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Preamble

We, the students of Colorado State University-Pueblo (CSU-P), recognize that active and judicious participation in all aspects of this institution is beneficial to fully exercise our rights and liberties as college students. We hereby establish a student government that will represent the rights and best interests of our collegiate community, advocating for the betterment and growth of our college students. With the support of the CSU-P administration and faculty/staff, Associated Student Government (ASG) will quickly address student concerns and needs, as well as encourage and support new ideas. ASG will actively ensure that we, the student body of CSU-P, are justly and proactively recognized and represented with fairness and equity in all aspects of the university setting.

Student Bill of Rights

A. <u>Dissenting Opinions</u>

The right to take reasoned exception to views offered as part of academic curriculum or non-academic functions without fear of repercussion, to be graded solely on academic performance, and to be protected against prejudice or arbitrary evaluation.

B. Demonstration

The right to organize and participate in orderly, non-violent demonstrations on and off campus.

C. <u>Use of Facilities</u>

The right to use campus facilities for meetings and other activities subject to procedures and regulations.

D. Petitioning

The right to petition the proper authority for changes in faculty, administration, curriculum, and institutional policy, without fear of retribution.

E. Raising and Seeking Funds

The right, subject to reasonable regulation, of any recognized student organization to raise and seek monies on campus.

F. Information

The right to obtain truthful and full information, upon inquiry, on the reasons for any college policy affecting them, the adoption proceedings of said policy, and the options by which it may be changed.

G. Privacy of Records

The right to privacy of their academic, non-academic, disciplinary, and financial records with the right of personal examination of such records.

H. The Right to a Defense

The right to fair judicial process according to the Student Code of

Conduct.

I. Discrimination

The right, as a student of CSU-Pueblo, to enjoy all these rights, all other rights, and all benefits as outlined by the institution, without regard to, but not limited to, race, gender, color, religion, national or ethnic origin, age, physical capability, political ideology, socio-economic status, marital status, veteran status, sexual orientation or parental status.

Article I-Purpose

The purpose of Colorado State University-Pueblo Associated Student Government will be to represent the rights of the student body, promoting diversity within a positive campus environment, and to facilitate an environment of higher learning.

Article II-Organizational Structure and Overview

Section 1: Executive Branch

The Executive Branch functions as general management and oversight for ASG. It consists of the ASG President, ASG Vice President, ASG appointed directors, and executive assistant(s). The roles of Executive Branch members are further outlined in Article III.

Section 2: Legislative Branch

The Legislative Branch is the main voting body of ASG. It consists of ten (10) senators, two from each college, as well as two At-Large senators, who assess student needs, sponsor new legislation, and amend Constitution and bylaws of the policy manual. The Legislative Branch is chaired by the Vice President. The branch is outlined in greater detail in Article IV of the ASG Constitution.

Section 3: Judicial Branch

The Judicial Branch functions to define the Constitution, as well as update the Constitution and

policy manual by adding new legislation enacted by the Legislative Branch. The Judicial Branch works to solve disputes between members of ASG. It consists of five members and is chaired by the Chief Justice. The Judicial Branch is outlined in further detail in Article V.

Article III-Executive Branch

Section 1: Executive Branch Membership

A. ASG President (elected position)

The ASG President shall be the chief Executive Branch member, and all members of the Executive Branch shall report to him/her. The ASG President has the power to veto legislation, as outlined in Article 4, Section 5, and the power to appoint non-elected individuals in accordance with the procedures outlined in the ASG Policy Manual, Section 12.05, with a two-thirds (2/3) confirmation vote of the ASG Senate. The ASG President must represent the Association in all matters as well as enforce the Constitution and the policy manual according to the powers vested in the Constitution and the policy manual.

B. ASG Executive Vice President (elected position)

The ASG Executive Vice President shall be the second ranking member of the Executive Branch and the presiding officer over the ASG Senate. The ASG Vice President shall be the Speaker and presiding officer over the Senate. He or she shall cast a vote, if and only if, the Senate is tied on any motion. He or she shall also appoint senators to standing and non permanent sub-committees of the Senate.

C. Appointed Directors

Directors shall be appointed by the ASG President for specific purposes. They shall perform duties assigned by the ASG President and/or the ASG Policy Manual. The ASG President and ASG Vice President supervise the Appointed Directors.

