

**M A R Y G R O V E C O L L E G E
S T U D E N T G O V E R N M E N T
A S S O C I A T I O N**

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE MARYGROVE COLLEGE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

Preamble

WE THE STUDENTS OF MARYGROVE COLLEGE, MEMBERS OF AN INSTITUTION BASED ON URBAN LEADERSHIP, SOCIAL JUSTICE AND SERVICE, IN ORDER TO CONSTRUCT AND PROMOTE A COMMON VOICE; TO ADVOCATE THE CONTINUOUS UNITY BETWEEN STUDENTS, FACULTY AND ADMINISTRATION; TO ENCOURAGE AND PROMOTE THE GROWTH OF STUDENTS; TO UPHOLD THE MISSION OF MARYGROVE COLLEGE, BY ADHERING TO THE THREE C'S: COMPETENCE, COMMITMENT, AND COMPASSION AND THE PRINCIPLES OF THE CONGREGATION OF THE SISTERS, SERVANTS OF THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY DO HEREBY ESTABLISH THIS CONSTITUTION FOR THE MARYGROVE COLLEGE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION.

Article I. Authority and Responsibility

Section 1.01 Advocacy and Unity

- (a) The Student Government Association shall be the official representative of the Student of the Marygrove Campus.
- (b) The Student Government Association shall be the advocate for the student voice.
- (c) The Student Government Association is a liaison between the students and administration.
- (d) The Student Government Association is an advocate and liaison for the student organizations of Marygrove College.

Section 1.02 Leadership

- (a) The Student Government Association shall promote a belief and practice of community outreach.
- (b) The Student Government Association shall promote leadership and be examples of such leadership.
- (c) The Student Government Association shall be a resource for all students and student organizations at Marygrove College.

Article II. Membership

Section 2.01 Eligibility

- (a) Any student who shall have paid A STUDENT ACTIVITY FEE, in full, shall be a General Member of the Student Body and shall be eligible to vote in a Student Government Association Election.

- (b) Any student thusly eligible, whom is in good academic and co-academic standing, shall be eligible to hold office in the Student Government Association.

Article III. President and the Executive

Section 3.01 Establishment

- (a) A President of the Student Body, hereafter referred to as President, shall be established and he or she shall have the executive powers and duties of the Students.
- (b) A Vice-President of the Student Body, hereafter referred to as Vice-President, shall be established.
- (c) A Treasurer of the Student Body, hereafter referred to as Treasurer, shall be established.
- (d) A Secretary of the Student Body, hereafter referred to as Secretary, shall be established.

Section 3.02 Composition

- (a) The Executive Board shall be comprised of the President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary and any office deemed necessary and proper by the President and then confirmed by the Senate to the execution of Student business.

Section 3.03 Eligibility

- (a) President and Vice President
 - (i) *The President and Vice President must maintain a minimum grade point average of 3.0*
 - (ii) *The President and Vice President must be at minimum full-time students at Marygrove College*
 - (iii) *The President and Vice President must be in good academic standing with the college*
 - (iv) *The President and Vice President must be in good standing with the college*
 - (v) *The President and Vice President must have been a Marygrove student for one full academic year by the time they take office*
 - (vi) *The President and Vice President must be at least a Junior to hold office*
 - (vii) *The President and Vice President must have previously held a SGA position prior to their election or appointment*
- (b) Treasurer and Secretary
 - (i) *The Treasurer and Secretary must maintain a minimum grade point average of 3.0*

- (ii) The Treasurer and Secretary must be at minimum full-time students at Marygrove College*
- (iii) The Treasurer and Secretary must be in good academic standing with the college*
- (iv) The Treasurer and Secretary must be in good standing with the college*
- (v) The Treasurer and Secretary must have been a Marygrove student for one full academic year by the time they take office*
- (vi) The Treasurer and Secretary must be at least a Sophomore to hold office*
- (vii) The Treasurer and Secretary must have previously held a SGA position prior to their election or appointment*

Section 3.04 Term of Office

- (a) The term of office for an elected executive shall be one year.*
- (b) The term of office for an elected executive shall commence on the first day after the Official End of Winter Semester Day and shall conclude on the day of the official end of Winter Semester the following year.*
- (c) The term of office for an appointed executive shall commence on the day of appointment and conclude on the day of the official end of Winter Semester Day the following year.*

