S15RS SGB No. 6 (Amend Bylaws)

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A BILL
To amend the Student Government Bylaws

PARAGRAPH 1: Whereas, there is currently a disparity and confusion concerning the term description for the offices of Speaker of the Senate and Speaker pro tempore of the Senate; and

PARAGRAPH 2: Whereas, these amendments aim to clarify the Legislative Branch leadership terms of office, define their concurrence with the Office of Student Government President and to eliminate any future discrepancies which may arise; and

PARAGRAPH 3: Whereas, the Student Government Bylaws shall read as follows:

CHAPTER 2
Officers

Rule 2.1 Titles
The officers of the Student Senate shall be the following: Speaker, Speaker pro tempore, Secretary, Undersecretary, Parliamentarian, the Sergeant-at-Arms, the Director of Communication, and additional Legislative Staff.

Rule 2.2 Speaker or Speaker pro tempore Vacancy
A. Vacancies in the office of Speaker shall be filled in the manner of the original selection. In the event of a vacancy in the office of Speaker, the election of a new Speaker will be the first order of business at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Student Senate.
B. A vacancy in the office of Speaker pro tempore will be filled in the same manner of the original selection at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Student Senate.
C. If there is a vacancy in both offices at the same time, the Secretary will call a member of the Student Senate to be Acting Speaker who will chair the election of the new Speaker and Speaker pro tempore. The Speaker or the Speaker pro tempore filling the vacancy will serve a term ending at the conclusion of the Spring Regular Session.

Rule 2.453 Speaker or Speaker pro tempore Removal
A. The member holding the office of Speaker may be removed from the office of Speaker during any regularly scheduled meeting of the Student Senate at such time as two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the Student Senate present and voting vote in favor of his/her removal from office. Such vote shall be by secret ballot. A member thus removed from the office of Speaker shall remain a member of the Senate.
B. The Speaker pro tempore may be removed from office in the same manner as the Speaker
Rule 2.34  Speaker or Speaker pro tempore Election

A. The Speaker of the Senate shall be elected in accordance with Article III, Section 7 of the Student Government Constitution.

B. The Speaker Pro Tempore of the Student Senate shall be elected by the membership of the Senate from among the members thereof in the same manner as the Speaker, as stated in the Student Government Constitution. This election shall be the next order of business following the election of the Speaker during the Spring Organizational Session. The Speaker pro tempore shall serve for a term ending at the conclusion of the Spring Regular Session.

Rule 2.895  Definition of Concurrence

The Speaker and the Speaker pro tempore of the Senate shall serve a term ending at the conclusion of the Spring Regular Session. Concurrency shall be defined as the Speaker and the Speaker pro tempore being elected during the Spring Organizational Session and serving until the conclusion of the following Spring Regular Session.

Rule 2.56  Acting Speaker

The Speaker may call upon a member to assume the duties of presiding officer for a limited period, but in no case shall the period extend beyond adjournment. The member so appointed shall be designated Acting Speaker. In the absence of the Speaker and Speaker pro tempore, the Secretary shall call a member to serve as Acting Speaker.

Rule 2.347  Speaker Duties

A. To open the meetings promptly at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesdays during Regular Session;

B. To cause the Senate to proceed with its business in the proper order under the rules, if a quorum is present, and to proceed upon each order of business;

C. To preserve order and decorum of the Senate;

D. To decide all points of order, subject to appeal to the Senate;

E. To explain or clarify any rule of procedure upon request;

F. To state each motion as it is made;

G. To recognize members who seek the floor for the purpose of speaking in debate or otherwise;

H. To state and put to vote all questions requiring a vote, and all questions upon which a vote is ordered, and to announce the vote;

I. To sign all documents which require his/her signature;

J. To appoint the Parliamentarian, Sergeant-at-Arms, Secretary, Undersecretary, Director of Communication and any additional Legislative Staff, subject to approval by the Student Senate;

K. To be ultimately responsible for the processing of Senate-approved legislation, and to see that the legislation reaches the Executive Office within two (2) class days of passage;

L. To chair the Spring Organizational Session until the election of the new Speaker;

M. To plan and execute a Senate Orientaation Session at the beginning of each semester for members of the Senate, with help from the Speaker, Legislative staff, and any other Senators, as deemed necessary;

N. To do and perform such other duties as may be required by the Constitution and Bylaws of the Student Government.

Rule 2.678  Speaker pro tempore Duties

A. At the discretion of the Speaker, to assist the Speaker in his/her duties.
B. In the absence of the Speaker, to preside, or to call a member to preside as Acting Speaker.

C. To serve as Chairman of the Student Senate Committees on Rules, and to be responsible for maintaining the Governing Documents of Student Government. All updates made to the Governing Documents must be approved by the Speaker of the Senate.

D. To prepare and distribute a comprehensive and current list of all persons appointed by the Student Body President, Student Body Vice President, and Speaker of the Student Senate.

E. If a vacancy occurs in the office of Speaker, to serve as Acting Speaker until such time as the vacancy can be filled.

F. To supervise the activities of the Undersecretary, and insure that Committee Reports are acted upon promptly.

G. At the beginning of each week, to inform Senators of the times and place that each standing committee shall meet, and to provide an electronic copy of each legislative instrument to be heard by the committees.

H. To perform such other duties or functions and to exercise such other powers as may be prescribed by the Constitution, Bylaws, or action of the Student Senate.

Rule 2.9 Legislative Staff Titles, Elections, Appointments, Resignation and Removal

A. For the purposes of this rule, officer shall be defined as the Secretary and Undersecretary of the Student Senate, appointed by the Speaker and approved by the Senate. For the purposes of this rule, staff shall be defined as the Parliamentarian, the Sergeant at Arms, the Director of Communications and any additional legislative staff appointed by the Speaker and approved by the Senate.

