

CHAPTER 1.

Student Government.¹

Article 1. Student Government Officials and Bodies.

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§1-1.1. **Definitions and Conventions.**

Within these Statutes, the following definitions shall apply:

- (a) A “**Student Government Official**” is any student holding an elected or appointed position provided for by the Student Body Constitution or these Statutes, and not explicitly defined otherwise.
- (b) An “**elected official**” is any person holding an elective position within Student Government
- (c) The terms “**Senate**” and “**Senator**” refer to the NC State University Student Senate and its members, unless otherwise noted.
- (d) A “**Student in Good Standing**” shall be clear of any academic probation, past or present suspensions, or academic integrity probation.
- (e) The term “**public body**” refers to student legislative bodies and committees thereof, Student Body Commissions, and the Elections Commission.

§1-1.2. **General Qualifications for Student Government Officials.**

All Student Government Officials shall be chosen from the Student Body at-large. The Student Body Auditor, as an exception, shall be chosen from any internal or external source as deemed appropriate by the Student Body President. All Student Government Officials must be students in good standing at the time of their appointment or election, and must remain such their entire term in office. Additional qualifications for specific offices may be assigned by these statutes.

§1-1.3. **Dual Office Prohibition.**

No Student Government Official may serve in more than one Student Government Office at any one time, unless such additional offices are considered dual office-holding exempt as specified by other statutes.

§1-1.4. **Student Government Mission Statement.**

The mission of the NC State University Student Government shall be as follows:

Founded and funded by students, the NC State University Student Government encourages students to express their concerns and ideas, promotes an environment of open discourse and academic excellence, and proactively represents the student voice to the University administration and Board of Trustees through ethical and accountable public service.

§1-1.5. **Oath of office.**

All Student Government Officials shall, upon the beginning of their term of office, take the following Oath of Office, administered by a senior-level Student Government Official, in the presence of witnesses: “I, (official’s name) do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I shall faithfully represent the interests of the Student Body of North Carolina State University, that I will dutifully uphold and preserve the Student Body Constitution, and that I will faithfully execute the office of (name of office) for the (academic year) academic year.”

§1-1.6. **Open Meeting Requirement.**

All meetings of public bodies shall be open to all North Carolina State University Students, except as the closing of meetings is permitted by the General Statutes of North Carolina. Permissible reasons under state law include:

- (a) To prevent the disclosure of information that is privileged or confidential according to federal, state, or local law;
- (b) To prevent premature disclosure of awards;
- (c) To preserve the attorney client privilege;
- (d) To consider the appointment or removal of an individual to or from a non-public body;
- (e) As otherwise provided for by the Student Body Statutes.

§1-1.7. **Public Body Meeting Records.**

All public bodies shall maintain records of their business so that a reasonable person would be able to gain a reasonable understanding of what transpired. These records shall be available upon the request of any student.

¹ As amended by: FB 11, 86th Session (2006-2007); GB 33 & GB 48, 87th Session (2007-2008); GB 38, 88th Session (2008-2009).

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§1-1.8. Language and Style Standards.

All official communications of Student Government, including, but not limited to: (i) meeting records, (ii) reports to the Senate or Cabinet, (iii) announcements of appointments, and (iv) appointment application materials, shall be written in standard modern American English. Actions taken via noncompliant communications shall be void.

§1-1.9. Signature Standards.

All signatures on correspondence or official documents filled or released for internal or public circulation shall only contain: (i) their official title for the respective position(s) they currently hold, (ii) their legal given name, and (iii) their legal signature. No slogans or nicknames may be included in their signature block. Alterations to a standard signature block shall not be allowed.

Article 2. Publication of Documents.