Section 3.05 Powers and Duties

- (a) The President shall have the power and duty to:*
 - (i) Provide effective leadership as president of the Student Body and act as the Chief Executive Office of the Marygrove College Student Government Association*
 - (ii) Delegate assignments to Executive Board members*
 - (iii) Represent the Students of Marygrove College at the meetings of the Board of Trustees*
 - (iv) Maintain effect relationships with the chief executive officers of the student governments at local institutions and with the administration, faculty, staff, alumni boards of the college*
 - (v) Appoint open Student seats on student, faculty, university and campus committees and boards, excepts as provided otherwise by the Senate*
 - (vi) The President may fill an open Senator's seat by Presidential Appointment, with the majority confirmation of the Senate*

- (vii) Present to the Students and Marygrove community a State of the Students Address, to be given annually in the month of October*
 - (viii) To administer appropriate oaths*
 - (ix) To act as the Senate may provide*
 - (x) Create a monthly Report to the Senate no the activities and decision of the President*
 - (xi) Shall have veto power over any and all legislation from the Senate*
 - (xii) Shall have the ability to create and dissolve ad hoc committees as needed or the function of the Student Government Association*
 - (xiii) Shall call, set the agenda and preside bi-weekly joint general meetings of the Executive Board and Senate*
 - (xiv) Shall be required to meet with the Marygrove Executive Team once per term*
 - (xv) Shall propose the Student Government Association budget in collaboration with the Treasurer*
 - (xvi) Attend all Executive Board meetings and Joint Assembly Student Government Association meetings*
 - (xvii) Abide by all duties and responsibilities as prescribed in the Unified Code of the Student Government Association*
- (b) The Vice-President shall have the power and duty to:*
- (i) Act on the President's behalf upon their request*
 - (ii) Be responsible for the development and training of the members of the Student Government Association*
 - (iii) Ensure the effective, professional, and well-organized operation of the Student Government Association*
 - (iv) Shall preside over the Senate meetings*
 - (v) Shall have a vote in the Senate only in the case of a tie*
 - (vi) Shall confirm all Senate appointments*
 - (vii) Create a monthly Report to the Senate no the activities and decision of the Vice-President*
 - (viii) Attend all Executive Board meetings, Senate meetings and Joint Assembly Student Government Association meetings.*

(ix) Abide by all duties and responsibilities as prescribed in the Unified Code of the Student Government Association

(c) The Treasurer shall have the power and duty to:

(i) Establish and maintain the capital goods and material supplies of the Student Government Association

(ii) Develop an annual Budget of the Student Government Association in consultation with the President, executive officers, committee chairs, and current ad hoc chairs

(iii) Complete and process paperwork and any requirements necessary for the transfer of funds and monies to and from the Student Government Association in accordance with College policies.

(iv) Attend all Executive Board meetings, and Joint Assembly Student Government Association meetings.

(v) Attend Senate Meeting as requested by the Senate or the Executive Board

(vi) Create a monthly Report to the Senate no the activities and decision of the Treasurer

(vii) Chair the Student Funding Board Committee

(viii) Abide by all duties and responsibilities as prescribed in the Unified Code of the Student Government Association

(d) The Secretary shall have the power and duty to:

(i) Record and maintain the records, documents, writs, papers and publications, both electronic and hard-copy, of the Student Government Association

(ii) Provide proper notice of Student Government Association meetings and activities in accordance with Student Government Association policy

(iii) Provide students and members of the college community with copies of Student Government Association records in accordance with Student Government Association policy, upon written request

(iv) Attend all Executive Board meetings, and Joint Assembly Student Government Association meetings.

