Constitution of the Simpson College Student Government Association

Amended February 2015

Preamble
We, the Students of Simpson College, recognize the purposeful unity of the Simpson College community which consists of ourselves, the faculty, the administration, the trustees, alumni and general staff in the pursuit of academic excellence, social equality, general citizenship, and personal growth and pledging ourselves to the attainment of these goals do establish a student self-government.

Article I: Name and Purpose
Section 1 Name
The student government of Simpson College shall be named the Simpson College Student Government Association and hereforth to be known as SGA.

Section 2 Purpose
The purpose of SGA shall be to act as a liaison for students to the administration to ensure student representation in the affairs of the college community and to be responsible and accountable to all students of Simpson College.

Article II: Executive
Section 1 SGA President
A) The SGA President will hold office for a term of one year from December to December.
B) Requirements: The SGA President shall:
   1. Be in good academic and disciplinary standing;
   2. Be a full-time student;
   3. Have completed at least two semesters of study at Simpson College;
   4. Be elected by a simple majority of the votes cast by the Student Body in accordance with the SGA Bylaws and SGA Election Code;
   5. Be sworn into office by the newly elected Student Body Vice President no later than the last meeting of Fall Semester using the following oath: *I do solemnly affirm that I will faithfully execute the office of President of the Simpson College Student Government Association and will to the best of my ability preserve and uphold the Constitution of the Student Government Association and represent the students of Simpson College.*
C) Responsibilities: The SGA President shall:
   1. Appoint members of the Student Body or SGA Senate to fulfill the duties of SGA Manager and create other positions and committees as needed.
   2. Submit to the SGA for its consideration such measures as the SGA President shall judge necessary;
   3. Take care that the resolutions and legislation of the SGA Senate are faithfully executed;
   4. Nominate persons to serve on the Judicial Board as outlined in Article IV Section 1;
   5. All legislation which has passed the SGA Senate shall, before it
becomes effective, be presented to the SGA President. The SGA President shall sign it, or return it with objections to the SGA Senate for reconsideration. If after reconsideration, a supermajority of the SGA Senate agrees to pass the legislation, it becomes effective. If any legislation is not returned by the SGA President within seven calendar days, the legislation becomes effective.

Section 2 SGA Vice President
A) The SGA Vice President will hold office for a term of one year from December to December;
B) Requirements; The SGA Vice President shall:
   1. Be in good academic and disciplinary standing;
   2. Be a full-time student;
   3. Have completed at least two semesters of study at Simpson College;
   4. Be elected by a simple majority of the votes cast by the Student Body in accordance with the SGA bylaws and SGA Election Code;
   5. Be sworn into office by the outgoing Student Body Vice President no later than the last meeting of the Fall Semester using the following oath: I do solemnly affirm that I will faithfully execute the office of Vice President of the Simpson College Student Government Association and will to the best of my ability preserve and uphold the Constitution of the Simpson College Student Government Association and represent the students of Simpson College.
C) Responsibilities: The SGA Vice President shall:
   1. Chair the SGA Senate;
   2. Vote in case of a tie;
   3. Oversee the coordination of the Committees of the Senate;
   4. Assume the responsibilities of the SGA President if the SGA President is unable to fulfill his/her responsibilities.

Section 3 Other SGA Officers
A) No SGA Officer shall have a vote unless they is either a Class President or a Senator;
B) Judicial Board Chairperson as outlined in Article IV Section 1;
C) SGA Manager and other officers appointed by the SGA President;
D) SGA Pro-Tempore shall:
   1. Be a voting member of the SGA Senate;
   2. Be elected by a majority vote of the Senators;
   3. Assume the responsibilities of the SGA Vice President if the SGA Vice President is unable to fulfill his/her responsibilities;
E) Class Presidents;
   1. One Class President shall be elected from each class by a simple majority and shall serve a term of one year, from April to April, with the exception of the First-Year Class President who shall serve from September to April;
   2. Requirements; Class Presidents must:
      a. Be in good academic and disciplinary standing;
      b. Be full-time students;
c. Have completed at least one semester of study at Simpson College (excluding First-Year Class President);
d. Be sworn in by the SGA Vice President no later than the last meeting of the SGA Senate in the spring of each year and all First-Year voting Class Presidents shall be sworn in at the first meeting after they are elected using the following oath: *I do solemnly affirm that I will faithfully execute the office for which I was elected and will to the best of my ability preserve and uphold the Constitution of the Simpson College Student Government Association and to the best of my ability represent the students of my constituency.*

**Article III: SGA Senate**

**Section 1 Membership**

A) Voting Members
   1. Class Presidents
   2. Four Senators shall be elected from each class and the four candidates who receive the most votes will be elected as Senators for their respective class and shall serve a term of one year, from April to April, with the exception of the First-Year Senators who shall serve from September to April;
   3. Requirements: Senators must
      a. Be in good academic and disciplinary standing;
      b. Be full-time students;
      c. Have completed at least one semester of study at Simpson College (excluding First-Year Senators and President);
      d. Be sworn in by the SGA Vice President no later than the last meeting of the SGA Senate in the Fall Semester of each year and all First-Year voting members shall be sworn in at the first meeting after they are elected using the following oath: *I do solemnly affirm that I will faithfully execute the office for which I was elected and will to the best of my ability preserve and uphold the Constitution of the Simpson College Student Government Association and to the best of my ability represent the students of my constituency.*

