senate
- 3. Shall preside over the first meeting of the Senate in the fall Semester, over any meeting where present and wishes to preside, having given reasonable notice to the President Pro Tempore of either respective body, and over any meeting if requested to preside.
- 4. Shall assist the President in the performance of Presidential duties and substitute for the President when the President has not designated another member of the USG to do so.
- 5. Shall work with the President to place students on USG Committees, Staff Council committees, Faculty Council committees, University committees and campus committees.

- Shall be a member of the Student Activity Programming Board (SAPB) or appoint a USG representative to SAPB.
- 7. Shall work with the Officers and Committee chairs of the Staff Council and Faculty Council to increase student representation on these Councils' Committees.
- 8. Shall work with University and campus administration to increase student representation on committees.
- 9. Shall be a member of the Executive Cabinet.

### Section 305: Secretary.

- 1. Shall be elected in the General Election and shall serve a one-year term from May 15 of the current year to May 14 of the following year.
- Shall maintain a copy of all Senate, student organization or council, and USG Committee and board proposals, resolutions, bills, amendments, and minutes; shall date and number these items, and shall maintain a file of these items in the USG office for the use of the Senate and IUPUI community.
- 3. Shall update the Constitution to reflect approved amendments.
- 4. Shall be responsible for issuing USG regular press releases to the campus and external media.
- 5. Shall attend meetings of the USG Senate and the USG Executive Cabinet.
- Shall be responsible for the collection and maintenance of the minutes of regular and special Senate
  meetings in accordance with the specifications outlined in the Parliamentary Authority specified in
  Article XII.
- 7. Shall collect minutes of Senate Committee meetings.
- 8. Shall collect the required documentation of all recognized Councils.
- 9. Shall send notice of Senate meetings to Executive Officers and Senators. When this is not possible, such notices will be posted outside the USG office and on the USG website.
- 10. Shall notify, in writing and via email, the recognized student organization or council Senators, student organization or council Presidents, student organization or councilAdvisors, and other appropriate persons, that their Senate seat is in jeopardy. This should be done immediately after any meeting at which neither a Senator nor the Alternate was in attendance.
- 11. Shall collect and disseminate reports from students, USG, Staff Council, Faculty Council, University, and campus committees.
- 12. Shall be a member of the Executive Cabinet.

# Section 306: Treasurer.

- 1. Shall be elected in the General Election and shall serve a one-year term from May 15 of the current year to May 14 of the following year.
- 2. Shall keep a system of accounts and records of the USG finances and its activities, subject to audit by the State Board of Accounts.
- 3. Shall maintain an inventory of the USG property.
- 4. Shall prepare a proposed budget prior to the first meeting of the Senate in the fall semester, to be approved by the Senate at that meeting.
- 5. Shall oversee revenue and disbursements of USG funds with Oversight by a properly appointed and designated budget officer of the University.
- 6. Shall authorize disbursement of USG funds.
- 7. Shall be ex-officio member of any University and any campus committee that reviews the allocation process for the SAF fund.
- 8. Shall be a member of the Executive Cabinet.

### Section 307: Social Justice Officer.

- Shall be elected in the General Election and shall serve a one-year term from May 15 of the current year to May 14 of the following year.
- 2. Shall promote and advocate for diversity issues throughout the student body.
- 3. Shall serve as the liaison of the USG Student Life and Diversity Committee.
- Shall spend the allotted amount of the USG budget to fund events promoting social justice and diversity.

- 5. Shall advocate and advertise for social justice issues through USG and other committees or groups throughout the year.
- 6. Shall serve as a liaison between the Multicultural Center and USG.
- 7. Shall serve as the liaison to and meet regularly with the Assistant Chancellor for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.
- 8. Shall be a member of the appropriate campus-wide committees concerning diversity or equity. The Social Justice Officer may designate another member of USG to attend those meetings that the Social Justice Officer cannot attend.
- 9. Shall create focus groups and assessments for issues concerning diversity or social justice.
- 10. Shall be a member of the Executive Cabinet.