D. Executive Assistant

The ASG shall have a minimum of one (1) paid Executive Assistant hired by the Executive Branch; the Executive Assistant(s) shall be responsible for all ASG documents and delegated correspondence, attending all Senate meetings, and operating the ASG office under the direction of both the ASG Vice President and the ASG President. The Executive Assistant(s) shall be removed by the same process by which they were appointed with just cause.

Section 2: Qualifications for and Impeachment of the ASG President and the ASG Vice President

A. Qualifications

- 1. A candidate for ASG President and ASG Vice President must be a member of the Association in good standing, as defined by the Student Code of Conduct. All currently enrolled mandatory fee paying students of CSU-Pueblo shall be known as the Association. The candidate must also meet the following criteria:
 - i. Maintain at least a 3.0 cumulative GPA (on a 4.00 scale)
 - ii. Be enrolled in a minimum of twelve mandatory fee-paying credit hours on campus per semester from Colorado State University-Pueblo if an undergraduate student. If the candidate is a graduate student, they must be enrolled in at least nine credit hours per semester from Colorado State University-Pueblo as stated in Appendix C, Section 8.03 B of the ASG Policy Manual.

iii. Have accumulated at least 60 credit hours, of which 12 must have been earned from CSU-Pueblo

B. Impeachment of the ASG President and the ASG Vice President

- 1. The ASG President and ASG Vice President can be subject to impeachment based on the following grounds:
 - i. Misrepresentation of, or failure to maintain, academic and enrollment status qualifications as per this Constitution.
 - ii. Substantial neglect of duties (including absences) and responsibilities as established in this Constitution and appropriate bylaws/policies.
 - iii. Certification by the Student Conduct Officer that the officer has violated the CSU Pueblo Student Conduct Code.
 - iv. Violations of this Constitution, bylaws, legislation and policies of the Associated Students' Government that have the effect of impairing the ASG from performing responsibilities and functions.

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- 2. Upon receipt of information suggesting that grounds for impeachment exist, a member of ASG must follow the guidelines as outlined in the Judicial Operations Code. He or she shall present a formal written statement of the charges consisting of the name of the accused and the office held, specific reasons for impeachment, and three signatures of current Senators in office.
- 3. The member who presented the written statement shall have a maximum of fifteen (15) minutes to present evidence supporting the impeachment, including documents and witnesses, of the elected individual in front of the entire Senate.
- 4. The defendant will then have twenty (20) minutes to cross-examine any witnesses and present evidence on his or her behalf.
- 5. The members of the Senate may then present questions or concerns to both the defendant and the complainant. All questions pertaining to the case must be answered before voting.
- 6. The Senate will cast a vote by secret ballot. A two-thirds (2/3) majority is required for the impeachment of the elected individual.
- 7. If approved by the Senate, the motion shall be passed to the Judicial Branch, who will determine with a four-fifths (4/5) majority vote whether the Senate followed appropriate procedure in accordance with the Judicial Operations Code (policy manual).
- 8. The impeached individual may appeal to the ASG advisor, who will then determine whether the Senate and the Judicial Branch followed procedure in accordance with the Judicial Operations Code.

C. Replacement of the ASG President

In the event that the ASG President position becomes vacant, the ASG Vice President shall assume the office of ASG President.

D. Replacement of the ASG Vice President

In the event that the ASG Vice President position becomes vacant, the Speaker Pro-Tempore shall assume the office of the ASG Vice President. The Senate will then elect amongst themselves another Speaker Pro-Tempore.

E. <u>Terms of Office</u>

The term for the ASG Vice President and ASG President shall be from the inauguration to no later than May 15 of the following year. The newly elected Executive Branch will vote on issues for the following fall and spring semesters.

Section 3: Appointed Directors

- A. The ASG President, in conjunction with the ASG Vice President, may appoint directors. These directors must be sworn-in no later than the third meeting of the fall semester. Each director's term will last until the last Senate meeting of the spring semester.
- B. All appointed directors of the ASG Executive Branch must be confirmed by a two-thirds (2/3) approval of the Senate.
- C. The ASG President must follow the appointment procedures to fulfill appointment and vacancy positions outlined in the ASG Policy Manual (Section 12.05).

