

Spring 1-1-2012

Senate Resolution CR-12S-2565 Revised February 15, 2012, Constitutional Revisions of 2012

Student Government Association
University of North Florida

Follow this and additional works at: <http://digitalcommons.unf.edu/sgaleg>

Suggested Citation

Student Government Association, "Senate Resolution CR-12S-2565 Revised February 15, 2012, Constitutional Revisions of 2012" (2012). *Legislation*. 2140.
<http://digitalcommons.unf.edu/sgaleg/2140>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Student Government at UNF Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Legislation by an authorized administrator of UNF Digital Commons. For more information, please contact [Digital Projects](#).
© Spring 1-1-2012 All Rights Reserved



SENATE LEGISLATION

CR-12S-2565A

1 *CR-12S-2565 : Constitutional Revisions of 2012*

2 Whereas: The Student Government of the University of North Florida was established to represent
3 student concerns in all University wide matters; and

4 Whereas: The Senate is the legislative body of the University of North Florida's Student Government
5 given the responsibility of carrying out such legislative acts that are necessary and proper for
6 the Student Body of the University of North Florida; and

7 Whereas: Legislation dealing with necessary and proper constitutional revisions shall be considered by
8 Student Senate; and

9 Whereas: In an effort to maintain consistency between the governing documents it is necessary to
10 update the Constitution; and

11 Therefore; The following revisions are being made to The Articles of the Constitution;

12 **ARTICLE II: THE LEGISLATURE**

13
14
15 **Section 1: Composition**

16
17 The Legislative Powers of the Student Government shall be vested in the Senate, hereinafter
18 referred to as the Senate, which shall consist of 52 senators.

19
20 **Section 2: Terms and Qualifications of Senators**

21
22 A. Elected Senators: Elected Senators shall be elected for terms of one (1) year,
23 and shall be limited to a maximum of six (6) terms.

24
25 B. Appointed Senators: If a vacancy occurs, Senate may appoint a substitute
26 to serve for the remainder of the term as prescribed by law, but subject to the
27 restrictions enumerated in Section 4B of this Article.

28
29 C. Qualifications: Every Senator must be an A&S fee paying student, enrolled
30 in at least one (1) class during both the fall and spring semester at the
31 University of North Florida, and maintaining a ~~2.25~~ 2.00 GPA or higher
32 unless one has attended the University of North Florida for less than one (1)
33 semester. Senators may continue to serve during the summer semester
34 without being enrolled in a class as long as they are still considered students
35 by the University of North Florida.



SENATE LEGISLATION

CR-12S-2565A

CR-12S-2565 : Constitutional Revisions of 2012

Section 3: Senate Officers:

The Senate shall choose its officers, which shall include a permanent presiding officer selected annually from its membership, who shall be designated as the Senate President. The Senate shall also annually select from its membership a Senate President Pro-Tempore, who shall assume the duties of presiding officer in the Senate President's absence. All other duties and requirements of the aforementioned officers, and/or creation of additional Senate officers shall be prescribed by law.

Section 4: Apportionment

- A. General Apportionment: The Senate shall consist of fifty-two (52) seats, numbered one (1) through fifty-two (52), with one (1) senator occupying each seat.
- B. Special Provisions:
1. Seat number forty-one (41) can only be occupied by a qualified graduate student.
 2. Seat number forty-two (42) can only be occupied by a qualified graduate student.
 3. Seat number forty-three (43) can only be occupied by a qualified student from the College of Arts and Sciences.
 4. Seat number forty-four (44) can only be occupied by a qualified student from the College of Arts and Sciences.
 5. Seat number forty-five (45) can only be occupied by a qualified student from the College of Computing, Engineering and Construction.
 6. Seat number forty-six (46) can only be occupied by a qualified student from the College of Computing, Engineering and Construction.
 7. Seat number forty-seven (47) can only be occupied by a qualified student



SENATE LEGISLATION

CR-12S-2565 A

1 *CR-12S-2565 : Constitutional Revisions of 2012*

2 from the Brooks College of Health.

3
4 8. Seat number forty-eight (48) can only be occupied by a qualified student
5 from the Brooks College of Health.

6
7 9. Seat number forty-nine (49) can only be occupied by a qualified student
8 from the Coggin College of Business.

9
10 10. Seat number fifty (50) can only be occupied by a qualified student from
11 the Coggin College of Business.

12
13 11. Seat number fifty-one (51) can only be occupied by a qualified student
14 from the College of Education and Human Services.

15
16 12. Seat number fifty-two (52) can only be occupied by a qualified student
17 from the College of Education and Human Services.