#### TITLE IV: Elections and Succession of Office

#### Section 401: Elections.

- 1. The USG General Election shall be conducted and supervised by the Elections Committee.
- 2. The President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer and any other offices designated by the Elections Committee shall be elected at the General Election, unless provided otherwise in this Constitution.
- 3. School-based senators shall be elected at the General Election.
- 4. The General Election shall be conducted in such a way as to attract candidates and voters by making the process clear and simple. The election procedures shall include at least seven days of campaigning after the candidates' petitions have been certified.
- 5. The Elections Committee shall determine the dates of the General Election and establish specific procedures for the election and submit them to the Senate for approval. This shall be accomplished no later than ten weeks prior to the dates of the General Election.
- 6. The Elections Committee may establish procedures for voting that include, but are not limited to: electronic voting, telephone voting, or some other appropriate means of polling provided that the process shall assure a fair, controlled, and accurate voting and tabulations.
- 7. The General Election dates and voting procedures shall be published in the student newspaper and on the USG website.
- 8. The Elections Committee shall judge the election results. The Committee shall be responsible for reporting the election results to the Senate at its meeting immediately following the election. Prior to the Committee report being accepted by the Senate, the Chair of the Elections Committee may announce the unofficial results.
- Appeals for voting irregularities and contested results shall be directed in writing to the Elections
  Committee for consideration and decision no later than forty-eight hours after the end of the election.
  Further appeals shall be directed in writing to the Supreme Court, which may submit its
  recommendation to the Senate.
- 10. The Senate President Pro Tempore shall be voted in by plurality of the Senate at the first meeting of the fall semester or within thirty academic days of a vacancy.

# Section 402: Vacancies and Succession.

- In the case of vacancy in the office of President of the USG, or if no President shall be elected or confirmed to office, the Vice President shall assume the office of President.
- 2. In the case of vacancy in the office of Vice President, or if no Vice President is elected to office, the Secretary will temporarily assume the office of Vice President until an election can be held within the Senate with nominations coming from within the Senate. Nominees may be any undergraduate student who meets the qualifications for office. This should take place within thirty days of the vacancy.
- 3. For a vacancy in the office of Secretary, the President may temporarily appoint any member of the USG to assume the office of Secretary until an election can be held within the Senate with nominations coming from within the Senate. Nominees may be any undergraduate student who meets the qualifications for office. This should take place within thirty days of the vacancy.
- 4. For a vacancy in the office of Treasurer, the President may temporarily appoint any member of the USG to assume the office of Treasurer until an election can be held within the Senate with nominations coming from within the Senate. Nominees may be any undergraduate student who meets the qualifications for office. This should take place within thirty days of the vacancy.
- 5. For the vacancy in the office of Senator, the Secretary shall contact, in writing, the recognized Council to which the Senator belongs. If the vacancy occurs in the fall semester, the Council may elect a new

- senator for the spring semester. A Council may petition the Senate to allow the Council to elect a new Senator during a vacancy. The Senate may consider this petition at its next meeting.
- 6. For the vacancy in the office of President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the Vice President shall preside over all Senate meetings until a new President Pro Tempore is elected.
- 7. The procedures for electing the President Pro Tempore as stated in Article VII will be followed to fill a vacancy within thirty days.

### Title V: Terms of Office and Removals from Office

**Section 501: Terms.** The terms of Council Officers, Senators, and Council Representatives elected in the General Elections shall run from May 15 of the current year to May 14 of the following year.

**Section 502: Removal from Office.** Grounds for removal from office for officers, senators, and representatives, the Chief Justice or for any other Justice shall be for violation of the articles of this constitution or for violating the Student Code of Ethics.

### Section 503: Procedure for Impeachment and Recall.

- All instances of impeachment and recall for officers, senators and representatives shall be referred to
  the Supreme Court for investigation and recommendation. The Supreme Court shall operate in
  accordance with the appropriate articles pertaining to offenses, charges and trials within the appropriate
  article of the Parliamentary Authority specified here within Article XII. The Supreme Court shall present
  a disciplinary recommendation and any dissenting or concurring opinions to the Senate at the
  immediate next meeting of the Senate following the formation of a recommendation.
- 2. All instances of impeachment and recall for the Chief Justice or any other Justice shall be referred to a special committee of the Senate. This special committee, formed as needed, shall be called the Judicial Oversight Committee (JOC) and shall be chaired by the Chief Justice unless the Chief Justice is being considered for impeachment or recall, or the Chief Justice is in conflict-of-interest, in which case the JOC shall be chaired by the Vice President. The JOC shall have four Senators and the chair of the JOC shall only have a vote in the event of a tie. All other procedures for impeachment or recall of the Chief Justice or any other Justice shall be in accordance with the appropriate articles pertaining to offenses, charges and trials within Article XII. The JOC shall present a disciplinary recommendation and any dissenting or concurring opinions at the immediate next meeting of the Senate following the formation of a recommendation.
- 3. Such procedures shall apply in all cases of removal from office including all student members representing the USG on University committees.
- 4. The Senate shall review the recommendation of the Supreme Court or the JOC and may amend the penalty recommended by that committee. A vote in the affirmative of two-thirds of Senators present is required to impeach or impose a lesser penalty such as a formal censure or denial of stipend.
- 5. A Senator or an Alternate from every recognized student organization or council shall be required to attend meetings of the Senate and participate in a Committee to which they are assigned. If the Senator or Alternate is absent for two meetings, the recognized student organization or council's seats will be considered "probationary" and the student organization or council Senator, President, Advisor, and other appropriate persons will be contacted. At this point, the recognized student organization or council will be given the option of replacing the Senator or Alternate, but the absences will carry over to the new Senator or Alternate. When a Senator or Alternate has missed four required meetings either in the Senate, in Committees, or in combination, the Senate seats will be declared vacant for the remainder of the semester.