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Section 4: Qualifications for and Impeachment of ASG Appointed Directors

A. Qualifications

- 1. A candidate for an ASG Appointed Director must be a member of the Association in good standing, as defined by the Student Code of Conduct. He or she must also meet the following criteria:
 - i. Maintain at least a 3.0 cumulative GPA (on a 4.00 scale)
 - ii. Be enrolled in a minimum of twelve mandatory fee-paying credit hours on campus per semester from Colorado State University-Pueblo
 - iii. Have accumulated at least 60 credit hours, of which 12 must have been earned from CSU-Pueblo

B. <u>Impeachment of ASG Appointed Directors</u>

- 1. An ASG Appointed Director can be subject to impeachment based on the following grounds:
 - i. Misrepresentation of, or failure to maintain, academic and enrollment status qualifications as per this Constitution.
 - ii. Substantial neglect of duties (including absences) and responsibilities as established in this Constitution and appropriate bylaws/policies.
 - iii. Certification by the Student Conduct Officer that the officer has violated the CSU Pueblo Student Conduct Code.
 - iv. Violations of this Constitution, bylaws, legislation and policies of the Associated Students' Government that have the effect of impairing the ASG from performing responsibilities and functions.
- 2. Upon receipt of information suggesting that grounds for impeachment exist, an ASG member must follow the guidelines as outlined in the Judicial Operations Code. He or she shall present a formal written statement of the charges consisting of the name of the

- accused and the office held, specific reasons for impeachment, and three signatures of current Senators in office.
- 3. The member who presented the written statement shall have a maximum of fifteen (15) minutes to present evidence supporting the impeachment, including documents and witnesses, of the elected individual in front of the entire Senate.
- 4. The defendant will then have twenty (20) minutes to cross-examine any witnesses and present evidence on his or her behalf.
- 5. The members of the Senate may then present questions or concerns to both the defendant and the complainant. All questions pertaining to the case must be answered before voting.
- 6. The Senate will cast a vote by secret ballot. A two-thirds (2/3) majority is required for the impeachment of the appointed individual.
- 7. If approved by the Senate, the motion shall be passed to the Judicial Branch, who will determine with a four-fifths (4/5) majority vote whether the Senate followed appropriate procedure in accordance with the Judicial Operations Code (policy manual).

8. The impeached individual may appeal to the ASG advisor, who will then determine whether the Senate and the Judicial Branch followed procedure in accordance with the Judicial Operations Code.

Article IV-Legislative Branch

Section 1: The Senate

All legislative power shall be vested in the elected individuals of the Senate. The Senate consists of ten voting members. Senators shall be elected in spring and serve a total of one (1) academic year, from the call to order of the first meeting in April and to the last call to order the next spring of the following year.

Section 2: Qualifications for and Impeachment of Members of the Legislative Branch

A. Qualifications

- 1. A candidate for ASG Senator must be a member of the Association in good standing as defined in the Student Code of Conduct. He or she must also meet the following criteria:
 - i. Maintain at least a 2.75 cumulative GPA (on a 4.00 scale)
 - ii. Be enrolled in a minimum of twelve mandatory fee-paying credit hours on campus per semester from Colorado State University-Pueblo.

B. Impeachment of a Member of the Legislative Branch

- 1. Any member of the Legislative Branch can be subject to impeachment for the following reasons:
 - i. Misrepresentation of, or failure to maintain, academic and enrollment status qualifications as per this Constitution.

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- ii. Substantial neglect of duties (including absences) and responsibilities as established in this Constitution and appropriate bylaws/policies. If a member of the Senate or Executive Branch fails to attend two meetings without notifying the ASG President or Vice President 24 hours in advance, he or she shall be subject to impeachment.
- iii. Certification by the Student Conduct Officer that the officer has violated the CSU Pueblo Student Conduct Code.
- iv. Violations of this Constitution, bylaws, legislation and policies of the Associated Students' Government that have the effect of impairing the ASG from performing responsibilities and functions.
- v. Violations of the ASG Code of Conduct as stated in the ASG Official Policy Manual (Section 7), that have the effect of negatively representing the Association.
- 2. Upon receipt of information suggesting that grounds for impeachment exist, an ASG member must follow the guidelines as outlined in the Judicial Operations Code. He or she shall present a formal written statement of the charges consisting of the name of the accused and the office held, specific reasons for impeachment, and three signatures of current Senators in office.

