

1 **Mission Statement:**
2

3 Through the shared values of Inclusion, Integrity, Advocacy, Service, Diversity, and
4 Community, the Student Government Association of The University of Southern Mississippi
5 aims to create an environment that all students, faculty, and staff alike benefit from and share in
6 the collective vision of our student government.
7

8 The Student Government Association at Southern Miss strives to promote diversity and
9 inclusion, advocate on behalf of students at Southern Miss, uphold integrity by participating in
10 meaningful community service and developing innovative partnerships with students, faculty,
11 staff, and others within the Pine Belt community.
12

13 These six core values comprise the essence of what it means to be a Southern Miss Golden Eagle
14 and the tenet by which all who love and cherish this university strive to live by.
15

16 **Article I. General Organization**
17

18 SECTION I. The name of this organization shall be the Student Government Association of The
19 University of Southern Mississippi, otherwise referred to as the SGA. This document shall have
20 jurisdiction of the Hattiesburg campus of The University of Southern Mississippi.
21

22 SECTION II. The membership of the SGA shall consist only of students currently enrolled in
23 The University of Southern Mississippi with a cumulative GPA of 2.5 for members who hold a
24 position in any branch; and a cumulative GPA of 3.0 for SGA Executive Council members
25 including SGA President, SGA Senior Vice President, SGA Vice President of Judicial Affairs,
26 SGA Vice President of Finance and Administration, SGA Vice President of Communications,
27 and SGA the Chief of Staff.

- 28 A. A student who transfers from another institution to The University of Southern
29 Mississippi may apply for membership in the Student Government Association based
30 on their cumulative GPA from their previous institution.
31

32 SECTION III. The SGA Officers shall be charged with leading the SGA and ensuring that the
33 diverse voice of the student body is heard. The Officers of SGA shall consist of the following:
34 SGA President, SGA Senior Vice President, SGA Vice President of Judicial Affairs, SGA Vice
35 President of Finance and Administration, SGA Vice President of Communications, Chief of
36 Staff, and the Senior Vice President of Gulf Park Operations.

- 37 A. The Officers, with exception of the Chief of Staff, who is appointed by the SGA
38 President and shall serve as an ex-officio member of the Executive Council, shall be
39 elected in accordance with the provisions of the SGA Election Code.

- 40 a. Ex- Officio shall be defined as a non-elected SGA Officer who shall retain all
41 rights of an Executive Council member. The Chief of Staff shall be the only
42 ex-officio Officer in SGA.

- 43 B. The Senior Vice President of Gulf Park Operations is a recognized position on the
44 Hattiesburg campus. However, this SGA Officer has no jurisdiction over decisions
45 made by the Executive Council for the Hattiesburg campus.
46 C. The SGA Officers shall serve from their inauguration on Student Awards Day until
47 the following Student Awards Day.
48 D. Prior to the inauguration of the newly elected SGA Officers, the preceding SGA
49 Officers must assist the Officers-elect in a transitional period. This transitional period
50 shall ~~be defined as a series of meetings~~ defined as at least 1 meeting or by discretion
51 between the SGA Officer and SGA Officer-elect.
52 E. The SGA Officers shall remain neutral in all SGA elections, except when running for
53 a new SGA Officer position.
54 a. Remaining neutral shall be defined as not endorsing nor running for any
55 position within an SGA election.
56

57 SECTION IV. The governing structure of the Student Government Association of The
58 University of Southern Mississippi shall consist of the following distinct branches: Executive,
59 Legislative and Judicial.

- 60 A. No person may hold an appointed or elected position on more than one branch
61 concurrently.
62 B. The overall chain of command of the Hattiesburg SGA shall be as follows: The SGA
63 President, as the leader of the entire SGA, shall be at the head accompanied by their
64 SGA Officers which shall consist of the SGA Senior Vice President, SGA Vice
65 President of Judicial Affairs, SGA Vice President of Finance and Administration,
66 SGA Vice President of Communications, and SGA the Chief of Staff.
67 a. If an officer is unable to fulfill his or her duties or is impeached from his or
68 her position for any reason the protocol shall be as follows:
69 i. If the SGA President is unable to fulfill his or her duties or is
70 impeached from their position, then the SGA Senior Vice President
71 shall assume the role of SGA President. As the SGA Senior Vice
72 President is transitioned into position of the Presidency, the Senate
73 President Pro-Tempore shall assume the role of the SGA Senior Vice
74 President and the SGA Senate shall elect a new President Pro-
75 Tempore.
76 1. If the SGA President and the SGA Senior Vice President are
77 both unable to fulfill the office of the Presidency, the line of
78 succession will begin with the SGA Vice President of Judicial
79 Affairs and follow down the Chain of Command.
80 ii. If an SGA Officer, other than SGA President, is unable to fulfill their
81 duties or is impeached from their position, the SGA President shall
82 appoint someone to the position with two-thirds approval from the
83 SGA Senate. Until the appointment has been approved, the appropriate
84 SGA Officer of that branch shall maintain the day-to-day operations of
85 the said branch.
86 iii. The Senior Vice President of Gulf Park Operations does not fall within
87 the Hattiesburg chain of command.

88

89 SECTION V. The SGA advisor shall provide guidance and advisory opinions on financial
90 matters, organizational operations, and compliance with university student rules. This guidance
91 is to be taken into consideration by all members when making decisions with reference to the
92 SGA.

93

94 **ARTICLE II: Joint Executive Board**

95

96 SECTION I: The Joint Executive Board shall consist of the ~~SGA President Senior Vice President~~
97 ~~for Gulf Park Operations, Senior Vice President of the Hattiesburg campus, Vice President of the~~
98 ~~Gulf Park campus, Vice President of Judicial Affairs of the Hattiesburg Campus, and Attorney~~
99 ~~General of Gulf Park campus.~~ SGA President, SGA President for Gulf Park Operations, SGA
100 Senior Vice President of the Hattiesburg campus, SGA Vice President of the Gulf Park campus,
101 SGA Vice President of Judicial Affairs of the Hattiesburg Campus, and SGA Vice President of
102 Judicial Affairs of the Gulf Park campus.

103

104 SECTION II: The purpose of the Joint Executive Board is to establish and maintain an official
105 line of communication across all campuses with an operating Student Government Association
106 for all students. The Joint Executive Board aims to promote collaboration and ensure effective
107 representation for all Southern Miss students.

108 A. Each SGA shall have jurisdiction over their respective campus, excepting situations
109 that affect both the Hattiesburg and Gulf Park campuses.

110 a. The Joint Executive Board will provide guidance over matters that concern all
111 students at The University of Southern Mississippi.