18
19 13. Seats numbers one (1) through forty (40) are open to all students
20 qualified under section 2C of this Article.

21
22 **Section 5: Meetings of the Senate**

23
24 A. Organizational Meeting: Within one calendar month of each general election,
25 the Senate shall convene for the purpose of organization and selection of
26 officers as prescribed by law.

27
28 B. Regular Meeting: A regular meeting of Senate shall convene during each
29 academic semester a minimum of two times each thirty-one (31) day period,
30 excluding the last week of each semester. The Senate can waive this
31 requirement, for only one (1) meeting per semester, by two-thirds vote.

32
33 C. Special Meeting: The President, by written proclamation, presented to the
34 Senate President, stating a legitimate purpose, may convene, 24 hours after
35 the presentation, the Senate in special meeting during which only such
36 legislative business may be transacted as is within the purview of the
37 proclamation, or of a communication from the President, or is introduced by
consent of two-thirds of the Senate. The President's power to convene the



SENATE LEGISLATION

CR-12S-2565A

1

CR-12S-2565 : Constitutional Revisions of 2012

2

Senate may be prevented only upon a petition of one-half of the Senate's membership. The Senate's power of prevention cannot be general in nature and must apply only to the President's respective proclamation and order to convene.

3

4

5

6

7

Section 6: Definition of Legislation

8

9

A. Bills: Bills shall be legislative proposals to appropriate monies, approve Constitutional amendments and revisions, and adopt statutory amendments and revisions, and other binding acts.

10

11

12

13

B. Joint Resolutions: Joint Resolutions shall be resolutions stating the will of Student Government.

14

5

16

C. Simple Resolutions: Simple Resolutions shall be the formal expression of the opinion of the Senate or the legislative vehicle used for the internal regulation of the senatorial policies and procedures.

17

18

19

20

Section 7: Passage of Legislation

21

22

A. The origination of legislation in Senate shall be prescribed by law.

23

24

B. The passage of Bills and Joint Resolutions shall be governed pursuant to Section 8 of this Article.

25

26

27

C. The passage of Simple Resolutions that only express the official opinion of the Senate shall require a majority vote and are not subject to the Executive Veto power outlined in Section 8 of this Article.

28

29

30

31

D. The passage of Simple Resolutions that amend or revise Senatorial policies and procedures shall require a two-thirds (2/3) vote of Senate and are not subject to the Executive Veto power outlined in Section 8 of this Article.

32

33

34

35

Section 8: Executive Approval and Veto

36

37

A. Every Bill or Joint Resolution passed by majority vote of the Senate shall be presented, by the Senate President, to the President as prescribed by law, but



SENATE LEGISLATION

CR-12S-2565A

CR-12S-2565 : Constitutional Revisions of 2012

- 1
- 2 not to exceed five (5) business days.
- 3
- 4 B. The Bill or Joint Resolution shall become law if the President approves and
- 5 signs it, or fails to veto it within five (5) business days after its presentation.
- 6
- 7 C. In all cases except general appropriation bills, a Presidential veto shall extend
- 8 to the entire Bill or Joint Resolution. The President may veto any specific
- 9 appropriation in a general appropriation bill, but may not veto any
- 10 qualification or restriction without vetoing the appropriation to which it
- 11 relates nor may he or she approve any general appropriation which becomes
- 12 law or is appropriated after his or her term of office.
- 13
- 14 D. After a Bill, Joint Resolution, or specific appropriation has been vetoed, the
- 5 President shall transmit written and/or oral objections thereto to the Senate
- 16 at the next regular meeting.
- 17
- 18 E. If any Senator motions to reconsider the vetoed Bill or specific appropriation
- 19 at the next Regular Meeting following the Presidential veto, the vetoed
- 20 legislation shall be placed on the floor of the Senate, and be subject to
- 21 normal parliamentary motions, including a two-thirds override.
- 22
- 23 F. The Senate, after reconsidering the vetoed legislation, may by two-thirds vote
- 24 re-enact the bill or reinstate the specific appropriation, over which the
- 25 president shall have no veto authority. Any Bill re-enacted under this
- 26 provision shall immediately become law. Any specific appropriation re-
- 27 instated under this provision shall be allocated with all reasonable brevity.
- 28
- 29 G. Vetoed Bills or specific appropriations that are amended in any way after
- 30 Senate reconsideration shall become de facto a new piece of legislation and
- 31 be subject to presidential veto authority.
- 32
- 33 H. If no Senator motions to reconsider at the next regular session, the vetoed
- 34 Bill or specific appropriation cannot be brought back to the floor. This
- 35 provision applies only to vetoed legislation for the purpose of Senate re-
- 36 enactment or reinstatement and in no way shall infringe upon the ability of
- 37 Senate to bring any previously vetoed Bill or specific appropriation back
- through normal legislative procedures, subject again to presidential veto.



SENATE LEGISLATION

CR-12S-2565 A

1

CR-12S-2565 : Constitutional Revisions of 2012

2

3

- I. If a joint resolution is vetoed by the President, it shall automatically return to the Senate as a simple resolution.

4

5

6

Section 9: Prohibited Laws

7

8

- A. Senate shall not enact a Bill or Joint Resolution that conflicts with or violates any Federal law, State law, Local law or ordinance. This shall include but not be limited to Bills of attainder, ex post facto laws. The Student Government Judicial Branch shall negate and remove, if presented for Judicial Review, existing Student Government law if it conflicts with this provision.

9

10

11

12

13

14

5

16

17

18

19

20

21

Section 10: Additional Powers and Duties

22

23

The Senate shall:

24

25

- A. Enact under the procedures outlined in Section 7 of this Article, constitutional bylaws to be known as Student Government Statutes, with the exception of bylaws concerning elections, which shall require a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Senate.

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

33

34

- C. Establish its own meeting times, rules, and procedures.

35

36

37

ARTICLE III: THE EXECUTIVE

Section 1: Executive Powers



SENATE LEGISLATION

CR-12S-2565 A

1

CR-12S-2565 : Constitutional Revisions of 2012

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

All Executive Powers of the Student Government shall be vested in the President of the Student Government assisted by the Vice President and such administrative officers as the President shall appoint in accordance with this Article. The Student Government President shall hereinafter be referred to as the President, the Student Government Vice President as the Vice President.

10

Section 2: Terms and Qualifications of the President and Vice President

11

A. Terms: The President and Vice President shall be elected for terms of one (1) year, and shall be limited to a maximum of two (2) terms.

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

B. Qualifications: The President, Vice President, and all members of the Executive Branch must be A&S fee paying students, enrolled in at least one (1) class during both the fall and spring semester, and maintaining a 2.002-25 GPA or higher.

20

Section 3: Vacancies

21

A. If a vacancy occurs in the office of the President, the Vice President shall assume office for the remainder of the term.

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

B. If a vacancy occurs in the office of the Vice President, the President shall have the power to appoint a new Vice President, subject to majority approval from Senate.

32

Section 4: Executive Cabinet

33

34

35

36

37

C. If a vacancy occurs in both the office of the President and the Office of the Vice President, the Senate President shall assume the office of the President for the remainder of the term.

A. The President shall have the power to appoint all Executive Cabinet Officers with majority approval from Senate. The removal of Executive Cabinet Officers shall be prescribed by law.

B. The creation, termination, and/or funding of Executive Cabinet Positions



SENATE LEGISLATION

CR-12S-2565A

1 *CR-12S-2565 : Constitutional Revisions of 2012*

2 shall be prescribed by law.

- 3
- 4 C. The President must appoint a qualified individual to the position of
- 5 Treasurer within the first month of taking office. This position shall be a
- 6 member of the Executive Cabinet and report directly to the Senate Budget
- 7 and Allocations Committee. The appointment, termination, and duties of this
- 8 position shall be prescribed by law.
- 9

10 **Section 5: Additional Duties and Powers of the President**

11 The President shall:

- 12
- 13
- 14 A. Be the chief executive of Student Government.
- 15
- 16 B. Administer and enforce all laws of Student Government.
- 17
- 18 C. Provide for the compilation and publication of Constitutional legislation.
- 19
- 20 D. Co-sign, along with the Student Government Business Manager, on all
- 21 expenditures from the Student Government operating budget.
- 22
- 23 E. Call and preside over executive meetings of Student Government
- 24 and student assemblies when appropriate.
- 25

26 **Section 6: Duties and Powers of the Vice President**

- 27
- 28 A. The Vice President shall assume the duties of the President only in extreme
- 29 circumstances, such as physical incapacitation, which makes it impossible to
- 30 discharge
- 31 the duties of the office.
- 32
- 33 B. The Vice President shall coordinate the efforts of the Executive Cabinet and
- 34 shall
- 35 serve as coordinator for the formulation and completion of Executive Cabinet
- 36 projects.
- 37

38 **Section 7: Duties and Powers of the Treasurer**



SENATE LEGISLATION

CR-12S-2565A

1

CR-12S-2565 : Constitutional Revisions of 2012

2

3

A. The Treasurer shall serve as the executive liaison to the Student Body on all matters pertaining to Activity and Service Fee procedures.

4

5

6

B. The Treasurer shall work with the Senate Budget and Allocation Committee, Student Government Accountant, and Student Government Business Manager in monitoring all Activity and Service Fee accounts and advising all A & S Fee requesters on proper procedure and regulations.

7

8

9

10

C. The Treasurer shall fulfill all job responsibilities as well as duties prescribed by law.

11

12

13

Section 8: Duties and Powers of the Attorney General

14

15

A. The Attorney General shall be an executive position appointed by the President and confirmed by a majority vote of the Senate.

16

17

18

B. The Attorney General shall be the Chief Executive Prosecutor in all Student Government matters.

19

20

21

C. The Attorney General shall fulfill all job responsibilities as well as duties prescribed by law.

22

23

24

ARTICLE IV: THE JUDICIARY

25

26

Section 1: Judicial Powers

27

28

The Judicial Power of Student Government shall be vested in the Judicial Council.

29

30

Section 2: Composition of the Judicial Council

31

32

A. The Judicial Council shall be composed of nine (9) total Justices.

33

34

B. A Chief Justice shall be elected annually from within the Council to serve as the presiding officer and shall serve a one (1) year term.

35

36

37

C. Other officers that the Council deems necessary shall be chosen according

38

39



SENATE LEGISLATION

CR-12S-2565 A

1 *CR-12S-2565 : Constitutional Revisions of 2012*

2 to Judicial Rules and Procedures.

3

4 **Section 3: Terms and Qualifications of Justices**

5

6 A. Terms: Upon installation, justices may serve as long as they remain qualified.
7 Acting Justices may also resign their position at any time for any reason.

8

9 B. Qualifications: Justices must be A & S fee paying students, enrolled in at least
10 one (1) class during both the fall and spring semester, and maintain a 2.00
11 2.25 GPA or higher.

12

13 **Section 4: Installation of Justices**

14

15 A. Procedure: When there is a vacancy on the Judicial Council, the President
16 shall forward a Judicial Nominee to Senate for majority confirmation. Upon
17 majority confirmation from Senate, the Judicial Nominee shall immediately
18 be installed as an acting Justice.

19

20 **Section 5: Jurisdiction and Judicial Review**

21

22 A. Powers: The Judicial Council shall have the power of Judicial Review over all
23 Executive and Legislative Acts. This power shall include and be limited as
24 prescribed by law.

25

26 1. The Judicial Council must negate and remove existing Student
27 Government Statute, Appropriation, Law, Joint Resolution,
28 Executive Order, and/or Senatorial policy when in conflicts with any
29 provisions of the Student Government Constitution.

30

31 2. The Judicial Council must negate and remove existing Student
32 Government Statute, Appropriation, Law, Joint Resolution,
33 Executive Order, and/or Senatorial policy when in conflicts with any
34 Federal law, State law, Local law or ordinance, or University
35 regulation. Prior to any judgment that negates or removes existing
36 Student Government Statute, Appropriation, Law, Joint Resolution,
37 Executive Order, and/or Senatorial policy that is being challenged on
38 the grounds that it violates Federal law, State law, Local law or



SENATE LEGISLATION

CR-12S-2565 A

CR-12S-2565 : Constitutional Revisions of 2012

1
2 ordinance, or University regulation, the Judicial Council must consult
3 with the University of North Florida's General Counsel.
4

5 3. The Judicial Council may issue a temporary stay against the
6 application of a Student Government Statute, Appropriation, Law,
7 Joint Resolution, Executive Order, and/or Senatorial policy in time
8 sensitive matters not to exceed ten (10) business days, in order to
9 provide ample time for a judicial hearing and decision. The Judicial
10 Council shall not issue more than two (2) stays for any one complaint
11 or issue.
12

13 4. The Judicial Council shall serve as the final deciding body for all
14 disputes between Student Government student employees, members,
15 and/or elected officials which involve Student Government law.
16 Judicial relief in such cases shall be prescribed by law but must always
17 be comparable to the Judicial power exercised by courts in the United
18 States Federal Court System.
19

20 B. General Restrictions: The aforementioned power of Judicial Review outlined
21 in Section 5 of this Article cannot be enacted unless an A & S fee paying
22 student files a written complaint. Furthermore, the complainant cannot be a
23 member of the Judicial Council and any judgment rendered must be within
24 the purview of the complaint.
25

26 C. Constitutional Restriction: The Judicial Council may not change, amend,
27 negate, or remove any provision of the Student Government Constitution at
28 any time for any reason.
29

Section 6: Administration: Practice and Procedure

30
31
32 A. Quorum for a Student Government Judicial Council hearing shall be set at
33 fifty percent (50%) plus one (1) of the current membership.
34

35 B. The Chief Justice of the Judicial Council shall serve as the chief
36 administrative officer of the judiciary and shall be vested with, and shall
37 exercise, in accordance with rules adopted by the court, the authority to:
38



SENATE LEGISLATION

CR-12S-2565 A

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
38

CR-12S-2565 : Constitutional Revisions of 2012

1. Assign duties among the Justices of the Council.
 2. Conduct and preside over Council proceedings.
 3. Rule on procedural questions that arise during the course of the judicial proceedings.
 4. Report in writing to the Respondent of any complaint filed with the Judicial Council.
 5. Be responsible for administering the “Oath of Office” to all Student Government officers.
 6. Periodically inform the Senate of the condition of the judiciary.
 7. Report to the Senate such defects in the laws as may have been brought to the attention of the Council and suggest such amendments or additional legislation which is deemed necessary.
- C. In the absence of the Chief Justice, an interim Chief Justice shall be designated according to Judicial Rules and Procedures.
- D. The Judicial Council shall establish its own meeting times, rules, and procedures. Rules and procedures of the Judicial Council may be negated and removed through a bill requiring a two-thirds vote of Senate and Presidential signature approval. If the President does not approve, the Senate may override his veto by three-fourths (3/4) vote.
- E. The Judicial Council shall conduct open Hearings for all cases.

ARTICLE V: ELECTIONS

Section 1: Eligible Voters

- A. Every student currently registered and paying A&S fees to the University of North Florida shall be entitled to vote in all General and Special Elections.



SENATE LEGISLATION

CR-12S-2565A

CR-12S-2565 : Constitutional Revisions of 2012

- 1
- 2 B. Only Students currently registered in the College of Arts and Sciences and
3 paying A&S fees to the University of North Florida shall be eligible to vote
4 in the Inter-College Election for Senatorial Seat forty-three (43) and forty-
5 four (44).
6
- 7 C. Only Students currently registered in the College of Computing, Engineering
8 and Construction and paying A&S fees to the University of North Florida
9 shall be eligible to vote in the Inter-College Election for Senatorial Seat forty-
10 five (45) and forty-six (46).
11
- 12 D. Only Students currently registered in the Brooks College of Health and
13 paying A&S fees to the University of North Florida shall be eligible to vote
14 in the Inter-College Election for Senatorial Seat forty-seven (47) and forty-
15 eight (48).
16
- 17 E. Only Students currently registered in the Coggin College of Business and
18 paying A&S fees to the University of North Florida shall be eligible to vote
19 in the Inter-College Election for Senatorial Seat forty four-nine (49) and fifty
20 (50).
21
- 22 F. Only Students currently registered in the College of Education and Human
23 Services and paying A&S fees to the University of North Florida shall be
24 eligible to vote in the Inter-College Election for Senatorial Seat fifty-one (51)
25 and fifty-two (52).
26
- 27 G. Student Government will enact no law to this Section which adds any
28 additional eligibility criteria or law which unfairly hinders a registered
29 student's right to vote.
30

Section 2: Candidacy

31 All Student Government candidates for elective office must be A&S fee
32 paying students, enrolled in at least one (1) class during both the fall and
33 spring semester, and maintain a 2.00 ~~2.25~~ GPA or higher unless one has
34 attended the University of North Florida for less than one (1) semester. In
35 addition, all Presidential/Vice-Presidential candidates are required to run on
36 a two person ticket, with a clear distinction of which office each seeks.
37
38



SENATE LEGISLATION

CR-12S-2565 A

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27

CR-12S-2565 : Constitutional Revisions of 2012

Furthermore: Let it be enacted, by the University of North Florida Student Government that the proposed revisions to The Constitution be made effective immediately upon passage by the student body.

Senate Action

Respectfully Submitted: Constitution and Statutes Committee
Introduced by: Sen. Carlo Fassi
Senate Action: 37-0,4
Date: February 13th 2012
Signed, **Carlo Fassi**
Carlo Fassi, Senate President

Executive Action

Let it be known that CR-12S-2565A is hereby
PASSED / VETOED / LINE-ITEM VETOED
on this 15 day of February, 2012.
Signed, **Matthew Brockelman**
Matt Brockelman, President