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- 3. The person who presented the written statement shall have a maximum of fifteen (15) minutes to present evidence supporting the impeachment, including documents and witnesses, of the elected individual in front of the entire Senate.
- 4. The defendant will then have twenty (20) minutes to cross-examine any witnesses and present evidence on his or her behalf.
- 5. The members of the Senate may then present questions or concerns to both the defendant and the complainant. All questions pertaining to the case must be answered before voting.
- 6. The Senate will cast a vote by secret ballot. A two-thirds (2/3) majority minus the accused officer is required for the impeachment of the elected individual.
- 7. If approved by the Senate, the motion shall be passed to the Judicial Branch, who will determine with a four-fifths (4/5) majority vote whether the Senate followed appropriate procedure in accordance with the Judicial Operations Code as stated in Appendix B of the ASG Official Policy Manual.
- 8. The impeached individual may appeal to the ASG advisor, who will then determine whether the Senate and the Judicial Branch followed procedure in accordance with the Judicial Operations Code.

C. Replacement of an ASG Senator

- 1. In the event that an ASG Senator position becomes vacant, the ASG President shall have the power to appoint a qualified candidate to fill this vacancy with a two-thirds (2/3) confirmation vote from the Senate.
 - a. To appoint a qualified candidate, the ASG President must conduct an interview process with all potential candidates consisting of a resume and cover letter

- concerning why the individual would be a good candidate for the ASG Senator position, as well as undergo a formal interview with both the ASG President and Vice President.
- b. The selected candidate will then need to present their cover letter in front of the Senate before the confirmation vote. Refer to Section of the ASG Policy Manual for more information concerning this process.
- 2. The term of replacement senators will last until the final meeting of the spring semester. If the Senate fails to confirm a candidate chosen by the ASG President, then the ASG President must choose another candidate.

Section 3: Powers of the ASG Senate

- A. The Senate shall have the power to approve all ASG bylaws, legislation, policies, and procedures necessary for executing the powers vested by this Constitution with approval of the President.
- B. Review all formal complaints brought forth by students or student organizations as a matter for ASG concern.
- C. Senators may introduce new legislation by sponsoring a bill, which shall be presented at any ASG Senate meeting for approval or dismissal.
- D. Review, enact, repeal and/or amend any legislative matters of policy affecting members of the student body and their welfare.
- E. Review, enact, repeal and/or amend any legislative matters of policy affecting operational guidelines of ASG.
- F. The Senate shall have the power to approve all Presidential appointees with a two-thirds (2/3) confirmation vote.
- G. The Senate shall have the power to make committees and have the power to appoint people to those Senate committees. This does not include standing and non-permanent subcommittees of the Senate regulated by the Vice President as stated in the ASG Policy Manual.
- H. Approve the next fiscal year's ASG budget presented by the President with a two-thirds (2/3) confirmation vote.
- I. The Senate shall have the power to impeach members of ASG, with a fourth-fifths (4/5) confirmation of the Judicial Branch.

Section 4: Senate Parliamentarian and Speaker Pro-Tempore

The ASG Senate shall, at the earliest opportunity, appoint a Senate parliamentarian and Speaker Pro-Tempore from amongst themselves. Both shall be approved with a two-thirds (2/3) vote from the Senate. The Speaker Pro-Tempore shall be the official spokesperson for the Senate. The Parliamentarian shall ensure the ASG Senate meetings are conducted in accordance with the Senate bylaws and answer point of order questions referred to them as well as any other clarification on parliamentary procedure. The role of the Parliamentarian and Speaker Pro-Tempore are outlined in greater detail in Sections 3.02-3.04 of the policy manual.

Section 5: Legislation Approval Process

Every order, policy, or bill the Senate passes shall be presented to the President for approval before

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it becomes official Associated Students' Government policy.

- A. If the President approves he/she shall sign it, but if not he/she shall veto the policy and return it, with objections back to the Senate. The President must make the reasons for the veto known to the Senate at the time the veto is announced. This notification shall take the form of a typed memo distributed to each ASG member by the President. The Senate shall enter the objections on their record, and proceed to reconsider it.
- B. The Senate may override and enact legislation vetoed by the President with a three-fourths (3/4) majority vote of the Senate.
- C. If any policy presented to the president is not returned back to the Senate with objections within one Senate meeting, it shall become official policy, in like manner as if he/she had signed it.