Contents.§1-2.1. ***Student Body Documents.***§1-2.2. **Editorial supervision.**§1-2.3. **Printing of legislation.**§1-2.4. **The Student Government Yearbook.**§1-2.1. ***Student Body Documents.***

- (a) The *Student Body Documents* shall be defined as the official ratified *Student Body Constitution* and the enacted *Student Body Statutes*.
- (b) The Student Government Office, within the first 15 days of the fall semester, shall publish the Student Body Documents electronically. Print copies shall be made available upon request.
- (c) The Student Government Office shall update the Student Body Documents within five (5) class days following the enactment of any amendment to the Student Body Statutes or the passage of any referendum amending the Student Body Constitution. Print copies shall be made available upon request.

§1-2.2. **Editorial supervision.**

Publication of the *Student Body Documents* shall be supervised by the Senate Secretary, the staff of the Student Government Office, and other Student Government Officials as needed.

§1-2.3. **Printing of legislation.**

All legislation shall be published online for each revision made. The Student Government Office shall make available to all Senators copies of legislation upon second reading. All Senators shall have the right to demand a printed copy of any legislation prior to a vote regarding that legislation.

§1-2.4. **The Student Government Yearbook.**

The Student Government Office shall publish annually, upon the termination of each session of the Student Senate, a letter-sized, hardbound volume containing: the *Student Body Constitution*; the *Student Body Statutes*; the *Student Center Constitutions*; the Constitutions governing the Student Media Authority and Inter-Residence Council; the *Student Code of Conduct*; all legislation considered by the Student Senate; all agendas, minutes, and other documents issued forth from the Student Senate; an annual report submitted by each of the Student Body Officers; a copy of each election ballot; a copy of the certified results from each election; and any other relevant documents pertaining to the Student Government and its functions.

Article 3. Association of Student Governments.

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- §1-3.6. **Delegation Voting.**
- §1-3.7. **Participation of ASG Officers.**
- §1-3.8. **Oversight.**

§1-3.1. Definitions and Conventions.

Within this article the following definitions and conventions shall apply:

- (a) “**Association**” refers to the University of North Carolina Association of Student Government.
- (b) “**Delegation**” refers to an NCSU Student Government Delegation to the Association.

§1-3.2. Delegation Composition.

The Student Government delegation to the Association shall be headed by the Student Body President or an elected official he or she designates in his or her absence. The delegation shall be comprised of:

- (a) the Student Body President, *ex-officio*;
- (b) the Student Senate President, *ex-officio*;
- (c) an existing Student Government Official appointed by the Student Body President; and
- (d) an existing Student Government Official appointed by the Student Senate President.

§1-3.2A. Appointment of Delegates.

All appointed delegates to the Association must be existing Student Government Officials as specified in §1-3.2 (“**Delegation Composition**”) above. Such appointees shall:

- (a) be considered exempt from the dual office-holding prohibition of Student Body Statutes §1-1.3 (“**Dual Office Prohibition**”), for appointees who serve in positions that were elected directly by the Student Body or required confirmation by the Student Senate; or,
- (b) require majority confirmation by the Student Senate. Appointees shall be considered acting until confirmation, and no appointee whose confirmation is rejected by the Senate may be reappointed.

§1-3.3. Alternates.

Any delegate may designate an alternate delegate for any given Association meeting in the event the delegate is unable to attend. All such alternates shall:

- (a) be existing Student Government officials subject to the approval of the Student Body President, if the original delegate was appointed by the Student Body President;
- (b) be subject to the approval of the Student Senate President, if the original delegate was appointed by the Student Senate President; and,

- (c) comply with all regulations pertaining to the appointment of delegates pursuant to §1-3.2A (“**Appointment of Delegates**”) above.

§1-3.4. Removal of Delegates.

The Student Senate may, by Senate Resolution, remove any delegate from the delegation; removal of *ex-officio* delegates shall require a two-thirds majority vote. No such removed delegate may be reappointed unless such is allowed under the provisions of the Resolution. In the event the Student Body President is removed from the delegation, the vacancy will be filled by the Student Senate President. In the event the Student Senate President is removed from the delegation, the vacancy will be filled by the Student Senate President *Pro Tempore*.

