

CONSTITUTION
Colorado State University-Pueblo
Associated Students' Government

Preamble

We, the students of Colorado State University-Pueblo (CSU-Pueblo), hold true that active and judicious participation in all aspects of our education is, beneficial and necessary, and do hereby establish a student government that will represent and advocate on behalf of students. This student government will work with the CSU-Pueblo administration, faculty and staff, be responsive to student concerns, ideas and needs, and actively work to ensure that we, the student body of CSU-Pueblo, are justly and proactively recognized and represented with fairness and equity in all aspects of the university setting.

Article I – Name

The name of this organization shall be the Colorado State University-Pueblo (CSU-Pueblo) Associated Students' Government (ASG).

Article II – Constituency

All currently enrolled mandatory fee paying students of CSU-Pueblo are constituents of the Associated Students' Government. These students shall collectively be known as the Association.

Article III – Authority of the Constitution

This Constitution is the governing document authorized by the student body of CSU-Pueblo. All of the articles, sections, and provisions in this Constitution shall be enforced by the student body and the ASG.

Article IV – Objectives

The following objectives shall serve as a directional force for the ASG:

1. Collaborate in the shared governance of CSU-Pueblo by maximizing student participation in policy making, decision making, and administrative oversight that directly or indirectly affects students.
2. Develop and maintain a representative student government at CSU-Pueblo.
3. Be the official voice through which student opinions, concerns and ideas may be expressed to internal and external constituencies.
4. Promote the educational experience and opportunities of the student body by working to expand student participation and involvement on their campus.

5. Coordinate activities, communication, and services of general benefit to students.
6. Protect the individual rights and freedoms of students.
7. Oversee the activities related to student fee assessment and allocation.
8. Monitor the activities of the faculty and administration while protecting the best interests of the students.
9. Acknowledge all official student organizations.
10. Maximize the student experience in academic and nonacademic pursuits.
11. Receive, investigate, and take action on student complaints, concerns, and problems within the scope of its authority.

Article V – Declaration of Rights

Section 1 - Basic Rights for all students

1. Freedom of Speech, Religion, and the Press
The right of religious freedom and to present their ideas on any subject without penalty or censorship with the exception of endangerment to life, property, or intrusion upon the equal rights of others.
2. Dissenting Opinions
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.
3. Forming Organizations
The right to organize, join, and take part in any organization for, but not limited to, intellectual, religious, social, economic, or cultural purposes, subject to reasonable regulation.
4. Demonstration
The right to organize and participate in orderly, non-violent demonstrations on and off campus.
5. Hearing Speakers
The right to invite and hear speakers of their choice on subjects that interest them.
6. Use of Facilities
The right to use campus facilities for meetings and other activities subject to procedures and regulations.
7. Petitioning
The right to petition the proper authority for changes in faculty, administration, curriculum, and institutional policy, without fear of retribution.
8. Raising and Seeking Funds
The right, subject to reasonable regulation, of any recognized student organization to raise and seek monies on campus.

9. 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.

10. 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.

11. Due Process

The right to judicial due process, including the accused being informed of the nature and cause of the accusation, a speedy and impartial hearing, confrontation of plaintiff and witnesses, have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his or her defense, counsel, presumption of innocence, and an appeal. The accused shall not be tried twice for the same offense nor be forced to testify against him or herself nor be subject to unusual or excessive punishment.

12. Suits

The right, if aggrieved, to bring suit within the regular judiciary system for any punitive violation of rights.

13. 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.

Section 2 - Rights Pertaining to Student Government

1. Democratic Governance

The right to organize and maintain a democratic form of representative student government which shall be in charge of overseeing student affairs, participate in the assessing and allocating of student fees, and involving itself in the formation of college policy.

2. Election of Student Representation

The right to choose student government officials through a student election process unless specifically outlined otherwise in the Policy Manual.

3. Student Judiciaries

The right to an independent and impartial judiciary through which students and student organizations may bring forth actions.

4. Appeals

The right to appeal proposed fee increases to the student government and the administration in accordance with the Institutional Fee Plan.