B) Non-Voting Members
   1. SGA President
   2. SGA Vice President (except in the event of a tie)
   3. Non-voting SGA Officers
   4. SGA Adviser(s)

**Section 2 Responsibilities;** the SGA Senate shall:

A) Provide a forum for proposed legislation;
B) Approve or amend a budget for the operation of the SGA, submitted by the SGA Senate Finance Committee as detailed in the *SGA Constitution By-laws*;
C) Attend regular SGA created committee meetings appointed to by the Student Body President and Vice President.
D) Confirm all nominations of positions or committees by the SGA President.
**Article IV  SGA Student Conduct Board**

**Section 1  Membership**

A) At least nine members who will be:
   1. A minimum of six upperclassmen (non first-year students)
      a. Be in good academic and disciplinary standing;
      b. Have completed at least one semester at Simpson College;
      c. Be full-time students;
   2. A minimum of one First-Year Member who shall:
      a. Be in good academic and disciplinary standing;
      b. Be a full-time student;

B) Chairperson who shall:
   1. Be nominated and elected by the Student Conduct Board;
   2. Nominate other officers of the Student Conduct Board as needed.

**Section 2  Responsibilities:** the SGA Student Conduct Board shall:

A) Be delegated the judicial power of the student body;
B) Review any cases of reported violation of the *Simpson Code of Conduct* or other Simpson College regulations by members of the Student Body;
C) Ensure fair and just hearings by adhering to the Student Conduct Board Procedures outlined in the *SGA Constitution, SGA Constitution Bylaws, Judicial Code,* and *Simpson College Handbook*;
D) Hear cases referred to it by the appropriate authorities as detailed in the *SGA Constitution Bylaws, Judicial Code,* and *Simpson College Handbook*;
E) Preside over all Impeachment Hearings unless the SGA Student Conduct Board Chairperson is facing impeachment charges, is unable to serve, or is unwilling to serve;
F) If the SGA Student Conduct Board Chairperson is facing impeachment charges, the impeachment will be handled by an ad hoc committee composed of the Student Body President, Student Body Vice President, and the four class presidents.

**Article V: Impeachment of SGA Members**

**Section 1  Definition**

A) Any violation of the *SGA Constitution or SGA Constitution Bylaws* shall be grounds for impeachment.

**Section 2  Procedure**

A) Present the SGA Senate a petition with ten signatures from the SGA Senate and twenty-five signatures from the constituency of the accused SGA Member;
B) The SGA Senate shall form a committee to investigate violations;
C) Impeachment of an SGA Member must be passed by a supermajority of the SGA Senate;
D) SGA Student Conduct Board Chairperson shall preside all Impeachment Hearings unless the SGA Student Conduct Board Chairperson is facing impeachment charges, is unable to serve, or is unwilling to serve. If any of
these situations arise, the Student Conduct Board will appoint a temporary
Student Conduct Board Chairperson.

Article VI: Constitutional Amendments and Referendums

Section 1 Amendment by SGA
A) Amendments may be presented to the Senate floor by
   1. Any member of the SGA or
B) A Constitutional Amendment can be passed by
   1. A supermajority (2/3) vote of the SGA Senate or

Section 2 Amendment by Student Body
A) Amendments may be presented to the Senate floor by
   1. A petition of 50 signatures of the student body
B) A Constitutional Amendment can be passed by
   1. A 250-signature petition of the student body
C) There shall be a one-week pending period on the Amendment after it has passed.
D) At the end of the one-week pending period, the SGA Senate shall
determine a date for the referendum on the Amendment, to be held within
one month.
E) In order for a referendum to be successful, it must be passed by a
supermajority vote (2/3) of the votes cast by the student body.
F) If more Amendments pass after a single Amendment has passed, they
shall be placed in addition to the original Amendment on the ballot of the
referendum. The cut-off date for this procedure will be one week before
the date of the referendum.
G) The SGA Senate shall have the authority by a simply majority vote or a
petition of 75 signatures to call a referendum on any issue it deems
necessary, as long as six days of publicity has occurred announcing the
referendum and it will be decided in finality by a simple majority of votes
cast by the Student Body.

Article VII: Bylaws

Section 1 Requirements
A) The SGA Senate shall keep and maintain the SGA Constitution Bylaws;
B) If at any time the SGA Constitution Bylaws should conflict with the SGA
Constitution, the SGA Constitution shall take precedent;

Section 2 How to Amend the Bylaws
A) Amendments to the SGA Constitution Bylaws may be brought to the floor as
new business at meeting and cannot be voted on until after a minimum of
six days have passed;
B) A supermajority of the votes cast is required to pass the motion to amend
the SGA Constitution Bylaws.

Article VIII: Enforcement
Constitution of the Simpson College Student Government Association and the resolutions adopted
shall be the supreme law of the Student Government Association at Simpson College. In the case
of conflict between the Constitution of any student organization and the SGA Constitution, the SGA Constitution shall take precedent.