112

113 SECTION III: The Joint Executive Board shall convene at least ~~7~~ 3 times per academic school
114 year. ~~No more than two (2) months should pass without a Joint Executive Board meeting.~~

115 A. At least one (1) SGA Advisor should be present at each meeting, if applicable.

116 B. If no SGA Advisor can attend the meeting, the SGA Graduate Assistant can serve as a
117 proxy.

118

119 **Article III. Powers and Duties of the Executive Council**

120

121 SECTION I. The Executive Council shall consist of the SGA President, SGA Senior Vice
122 President, SGA Vice President of Judicial Affairs, SGA Vice President of Finance and
123 Administration, and SGA Vice President of Communications, and ~~the SGA~~ the Chief of Staff.
124 The SGA Officers shall be charged with leading the SGA and ensuring that the diverse voice of
125 the student body is heard.

126

127 SECTION II. PRESIDENT

128 A. The Chief Officer of the SGA and of the entire student body at The University of
129 Southern Mississippi shall be the President of the Student Government Association,
130 otherwise known as the Student Body President.

131 B. The SGA President shall be elected from and by the entire student body from all
132 campuses by a majority vote during the spring SGA Officer elections.

- 133 C. The SGA President shall preside over the Executive Branch of the Student
134 Government Association.
- 135 D. The powers and duties of the SGA President shall include the following:
- 136 a. To represent Southern Miss at all meetings of the Student Body President's
137 Council of Mississippi Universities overseen by the Institute for Higher
138 Learning (IHL).
- 139 i. To attend the transition meeting of the Mississippi Student Body
140 President's Council along with the SGA President-elect.
- 141 b. To act as chair of the Executive Council.
- 142 c. To act as chair of the Joint Executive Board.
- 143 d. To serve as the official representative of the SGA and the student body.
- 144 e. To sign or veto all legislation passed by the SGA Senate. A veto is issued via
145 a written memorandum to the Senior Vice President explaining the veto
146 within ten (10) days of receiving the legislation. If no written memorandum is
147 issued, the legislation will be enacted.
- 148 f. To present an appointment to SGA Senate to fulfill the position of the Chief of
149 Staff within two (2) weeks of being named President Elect. the Chief of Staff
150 appointments are subject to a two-thirds approval by the SGA Senate. The
151 Chief of Staff must be appointed within a month of being named President
152 Elect.
- 153 g. To call special sessions of the SGA Senate. To call a special session, the SGA
154 President must notify the SGA Senate at least five (5) days prior to the
155 proposed session date.
- 156 h. To make appointments to fill all SGA Officer vacancies from the SGA with a
157 two-thirds approval of the SGA Senate
- 158 i. To terminate any prior appointment made by the SGA President
- 159 j. To appoint the SGA Vice President of Judicial Affairs and/or the SGA
160 Advisor to lead investigations on any subject the SGA President deems
161 necessary.
- 162 k. To call for a special referendum. Referendum is to be defined as an
163 unscheduled vote of the student body on any subject. The SGA President must
164 notify the Student Body at least two (2) days prior to the proposed special
165 referendum date.
- 166 l. To appoint persons to serve on university committees.
- 167 m. To establish and enforce such rules and procedures as are necessary for the
168 proper functioning of the Executive Branch.
- 169 n. To deliver a "State of the SGA" address to a joint meeting of the entire SGA
170 at a regularly scheduled SGA Senate meeting at least once each semester.
- 171 o. To ensure public access to proceedings of all regularly scheduled meetings of
172 any part of the SGA with the exception of Judicial Board proceedings or
173 portions of other meetings that are deemed closed by the appropriate SGA
174 Officer.
- 175 p. To designate an Executive Officer to serve as their representative if the SGA
176 President is unable to attend an official university obligation.

177 i. The chain of command, beginning with the Senior Vice President, will
178 be used to select the representative. However, if deemed appropriate
179 by a majority of the Executive Council, the SGA President may select
180 any SGA Officer to serve in this capacity.

181

182 SECTION III. SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT

- 183 A. The SGA Senior Vice President shall be elected from and by the student body by a
184 majority vote during the spring SGA Officer elections.
- 185 B. The SGA Senior Vice President shall preside over the Legislative Branch of the
186 Student Government Association.
- 187 C. The Student Government Association Senior Vice President shall serve as the SGA
188 Senate President.
- 189 D. The powers and duties of the SGA Vice President shall include the following:
- 190 a. To assume the office of SGA President during their absence or extended
191 illness.
- 192 b. To call special sessions of the SGA Senate. In order to call a special session,
193 the SGA Senior Vice President must notify the Senate at least five (5) days to
194 the proposed session date.
- 195 c. To serve as the presiding officer over all meetings of the SGA Senate and to
196 cast a vote only in the event of a tie.
- 197 d. To ensure the maintenance of all official records of the SGA Senate, which
198 shall be made readily available to the Administrative Commission under the
199 Vice President of Finance and Administration.
- 200 e. To use their discretion in appointing the members of all committees falling
201 under the jurisdiction of the SGA Senate.
- 202 f. To use their discretion in the creation of all ad hoc committees as needed
203 within the jurisdiction of the SGA Senate.
- 204 g. To remove any senator or observer from the SGA Senate chamber if deemed
205 necessary.
- 206 h. To serve as a member ex officio of all SGA Senate committees.
- 207 i. To appoint all SGA Senate committee chairs.
- 208 j. To set the legislative agenda.
- 209 k. To determine the policies regarding the submission of legislation.
- 210 l. To establish and enforce such rules and procedures as are necessary for the
211 proper functioning of the Legislative Branch.
- 212 m. Call for the removal of senators that violate the SGA Constitution, the Senate
213 Bylaws, or violate the Code of Conduct, with a two-thirds majority vote by
214 the SGA Senate.

215

216 SECTION IV. VICE PRESIDENT OF JUDICIAL AFFAIRS

- 217 A. The SGA Vice President of Judicial Affairs shall be elected from and by the student
218 body by a majority vote during the spring SGA officer elections.
- 219 B. The SGA Vice President of Judicial Affairs shall preside over the Judicial Branch of
220 the Student Government Association.

- 221 C. The Student Government Association Vice President of Judicial Affairs shall serve as
222 Chief Justice.
- 223 D. The powers and duties of the SGA Vice President of Judicial Affairs shall include the
224 following:
- 225 a. To serve as the chief advisor on all questions of constitutionality.
 - 226 b. To notify the SGA Senate during a legislative session should any officer of
227 the SGA commit an unconstitutional or illegal act.
 - 228 i. Should the Vice President of Judicial Affairs commit the act, the SGA
229 Advisor and the Judicial Board Vice-Chairman shall notify the SGA
 - 230 c. To preside at the swearing in of all SGA Officers and Senators.
 - 231 d. To answer questions and provide clarification during SGA Senate meetings
232 and to ensure that the governing documents of the SGA are followed
233 correctly.
 - 234 e. To rule on any conflicts that arise concerning SGA, its member groups, or its
235 members that are not resolved through the normal methods, activities, or
236 policies of those involved in the conflict.
 - 237 f. To serve as the chief officer of the SGA Judicial Board-
 - 238 n. Call for the removal of judicial board members that violate the SGA
239 Constitution, the Judicial Branch Bylaws, or violate the Code of Conduct,
240 with a two-thirds majority vote by the SGA Senate.