5. Formulation of Amendments and Initiatives

The right to refer constitutional amendments, referendums and initiatives to the student body through the proper election process per Article XIII of this Constitution.

6. Open Meetings

Every meeting of the ASG shall be open to all students of CSU-Pueblo, except when convening in Executive Session pursuant to Colorado Revised Statutes (C.R.S.) 24-6-402(3)(a)(II,III), for the purpose of: (1) Conferring with its attorney, regarding a dispute that is the subject of a pending or imminent court action (II); (2) discussing matters required to be kept confidential by federal or state law, or by legislative lobbying rules (III); or, (3) holding private the academic status or history of a student (III). Also, pursuant to C.R.S. 24-6-402(3) (b) (II), the ASG may not go into executive session for the purpose of: (1) Discussing the appointment of any persons (II); or, (2) discussing the termination, discipline, or other management of persons affiliated with ASG (II).

7. Freedom of information

In order to ensure open and responsible information sharing, all documents and actions of the ASG, not dealing with student grievances or legally protected information, shall be open and available to the public.

Article VI – Executive Branch

Section 1 – Composition

The Executive Branch shall be composed of a President and Vice President.

Section 2 – Terms of office

The office of President and Vice President, shall serve a term from May 1 of the Election year to April 30 of the following year.

Section 3 – Executive Committee

The Executive Committee shall be composed of the President, Vice President, Speaker of the Senate, Speaker Pro Tempore of the Senate and Senate Standing Committee chairs. The Executive Committee may appoint additional ex officio members representing other university-wide constituencies.

Section 4 – Executive Branch Bylaws

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

1. Appointment, replacement, and vacancy procedures for all ASG positions and appointees to campus committees.
2. Disciplinary procedures for Executive Branch officers.
3. Duties and responsibilities for Executive Branch officers.
4. ASG budgetary procedures.
5. ASG Office suite and personnel Management.
6. Internal electronic communication.

Section 5 – Presidential Succession

If the Offices of the President, Vice President, Speaker, or Speaker Pro-Tempore become vacant, the following procedures shall be enacted:

- The Vice President shall become President.
- The Speaker shall become Acting Vice President.
- The Acting Speaker Pro-Tempore shall become the acting Speaker
- The Acting Vice President and Acting Speaker of the Senate shall remain in said positions until a permanent Vice President or Speaker can be appointed or elected.
- The President shall nominate a candidate for Vice President. The senate shall confirm with a two-thirds (2/3) confirmation or reject the nomination at the next Senate meeting.

Section 6 – Executive Session

The Executive Committee shall have the right to Executive Session as outlined in Article V, section 2.6.

Section 7 – Presidential Powers

1. The President shall have the power of veto as outlined in Article VII section 6.
2. The President shall make all appointments to vacant ASG positions and any university committees that do not require a specific officer with a two-thirds (2/3) confirmation by the Senate.
3. The President in cooperation with the Senate shall assemble an annual appropriated budget with fiscal accounting residing within the Executive Branch.
4. The President shall represent the Associated Students' Government to all responsibilities of this office.
5. The President shall have the power to remove any student appointed to a nonelected position in the ASG and students at large appointed to committees with a two thirds (2/3) confirmation of the Senate with just cause.
6. The President shall enforce the Constitution and the policy manual according to the powers vested in this Constitution and subsequent policy manual.
7. Be the Chief Executive of the ASG and shall be responsible for fulfilling the duties outlined in the bylaws.
8. The President shall from time to time deliver a State of the Students message to the Senate.
9. The President shall have the power to appoint Executive Assistant(s) as necessary pursuant to Article IX.

Section 8 – Vice Presidential Powers

1. Shall cast a vote, if and only if, the senate has a tied vote on any motion.

Section 9 – Oath of office

Each officer of the Executive Branch shall give the following oath before entering office: "I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the office of (insert name of office) of the Colorado State University-Pueblo Associated Students' Government, and will to the best of my ability, uphold, protect and defend in spirit and action the Constitution and policies of the Associated Students' Government."

