AN ACT TO REVISE THE BYLAWS OF THE STUDENT BODY SENATE

Short Title: The Senate ByLaws Revision Act Part 2
Primary Sponsor: Tenecia Jones, College of Arts and Architecture
Secondary Sponsor(s):
Passage:

Whereas, The Bylaws of the Student Senate are the building block to the function, structure and organization of the Student Body Senate

Whereas, The Bylaws of the Student Senate are currently unclear and require clarification

Whereas, The Bylaws of the Student Senate need to be revised in order to maintain consistency

Whereas, The Bylaws of the Student Senate need to be updated to keep up with current procedural activities

Therefore, be it resolved by the Student Body Senate at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte:

SECTION 4. Responsibilities of the Senate

§3-1.17. Promotion of the General Welfare of the Student Body Purpose.

The Senate shall be charged with the promotion of the general welfare of the Student Body, whether through the introduction, debate and passage of legislation or through any of its activities or endeavors.
§3-1.18. Senate Retreat.

A Senator who is elected appointed or elected before the date of the Senate retreat shall be required to attend the retreat. Should a Senator not attend the retreat, his or her absence shall constitute an automatic resignation. Only the Advisor to the Senate shall have the authority to suspend this responsibility.

§3-1.19. College Forum.

Each College Senator must host an open forum at least once per semester for the college they represent, where students can voice questions, issues, and concerns within their colleges due to the lack of communication between the students and administration. A dean or faculty member from the College hosting the Town Hall Meeting must be present. Each Senator, on behalf of their respective College at UNC Charlotte, must host an open forum twice per semester (one early semester Forum and one late semester Forum), where students can voice issues, questions, and concerns within their colleges. The College Forum shall be structured as follows: beginning with an informative panel session, where college-specific senators and faculty/staff will inform students of SGA initiatives, changes to UNC Charlotte academic policy, and other relevant UNC Charlotte updates/news; and ending with an open-floor question-and-answer session allowing students to directly voice their questions or issues to UNC Charlotte administration. Senators are required to request at least one faculty and/or staff member from the hosting college to be present during the College Forum; SGA Senators are mandated to attend their respective College Forum.

§3-1.20. Suggestion Web Portal.

The Senate is charged with maintaining a web portal in which students may offer their opinions, suggest legislation, and make comments on all posts. This shall be open to the entire Student Body. All opinions, and suggested legislation, and comments shall remain in full view of all members of the Student Body.
SECTION 5. Order of Business

§3-1.21. Quorum.

A quorum of the Senate shall consist of a simple majority of all qualified present Senators. It shall be in order as a privileged request for any Senator to ask that the roll be called at any time during General Assembly to establish the presence of a quorum. In the absence of a quorum, the Presiding Officer shall be permitted to entertain a motion to enter Committee of the Whole until such time as quorum is attained. Such a motion shall require the consent of a majority of those Senators present. Should no motion be agreed to following the loss of quorum, the Presiding Officer shall be empowered to immediately declare the Senate to be adjourned, in recess, or dissolved into Committee of the Whole.

§3-1.22. Order of Business.

The Senate shall proceed with its business in a General Assembly as follows:

(a) Call to Order

(b) Recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States

(c) Roll Call

(d) Adoption of the Minutes

(e) Messages to the Senate

(f) Comments from the Gallery

(g) Approval of New Student Organizations

(h) Reports of the Officers of the Senate

(i) Confirmation of Senators-Designate

(j) Nomination and Election of Officers of the Senate
§3-1.23. Minutes.

(a) The Student Government Association Administrative Assistant Parliamentarian shall record the Minutes of every General Assembly. In his or her absence, the Vice Chair of the Internal Affairs Committee will record the Minutes.

(b) The Administrative Assistant Pro Tempore shall be charged with distributing an electronic copy of the Minutes to all Senators not less than two days prior to the next General Assembly. He or she shall also make copies of approved Minutes available upon the request of any Senator, student, or member of the faculty or staff, or to the general public.

(c) At the appropriate time in a General Assembly, the Presiding Officer shall entertain a motion to approve the Minutes from the previous General Assembly. Such a motion must be seconded, and shall carry upon a simple majority vote.

§3-1.24. Officer Reports.

At the appointed time, the Presiding Officer shall recognize each Officer of the Senate to give a report of his or activities and those of any Committees he or she may have jurisdiction over.

§3-1.25. Approval of New Student Organizations.

The Senate shall be charged with approving new student organizations in accordance with the Constitution of the Student Body. All potential student organizations must comply with all guidelines enumerated in the Act for Registration prior to being placed on the agenda for approval by the Senate.
§3-1.26. Confirmation of Designees External to the Senate.

(a) Designees external to the Senate shall be confirmed to Office by Senate Resolution.

(b) At the appropriate time during a General Assembly, the Presiding Officer shall recognize the appointing authority, who shall introduce the designee to the Senate. All designees shall be allowed to address the Senate for a period of time not to exceed two minutes, followed by a period for questions for the designee from the Senate not to exceed five minutes.