Section 6: Legislation of ASG

The power of ASG legislation shall be the following order:

- A. ASG Constitution
- B. ASG Senate Bylaws
- C. ASG Policies and Procedures
- D. ASG Bills
- E. ASG Resolutions

Article V-The Judicial Branch

Section 1: Judicial Branch Membership

The Student Court shall consist of a total of five (5) members: a Chief Justice appointed by the ASG President, an Associate Chief Justice and three (3) Justices appointed by the Chief Justice. Three justices" shall constitute a quorum as stated in Appendix B Section 2.01 of the ASG Policy Manual. Each justice's term shall last from the date of appointment to the inauguration of the Senate for the upcoming year.

Section 2: Powers of the Judicial Branch

- A. The Judicial Branch shall define all provisions of the constitution, policy manual, and other policies enacted by the Legislative Branch.
- B. The Judicial Branch shall have jurisdiction and preside over hearing in matters regarding final removal from office, dispute and interpretations of the constitution, bylaws, policies, and internal grievances in accordance with the Judicial Operations Code of the policy manual.

Section 3: Qualifications for and Removal of Judicial Branch Officers

A. Qualifications

- 1. A candidate for the Judicial Branch must be a member of the Association in good standing as defined in the Student Code of Conduct. He or she must also meet the following criteria:
 - i. Maintain at least a 2.75 cumulative GPA (on a 4.00 scale)
 - ii. Be enrolled in a minimum of twelve mandatory fee-paying credit hours on campus per semester from Colorado State University-Pueblo
 - iii. Must be enrolled in a minimum of twelve (12) mandatory fee-paying credit hours from Colorado State University-Pueblo per semester during Fall and Spring
- B. Impeachment of Judicial Branch Officers

- 1. A Judicial Branch officer can be subject to impeachment based on the following grounds:
 - i. Misrepresentation of, or failure to maintain, academic and enrollment status qualifications as per this Constitution.
 - ii. Substantial neglect of duties (including absences) and responsibilities as established in this Constitution and appropriate bylaws/policies.
 - iii. Certification by the Student Conduct Officer that the officer has violated the CSU Pueblo Student Conduct Code.
 - iv. Violations of this Constitution, bylaws, legislation and policies of the Associated Students' Government that have the effect of impairing the ASG from performing responsibilities and functions.
 - 2. Upon receipt of information suggesting that grounds for impeachment exist, an ASG member must follow the guidelines as outlined in the Judicial Operations Code. He or she shall present a formal written statement of the charges consisting of the name of the

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- accused and the office held, specific reasons for impeachment, and three signatures of current Senators in office.
- 3. The member who presented the written statement shall have a maximum of fifteen (15) minutes to present evidence supporting the impeachment, including documents and witnesses, of the elected individual in front of the entire Senate.
- 4. The defendant will then have twenty (20) minutes to cross-examine any witnesses and present evidence on his or her behalf.
- 5. The members of the Senate may then present questions or concerns to both the defendant and the complainant. All questions pertaining to the case must be answered before voting.
- 6. The Senate will cast a vote by secret ballot. A_two-thirds (2/3) majority is required for the impeachment of the elected individual.
- 7. If approved by the Senate, the motion shall be passed to the Judicial Branch, who will determine with a three-fourths (3/4) majority vote whether the Senate followed appropriate procedure in accordance with the Judicial Operations Code (policy manual). In the event of a split decision, the Director of Internal Affairs will break the tie.
- 8. The impeached individual may appeal to the ASG advisor, who will then determine whether the Senate and the Judicial Branch followed procedure in accordance with the Judicial Operations Code.

Article VI-Elections

Section 1: General Elections

The Office of President, Vice President and all Senate seats shall be elected during ASG General Elections of the spring semester. The elected officers of both Executive and Legislative Branches shall be inaugurated and sworn into office prior to May 1 as outlined in Article III, Section 2E and Article IV, Section 1, respectively.