Section 10 – Oath for non ASG appointees

Each student at large appointed to committees, boards, etc. shall give the following oath before entering the position:

"I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully represent in spirit and action the interests, needs, and desires of the student body to the best of my ability and hold true to the ideal of shared governance."

Section 11 – Cooperation

The President and Executive Branch shall work in conjunction with and in cooperation with the Legislative Branch and Judicial Branch to ensure:

1. The Associated Students' Government represents the interests, needs, and desires of the student body in all campus and university operations, activities, and decision making processes.
2. Efficient and productive operations and processes of the Associated Students' Government in carrying out the provisions set forth in this Constitution.

Section 12 – Advisors

The President shall have the right to nominate an advisor(s) with the confirmation of the Vice President. The roles and expectations shall be established within the Executive Branch Policy Manual. The advisor(s) shall be removed by the same process by which they were appointed.

Section 13 – Fiscal responsibility

The ASG in maintaining its own budget shall follow and abide by all state and university fiscal rules in receiving, allocating, and appropriating funds.

Section 14 – Compensation

Elected Executive Branch officers shall receive a compensation for their services while in office to be ascertained by policy. If removed from office compensation shall cease upon date of removal.

Article VII – Legislative Branch

Section 1 – Composition

The body of the Legislative Branch shall be the Senate. The Senate shall be composed of two (2) senators from each college and six (6) senators elected at-large. The senators elected to represent their college shall have and maintain registered majors within that college at the time of running for office.

Section 2 – Terms of office

All Legislative Branch terms shall last from May 1 of the election year to April 30 of the following year.

Section 3 – Standing Committees

1. Each committee within the Senate shall elect a chair who will hold responsibility for the execution of the responsibilities and duties charged to that committee.
2. Each committee shall have a minimum of two (2) members.
3. All Standing Committees shall require a statement of purpose, a description of membership, and a set of bylaws included in the Senate bylaws. Otherwise designated committees in addition shall have a set duration of time with their bylaws subject to Senate approval but not included in the Senate bylaws.
4. The Senate shall have, but shall not be limited to, the following standing committees, and shall follow, but not be limited to, the stated responsibilities:
 - a. **ASG Affairs, with the following responsibilities:**
 - I. The ASG Affairs committee will be comprised a maximum of five (5) members of the Legislative Branch and the Director of ASG Affairs.
 - II. The members of this committee shall elect their own chairperson and vice-chairperson.
 - III. The charge of this committee will deal primarily with the effectiveness of other ASG committees; ensuring the best possible students are seated on campus committees, and interviewing potential candidates for vacant Legislative Branch appointments.
 - b. **External Affairs, with the following responsibilities:**
 - I. The External Affairs committee will be comprised of a maximum of five (5) members of the Legislative Branch and the Director of External Affairs.
 - II. The members of this committee shall elect their own chairperson and vice-chairperson.
 - III. The charge of this committee will deal primarily with the External Affairs aspect of the ASG. This committee will be directed to instruct the Director of Public Relations on how to promote ASG events, provide volunteer opportunities in the community, and provide useful techniques and guidance for advertising, as well as research state and nationwide Higher Education issues.
 - c. **Academic Affairs, with the following responsibilities:**

- I. The Academic Affairs committee will be comprised of the academic senators of the Legislative Branch and the Director of Academic Affairs.
- II. The members of this committee shall elect their own chairperson and vice-chairperson.
- III. The charge of this committee will deal primarily with Academic Affairs issues on the CSU-Pueblo campus. This committee will be responsible for researching and recommending on various issues and trends through academia.

d. Student Affairs, with the following responsibilities:

- I. The Student Affairs committee will be comprised of a maximum of five (5) members of the Legislative Branch and the Director of Student Affairs.
- II. The members of this committee shall elect their own chairperson and vice-chairperson.
- III. The charge of this committee will deal primarily with Student Affairs issues on the CSU-Pueblo campus. This committee will be responsible for addressing and taking action on campus security/safety issues, being active in the pursuit of activities to promote a healthy learning environment for students, and addressing and taking action on general student population concerns and/or problems.