241
242
243 SECTION V. VICE PRESIDENT OF COMMUNICATIONS

- 244 A. The SGA Vice President of Communications shall be elected from and by the student
245 body by a majority vote during the spring SGA Officer elections.
- 246 B. The Student Government Association Vice President of Communications shall serve
247 as the Executive Director of the SGA Communications Commission, which is on the
248 Executive Branch of the SGA
- 249 C. The Student Government Association Vice President of Communications shall serve
250 as the Chief Communications Officer.
- 251 D. The powers and duties of the SGA Vice President of Communications shall include
252 the following:
- 253 a. To appoint members of the Communications Branch to fulfill all SGA
254 communications needs.
 - 255 i. All appointments must be approved by a two-thirds vote from the SGA
256 Senate.
 - 257 ii. This commission must have a minimum of four (4) official positions.
 - 258 b. To publish and/or release official statements on behalf of SGA, which must be
259 approved by the SGA President.
 - 260 i. In the event the SGA President is unable to provide approval of
261 official statement(s) due to an absence or if their decision could
262 compromise the integrity of the Student Government Association or
263 the office of the SGA President, then the SGA Executive Council can
264 authorize official statement(s) with a majority vote.

- 265 ii. Official statements shall be defined as any statement released on
- 266 behalf of SGA signed by the SGA President and/or the Executive
- 267 Council.
- 268 c. To oversee all digital and print communication that the SGA may use.
- 269 d. To oversee all other materials that the SGA orders related to marketing and
- 270 communications.
- 271 o. Call for the removal of communication members that violate the SGA
- 272 Constitution, with a two-thirds majority vote by the SGA Senate.
- 273

274 **SECTION VI. VICE PRESIDENT OF FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION**

- 275 A. The SGA Vice President of Finance & Administration shall be elected from and by
- 276 the student body by a majority vote during the spring SGA Officer elections.
- 277 B. The Student Government Association Vice President of Finance & Administration
- 278 shall serve as the Executive Director of the SGA Administrative Commission, which
- 279 is on the Executive Branch of the SGA.
- 280 C. The Student Government Association Vice President of Finance & Administration
- 281 shall serve as the Chief Financial Officer of the SGA.
- 282 D. The powers and duties of the SGA Vice President of Finance & Administration shall
- 283 include the following:
 - 284 a. To keep an itemized account of all receipts and expenditures used by the
 - 285 SGA.
 - 286 b. To make available to the SGA President and SGA Senate a quarterly financial
 - 287 statement.
 - 288 c. To lead the Administrative Commission, which is responsible for creating,
 - 289 organizing and/or maintaining all SGA official records, including but not
 - 290 limited to, SGA Senate legislation, minutes for the Cabinet, public Senate and
 - 291 Executive Council meetings, the SGA budget that is created by the SGA Vice
 - 292 President of Finance and Administration, SGA election results, SGA election
 - 293 voter data, and any other records the Executive Council requests. These
 - 294 records must be made readily available to the public.
 - 295 d. To appoint members of the Administrative Commission to fulfill all SGA
 - 296 administrative needs.
 - 297 i. All appointments must be approved by a two-thirds vote by the SGA
 - 298 Senate.
 - 299 ii. This commission must have a minimum of two (2) appointments.
 - 300 e. To serve as the chief advisor to the SGA President on the financial state of the
 - 301 SGA.
 - 302 f. To serve as the chair of the Student Fee Advisory Board.
 - 303 p. Call for the removal of finance and administration members that violate the
 - 304 SGA Constitution, , with a two-thirds majority vote by the SGA Senate.
 - 305 g. To administer weekly reports on all members of SGA.
 - 306
 - 307

308 **SECTION VII: Chief of Staff**

- 309 A. The Student Government Association the Chief of Staff shall serve as an ex-officio
310 member of the Executive Council and shall be appointed by the SGA President-Elect
311 within two weeks of becoming President.
- 312 B. The Student Government Association Chief of Staff shall oversee the Cabinet, which
313 is on the Executive Branch of the SGA.
- 314 C. The powers and duties of the SGA Chief of Staff shall include the following:
- 315 a. To appoint all members to the Cabinet.
- 316 i. All appointments must be approved by the SGA President.
- 317 ii. All appointments must be approved by a two-thirds vote by the SGA
318 Senate.
- 319 b. To create committees on the Cabinet, that will fulfill the responsibilities of the
320 commission.
- 321 c. To create and/or determine policies and procedures for the operation of the
322 Cabinet.
- 323 q. Call for the removal of cabinet members that violate the SGA Constitution or
324 violate the Cabinet contract, with a two-thirds majority vote by the SGA
325 Senate.
- 326
- 327

328 **ARTICLE IV: Executive Branch**

329

330 SECTION I. All Executive powers herein granted shall be vested in the executive branch of the
331 Student Government Association.

- 332 A. The SGA President shall preside over the Executive Branch.
- 333 B. SGA members of the Executive Branch shall be appointed through an application and
334 interview process to be conducted by the appropriate SGA Officer.
- 335 a. At least one additional interviewer, approved by the Hattiesburg SGA
336 Advisor, must be present during all interviews.
- 337 i. The additional interviewer(s) may be any of the following: The
338 Hattiesburg SGA Advisor, any current SGA Officer, any SGA officer
339 of the preceding administration who oversaw a commission on the
340 Executive Branch, or the Director of Leadership and Student
341 Involvement.
- 342 b. The SGA President must approve all Cabinet, appointments prior to
343 presentation and approval of the Senate.
- 344 C. Initial Executive Branch appointments must be presented within three (3) weeks
345 following the SGA Officer elections.
- 346 a. In the event that the schedule prohibits this from being filled, then a new timeline
347 of appointments may be approved by both the SGA President and the SGA
348 Advisor.
- 349

350 SECTION II. CABINET

- 351 A. The SGA Cabinet shall oversee SGA events, initiatives, and Freshman Associates.
- 352 a. There will be at least three (3) committees on the Cabinet