(v) Attend Senate Meeting as requested by the Senate or the Executive Board

(vi) Create a monthly Report to the Senate no the activities and decision of the Secretary

(vii) Abide by all duties and responsibilities as prescribed in the Unified Code of the Student Government Association

Section 3.06 Order of Succession

- (a) If in the case of a vacancy of the office of the President, the position of the office of President shall be filled by the Vice-President
- (b) Thus the office of the Vice- President shall be considered vacant
- (c) If both the offices of the President and Vice-President are simultaneously vacant, the office of the President will be filled by the Vice-Chair of the Senate

Article IV. The Senate of the Student Body

Section 4.01 Establishment

- (a) A Senate of the Student Body shall be established and it shall have the legislative powers and duties of the Students, hereafter referred to as the Senate

Section 4.02 Composition

- (a) The Senate shall be composed of one elected undergraduate per every two hundred undergraduate students, based on the college campus' previous fall term enrollment with a minimum of one elected Senator per student classification as describe above regardless to student population
- (b) The Senate shall select for the benefit of the Student Government Association, as advisor from among the office of Student Involvement, who shall be knowledgeable of the college and college campus processes and policies
- (c) The Senate may select, for the benefit of the Senate and Executive, an advisor among the staff and faculty, who shall be knowledgeable of government and government processes and policies
- (d) The Senate may establish non-voting ex-officio Delegate seats and each shall represent a significant student sub-population or local student government, but shall be limited to one delegate per sub-population and student government
- (e) The Senate may fill an open Senator's seat by Presidential Appointment, with the majority confirmation of the Senate
 - (i) *Majority is hereafter defined as fifty percent plus one*
- (f) After the election the Senate shall choose from among themselves a Vice-Chair of the Senate who shall assist the Chair in any capacity necessary

- (g) The president may appoint one incoming freshman Senator per every 200 incoming freshman, with a minimum of one appointed Senator per student classification as describe above regardless to student population

Section 4.03 Eligibility

- (a) Senators
 - (i) *Senators must maintain a minimum grade point average of 2.7*
 - (ii) *Senators must be at minimum part-time students at Marygrove College*
 - (iii) *Senators must be in good academic standing with the college*
 - (iv) *Senators must be in good standing with the college*
 - (v) *Senators must have been a Marygrove student for one full academic year by the time they take office*
 - (vi) *Senators may not hold both a Senatorial seat and an ex-officio seat simultaneously*

Section 4.04 Term of Office

- (a) The term of office for an elected Senator shall be one year
- (b) The term of office for an elected Senator shall commence on the first day after the Official End of Winter Semester Day and shall conclude on the day of the official end of Winter Semester the following year.
- (c) The term of office for an appointed Senator shall commence on the day of appointment and conclude on the day of the official end of Winter Semester Day the following year.

Section 4.05 Powers and Duties

- (a) The Senate shall have the power and duty to:
 - (i) *Establish such boards, committees, offices, titles, programs and services, and to adopt such policies and procedures, as may be necessary to carry into effect the proper function and operations of the Student Government Association*
 - (ii) *Review the activities and decisions of the college*
 - (iii) *Advocate on behalf of Students*
 - (iv) *Collect, expend, administer and oversee such funds and property as it may receive from any source*
 - (v) *Recognize, suspend, or withdraw recognition of student organizations*

- (vi) Diplomatically recognize local Student Governments*
- (vii) Originate programs and services on behalf of Students*
- (viii) Submit for election questions requiring referenda and vote by the Students*
- (ix) The Senate may override Presidential Veto with two-thirds of Senate vote.*

Article V. Student Rights

Section 5.01 Representative Government

- (a) The Student Government Association shall preserve each Student's right to a republican form of government

Section 5.02 Student Rights and Responsibilities

- (a) The Student Government Association shall uphold the Marygrove College Student Code of Conduct. The Student Government shall ensure that both rights and responsibilities are upheld

Section 5.03 Petition for a Change in Policy

- (a) The Student Government Association shall uphold each Student's right to be fully informed on Student, College and Campus policy; how it was established and the ways and means by which it may be changed. The right to petition for a change in policy shall not be denied

Section 5.04 Due Process and Equal Protection

- (a) The Student Government shall not deprive any Student or Student Organization of due process of policy, nor shall the Student Government deny to any Student or Student Organization within its jurisdiction the equal protection of policy

Section 5.05 Freedom of Expression

- (a) The Student Government Association shall make no policy abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press, or the right of the Students and Student Organizations peaceably to assemble or prohibiting the free exercise thereof, and to petition the Student Government for a redress of grievances

Section 5.06 Freedom of Information

- (a) All official Student Government Association documents, records, and other written and recorded information, with the exception of those involving personnel, litigation, or pending investment matters, shall be made accessible to the public upon request. The Student Government Association shall furnish copies of requested information to interested Students without delay and may not charge above cost for doing so.