e. Awards and Banquet Committee

- I. The Awards and Banquet Committee will be comprised of a maximum of five (5) members of the Legislative Branch.
- II. This committee shall be chaired by one member chosen upon the group.
- III. The charge of this committee will be to plan the annual ASG Banquet held each year and award recipients for the following awards:
 - ASG Lasting Legacy Award
 - The qualifications for this award shall be as follows:
 - Graduating senior in ASG
 - Must have shown a strong commitment to ASG throughout their tenure.
 - Must possess strong leadership characteristics
 - Must have shown a strong commitment to student through implemented change on campus
 - Must be strong supporter of the university
 - If there is not a candidate in a particular year that meets all these qualifications, the award will not be given out.

- The Awards and Banquet committee shall have the discretion to choose the recipient of this award or deem there will not be an award winner for a particular year.
- ASG Member of the Year
 - The qualifications for this award are as follows:
 - Must have been a member for ASG for the year in which they are chosen member of the year.
 - Must have greatly impacted ASG through hard work, dedication, and time committed.
 - The ASG Senate shall vote on who will receive the award during a senate meeting in the spring semester.
- Cabinet member of the Year
 - The qualifications for this award shall be as follows:
 - Must have been a member of the ASG Executive Cabinet for the year in which they are chosen member of the year.
 - Must have greatly impacted the executive branch through hard work, dedication, and time committed.
 - The President and Vice President shall vote on who will receive the award.
- Legislative Branch member of the Year
 - The qualifications for this award shall be as follows:
 - Must have been a member of the ASG legislative branch for the year in which they are chosen member of the year.
 - Must have greatly impacted the legislative branch through hard work, dedication, and time committed.
 - The Speaker and Pro-Tem shall vote on who will receive the award.
- Judicial Branch member of the Year
 - The qualifications for this award shall be as follows:
 - Must have been a member of the ASG judicial branch for the year in which they are chosen member of the year.
 - Must have greatly impacted the judicial branch through hard work, dedication, and time committed.
 - The Chief Justice and Associate Chief Justice shall vote on who will receive the award.
- Committee of the Year

- The qualifications for this award shall be as follows:
 - Must be a standing committee or approved ad-hoc committee to be eligible
 - Must have greatly impacted ASG and the campus community through hard work, dedication, and time committed.
 - The ASG Senate shall vote on who will receive the award during a senate meeting in the Spring semester.
- Project of the Year
 - The qualifications for this award shall be as follows:
 - Must be an ASG sponsored project to be eligible
 - Must have greatly impacted ASG and the campus community through hard work, dedication, and time committed.
 - The ASG senate shall vote on who will receive the award during a senate meeting in the spring semester.

Section 4 – Senate Bylaws

The Senate shall maintain and update the Senate Bylaws in the Policy Manual , subject to a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Senate and approval by the President, which establishes proper policies and procedures for the administration of the following which shall include, but not be limited to:

1. Voting procedures.
2. Disciplinary procedures for Legislative Branch officers.
3. Duties and responsibilities for Legislative Branch officers.
4. Rules of its Proceedings.
5. Maintenance of minutes and records.
6. Policies, procedures, and responsibilities for standing committees, other committees and subcommittees.
7. Procedure for storage of official ASG actions
8. Senate representation

Section 5 – Speaker of the Senate

The Senate shall elect from among themselves with a two-thirds (2/3) vote a Speaker of the Senate who shall:

1. Be the Speaker of the Senate and presiding officer over the Senate.
2. Be the official spokesperson for the Student Senate on any matter before the Executive Branch and/or the Student Court.
3. Appoint Senators to standing and non-permanent sub-committees of the Senate.
4. Serve as the Speaker and presiding officer over the Senate according to the most current edition of Robert’s Rules of Order.

5. The Senate shall elect among themselves a Speaker Pro Tempore of the Senate to act in absence of the Speaker.

Section 6 – Legislation Approval Process

Every order, policy, or bill the Senate passes shall be presented to the President for approval before it becomes official Associated Students' Government policy.