# Title VI: Bills, Resolutions and Amendments

### Section 601: Bills.

- 1. The Senate shall act by passing bills by a majority of those members present and voting.
- A bill may be passed following its first reading with simple majority consent of the Senate so long as the bill is presented at least seven (7) days prior. All bills not so passed must be read at a second Senate meeting at which they must be voted.
- Under emergency circumstances, the Senate may consider bills not on the agenda and not scheduled for a vote if three fourths of the Senators present agree that the bill may be considered.
- 4. Roll call votes of Senators and Representatives shall be made public.
- 5. The President has the authority to veto all bills. The veto may be overridden by two-thirds of those Senators present.

### Section 602: Resolutions.

- The Senate may express its opinion or support of an idea by passage of a resolution by simple majority
  of Senators present and voting.
- 2. A resolution presented on an agenda may be passed following its first reading with simple majority consent of the Senate so long as the bill is presented at least seven (7) days prior. All resolutions not so passed must be read at a second Senate meeting at which they must be voted.
- Under emergency circumstances, the Senate may consider resolutions not on the agenda and not scheduled for a vote if three fourths of the Senators present agree that the resolution may be considered.
- 4. Roll call votes of Senators and Representatives shall be made public.
- 5. Resolutions express the opinion of the legislative body and may not be vetoed, though the President may indicate his agreement or disagreement with the opinion expressed.

#### Section 603: Amendments to the Constitution.

- 1. Amendments to this Constitution may originate by majority vote of the Senate, or a recognized student organization or council.
- 2. The proposed amendment must then be disseminated by the Senate to all recognized student organizations or councils and USG members.
- 3. An amendment to this Constitution must be approved by three-fourths of the Senators present and voting. Amendments must be acted upon within three months after passage.
- 4. The President has no veto power over amendments passed by the Senate.
- 5. The Chancellor shall have Oversight of all amendments to this Constitution.
- 6. An amendment will be added to the Constitution upon passage.

#### **Title VII: Committees**

# Section 701: Standing Committees.

- Constitutional Revisions Committee (CRC) is responsible for maintaining the Constitution so that it
  meets the needs of all Undergraduate Students. It shall take recommendations to the Senate for
  changes as warranted.
- Events Committee (EVC) is responsible for planning and executing events on behalf of the University Student Government.
- 3. Elections Committee (EC) is responsible for the Undergraduate elections for USG. All members of this Committee are excluded from running for offices elected during the General Election. If the President wishes to seek another term and therefore declared ineligible as liaison, the Vice President shall fill the liaison's role. If the Vice President is ineligible, the Secretary of the USG will fill this position.
- 4. Communications and Promotions Committee is responsible for promoting USG sponsored events and communicating with the student body all bills passed and any actions taken by USG on their behalf.
- 5. Diversity Committee (DC) is responsible for hosting diversity training programs, faculty and student relations, multicultural affairs, and recruitment for future IUPUI students.
- 6. Operations Committee (OC) is responsible for building/grounds issues, parking/transportation issues, and security on IUPUI's campus. This includes enhancing learning spaces and environments at IUPUI.

# Section 702: Formation and Responsibilities of Committees.

- 1. Any Undergraduate Student may serve on a Committee.
- Committees shall be convened by the Executive Cabinet liaison until a chair is elected by the members.
   The presiding officer shall meet with the Committee at its initial meeting and instruct the Committee as to its goals and responsibilities, and answer questions.
- Committee chairs and persons commissioned by the USG for a specific report or duty may have floor privileges for that purpose.
- 4. Committee chairs will be elected by a majority vote of Committee members at the Committee's first meeting. If a Committee chair cannot be elected by majority, one will be appointed by Executive Cabinet liaison. The chair of each Committee will be responsible for producing minutes of each meeting and a report of every action of the Committee. Minutes must be approved by the Committee majority. A minority report may also be prepared.