Article VI. Local Student Governments

Section 6.01 Powers and Duties

- (a) The Constitution for the Marygrove College Student Government Association being the duly ratified governing policy of every student at the college, shall supercede the policy of other constitutionally established and democratically elected Local Student Governments of the college campus with respect to those powers and duties entrusted to the Student Government Association by the Constitution the Marygrove College Student Government Association

Article VII. Unified Student Code

Section 7.01 Establishment

- (a) A Unified Student Code shall be established with a two-thirds majority vote of the Senate.
- (b) A Unified Code shall be amended as established in a Unified Student Code.
- (c) A Unified Student Code shall comply with the articles and provisions of this Constitution.

Article VIII. General Provisions

Section 8.01 Chartered Auxiliary Units

- (a) In all cases where auxiliary units are established for the carrying into execution the necessary and proper functions of the Student Government Association, the Senate shall adopt their charters with a majority affirmative vote.

Section 8.02 Revocation of Authority

- (a) A delegation of chartered authority by the Student Government Association does not promise nor constitute a perpetual delegation of authority. Therefore and delegation of authority, wholly or in part, made by the Student Government Association to any member of the Student Government Association or the college staff, or to any auxiliary unit of the Student Government, may be revoked by the Senate, or as the Senate may direct, at any time.

Section 8.03 Student Government Association Identity

- (a) The name, seal, logo, wordmark or any other trademark of the Student Government Association are property of Marygrove College Student Government Association and may only be used with the expressed written consent of the Student Government Association

Section 8.04 Non-Discrimination and Equal Opportunity

- (a) The Student Government Association is committed to a policy of nondiscrimination and equal opportunity for all persons regardless of race, sex, color, religion, creed, national origin or ancestry, age, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, disability or Vietnam era veteran status. The Student Government Association is also committed to compliance with all applicable laws and the policies of the Marygrove College regarding nondiscrimination and affirmative action.

Article IX. Amendment of the Constitution

Section 9.01 Amendment by Initiative

- (a) This Constitution may be amended through Student Initiative.
- (b) The process for amendment of this Constitution, through Student Initiative, shall be as follows:
 - (i) *A Student shall file an “Intent to Initiate” form with the Office of Student Involvement or its current counterpart.*
 - (ii) *After the office has verified receipt of a complete “Intent to Initiate” form, the petitioning Student shall file a “Petition for Amendment” with the Office, who shall verify its correct use of language and form, but not content.*
 - (iii) *After verification of correctness of language and form by the Office, the Student may organize, campaign, and distribute the “Petition for Amendment” and campaign materials.*
 - (iv) *A Student shall complete a “Petition for Amendment” signed by fifteen percent of the currently matriculated students of Marygrove College, based on the college’s previous Fall Term enrollment previous to the initiative being placed on a college-wide election ballot and shall, upon a certification of a majority affirmative vote of students voting in the election, be adopted.*

Section 9.02 Amendment by Act of Senate

- (a) This Constitution may be amended through an Act of Senate.

(b) The process of amendment of this Constitution, through an Act of Senate, shall require a three-fourths affirmative vote of the Senate, upon which the questions shall be placed on a college-wide election ballot, and shall, upon a majority affirmative vote of students voting in the election, be adopted.

(i) Amendment of this Constitution through an Act of Senate shall require Student to be provided no less than thirty calendar days for review of the constitutional ballot question, previous to a vote by the Students.

Section 9.03 Constitutional Stability

(a) An amendment of this Constitution, once adopted, shall not be amended for at least one calendar year.

Section 9.04 Amendment Placement

(a) An amendment of this Constitution shall be placed at the end of this document, labeled "Amendment" and numbered in roman-numerical form and be given a name.

(b) The amended words of this Constitution shall remain in the document as they were originally written, but shall be altered in style to highlight the amended words.

Article X. Impeachment and Removal

Section 10.01 Removal by Initiative

(a) An elected or appointed officer and member of the Student Government may be removed from office through Student Initiative.