1. 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.
2. The Senate may override and enact legislation vetoed by the President with a three-fourths (3/4) majority vote of the Senate.
3. 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 7 – Legislative Powers

The Senate shall:

1. Review all formal complaints brought forth by students or student organizations as a matter for ASG concern.
2. Senators may introduce new legislation by sponsoring a bill, which shall be presented at any ASG Senate meeting for approval or dismissal.
3. Review, enact, repeal and/or amend any legislative matters of policy affecting members of the student body and their welfare.
4. Review, enact, repeal and/or amend any legislative matters of policy affecting operational guidelines of ASG.
5. Each Senator shall have one (1) vote.
6. The Senate shall have the power to approve all ASG bylaws, legislation, policies, and procedures necessary and appropriate for executing the powers vested by this Constitution with approval of the President.
7. The Senate shall have the power to approve all Presidential appointees with a two-thirds (2/3) confirmation vote.
8. The Senate shall have the power to make committees and have the power to appoint people to those Senate committees.
9. Approve the next fiscal year's ASG budget presented by the President with a two-thirds (2/3) confirmation vote.
10. The Senate shall adopt a procedure by which all presidentially approved or veto overridden policies, legislation or motions are stored in one central depository. This central depository may be located in more than one location. All materials shall be posted to the depository one day after final approval.

Section 8 – Cooperation

The Senate and Legislative Branch shall work in conjunction with and in cooperation with the Executive Branch and Judicial Branch to ensure:

1. The Associated Students' Government represents the interests, needs, and desires of the student body in all campus and college operations, activities, and decision making processes.
2. Efficient and productive operations and processes of the Associated Students' Government in carrying out the provisions set forth in this Constitution.

Section 9 – Executive Session

The Senate shall have the right to Executive Session as outlined in Article V, section 2.6.

Section 10 – Public record

The Senate shall keep a Senate Journal of its proceedings, and shall publish the record, except for Executive session. The yeas, nays and abstentions of the members of the Senate on any vote shall be recorded in the public journal.

Section 11 – Oath of office

Each Senator shall give the following oath before entering office:

"I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the office of Senator of the Colorado State University-Pueblo Associated Students' Government, and will to the best of my ability, uphold, protect and defend in spirit and action the Constitution and policies of the Associated Students' Government."

Section 12 – Quorum

A simple majority of Senators shall constitute a quorum to conduct business during fall, spring, and summer semesters. No official business shall take place without quorum.

Section 13 – Advisors

The Senate shall have the right to select advisor(s) with a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of approval in accordance with the Senate Bylaws. The roles and expectations shall be established within the Senate Bylaws. The advisor(s) shall be removed by the same process by which they were appointed.

Section 14 – Compensation

Elected Legislative Branch officers shall receive a compensation for their services while in office to be ascertained by policy. If removed from office, compensation shall cease upon date of removal.

Article VIII – Judicial Branch

Section 1 – Composition

1. The body of the Judicial Branch shall be the Student Court.
2. The Student Court shall have five (5) justices.

3. The Student Court justices shall be appointed by the President, with the confirmation of a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Senate.
4. The Justices may not hold any other office or position within the ASG.
5. The Chief Justice shall be appointed by the President with a two-thirds (2/3) confirmation vote by the Senate. The Chief Justice shall be appointed from among the sitting justices.

Section 2 – Terms

All Judicial Branch terms shall last one (1) full year from the date of appointment.

Section 3 – Jurisdiction

1. The judicial power of the Associated Students' Government shall be vested in one Student Court and in such inferior Courts as the Senate may from time to time ordain and establish.
2. The Student Court shall narrowly define this Constitution and all provisions within.
3. All rulings by the Student Court are final and binding upon the ASG and shall be duly enforced by the President and adhered to by the Senate and all other governmental entities.
4. The Student Court shall have jurisdiction and preside over hearings in matters regarding final removal from office, disputes and interpretations of constitutions, bylaws, policies, and legislation and any other matters referred to it by the University or as prescribed within the Judicial Code Policy Manual.
5. The Student Court shall have jurisdiction on disputes between student organizations and disputes between students and student organizations only to be enacted and enforced in agreement with the university.

Section 4 – Oath of Office

Each Justice of the Student Court shall give the following oath prior to entering office: "I, (Name of Justice) do solemnly affirm that I will administer justice in the highest form of judicial review without respect to persons or bias. I will faithfully and impartially discharge and perform all the duties incumbent upon me as a Justice of the Student Court under the Constitution of the Colorado State University-Pueblo Associated Students' Government."

Section 5 - Purpose

The Student Court shall act as the highest judicial authority of the CSU-Pueblo Associated Students' Government with honor and dignity. The purpose is to provide judicial review and decisions for any and all matters brought forth within their jurisdiction. The Court will provide this service in an impartial and honorable manner to all who shall seek it.

Section 6 – The Judicial Operations Code

The Student Court shall maintain and update the Judicial Operations Code in the Policy manual subject to a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Senate and approval of the President which establishes proper policies and procedures for the administration of the following which shall include, but not be limited to:

1. Jurisdiction and authority.
2. Due process.
3. Hearing proceedings.
4. Impeachment procedures.
5. Voting procedures.
6. Disciplinary procedures for Judicial Branch justices.
7. Duties and responsibilities for Judicial Branch justices.
8. Rules of its proceedings.
9. Maintenance of minutes and records.

Section 7 – Executive Session

The Judicial Branch shall have the right to Executive Session as outlined in Article V, section 2.6.

Section 8 – Cooperation

The Judicial Branch shall work in conjunction with and in cooperation with the Executive Branch and Legislative Branch to ensure:

1. The Associated Students' Government represents the interests, needs, and desires of the student body in all campus and college operations, activities, and decision making processes.
2. Efficient and productive operations and processes of the Associated Students' Government in carrying out the provisions set forth in this Constitution

Section 9 – Advisors

The Judicial Branch shall have the right to select advisor(s) with a two thirds (2/3) vote of approval in accordance with Student Court Bylaws. The roles and expectations shall be established within the Student Court Bylaws. The advisor(s) shall be removed by the same process by which they were appointed.

Article IX - Staff

Section 1 – Executive Assistant

The ASG shall have a minimum of one (1) paid Executive Assistant hired by the Executive Branch; the Executive Assistant(s) shall have the following responsibilities:

1. Attend all Senate meetings (regular and emergency sessions).
2. To perform all duties of an administrative assistant.
3. Operate the ASG Office under the direction of the Vice President.
4. Be responsible for all ASG documents and delegated correspondence.

5. Perform all other tasks deemed necessary by the President, Vice President, and Speaker of the Senate.

The Executive Assistant(s) shall be removed by the same process by which they were appointed with just cause.

Section 2 – Contractual employment

The ASG shall have the ability to procure employees on a contractual basis in accordance with university hiring practices. Contract employees shall be retained for project-oriented duties only. These shall include, but not be limited to, matters of legislative, financial or research based projects.

Article X – Qualifications for Office

Section 1 –Qualifications for Executive Branch Officers

1. Must be a member of the Association in good standing, as defined by the Student Conduct Code.
2. Must have and maintain at least a 2.5 cumulative GPA.
3. Must be enrolled in a minimum of twelve (12) mandatory fee-paying credit hours on campus from Colorado State University-Pueblo per semester during Fall and Spring.
4. The President must have accumulated at least sixty (60) credit hours of which 12 must have been earned from CSU-Pueblo at the time of running for office.
5. The Vice President must have accumulated at least sixty (60) credit hours of which 12 must have been earned from CSU-Pueblo at the time of running for office.

Section 2 – Qualifications for Legislative and Judicial Branch Officers

1. Must be a member of the Association in good standing, as defined by the Student Conduct Code.
2. Must have and maintain at least a 2.25 cumulative GPA.
3. Must be enrolled in a minimum of six (6) mandatory fee-paying credit hours from Colorado State University-Pueblo per semester during Fall and Spring.

Section 3 – Longevity

All Executive, Legislative and Judicial Branch officers of the ASG must have one (1) full academic year remaining at CSU-Pueblo before taking office. This shall not apply to student-at-large appointments to ASG or university-wide committees.

Article XI – Elections

Section 1 – Election Commission

1. The Election Commission shall have the duty of running all elections which include the spring ASG general elections, special elections, referenda, constitutional amendments, or student proposals and initiatives.

2. The Election Commission shall be composed of up to six (6) students.
3. The Election Commission shall be appointed by the President, with the confirmation of a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Senate.
4. The Chair shall be appointed by the President with a two-thirds (2/3) confirmation vote by the Senate. The Chair shall be appointed from among the sitting commissioners if possible.

Section 2 – 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:

1. Election procedures for all elections.
2. Electronic voting.
3. Referendum and initiative qualifications.
4. Disciplinary procedures for election violations.
5. Duties and responsibilities for Judicial Branch justices.
6. Rules of its proceedings.
7. Maintenance of minutes and records.

Section 3 – Petitions for Candidacy

Students who wish to have their names on the ballot for the office of ASG President and Vice President shall circulate petitions and secure no less than four hundred (400) signatures from the student body. Students who wish to have their names on the ballot for the office of Senator shall circulate petitions and secure no less than one hundred (100) signatures from the student body. Signatures should be accompanied by student identification numbers for the purposes of verification pursuant to the Election Code.

Section 4 – Elected Positions

The Office of President, Vice President and all Senate seats shall be elected during spring ASG General Elections.

Section 5 – General Elections

All General Elections shall be conducted during the spring semester. The timeline shall be developed by the Election Commission and submitted as an information item only to the officers of the Executive, Legislative, and Judicial Branch.

Section 6 – 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.

Section 7 – Inauguration

The elected officers of both Executive and Legislative Branches shall be inaugurated and sworn into office prior to May 1 with terms of office beginning as outlined in Articles VI section 2 and Article VII section 2 respectively.

Section 8 – Advisors

The Election Commission shall have the right to select advisor(s) with a two-thirds (2/3) confirmation vote in accordance with Election Code. The roles and expectations shall be established within the Election Code. The advisor(s) shall be removed by the same process by which they were appointed.

Article XII – Removal from office

Section 1 – Articles of Impeachment

The Legislative Branch shall have the sole power to pass Articles of Impeachment against a member of the Executive, Legislative, Judicial Branch or Election Commission on the grounds set forth below, upon a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the elected members of the Senate minus the accused officer.

Section 2 – Impeachment procedures

Upon receipt of information suggesting that grounds for impeachment exist, the Senate or Executive Branch, in accordance with the Student Court Judicial Operations Code, shall appoint a committee of three (3) students at large to conduct an investigation into the facts and make recommendations as to whether the available evidence would support a finding that grounds exist to remove the accused from office. The committee will summarize the evidence and state its recommendations in a written report to the body that appointed it.

If the investigating committee finds the available evidence would support a finding that grounds exist for removal from office, the Senate may, but is not required to, approve Articles of Impeachment which shall serve as a charging document and shall be presented to the impeached officer and the other branches of the Associated Students' Government.

The Senate shall designate one or more of its members to present the evidence supporting the Articles of Impeachment in an evidentiary hearing before the other branch. This representative may present the evidence through documents and testimony of witnesses, including the defendant, and may cross examine adverse witnesses. The defendant may have an advocate present for advisory purposes, and may cross examine witnesses and present evidence on his or her own behalf. The hearing shall be informal and formal rules of evidence shall not apply. In the hearing, the burden of proof and persuasion shall be borne by the member that brings the Articles of Impeachment.

In instances where the Student Court brings articles of impeachment against a Justice, the Senate shall hold the evidentiary hearing.

Section 3 – Appeal Process

If the hearing results in a finding that the officer should be removed from his or her position, the officer may appeal that finding to the Student Court by delivering to the Student Court, and both of the other branches of Student Government, a written Notice of Appeal, specifying the grounds for appeal. The Student Court may overturn a decision only if it finds that it is not supported by substantial evidence or that removal would be unlawful or that the hearing was conducted in violation of the accused officer's right to due process of law.

If the hearing results in a finding that the officer should not be removed from his or her position, the branch representative who presented the case may appeal that finding to the Student Court by delivering to the Student Court and both branches of student government a written notice of appeal, specifying the grounds for appeal. The Student Court may overturn the decision only if it finds substantial evidence that removal would be lawful.

In instances of the impeachment of Student Court Justices, the Executive Branch shall serve as the Appeals Board for Student Court Justices.

Appeals shall be filed with the Student Court or Appeals Board within two (2) weeks of the informal hearing taking place.

Section 4 - Grounds for Impeachment

Impeachment of an elected officer or Student Court Justice shall be based upon the following grounds:

1. Misrepresentation of, or failure to maintain, academic and enrollment status qualifications as per this Constitution.
2. Substantial neglect of duties (including absences) and responsibilities as established in this Constitution and appropriate bylaws/policies.
3. Certification by the Student Judicial Officer that the officer has violated the CSU-Pueblo Student Conduct Code.
4. 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.

Section 5 - Absences

1. If a member of the Executive, Legislative, or Judicial Branch fails to attend two or more official meetings without a prior written valid excuse, the ASG member will be eligible for impeachment. Two unexcused tardies (10 or more minutes late) are equivalent to one unexcused absence. The validity of an excuse shall be

determined immediately following roll call on the day of the absence pursuant to Student Court Judicial Operations Code regarding absences. Two unexcused instances of leaving the meeting early (30 or more minutes) shall be equal to one unexcused absence.

2. The student court shall be responsible for counting and recording of absences and must present a bi-weekly report to the senate of excused and unexcused absences for each member.
3. Examples of excused absences includes official ASG business or extraneous circumstances at the discretion of the Speaker or chairperson of the committee.
4. Upon notification of impeachment charges, the ASG member will be given the opportunity to present their case and petition the Student Court for reinstatement pursuant to the Student Court Judicial Operation Code.
5. After the consideration of the ASG member's case, the Student Court will make a final decision.
6. For Student Court Justices, upon notification of charges, the Justice will be given the opportunity to present their case and petition the Executive Branch for reinstatement pursuant to the Student Court Judicial Operation Code. After the consideration of the Justice's case, the Executive Branch will make the final decision.

Section 6 – Judicial Operations Code

Appropriate Judicial Operations Code shall set procedures for the removal from office process including, but not limited to, the vote, timelines and deadlines, consequences of failure to timely file or whether there should be extensions for good cause and final arbitration of cases involving absences.

Section 7 – Recall Election

1. Members of the Association may initiate a removal procedure by presenting a petition listing the signatures and student numbers of at least ten (10) percent of the term full-time equivalent (FTE) Association population, stating the name of the member of Associated Students' Government in question and a list of charges. Petitions for recall shall be submitted to the Student Court.
2. A recall election shall then be held under election policy procedures.
3. The issue shall be resolved by a simple majority vote of the Association (half plus one), provided that at least ten (10) percent of the FTE Association population casts ballots in the election.
4. Should less than ten (10) percent of the FTE Association population cast ballots at a Recall Election, charges shall be dropped and the election shall be declared invalid.

Article XIII – Referendum and Amendments

Section 1 – Referendum

1. 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.
2. All referendums shall be a single question that is worded in the affirmative so that a student may vote either "yes" or "no".
3. 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 – 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:

1. After a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Senate and approval of the President.
2. 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 – Elections

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.

Section 4 – Adoption

Referendum, initiatives or amendments or replacement of this Constitution shall be adopted by majority approval of those voting students (half plus one).

Section 5 - Dates of Approval, Amendments, and/or Revision of this Constitution

This Constitution shall be noted as to the date of approval, amendment, and/or revision at the bottom of this document.

ARTICLE XIV – RATIFICATION

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