- 353 b. The makeup of Cabinet committees shall be determined by the SGA Chief of
354 Staff.
- 355 B. The SGA Cabinet shall aim to improve the Southern Miss experience by hosting
356 university signature events, promoting student initiatives, and performing student
357 outreach for the entire student body that fulfills the mission of the Student
358 Government Association.
- 359 C. Freshman Associates shall consist of freshmen selected each fall semester
- 360 a. The purpose of Freshman Associates shall be to provide leadership
361 development and educate its members on the structure and purpose of SGA.
- 362 b. Selections Process
- 363 i. Freshman Associate members are selected through an application and
364 interview process conducted by the Freshman Associates Director(s).
- 365 ii. The SGA Senate does not need to approve the selection of Freshman
366 Associate members.
- 367 iii. The Chief of Staff, the Director(s) of Freshman Associates, and, if
368 applicable, the SGA Advisor must unanimously approve the final
369 selection of Freshman Associate members.
- 370 iv. Students who are in their first year at Southern Miss but have
371 accumulated enough credit hours to be an upperclassman may still
372 submit an application to be considered for Freshman Associates.
373 Discretion of eligible students must be agreed upon by the Chief of
374 Staff, the Freshman Associate Director(s), and, if applicable, the SGA
375 Advisor.
- 376 B. Special committees can be created at the discretion of the Chief of Staff for special
377 projects and initiatives.
- 378 r. The position for the Director of Community Relations and Engagement falls
379 under the responsibility the Cabinet branch and appointed under the discretion
380 of the SGA Chief of Staff and SGA President, and will be approved with a
381 two-thirds majority vote by the SGA Senate.
- 382
- 383

384 SECTION III. COMMUNICATIONS BOARD

- 385 A. The Communications Board is responsible for creating and/or sharing content
386 pertinent to the operations and mission of the SGA.
- 387 B. Duties of the SGA Communications Board are as follows:
- 388 a. Ensure the public relations, marketing, and advertising of the SGA are in line
389 with its operations and mission.
- 390 b. Share pertinent content through methods including but not limited to the
391 following:
- 392 i. The SGA Website
- 393 ii. Social media posts
- 394 iii. Videos
- 395 iv. Digital graphics
- 396 v. Posters
- 397 vi. A-Frame posters

- 398 vii. Newsletters
- 399 viii. Tabling initiatives
- 400 c. To attend all meetings of the SGA Communications Board called by the Vice
- 401 President of Communications.
- 402 d. To aid in any content creation and/or publications deemed pertinent by the
- 403 Vice President of Communications.
- 404 C. This commission must have a minimum of four (4) appointed members other than the
- 405 Vice President of Communications.
- 406

407 **SECTION IV. ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION**

- 408 E. The Administrative Commission is responsible for creating, organizing and/or
- 409 maintaining all SGA official records.
- 410 F. Duties of the SGA Administrative Commission are as follows:
- 411 a. These records include but are not limited to:
- 412 i. SGA Senate legislation
- 413 ii. Minutes from all public SGA meetings
- 414 iii. The SGA budget ~~that is created~~ is reviewed by the SGA Vice President
- 415 of Finance and Administration
- 416 iv. SGA election results
- 417 v. Any other records the Executive Council requests.
- 418 b. Ensure records are readily available to the public
- 419 c. To attend all meetings of the SGA Administrative Commission called by the
- 420 Vice President of Finance & Administration.
- 421 G. The commission must have a minimum of two (2) appointed members other than the
- 422 Vice President of Finance & Administration.
- 423

424 **Article V: Legislative Branch**

425

426 **SECTION I.** All legislative powers herein granted shall be vested in the legislative branch of the

427 Student Government Association. The Legislative Branch members shall consist of all duly

428 elected members and those appointed by the SGA Senior Vice President.

429

430 **SECTION II.** The SGA Senate shall be composed of ~~thirty-seven (37) elected students. Twenty-~~

431 ~~seven (27) undergraduate students shall be elected from the four academic colleges with the~~

432 ~~remaining eight (8) undergraduate or graduate students representing the campus at large and~~

433 ~~two (2) graduate students representing the graduate school. Thirty-eight (38) senators elected~~

434 ~~students. Twenty-five (25) undergraduate students shall be elected from the four academic~~

435 ~~colleges with the remaining (11) undergraduate or graduate students representing the campus at~~

436 ~~large. There will be an additional (2) freshmen liaisons to provide student voice to Freshman~~

437 ~~students but have no voting power in the chamber.~~

438 The SGA Senate shall be made up of thirty-eight (38) senators elected in the following ways:

- 439 A. There shall be twenty-five (25) senators representing Colleges.

- 440 a. The College seats shall be divided to coincide with the distribution of seats to
441 specialized interest groups that senators apply to. Those senators that do not
442 represent any student organizations on campus, will serve as a representative for
443 their respective college.
444 i. College of Arts and Sciences (11 seats)
445 ii. College of Education and Human Sciences (4 seats)
446 iii. College of Business and Economic Development (5 seats)
447 iv. College of Nursing and Health Professions (5 seats)
448 b. The Senior Vice President will be responsible for selecting the senators and
449 number of seats in each College based on student population and application
450 interest.
- 451 B. There shall be eleven (11) senators representing registered student organizations at The
452 University of Southern Mississippi.
- 453 a. The student organization seats are divided equally among each of the following
454 categories:
455 i. Academic (1 seat)
456 ii. Department and Office Organizations (1 Seat)
457 iii. Fraternity and Sorority Life, three (3) senators shall represent the three
458 respective councils in the FSL Community.
459 1. National Pan-Hellenic Council (1 Seat)
460 2. Interfraternity Council (1 seat)
461 3. College Panhellenic Council (1 seat)
462 iv. Honor Societies (1 seat)
463 v. Housing and Residence (1 seat)
464 vi. Special Interest (4 seats)
- 465 C. There shall be two (2) freshmen liaisons.
- 466 a. Priority will be given to freshman liaisons that apply from the Freshman
467 Associates branch
468 i. If no applicants from FA apply, then Freshmen from the general student
469 body can apply during the Fall Session in accordance to the Senior Vice
470 President.
471 ii. For Freshmen Liaison's hailing from the Freshman Associates, they be
472 appointed under the discretion of the SGA Chief of Staff and Director of
473 Freshman Associates.
474 iii. The role of these freshman liaisons will be to promote and bridge any gaps
475 in communications to Freshmen needs and concerns on the campus of The
476 University of Southern Mississippi.
477 iv. The role of these liaisons is to work concurrently with the Senate Branch,
478 and reporting issues related to Freshman life.