§1-3.5. Delegation Report.

The delegation head shall prepare a detailed written report on the events of each association meeting, which shall be submitted to the Student Senate, the Senate committee of competent jurisdiction, and the Presidential Cabinet within 72 hours of the close of the meeting. The report shall include all votes cast by the delegation.

§1-3.6. Delegation Voting.

In extraordinary circumstances as specified by Senate Resolution, all delegates may be compelled to vote as specified in such a Resolution pursuant to its adoption by a two-thirds majority of the Student Senate.

§1-3.7. Participation of ASG Officers.

Officers of the Association of Student Governments who are also regularly enrolled students of N.C. State shall be considered *ex-officio*, non-voting general members of the Department of Government Relations. Such officers shall be considered exempt from the dual office-holding prohibition of Student Body Statutes §1-1.3 (“**Dual Office Prohibition**”).

§1-3.8. Oversight.

Oversight of the delegation may be exercised by the Senate committee of competent jurisdiction as specified in Student Body Statutes Chapter 2, Article 1 (“**Standing Rules of the Senate**”), which shall have the power to review all votes of the delegation, compel report of delegation members, and make recommendations to delegation members, the Senate President or the Senate regarding improvement of the delegation.

As far as practicable, all votes by delegation members shall be discussed in advance with the committee and the committee may make recommendations at its discretion.

Article 4. Outstanding Student Service Award.

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- §1-4.8. **Selection of Awardee.**
- §1-4.9. **Presentation of Award.**

§1-4.1. **Definitions and Conventions.**

Within this article, the following definitions and conventions shall apply:

- (a) The “**award**” refers to the NCSU Student Government Outstanding Student Service Award in Memory of Jenny Chang, as provided for by §1-4.2.
- (b) The “**committee**” refers to the Student Senate Standing Committee on University Affairs.
- (c) The “**department**” refers to the Student Body Department of Community Service.

§1-4.2. **Outstanding Student Service Award.**

There shall be established an annual award known as the “NCSU Student Government Outstanding Student Service Award in Memory of Jenny Chang” or simply the “Chang Award,” awarded by the Student Body Government on behalf of the Student Body to one administrative unit according to such procedures and criteria as delineated in this article.

§1-4.3. **Eligibility for Award.**

In general, any university administrative unit acting to the benefit of the student body shall be eligible for the award. However, student-run or student-governed units shall not be eligible. The award shall be granted to a specific office or person.

§1-4.4. **Criteria for Award.**

The award shall be granted for exceptional service to the Student Body, above and beyond the expectations of Student Body and the Student Government. The committee shall be empowered to determine if a nomination meets the criteria.

§1-4.5. **Administration of Award.**

The award shall be jointly administered by the Senate Committee on University Affairs and the Department of Community Service. Each unit shall designate a member as its principle award coordinator. These coordinators, with the advice of the committee, shall determine the timetable for the award by the conclusion of January.

§1-4.6. **Nominations.**

Each Student Government Official shall be permitted to nominate one (1) unit for the award each session. Such nominations shall include a letter referencing the outstanding services performed, and shall be submitted to the committee care of its award coordinator. Senators shall be encouraged to solicit recommendations for nominations from the Student Body at-large. It shall be the privilege of each Senator submitting a nomination to present such nominations at any meeting of the Senate.

§1-4.7. **Selection of Finalists.**

The committee shall meet and deliberate on the nominations, and select between two (2) and four (4) finalists for review by the Senate. The committee shall prepare a citation concerning each finalist.

§1-4.8. **Selection of Awardee.**

The Student Senate shall, in closed session, deliberate on the award finalists and choose one (1) recipient by majority vote. The Senate shall not amend the list of finalists.

§1-4.9. **Presentation of Award.**

The Award shall be presented on behalf of the student body by Student Government. The award coordinator from the department shall have the lead responsibility in organizing the presentation of the Award. Finalists of the Award shall also be recognized with appropriate citation.