B. The terms of these officers and staff shall run concurrently with that of the Speaker, however, officers shall serve until their successors have been elected and staff shall serve until their dismissal or until their successors have been appointed.

C. The Secretary, the Undersecretary, Parliamentarian, the Sergeant at Arms, the Director of Communications and additional staff shall be appointed by the Speaker with approval by one half (1/2) of the Senate present and voting.

D. All officers and staff herein listed shall be non-members of the Senate, except for the Sergeant-at-Arms.

E. Any officer or staff member may be removed by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of those Senators present and voting.

F. The Speaker may dismiss only additional legislative staff not specifically named in these rules at will.

G. Any officer of staff member herein listed shall give ten (10) class days notice prior to resignation during which time advertisement of these positions shall be made in a campus-wide publication and/or broadcast e-mail through the university. The Senate meeting promptly following the resignation of the staff member or officer and the following week of advertisement and deadline, shall be the meeting during which his/her successor is elected.

Rule 2.10 Secretary Duties

A. To be responsible for keeping all papers and records of the Senate and to maintain the minutes of the Proceedings and actions of the Senate and be responsible for their accuracy.

B. To announce the receipt of each veto message as received from the Student Body President and to read the same upon the appropriate order of business.

C. To make accessible to each member of the Senate a copy of the order of business.

D. To report each legislative instrument as it is considered by the Senate.

E. To serve as Chief of Staff of the Legislative Branch.

F. To execute all proper orders of the Senate.

G. To call the roll of the Senate on any matters which the ayes and nays are requested as well as keep proper records of membership attendance.

Rule 2.11 Undersecretary Duties
A. To receive and process all legislation in a timely manner.

B. To engross all legislation with the action taken and the date of such action taken thereon.

C. To perform proofing of all legislation and to provide correctly formatted copies of all legislation to Senate members and the news media upon request and upon the convening of a Senate meeting.

D. In the absence of the Speaker, Speaker pro tempore, and Secretary, to call a member to preside over the Senate.

E. To maintain files on all legislation including information and data relating to legislation.

F. To maintain a legislative journal which contains all minutes, attendance records, and any roll call votes taken.

G. To maintain a final legislation binder which contains all signed or vetoed copies of legislation in sequential order.

H. To assist the Secretary in the performance of his/her duties.

I. To be responsible for the operation and maintenance of any and all electronic devices but not limited to hardware and software, that may be deemed necessary for the operations of the LSU Student Senate.

Rule 2.12 Parliamentarian Duties

A. To advise the Speaker of the Senate concerning parliamentary procedure.

B. Upon request, to advise any Student Senate committee.

C. To arrange and number the Rules of Order of the Student Senate following any amendment thereto, to effect an orderly and consistent arrangement of the rules.

D. To cause updated copies of the Rules of Order of the Student Senate to be printed and made accessible to each member of the Senate once a semester.

Rule 2.13 Sergeant-at-Arms Duties

A. To assist the presiding officer in maintaining order in the Senate chamber, and upon the request of the presiding officer, to escort any disorderly Senator or member of the gallery out of the chamber.

B. To coordinate and supervise the activities of the Legislative Aides in preparing the chamber for a meeting of the Senate and return it back to its proper order upon adjournment.

C. To receive from the Chief of Staff of the Executive branch a list of all officers to report during Executive Officer Reports and provide this list to the presiding officer before the Senate is called to order.

D. To obtain a list of all members of the public that wish to address the Senate and provide this list to the presiding officer before the Senate is called to order.

E. To ensure that all members of the Student Senate UPHOLD uphold the Code of Ethics found in Article 1 of the LSU Student Government Bylaws.

Rule 2.14 Director of Communication and Communication Team Duties

A. The Director shall lead the Communication Team ensuring that each member of the team carries out the responsibilities to which they were appointed.

B. The Team shall serve Student Government as one organization, not as individual branches.

C. Assist the Speaker in any press release, public announcement, and communication with external media sources.

D. To develop new and innovative ways to connect with the student population.

E. The specific duties within the Legislative Branch shall include, but not be limited to

1. Manage and coordinate all social media of the Student Senate.

2. Update the legislative portion of the Student Government website to ensure its continuous accuracy.

3. Prepare a document during each Student Senate meeting detailing the events of the meeting to be presented to the Daily Reveille.
Rule 2.15  Additional Legislative Staff

A. To serve as assistants to the Speaker and Speaker pro tempore.
B. To fulfill any additional acts requested by the Speaker on behalf of the Senate.

PARAGRAPH 4:  THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED BY THE LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY AGRICULTURAL AND MECHANICAL COLLEGE STUDENT SENATE THAT THE ABOVE AMENDMENTS ARE ADOPTED INTO THE LSU STUDENT GOVERNMENT BYLAWS.

PARAGRAPH 5:  THIS BILL SHALL TAKE EFFECT UPON PASSAGE BY A THREE-FOURTHS (3/4) VOTE OF THE LSU STUDENT SENATE AND SIGNATURE BY THE PRESIDENT, UPON LAPSE OF TIME FOR PRESIDENTIAL ACTION, OR IF VETOED BY THE PRESIDENT AND SUBSEQUENTLY APPROVED BY THE SENATE, ON THE DATE OF SUCH APPROVAL.

APPROVED:

_________________________  __________________________
ADAM GRASHOFF         CLAYTON TUFTS
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE   STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT
DATE:____________________  DATE:____________________