Section 2: The Election Commission

The Election Commission shall have the duty of running all elections in accordance with the

Election Code, which include the spring ASG general elections, special elections, referenda, or student proposals and initiatives. It is composed of four (4) members outside of the Association selected by the ASG President and approved with a two-thirds majority confirmation vote from the Senate. Members of the Election Commission must be in good standing as defined in the Student Code of Conduct and must also meet the following criteria:

- i. Maintain at least a 2.75 cumulative GPA (on a 4.00 scale)
- ii. Be enrolled in a minimum of twelve mandatory fee-paying credit hours on campus per semester from Colorado State University-Pueblo.

The ASG President shall select a Chair from among the four members with a two-thirds (2/3) confirmation vote from the Senate.

Section 3: The Election Code

The Election Commission shall maintain and update Election Code subject to a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Senate and approval of the Executive Branch which establishes proper policies and procedures for the administration of the following which shall include, but not be limited to:

- Election procedures for all elections.
- · Electronic voting.
- Referendum and initiative qualifications.

• Disciplinary procedures for election violations.

- Rules of its proceedings.
- · Maintenance of minutes and records.

Section 4: Certification of votes

The votes cast by the student body in general elections shall be certified and made final no later than April 25 of each spring. Timelines for non-general elections shall be determined by appropriate Election Code.

Article VII-Meetings

Section 1: Cabinet Meetings

The ASG President, ASG Vice President, Chief Justice, Appointed Directors, and Speaker Pro Tempore shall meet a minimum of once a week to discuss happenings within each branch and external affairs.

Section 2: Senate Meetings

The Executive Branch and the Senate shall choose a time to meet once a week to discuss legislation, policies, projects and the budget. All excused absences shall be emailed to either the ASG President or ASG Vice President at least 24 hours prior to the meeting time. If a member of the Senate of Executive Branch fails to attend two meetings without notifying the ASG President or Vice President 24 hours in advance, he or she shall be subject to impeachment.

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Section 3: Standing Committee Meetings

All members of ASG shall attend both internal and external standing committee meetings. Members shall contact the chairperson of each committee within two weeks of receiving notification of serving on the committee. Standing committees can change each year.

Section 4: Open Meetings

- A. Every ASG meeting shall be open to all students of CSU-Pueblo, except when convening in executive session.
- B. Members of the ASG may vote to hold an executive session. Reasons for executive session include but are not limited to:
 - i. Discussion of disciplinary action regarding a fellow ASG member or student that has a pending conduct case with the university
 - ii. References and discussion of information that the Colorado Open Records Act does not permit for disclosure
- C. Any motions to hold an executive session must be approved by a 2/3 vote from Senate D. The minutes for each Senate meeting will be published on the ASG website at least one week (7 days) following the date of the meeting.

E. Members of the Judicial Branch shall follow the same policies as the Senate meetings

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Article VIII-Referendum and Amendments

Section 1: Referendum

- A. Special elections in the form of referendum, initiative, or recall on specific issues shall be called by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Senate or by petition containing the signatures of a minimum of ten (10) percent of the term full-time equivalent (FTE) Association population stating the specific issues to be resolved.
- B. All referendums shall be a single question that is worded in the affirmative so that a student may vote either "yes" or "no".
- C. The referendum question shall have the exact wording of the petition or motion initiating the election. All details of referendum questions shall be publicized for at least ten (10) full school days before the elections are held.

Section 2: Amendment proposal procedure

Proposals for amending or replacing this Constitution can be made by the Associated Students' Government and any member of the Association or students-at-large. Proposals can go to the Association for a vote:

A. After a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Senate and approval of the President. B. After students-at-large desiring proposals to go to the Association for a referendum election have fulfilled the referendum petition requirements as outlined in Section 1 of this Article.

Section 3: Election proposals

When a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Senate and approval of the President or a referendum

petition signed by ten (10) percent of the Association is obtained, proposals shall be voted on through special or general elections. Proposals shall contain a reasonable date by which such elections should be held for Association approval. Appropriate Election Code shall govern these elections and proceedings.

IX-Ratification

This Constitution, when duly ratified, shall supersede all previous Constitutions

X-Compensation

All members of ASG shall be compensated for performing job duties. Failure to perform job duties can result in pay deductions. Pay percentages are outlined in greater detail in the policy manual.