Article 5. Student Government Ethics Act.

Contents.

- §1-5.1. **Definitions and Conventions.**
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- §1-5.5. **Ethics in Leadership requirement.**
- §1-5.6. **Commitment to Open Meetings.**
- §1-5.7. **Waiver of provisions upon two-thirds vote of the Senate.**

§1-5.1. **Definitions and Conventions.**

Within this article, the following definitions shall apply:

- (a) A “**Student Government Official**” is any student holding an elected or appointed position provided for by the Student Body Constitution or these Statutes, and not explicitly defined otherwise.
- (b) A “**gift**” is any good, benefit, discount, special service or privilege, or any other item of real or perceived value, monetary or otherwise.

§1-5.2. **Student Government Code of Ethics.**

The responsibilities of a Student Government Official shall be to:

- (a) answer the needs of his or her constituent body through an adherence to civic duty;
- (b) continually enhance and encourage collegiality among all Student Government Officials;
- (c) incorporate civic virtues and advocacy in serving the needs of NC State University and its surrounding community;
- (d) encourage programs that benefit the entire University;
- (e) lobby in an effective and ethical manner, incorporating issues that affect both the Student Body and the surrounding community;
- (f) represent Student Government and NC State University in a beneficial and respectful manner;
- (g) ensure that administrative decisions are in the best interest of the Student Body;
- (h) actively avoid conflicts of interest;
- (i) be informed of and attempt to remedy campus problems and controversies;
- (j) represent the Student Body fairly and equally; and,
- (k) dutifully uphold and preserve the Student Body Constitution.

§1-5.3. **Mandatory reporting of gifts.**

- (a) Any Student Government Official receiving a stipend or any other compensation provided by the Student Body funds shall be required to disclose any and all gifts received or awarded to him or her on account of the individual’s position within the Student Government or resulting *ex-officio* membership in outside entities, including gifts from University and external sources.
- (b) The Student Senate Standing Committee on Finance shall establish a standard form for the reporting of

such gifts, which shall include, at minimum, the gift awarded or received, an approximate value thereof, and the contributor’s or contributing organization’s name.

- (c) Such reports shall be submitted to the Student Senate Standing Committee on Finance on a quarterly basis, and at such other times as the Senate may by Senate Resolution require.
- (d) Non-disclosure of gifts received, or any effort to circumvent or otherwise not adhere to the provisions of this article, shall result in a temporary freeze of all compensation provided by the Student Body funds upon a majority vote of the Student Senate Standing Committee on Finance, or the permanent revocation of all such compensation upon a majority vote of the Student Senate.

§1-5.4. **Waiting period before seeking professional employment.**

No Student Government Official shall seek professional staff employment within the Student Government until at least one academic year has intervened following that Official’s departure from office.

§1-5.5. **Ethics in Leadership requirement.**

No individual who has previously been impeached for dereliction of duty or other offenses shall be eligible to file as a candidate for any Student Body Officer position. This section shall apply in addition to any regulations on candidacy contained in Chapter 7 of the Student Body Statutes.

§1-5.6. **Commitment to Open Meetings.**

In honoring the letter, spirit and intent of the Open Meeting requirement stipulated in Student Body Statutes Chapter 1, §1-1.6 (“*Open Meeting Requirement*”), no Student Government Official shall espouse, promote, move or vote in favor of any motion or action that would violate the letter, spirit or intent of the North Carolina Open Meetings Law or the Student Body Statutes.

§1-5.7. **Waiver of provisions upon two-thirds vote of the Senate.**

The Student Senate may waive provisions of this article on an individual basis upon the adoption of a two-thirds majority vote of a Senate Resolution to that effect. Each such Senate Resolution shall apply to at-most one (1) Student Government Official, and shall be in effect only until (i) the end of the quarter in which it is adopted for waivers of the gift reporting requirements, or (ii) the end of the legislative session for waivers of other provisions of this article.