(b) The process for removal, through Student Initiative, shall be as follows:

(i) A Student shall file an "Intent to Initiate" form with the Office of Student Involvement or its current counterpart.

(ii) After the office has verified receipt of a complete "Intent to Initiate" form, the petitioning Student shall file a "Petition for Removal" with the Office, who shall verify its correct use of language and form, but not content.

(iii) After verification of correctness of language and form by the Office, the Student may organize, campaign, and distribute the "Petition for Removal" and campaign materials.

(iv) A Student shall complete a "Petition for Removal" signed by fifteen percent of the currently matriculated students of Marygrove College, based on the college's previous Fall Term enrollment previous to the initiative being placed on a college-wide election ballot, and an elected or appointed officer or member, and shall, upon a certification of a majority affirmative vote of students voting in the election, be removed from office.

Section 10.02 Impeachment by Act of Senate

- (a) An elected or appointed officer or member may be impeached and removed through an Act of Senate.
- (b) The process of impeachment and removal, through an Act of Senate, shall require a three-fourths affirmative vote of the Senate, upon which a removal hearing shall commence before a Joint Assembly of the Executive Board and Senate.
 - (i) *Impeachment and removal through an Act of Senate shall require Student to be provided no less than seven calendar days, breaks in college campus academic calendar shall be excepted, for review of the impeachment charges, previous to an impeachment hearing being brought to order.*

Article XI. Vacancy and Appointment

Section 11.01 Procedures

- (a) **A vacancy in a Senator’s Seat or Executive Board office, with the exception of the President, shall be filled as follows:**
 - (i) *A vacancy shall be posted for a minimum of five business days, with breaks in academic instruction excepted, during which time an open application shall be accepted.*
 - (ii) *The President shall review an application and applicant and shall make an appointment to a vacant seat or office, and upon two-thirds consent of the Senate shall be confirmed.*

Article XII. Dissolution of the Student Government Association

Section 12.01 Procedures

- (a) The Student Government Association shall be dissolved with a majority affirmative vote of the Students, which shall be required following a student initiative, or a three fourths affirmative vote of the Senate voting to dissolve the Student Government Association, upon which a vote shall be placed before the Students. The process for a student initiative is defined as the following:
 - (i) *A Student shall file an “Intent to Initiate” form with the Office of Student Involvement or its current counterpart.*
 - (ii) *After the office has verified receipt of a complete “Intent to Initiate” form, the petitioning Student shall file a “Petition for Dissolution” with the Office, who shall verify its correct use of language and form, but not content.*

- (iii) *After verification of correctness of language and form by the Office, the Student may organize, campaign, and distribute the Petition for Dissolution and campaign materials.*
 - (iv) *A Student shall complete a "Petition for Dissolution" signed by fifteen percent of the currently matriculated students of Marygrove College, based on the college's previous Fall Term enrollment previous to the initiative being placed on a college-wide election ballot and shall, upon a certification of a majority affirmative vote of students voting in the election, be adopted.*
- (b) Upon a certified Vote of Dissolution by the Students, the monies and assets of the Student Government shall be transferred to the Office of Student Involvement or its current counterpart.

Article XIII. Transitional Government

Section 13.01 Establishment

- (a) A Transitional Government shall be established by the Office of Student Involvement, Leadership and Greek Affairs and shall be afforded the 2014-2015 academic year as a transition period to enact the provisions of this Constitution following a certified ratification vote of the Students.
 - (i) *The Transitional Government shall be established by June 30, 2014*
- (b) Applications shall be submitted and reviewed by the Office of Student Involvement, Leadership and Greek Affairs, in collaboration with the Student Government Establishment Committee, which was established in the Fall 2013 Term and sat 5 students.
- (c) After the Transitional Government is established, any open office under this Constitution shall be filled in accordance of this Constitution.
- (d) The Transitional Student Government may, with a majority affirmative vote of the Senate, fully enact this Constitution previous to the completion of 2014-2015 academic year transition period.

Article XIV. Ratification

Section 14.01 This Constitution shall be ratified with a public notification of this Constitution to the Student body for at least fourteen calendar days and a majority vote of the voting Students in a college-wide election.