(c) The confirmation of designees may be moved by any qualified Senator, and shall be decided in a manner consistent with the Constitution of the Student Body and the Student Government Statutes.

SECTION 6. Motions

§3-1.27. Order of Precedence of Motions.

The order of precedence of motions shall be as follows:

(a) To adjourn

(b) To recess

(c) Questions of Privilege

(d) To lay on the table

(e) The previous question

(f) To limit or extend debate

(g) To postpone to a time certain

(h) To amend

(i) To postpone indefinitely
Main motions

§3-1.28. Motion to Adjourn.

All motions to adjourn shall be understood to adjourn the Senate to the next regularly scheduled meeting and shall be voted on by call of the roll.

§3-1.29. Previous Question.

The Previous Question shall require the consent of a two-thirds majority of the Senators present.

SECTION 7. Assignment of the Floor

§3-1.30. Recognition of Senators.

A Senator who seeks recognition shall rise at his or her seat, address the Presiding Officer, and wait to be recognized before addressing the Senate further.

§3-1.31. Recognition of non-Senators.

The Presiding Officer may, upon the consent of a majority of the Senators present, extend the privileges of the floor to any member of the Gallery who is not a member of the Senate.

SECTION 8. Conduct of Debate

§3-1.32. Rounds of Debate.
Senators may use this time period to voice and debate their respective points of view on a piece of legislation presented to the Senate. The Presiding Officer shall call on Senators to speak in the order in which they request the floor. Once the Presiding Officer has deemed debate to be settled, he/she may call an end to debate.

§3-1.33. Period of Questions.

The Presiding Officer may recognize the Senator introducing legislation or making motions for a period of time he or she deems appropriate, following the introduction of such legislation or the statement of such motions, during which time the Senator shall be entitled to yield to other Senators for questions. It shall be out of order for any Senator to use such time for debate.

§3-1.34. Questions in Debate.

Once debate has begun, a Senator speaking in debate shall be entitled to yield the floor to other Senators for questions. A Senator desiring to ask a question of the speaking Senator may interrupt him or her to request that the speaking Senator yield.

SECTION 9. General Decorum

§3-1.35. Decorum of Senators.

(a) The Presiding Officer shall have general discretion of the Senate Chamber and shall maintain the proper decorum of the General Assembly. All Senators shall observe decency of speech, leave the Senate Chamber to engage in conversation, avoid disrespect of personalities and avoid walking between the speaking Senator and the President.

(b) All Senators shall stand when addressing the presiding officer, a speaker or the Body, provided they are capable of doing so.

(c) At a minimum, Senators shall dress appropriately in business casual attire.

§3-1.36. Decorum of Visitors.

UNC CHARLOTTE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION
Visitors to the General Assembly shall be seated in a designated gallery except at the discretion of the Presiding Officer. Visitors shall refrain from disrupting the business of the General Assembly. The Presiding Officer, with the aid of the Sergeant-at-Arms, may ask any visitor to leave the meeting room at any time for disorderly conduct.

SECTION 10. Voting

§3-1.37. Methods of Voting.

The method of voting shall be by voice or hand vote, at the discretion of the Presiding Officer. Following the vote, the Presiding Officer shall announce the results according to his or her judgment. Senators shall voice their vote by answering "Aye" or "No-Nay", or shall hand vote by raising their hand and keeping it raised until the vote has been counted and recorded in the Minutes. Should a Senator feel the outcome of a voice vote could not be adequately determined, he or she may demand a rising vote by saying "Division of the Assembly" or simply "Division", so long as he or she does not use the procedure as a dilatory tactic when there clearly has been a full vote and there can be no reasonable doubt of the result.

§3-1.38. Votes by Roll Call.

It shall be in order as a privileged request for any Senator to ask that the yeas ayes and nays be recorded in the Minutes on any question, with the consent of one-fifth of those Senators present. The yeas ayes and nays shall be recorded by a call of the roll.
THE STUDENT SENATE
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHARLOTTE

Mandates:

Dr. Arthur R. Jackson, *Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs*
Christine Davis, *Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs and Dean of Students*
Karen Shaffer, *Assistant Vice Chancellor and Director of Student Activities*
Adam Burden, *Advisor to the Senate*
Fahn Darkor, *Press Secretary*

Niner Times

I hereby certify that this legislation was considered and adopted by the Student Senate of the University of North Carolina in accordance with the Constitution of the Student Body and the By-Laws of the Student Senate on this ________ day of ____________, ____________.

_______________________________________________________
Alexander S. Rodriguez
President Pro Tempore of the Senate

I hereby signify my approval of this legislation as adopted by the Student Senate of the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, this ________ day of ____________, ____________.

_______________________________________________________
Mitchell Daratony
President of the Student Body
UNC CHARLOTTE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION