

Hunter Brooke, *Judicial Council President*
Thomas Musgrave, *Student Union Parliamentarian*

**AN ORDER TO CLARIFY, SIMPLIFY, AND AMEND VARIOUS SECTIONS OF THE
CONSTITUTION**

Whereas, the Student Senate should attempt to ensure clear and understandable constitutional language; the intuitive organization of Constitutional sections; and the construction of governing documents reflect actual practice while also attempting to account for all varying eventualities and potentialities;

Whereas, the Senate should work to ensure that redundancies in governing documents—which increase length and complexity without improving or bettering operational procedures—be reduced whenever possible;

Whereas, throughout the past 2023-2024 Student Union term, the Judicial Council has encountered several ambiguities, conflicting citations, loopholes, and gaps throughout several sections of the Constitution;

Whereas, wherever these issues have appeared, the Judicial Council has endeavoured to carefully develop regulation that rectifies loopholes, strengthens transparency, and simultaneously ensures clear and ethical rules for all members of the Student Union;

Whereas, the changes proposed have been thoroughly reviewed and considered by the Judicial Council, which has unequivocally determined that the recommended amendments will clarify and improve operational processes; therefore, be it

Ordered by the Student Senate of the University of Notre Dame du Lac,

That The Constitution of The Undergraduate Student Body is hereby amended as follows:

I. Article I, Section 2(b) is hereby amended to read as follows:

(b) Each Student Union organization shall develop written bylaws by May 1st to establish the operational procedures (including attendance) necessary for the organization to carry out its constitutional duties. These bylaws must be approved by the organization's Student Activities advisor and presented to the Judicial Council for review. Nothing in the bylaws shall come into conflict with this Constitution. Amendments to an organization's bylaws may only be written by the organization to which the bylaws pertain and must be approved by two-thirds of the voting members within that organization. The Student Activities advisor to the organization must approve any bylaw amendments. The Student Union shall be composed of the following Student Union organizations:

II. Article I, Section 2(c)(1) is hereby amended to read as follows:

(1) All voting shall require a simple majority unless otherwise specified in this Constitution or bylaws. When not specified by this Constitution or bylaws, *The Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure* shall take effect.

III. Article I, Section 2(c)(4) is hereby amended to read as follows:

(4) To all members of the Student Union, a current version of the Constitution must be made directly available.

IV. Article I, Section 4(a) is hereby amended to read as follows:

(a) An amendment to this Constitution may be presented to the Senate by any member of the Senate or through a petition.

V. Article I, Section 6(b) is hereby amended to read as follows:

(b) Allegations of discriminatory activity shall be brought before the Student Union Ethics Commission as misconduct under Article XIII, Section 1(b)(1) of this Constitution.

VI. Article II, Section 2(d) is hereby amended to read as follows:

(d) The Student Body Vice-President shall, with the assistance of the Student Union Secretary, be responsible for publicity of the Senate.

VII. Article III, Section 2(a) is hereby amended to read as follows:

(a) The voting membership of the Senate shall attend weekly meetings and be composed of the following:

VIII. Article III, Section 4(f), Section 4(g), and Section 4(h) are hereby repealed, and all subsections and references thereafter and thereof are renumbered accordingly.

IX. Article III, Section 4(i) is hereby amended to read as follows:

(i) All members of the Senate shall attend a Celebrating Diversity Workshop as coordinated by the Director of Diversity and Inclusion. This event is mandatory for all members of the Senate and shall take place by October 1.

X. Article IV, Section 3(b)(18)(C) is hereby amended to read as follows:

(C) The directors shall write bylaws and submit them to the Judicial Council before May 1st to outline the effective operation of FUEL.

XI. Article VII, Section 3(b) is hereby amended to read as follows:

(b) The Club Coordination Council President shall address the Senate at least once each semester regarding the status of club funding at Notre Dame, the current means by which club leaders may obtain funding for their respective club, as well as any additional information pertaining to clubs that he or she may deem important for the Senate to know.

- XII. Article VII, Section 3(b)(1) is hereby repealed, and all subsections and references thereafter and thereof are renumbered accordingly.**
- XIII. Article VIII, Section 3(c) is hereby repealed, and all subsections and references thereafter and thereof are renumbered accordingly.**
- XIV. Article IX, Section 3(c) is hereby repealed, and all subsections and references thereafter and thereof are renumbered accordingly.**
- XV. Article IX, Section 3(f) is hereby repealed, and all subsections and references thereafter and thereof are renumbered accordingly.**
- XVI. Article X, Section 7(e)(1) is hereby repealed, and all subsections and references thereafter and thereof are renumbered accordingly.**
- XVII. Article X, Section 7(e)(6) is hereby amended to read as follows:**
(6) This meeting shall include, but shall not be limited to, the appropriate Club Coordination Council Division Representative, an officer of the club, and/or one representative of each of the cosponsors participating in the agreement.
- XVIII. Article X, Section 7(e)(7) is hereby amended to read as follows:**
(7) The appropriate Club Coordination Council Division Representative shall review the appeal form with the officers present, asking questions to help clarify ambiguities and reach an understanding of planned income, expenses, and intent of the event.
- XIX. Article X, Section 7(e)(8) is hereby amended to read as follows:**
(8) The Club Coordination Council Division Representative from the meeting shall then present the appeal to the Club Coordination Council.
- XX. Article XII, Section 1(a) is hereby amended to read as follows:**
(a) The Judicial Council shall work to ensure that the Student Union operates ethically and within this Constitution, bylaws, and statutory codes.
- XXI. Article XII, Section 3(a)(9) is hereby inserted as follows and all subsections and references thereafter and thereof are renumbered accordingly:**
(9) At the first Senate meeting each term, the Judicial Council President shall administer the oath of office to Officers of the Student Union, including the Student Body President and Vice President, in the manner prescribed by the Bylaws of the Judicial Council. The Student Body Vice President shall subsequently administer the oath of office to the Senators in the manner prescribed by the Bylaws of the Student Senate.
- XXII. Article XII, Section 4(a) is hereby amended to read as follows:**

(a) All allegations of election misconduct are to be submitted to the Judicial Council. All potential violations must be reported within 48 hours of the time committed or within one hour of the end of voting, whichever is sooner.

XXIII. Article XII, Section 5(a) is hereby amended to read as follows:

(a) The Judicial Council shall facilitate campus debates for the candidates running for Student Body President and Student Body Vice-President. The debates shall provide interested students and candidates with opportunities to discuss important issues and answer questions and concerns provided by their constituency.

XXIV. Article XIII, Section 2(a) is hereby amended to read as follows:

(a) A petition bearing the valid signatures of 15% of the undergraduate student body currently residing locally shall cause the Judicial Council to hold a campus-wide recall vote for the Student Body President and/or the Student Body Vice-President within two academic weeks of the presentation of the petition.

XXV. Article XIII, Section 2(b) is hereby amended to read as follows:

(b) A petition bearing the valid signatures of 20% of a Senator's residence shall cause the Judicial Council to hold a recall vote for that Senator within two academic weeks of the presentation of the petition.

XXVI. Article XIII, Section 2(c) is hereby amended to read as follows:

(c) A petition bearing the valid signatures of 20% of a Class constituency currently residing locally shall cause the Judicial Council to hold a recall vote for any or all of the Class Officers within two academic weeks of the presentation of the petition.

XXVII. Article XIII, Section 2(d) is hereby amended to read as follows:

(d) A petition bearing the valid signatures of 20% of the Off-Campus President's constituency currently residing locally shall cause the Judicial Council to hold a recall vote for the Off-Campus President within two academic weeks of the presentation of the petition.

XXVIII. Article XIII, Section 2(a) is hereby inserted as follows and all subsections and references thereafter and thereof are renumbered accordingly:

(a) A valid signature for the purpose of recall must include the full name and Notre Dame email of the signing undergraduate student. A signer of a recall petition must be an undergraduate student who is currently enrolled in at least one academic credit hour at the University of Notre Dame. The Judicial Council shall be responsible for verifying the validity of all signatures.

XXIX. Article XIII, Section 2(f) is hereby repealed, and all subsections and references thereafter and thereof are renumbered accordingly.

- XXX.** Article XIV, Section 1 is hereby inserted as follows and all subsections and references thereafter and thereof are renumbered accordingly:
Section 1. General Provisions.
- XXXI.** Article XIV, Section 1(a) is hereby amended to read as follows:
(a) A petition bearing the valid signatures of 200 members of the undergraduate student body shall cause the Senate to consider a specific resolution or order within two academic weeks of the presentation of the petition to the Senate.
- XXXII.** Article XIV, Section 1(b) is hereby repealed, and all subsections and references thereafter and thereof are renumbered accordingly.
- XXXIII.** Article XIV, Section 1(a) is hereby inserted as follows and all subsections and references thereafter and thereof are renumbered accordingly:
(a) A valid signature for the purpose of petition or initiative must include the full name and Notre Dame email of the signing undergraduate student. The Judicial Council shall be responsible for verifying the validity of all signatures.
- XXXIV.** Article XIV, Section 2(a) is hereby amended to read as follows:
(a) A petition containing the signatures of 15% of the undergraduate student body shall create an initiative.
- XXXV.** Article XIV, Section 2(c) is hereby repealed, and all subsections and references thereafter and thereof are renumbered accordingly.
- XXXVI.** Article XV, Section 1(e) is hereby amended to read as follows:
(e) E-mail as a source of campaigning may be used; however, the use of email automation and Listservs are prohibited. A Listserv shall be defined as any grouping of students or organizations who have not opted in to receive communication. Google Groups created for use by a Residence Hall, Student Union Organization, or University department, office, or official may not be used in campaigning.
- XXXVII.** Article XVI, Section 3(a)(1) is hereby amended to read as follows:
(1) 50% of The Shirt Project profits per annum, less \$125,000 to be made available for FMB allocation, shall be invested in the Student Union Endowment. The remaining 50% of The Shirt profits shall be distributed as specified in Article XVI, Section 11, and Article XVI, Section 12.

Further Ordered by the Student Senate of the University of Notre Dame du Lac,

That The Bylaws of The Student Senate are hereby amended as follows:

- I.** Section I(3) is hereby inserted as follows and all subsections and references thereafter and thereof are renumbered accordingly:

(3) Before an incoming Senate conducts any business at its first meeting, the Chairperson shall ask all Senators to raise their right hands and repeat the following Oath of Office:

I, (name of Senator), do solemnly swear that I will faithfully execute the office of student Senator of the University of Notre Dame du Lac; that I will bear true allegiance to the same; that, exercising my highest ethic, I will to the best of my ability preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of Undergraduate Student Body; that I take this obligation freely; and, that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office which I am about to enter.

It is so ordered.



Dawson Kiser
Student Body President