- 5. Each Committee shall hold a meeting at least once per month that Senate meets.
- 6. Committee Chair is to submit Committee meeting minutes to USG Secretary within seven (7) days of Committee meeting.
- Committee Liaisons are Executive Cabinet who shall attend committee meetings, provide a line of communication and cooperation between the Executive Cabinet and committee, and assist the committee Chair as needed.

### Title VIII: Judicial

# Section 801: Eligibility.

- 1. Candidates for all Judicial appointments shall be Undergraduate Students in Good Standing. A Justice may not hold more than one office in the USG concurrently.
- 2. All Justices and the Chief Justice must continue to be in Good Standing during each Academic Semester of their term of office.
- 3. One full semester must be served as a Justice on the Supreme Court to be eligible for the Chief Justice position, unless no such person is available.

### Section 802: Membership.

- 1. The membership of the Supreme Court shall consist of seven students, called Justices, one of whom will be a Chief Justice, all nominated by the President and confirmed by a simple majority of the Senate. The President will name the Justice to serve as Chief Justice when there is a vacancy in the Chief Justice position.
- Justices shall serve a term of two years so long as they remain in Good Standing. A Justice may be renominated by the President, and may serve no more than three full terms. When a vacancy on the
  Supreme Court occurs, the President must nominate a new Justice by the second Senate meeting for
  which there is a vacancy on the Supreme Court.
- 3. No more than three sitting Justices, including the Chief Justice, may be enrolled in the same Academic School.

# Section 803: Process for Appointment.

- 1. At any regularly convened meeting of the Senate, the President may nominate a student to serve as a Justice, provided the President has first determined whether the candidate is in Good Standing and announces that eligibility at the time of the nomination. The prospective Justice should be present at the Senate meeting at which they are nominated to answer questions asked by the Senators.
- 2. The Senate may accept, reject or table the nomination at the next regularly scheduled Senate meeting following the questioning session. If the Senate accepts the nomination, the Justice shall be seated on the Supreme Court immediately.
- 3. If the Senate votes to reject or table the nomination, the President may either re-nominate the student at a subsequent Senate meeting, or drop the attempt to nominate that particular student in favor of another eligible student.
- 4. The nomination and confirmation must occur in two separate regularly convened meetings of the Senate
- 5. The nomination and confirmation procedure for Chief Justice shall follow the same procedure as provided in this section for appointment of Justices, even if the student nominated for Chief Justice already sits as a Justice. If the Senate rejects the nomination for Chief Justice this does not in any way affect the student's ability to continue as a Justice.

# Section 804: Convening.

- 1. The Supreme Court shall be convened at least once during each Academic Semester.
- 2. The Supreme Court may be convened by the Chief Justice, after he or she has notified each Justice in writing at least one week prior to the time the Court is to be convened. A written detailed agenda of the cases to be discussed, and matters to be considered will be included with the written notification.
- 3. In order to conduct business or vote, all Justices must be present and assembled together.

# Section 805: Jurisdiction.

- 1. Jurisdiction on general Constitutional interpretation.
- 2. Jurisdiction on constitutionality of the Senate legislation and violation of legislation.
- 3. Jurisdiction on constitutionality of the decisions and actions of the Executive Cabinet.
- 4. Jurisdiction on cases involving contention of elections that involve all the members of the student body.
- 5. Jurisdiction to conduct removal procedures and hearings as set out in Article VIII.

#### Title IX: USG Code of Policies

**Section 901:** The USG shall adopt a Code of Policies which shall govern the actions of the student government in all areas in which they are applicable, and are not inconsistent with this Constitution. Adoption and changes to this Code of Policies shall require a simple majority vote of the USG Senate.

# **Title X: Parliamentary Authority**

**Section 1001:** Each decision making entity in the USG, including but not limited to the Executive Cabinet, the Senate, and student organizations or councils, shall be entitled to select their own parliamentary authority which shall apply in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the Constitution and any special rules of order the USG may adopt. In the event no authority is adopted, the latest edition of the Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure shall be presumed to apply.

### **Title XI: Source of Authority**

**Section 1101:** The IUPUI Chancellor has extended his or her authority to the USG to operate as prescribed in this Constitution.

**Section 1102:** Further authority is drawn from the Code of Student Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct, issued by the Indiana University Board of Trustees.