- 479 v. They will hold no voting power for the first semester they are within the
480 Senate. The start of the Spring semester, the Senate body will come to a
481 vote, and with 2/3 vote the Freshman liaison will be granted the full
482 responsibilities of an active senator.
- 483 D. Each college (4) shall be granted representation with one member from each school.
484 E. Each senator must be a member of the college and school they represent with the
485 exception of the Campus at Large seats.
486 F. If there are no students who wish to fill a seat for a particular school in one of the four
487 academic colleges, another student from the same college may apply to fill the vacant
488 Senate seat after the SGA election period and will serve as a representative of the entire
489 college.
490 G. No senator may simultaneously represent multiple colleges or schools.
491 H. If any senator changes their major to an academic college or school other than the one
492 from which he/she was elected, the senator must immediately inform the SGA Senior
493 Vice President of the change. The Senator may finish his or her term as a representative
494 of the original college.
495 I. The SGA Director of Campus Elections shall conduct SGA Senate elections for all SGA
496 Senate positions every spring semester.
497 J. The SGA Senior Vice President reserves the right to fill any SGA Senate vacancies at
498 any time throughout the year with two-thirds approval of the SGA Senate.

499 SECTION IV. The SGA Senate shall be vested with the following powers.

- 500 A. The SGA Senate shall approve all appointments proposed by the SGA Officers with a
501 two-thirds vote.
502 B. All applications shall be available to the SGA Senate for viewing upon request within
503 48 hours prior to the presentation of appointments. All SGA appointments to
504 positions within branches shall be considered by SGA Senate and approved by two-
505 thirds vote.
506 a. Upon approval of appointments by SGA Senate, applicants may speak to the
507 SGA Vice President of Judicial Affairs and/or the SGA Advisor for
508 justification of decisions made.
509 C. The SGA Senate shall have the power to override any veto by the SGA President with
510 a 2/3 vote.
511 D. The SGA Senate shall issue ~~summonses~~ summons and conduct investigations on any
512 subject
513 deemed questionable.
514 A. The SGA Senate may bring impeachment charges against any elected or appointed
515 SGA Officer of the SGA upon a two-thirds vote by the SGA Senate roster.
516 B. The SGA Senate shall review and approve the SGA budget with a 2/3 vote.
517 C. With a unanimous vote, the SGA Senate may call a constitutional convention for the
518 purposes of rewriting or restructuring any article or the entirety of the constitution.
519 D. The SGA Senate shall enact any legislation it deems necessary to the student body.
520

521 SECTION V. The process of enacting legislation shall be as followed:

- 522 A. An official copy of the legislation passed by the SGA Senate must first be sent to the
523 SGA President in writing within two (2) days of its passage.
524 B. The President must ~~either send back approval in writing~~ either approve via a
525 signature, issue a veto, or let their ten (10) day deadline expire.
526 i. If the President lets the ten (10) day deadline expire, this means the
527 legislation passes successfully, and can be enacted as stated in this section.
528 C. The author(s) of the legislation and the Senior Vice President must sign the official
529 copy of the legislation.
530 D. Legislation will be enacted upon the completion of all steps outlined in this section.
531

532 SECTION VI. The SGA Senate shall consist of standing committees.

- 533 A. Every Senator, except for the Parliamentarian and Secretary, is required to serve on a
534 committee.
535 B. If approved by the SGA Senior Vice President, the Parliamentarian or Secretary have
536 the right to serve on any standing or Ad Hoc committee as a general member.
537 C. The SGA Senior Vice President has the authority to create an Ad Hoc committee
538 during a Senate term. The standing and Ad Hoc committees along with their
539 descriptions are listed in the Senate By-Laws.
540

541 SECTION VII. The SGA Senate shall have a council to assist the SGA Senior Vice President in
542 matters of the legislative branch. This council shall be called the Legislative Council.

- 543 A. The Legislative Council shall consist of the chairpersons of every standing committee
544 and ad hoc committee, as well as the Secretary and Parliamentarian. The purpose of
545 the Legislative Council shall be to assist the SGA Senior Vice President in ensuring
546 that all matters of the committees are running efficiently. The Legislative Council
547 shall have the responsibility to report any important updates or matters of each
548 standing committee to the SGA Senior Vice President and the Senate Body at
549 scheduled Senate meetings.
550 B. The SGA Senior Vice President reserves the right to create any additional positions or
551 advisory boards on Senate to increase the efficiency of the SGA Senate.
552 a. All additional positions shall be approved by the SGA Senate with a
553 two-thirds vote.
554

555 **Article VI: Judicial Branch**

556

557 SECTION I. SGA JUDICIAL AUTHORITY

- 558 A. In all cases solely concerning violations and interpretations of the SGA constitution,
559 the SGA judicial authority shall be vested in the SGA Judicial Board.
560 a. Judicial authority concerning elections shall be outlined in the SGA Election
561 Code.
562 C. In matters including, but not limited to, organizational and individual disciplinarian
563 cases, the Dean of Students shall outline the role and responsibility of the SGA
564 Judicial Board.

- 565 D. In all other university matters including, but not limited to, student parking violations,
566 the SGA Judicial Board may be vested judicial authority in accordance with
567 university policy.
568

569 SECTION II. THE SGA JUDICIAL BOARD

- 570 A. The Judicial Board shall consist of nine (9) student members who shall serve in two-
571 year terms, each of which shall begin on Student Awards Day. Five (5) members shall
572 be appointed on odd-numbered years to serve two-year terms. Four (4) members shall
573 be appointed on even-numbered years to serve two-year terms. These students shall
574 be representatives of the Southern Miss student body. The chairman of the Judicial
575 Board shall be the SGA Vice President of Judicial Affairs. He or she may have no
576 vote in its judicial proceedings unless to break a tie.
- 577 a. If more positions than the assigned number are needed, an additional position
578 over the allotted number will be appointed to serve one-year terms.
- 579 B. These students shall be selected through an application and interview process under
580 the above requirements by the Vice President of Judicial Affairs. If vacancies arise
581 during the year, the positions shall be filled through an application and interview
582 process conducted by the SGA Vice President of Judicial Affairs within 30 days of
583 the vacancy.
- 584 a. In the event this rule is unmet due to a lack of qualified applicants for a seat,
585 the position shall be filled at the discretion of the SGA Vice President of
586 Judicial Affairs.
- 587 b. All members of the Judicial Board must be approved by two-thirds vote of the
588 SGA Senate.
- 589 C. The SGA Vice President of Judicial Affairs shall select a Vice Chairman and a
590 Judicial Secretary from the Judicial Board.
- 591 a. The Vice Chairman shall oversee the SGA Judicial Board and all assigned
592 duties of the SGA Vice President of Judicial Affairs in his or her absence.
- 593 b. The Judicial Secretary shall oversee keeping track of attendance,
594 organizing agendas for judicial hearings, keeping a record of the precedence, ~~and~~
595 ~~documenting the names of students who come before the student judicial board.~~
- 596 D. Members of the Judicial Board shall be allowed three (3) absences per semester
597 during their term of service, and this will be emphasized of all members in the
598 Judicial Board contracts.
- 599 E. The Judicial Board has the power to request university documents that are relevant to
600 any case being heard.
- 601 F. The Judicial Board can authorize depositions or written statements in lieu of oral
602 testimony when deemed necessary.
- 603 G. The Judicial Board shall keep an adequate record, as determined by the SGA advisor
604 of the proceedings and, upon request, make this record available to the accused after
605 the hearing.
- 606 H. Most of the membership of each judicial body must be present to hear a case unless a
607 lesser number is approved by both parties to the case.
608

609 SECTION III. DIRECTOR OF CAMPUS ELECTIONS

- 610 A. The SGA Director of Campus Elections shall be appointed by the SGA Vice
611 President of Judicial Affairs.
- 612 B. The Student Government Association Director of Campus Elections shall oversee all
613 elections approved by the SGA.
- 614 C. This appointment is subject to approval by two-thirds of the SGA Senate.
- 615 D. The powers and duties of the SGA Director of Campus Elections shall include the
616 following:
- 617 a. To enforce and obey all rules and regulations set forth in the SGA Election
618 Code.
 - 619 b. To supervise and oversee all SGA elections.
 - 620 ~~c. To call a meeting of the SGA Election Commission whenever necessary and
621 to serve as presiding officer.~~
 - 622 d. To certify and execute all initiative, recall and referendum petitions.
 - 623 e. To ensure the SGA Hattiesburg Election Code is always made public
 - 624 f. To set the dates of all elections and referenda, subject to the limitations
625 outlined in the Hattiesburg Election Code.
 - 626 g. To publicize the dates of elections and/or referenda.
 - 627 h. To examine applications, ask the advisor to review GPA qualifications in a
628 timely manner, and to prepare ballots for all elections conducted by the SGA.
 - 629 i. To distribute a copy of the Hattiesburg SGA Election Code to candidates at
630 the candidate meeting prior to elections.
 - 631 j. To ensure the removal of any campaign materials resulting from an election in
632 the time stated within the SGA Hattiesburg Election Code.
 - 633 i. The SGA Director of Campus Elections shall hold campaign material
634 for a period of 24 hours to allow candidates to pick up the materials
635 before disposing of it.
 - 636 k. To arrange for and supervise the tabulation of ballots and to prepare a certified
637 copy of the election results signed by the SGA Vice President of Judicial
638 Affairs and the SGA Director of Campus Elections within 24 hours after the
639 close of the polls.
 - 640 l. To post the election results outside the SGA offices and to make those results
641 available to the public upon certification. Election results must be posted in
642 the SGA office and on SGA social media platforms no later than 24 hours
643 after the election results and must remain up for 30 days.
 - 644 m. To enforce and obey all rules and regulations set forth in the SGA Hattiesburg
645 Election Code.
 - 646 i. For university wide positions such as the SGA President, the Director
647 of Campus Elections will have jurisdiction over any candidates
648 running on the Hattiesburg campus.
 - 649 n. To remain unbiased in all elections, which includes, but is not limited to,
650 campaigning and endorsing candidates within an SGA election.
 - 651 ~~o. To remain unbiased in all elections, which includes, but is not limited to,
652 campaigning and endorsing candidates within an SGA election.~~

- 653 p. The Director of Campus Elections shall not be allowed to participate as a
654 candidate in any election that he/she oversees. This can include but is not
655 limited to Homecoming and SGA Officer Elections.
- 656 q. To make public the dates of elections and any other required regulations, on
657 social media, and in all pertinent outlets.
- 658 r. To notify the Gulf Park SGA of any and all election dates as soon as they are
659 set.
- 660 s. To work with the SGA Advisor in any and all matters deemed necessary for
661 conducting SGA elections.
- 662
- 663

664 SECTION IV. ELECTION COMMISSION

665 A. ~~Duties of the SGA Election Commission are as follows:~~

- 666 a. ~~To aid the SGA Director of Campus Elections and, if appointed, the Assistant~~
667 ~~Director of Campus Elections.~~
- 668 b. ~~To ensure compliance with the SGA Election Code during campaigning and~~
669 ~~election.~~
- 670 c. ~~To attend all meetings of the SGA Election Commission called by the SGA~~
671 ~~Director of Campus Elections.~~
- 672 d. ~~To remain unbiased in all elections which includes, but is not limited to,~~
673 ~~campaigning and endorsing candidates within an SGA election.~~
- 674
- 675

676 SECTION IV. IMPEACHMENT

677 A. ~~The SGA President, SGA Senior Vice President, SGA Vice President of Judicial~~
678 ~~Affairs, SGA Vice President of Finance and Administration, SGA Vice President of~~
679 ~~Communications, and the SGA the Chief of Staff, SGA Senators, and members of~~
680 ~~SGA, shall be removed from office upon impeachment for and conviction of~~
681 ~~violations of the SGA Constitution or SGA Election Code or law as well as any~~
682 ~~violation that would cause loss of good standing with the university.~~

683 a. ~~Cases concerning President Gulf Park representation~~

684 b. ~~Cases concerning general members of branches, Executive Officers of their~~
685 ~~respective branch can call for a member of their branch's removal if actions~~
686 ~~have violated the branch's Code of Conduct, the SGA Constitution, SGA~~
687 ~~Election Code, or specific branch governing documents, or specific branch~~
688 ~~responsibility as well as any violation that would cause loss of good standing~~
689 ~~with the university. This right is only reserved for the executive member and~~
690 ~~their respective branch, no other executive authority can call for the removal~~
691 ~~of another branch member without going through the process of impeachment.~~

692 B. ~~The SGA Senate shall have the sole power of levying charges of impeachment. The~~
693 ~~SGA Senate shall upon concurrence of two-thirds of the members on roll formally~~
694 ~~charge an SGA officer or SGA members with impeachment.~~

695 C. ~~The SGA Judicial Board shall have the sole power to try impeachments. Upon the~~
696 ~~introduction of formal charges by the SGA Senate, an individual shall be served~~
697 ~~notice of impeachment by the secretary of the SGA Senate. The secretary of the SGA~~

698 ~~Senate shall also notify the vice chairman of the SGA Judicial Board. The SGA~~
699 ~~Judicial Board vice chairman shall then call a meeting of the SGA Judicial Board~~
700 ~~within three days to conduct a preliminary hearing and to accept the plea of the~~
701 ~~defendant. The defendant shall be issued their constitutional rights and be given all~~
702 ~~pertinent information to prepare a defense. The trial shall convene not fewer than ten~~
703 ~~(10) days and not more than fifteen (15) business/class days from the date of this~~
704 ~~hearing.~~

705 ~~D. Upon a majority vote of the SGA Judicial Board, a person shall be immediately~~
706 ~~removed from office. In the event of an appeal from the person in question, the office~~
707 ~~shall be filled on an interim basis by the appropriate chain of command as per this~~
708 ~~constitution until a final decision has been made.~~

709

710 **Article VII. Finances**

711

712 SECTION I. Treasury

713

A. Budget

714

a. The SGA President and SGA Vice President of Finance and Administration
715 shall submit a budget at least two meetings prior to the end of the spring
716 session for approval by the SGA Senate.

717

b. Once submitted to the SGA Senate, the SGA budget shall be regarded as
718 legislation and require a majority vote.

719

c. Should a 25 percent change in any one allotment or a 10 percent change in the
720 entire budget, then the matter must be brought to the SGA Senate for
721 approval.

722

B. Spending

723

a. The University of Southern Mississippi Student Government Association will
724 follow federal, state, and university policies regarding spending.

725

726 SECTION II. Student Fee Advisory Board (SFAB)

727

A. The Student Fee Advisory Board will oversee the disbursement of the Student
728 Organizational Funding (SOF) process.

729

B. SOF is designed to support student organizations program for the student body.

730

C. The process of SOF is outlined in the Student Organizational Funding (SOF) manual.

731

a. All changes to the manual must be in accordance with IHL and university
732 policies.

733

b. All changes must be approved by the university staff member directly
734 advising the SFAB.

735

D. The SGA Administrative Affairs branch must approve the SFAB recommendations
736 for funding prior to disbursement of funds.

737

738

739 **Article VIII. Mr. Southern Miss and Miss Southern Miss**

740

741 SECTION I. The Student Government Association shall host an annual election of Mr. Southern
742 Miss and Miss Southern Miss to recognize two students who exemplify the character, service,
743 and scholarship that the University seeks to uphold in its students.

744
745 SECTION II. The qualifications for Mr. Southern Miss and Miss Southern Miss shall be as
746 follows:

- 747 A. All candidates for Mr. Southern Miss or Miss Southern Miss must have a cumulative,
748 which includes all USM and transfer credits, GPA of 3.0 or higher prior to
749 application.
- 750 B. Candidates for Mr. Southern Miss and Miss Southern Miss must be senior ~~male~~ full-
751 time students at The University of Southern Mississippi.

752
753 SECTION III. Mr. and Miss Southern Miss will be required to attend all major university and/or
754 SGA sponsored events per request of the current SGA President during the fall and spring
755 semester following their election. As a repercussion for not fulfilling the requirements as Mr.
756 Southern Miss and/or Miss Southern Miss, the title will be stripped from the one that failed to
757 fulfill such requirements and will not be replaced until the following Homecoming elections.

758
759 **Article IX. Student Rights**

760
761 SECTION I. Each SGA member shall be guaranteed the civil liberties and rights vested to them
762 by the United States and the state of Mississippi. This SGA constitution remains subject to and
763 can in no way infringe upon these governing documents.

764
765 **Article X. Amendments to the Constitution**

766
767 SECTION I. Any amendments to this document shall be presented to the SGA Senate for
768 approval.

- 769 A. Amendments shall be accepted to this Constitution upon a two-thirds vote of two
770 consecutive SGA Senate sessions.
- 771 B. The Senior Vice President must approve constitutional amendments prior to the
772 Senate presentation.
- 773 C. After the amendment is approved by two consecutive SGA Senate sessions, the
774 amendment shall be sent to the SGA President for final approval. In the event the
775 SGA President issues a veto, the veto may be overturned by a three-fourths vote of
776 the SGA Senate roster.

777
778 SECTION II. If the need arises for a rewriting of the SGA Constitution, the process shall be as
779 follows:

- 780 A. The process shall begin with the written consent of the SGA President or a unanimous
781 vote of the SGA Senate.
- 782 B. There shall be a Constitutional Committee established that shall consist of the
783 following: The SGA President, the SGA Senior Vice President, the SGA Vice
784 President of Judicial Affairs, SGA Vice President of Finance and Administration,
785 SGA Vice President of Communications, SGA the Chief of Staff, and the Director of

- 786 Campus Elections. The SGA Senior Vice President, SGA Vice President of Judicial
787 Affairs, SGA Vice President of Finance and Administration, SGA Vice President of
788 Communications, and the SGA the Chief of Staff shall choose ~~two~~ one members of
789 their respective branches to be a part of the committee which shall bring the total of
790 the Constitutional Committee to thirteen (13) members.
- 791 C. The committee shall meet at the discretion of the committee members, but shall not
792 operate unless nine (9) out of the ~~thirteen (13)~~ twelve (12) members are present.
- 793 D. Upon completion, the new document must be submitted first to the SGA Senate for
794 two-thirds approval of the senators on the roster, then to a vote by the student body.
795 This document shall go into effect with the majority consent of the student body vote.
- 796 E. Upon a plurality vote of the participating student body of The University of Southern
797 Mississippi and approval by the Vice President of Student Affairs, the new SGA
798 constitution shall take immediate effect, and all preceding documents shall be
799 declared null and void.
- 800 F. Conflicts to immediate implementation may be postponed or managed accordingly
801 with the approval of the SGA President and the SGA Vice President of Judicial
802 Affairs.
- 803 G. A Constitutional Convention may not be called within three (3) years of the most
804 previous convention.

805 **ARTICLE XI. Authority**

806 SECTION I. This SGA Constitution shall be the final authority regarding all SGA matters.
807 Should any bylaws, bills, or resolutions conflict with this Constitution, they shall be rendered
808 null and void.

809 SECTION II. Only these articles shall be considered constitutional. Any codes or bylaws must
810 submit to these precepts and shall not be considered equal to the SGA constitution.

811 **Article XII. Extraordinary Circumstances Clause**

812 SECTION I. The implementation of these procedures applies to all branches of SGA. There are
813 two general types of emergency incidents that may result in the implementation of this plan:

814 (1) large-scale disorder

815 (2) large-scale natural/man-made disaster

816 Since an emergency incident may be sudden and without warning, these procedures are designed
817 to be flexible in order to accommodate contingencies of various types and magnitudes.

818 Depending on which type of general emergency incident, all or select sections of Article XIII
819 will be implemented with approval of a unanimous vote by executive council. If every executive
820 council member cannot meet, the vote to determine which sections take affect can proceed with a
821 decision from the SGA President and SGA Advisor at the time of the incident. Following the

822 vote, the SGA President must release a statement declaring this article and which sections are to
823 be followed.

824 SECTION II. If the SGA Senate cannot meet to approve the SGA budget, it can be voted on by
825 the SGA Vice President of Finance and Administration, SGA Senior Vice President, SGA
826 President, and SGA Advisor.

827 If the aforementioned SGA officers cannot meet, the SGA budget will be determined by the Vice
828 President of Finance and the SGA Advisor

829 SECTION III. ~~If the SGA Senate cannot meet to approve the Student Organizational Funding,~~ If
830 the Student Fee Advisory Board cannot approve the Student Organization it can be voted on by
831 the, SGA President, SGA Vice President of Finance and Administration, ~~SGA Senior Vice~~
832 ~~President, SGA Senate President Pro Tempore,~~ SGA Graduate Assistant (if applicable), and
833 SGA Advisor.

834 SECTION IV. Within each individual branch and/or commission, the individual directly
835 presiding over the branch and/or along with the appropriate members will vote and determine
836 weekly procedures such as meetings, office hours, etc.

837 **Article XIII. Office Hours and Attendance for SGA Members**

838 SECTION I. OFFICE HOURS

839 A. Each executive officer shall be required to complete four (4) office hours each week,
840 except in circumstances of holidays, special events, or by the discretion of the Executive
841 Board. The executive officers shall track their hours in accordance with the Vice
842 President of Finance and Administration.

843 B. Each general member shall be required to complete two (2) office hours each week,
844 except in circumstances of holidays, special events, or by the discretion of the Executive
845 Board. The executive officers shall track their hours in accordance with the Vice
846 President of Finance and Administration.

847 a. In cases of the Freshman Associates and Varsity, office hours will decide on
848 under the discretion of the SGA Chief of Staff, Director of Freshman Associates,
849 or Director of Varsity.

850 C. Office hours will be reported weekly, except under special circumstances to Executive
851 Board Member by the Vice President of Finance and Administration.

852 SECTION II. ENFORCEMENT OF OFFICE HOURS

853 A. Failure to complete office hours after two (2) nonconsecutive weeks will constitute a
854 meeting with the respective executive board member for that branch for initial discussion
855 on the failure to complete office hours.

- 856 B. Failure to complete office hours after four (4) nonconsecutive weeks will constitute a
857 meeting with the respective executive board member for that branch and the SGA
858 President to discuss possible steps and remedial actions.
859 C. If the member still fails to meet the office hour requirements, a decision on membership
860 within the SGA will be rendered by the respective executive board member and the SGA
861 President.

862 SECTION III. ATTENDANCE POLICY

- 863 A. Each member must attend regular meetings of the branch or committee in which
864 attendance is required in compliance with their responsibilities, as well as comply with
865 all membership documents signed at the start of their terms.
866 B. Excuses from events and meetings are under the discretion of the respective Executive
867 Branch member.
868 C. If the member still fails to meet the branch attendance requirements, a decision on
869 membership within the SGA will be rendered by the respective executive board member
870 and the SGA President.

871 Article XIV. Process of Impeachment

872 SECTION I. IMPEACHMENT

- 873 B. The SGA President, SGA Senior Vice President, SGA Vice President of Judicial
874 Affairs, SGA Vice President of Finance and Administration, SGA Vice President of
875 Communications, the SGA Chief of Staff, SGA Senators, and members of SGA, shall
876 be removed from office upon impeachment for and conviction of violations of the
877 SGA Constitution or SGA Election Code or law as well as any violation that would
878 be grounds for expulsion or suspension in accordance with the USM Code of Conduct
879 at the university.
880 a. Cases concerning general members of branches, Executive Officers of their
881 respective branch can call for a member of their branch's removal if actions
882 have violated the branch's contracts, the SGA Constitution, SGA Election
883 Code, or specific branch governing documents, or specific branch
884 responsibility as well as any violation that would be grounds for expulsion or
885 suspension in accordance with the USM Code of Conduct at the university.
886 This right is only reserved for the executive member and their respective
887 branch, no other executive authority can call for the removal of another
888 branch's member without going through the process of impeachment.
889 E. The SGA Senate shall have the sole power of levying charges of impeachment. The
890 SGA Senate shall upon concurrence of two-thirds of the members on roll formally
891 charge an SGA officer or SGA members with impeachment.
892 F. The SGA Judicial Board shall have the sole power to try impeachments. Upon the
893 introduction of formal charges by the SGA Senate, an individual shall be served
894 notice of impeachment by the secretary of the SGA Senate. The secretary of the SGA

895 Senate shall also notify the vice chairman of the SGA Judicial Board. The SGA
896 Judicial Board vice chairman shall then call a meeting of the SGA Judicial Board
897 within three (3) business days to conduct a preliminary hearing and to accept the plea
898 of the defendant. The defendant shall be issued their constitutional rights and be given
899 all pertinent information to prepare a defense. The trial shall convene not fewer than
900 ten (10) business days and not more than fifteen (15) business days from the date of
901 this hearing.

902 G. Upon a majority vote of the SGA Judicial Board, a person shall be immediately
903 removed from office. In the event of an appeal from the person in question, the
904 member can follow the Judicial Student Appeal procedure through the Office of
905 Student Affairs. The position shall be filled on an interim basis by the appropriate
906 chain of command as per this constitution until a final decision has been made.

907
908 SECTION II. GROUNDS FOR IMPEACHMENT OR REMOVAL FROM OFFICE

909 A. The SGA Senate shall have the power to impeach officers or any general member of the
910 SGA on grounds of misconduct in public affairs, misuse of their lawful authority, or
911 dereliction of duty.

912 a. Misconduct in Public Affairs

913 i. Any behavior in-person or virtually that violates the Student Code of
914 Conduct, violates applicable state and federal regulations of TITLE IX of
915 the Education Amendments of 1972, as well as any violation of the
916 Nondiscrimination Clause set by The University of Southern Mississippi
917 and the US Constitution.

918 ii. Any severe violation of federal, state, or local law that would have
919 negative impact on member's role in SGA or on the University.

920 b. Misuse of their Legal Authority

921 i. Inappropriately disclosing voting procedures or information on
922 confidential SGA matters.

923 ii. Improper use of power and authority by means of intimidation, threats,
924 blackmail, or coercion.

925 iii. Changing guidelines or regulations without following proper procedure to
926 benefit oneself or other students at The University of Southern
927 Mississippi.

928 iv. Any act, conduct, or decision which is outside the position's scope of
929 duties or level of authority as clarified in the SGA Constitution if the
930 motive or purpose is to harass, intimidate, or treat members of the SGA
931 cruelly or unreasonably.

932 c. Dereliction of Duty

933 i. Public Intoxication at SGA-Sanctioned Events

934 ii. Failure to report incidents of verbal and physical harassment, or any
935 severe misconduct of SGA members.

936 iii. Intentional abandonment of roles, duties, and responsibilities as a member
937 of SGA.