

# **Constitution of the Azusa Pacific University Student Government Association**

Ratified: March 2024

## **Preamble**

We, the undergraduate students of Azusa Pacific University, in order to provide a connection between the undergraduate student body and faculty, staff, and administration, serve student interests through means of advocacy and feedback collection, and positively influence the undergraduate experience through the creation and promotion of programs, do ordain and establish this Constitution of the Azusa Pacific University Student Government Association.

## **Article I: Name**

- A. The name of this organization shall be the Student Government Association, hereafter referred to as SGA.
- B. Azusa Pacific University shall hereafter be referred to as APU.

## **Article II: Establishment**

- A. SGA officers shall be elected by the APU undergraduate student body on a yearly basis or appointed by an elected officer.
  - 1. SGA President shall be an elected position, not appointed.
- B. The members of SGA shall be enrolled as undergraduate students at APU, with a minimum of nine units per semester.

## **Article III: By-Laws**

- A. Standard rules and regulations for SGA shall be referred to as By-Laws.
- B. The By-Laws may be changed and/or amended by a majority vote of SGA Officers.

## **Article IV: Advisor**

- A. The SGA Advisor shall be selected by a process completed in collaboration between the SGA Executive Committee and the Dean of Student Affairs.
- B. The duties and responsibilities of the SGA Advisor are enumerated in Article IV of the SGA By-Laws.

## **Article V: Officers**

- A. There shall be no more than one SGA Officer per two-hundred enrolled Undergraduate students, as determined by the registrar at the end of the previous academic year.
  - 1. The Executive Committee shall not consist of more than 40% of the total number of SGA Officers.
- B. The roles and details of SGA Officers shall be detailed in the SGA By-Laws.

## **Article VI: Committees**

- A. SGA Officers shall be ordered into standing and special committees throughout the year, as designated by the SGA President.

## **Article VII: Dismissal and Recall**

- A. Any SGA Officer may be dismissed by a four-fifths (4/5) vote of SGA Officers and at the discretion of the SGA Advisor.
  - 1. Grounds for removal shall include:
    - i. Failure to meet Constitutional duties and responsibilities;
    - ii. Embezzlement of funds;
    - iii. Failure to uphold exemplary moral conduct in accordance with the APU Student Leadership Covenant;
    - iv. All other acts as deemed unconstitutional by four-fifths (4/5) of SGA Officers.
- B. In the event a petition requesting the recall of any SGA Officer is signed by 20% of eligible voters as defined in Article V, Section II of the SGA By-Laws, a recall election shall be held a minimum of five, but not more than fifteen days after the petition has been presented to SGA Officers at a Business Meeting.
- C. Replacement procedures for dismissed, recalled, or resigned members are as outlined in Article III of the By-Laws.

## **Article VIII: Budget**

- A. The following shall be the terms regarding the SGA Budget:
  - 1. The SGA budget shall be composed of a portion of the undergraduate student fee, as allocated by Administration;
  - 2. The SGA budget shall be used to carry out the mission of SGA, and to no other end;
  - 3. SGA shall at no time spend or budget to spend more money than is currently available in the SGA budget;

- a. Non-operational costs beyond what is available in the budget may be allowed under specific circumstances with approval of the SGA Advisor.
  4. SGA shall have the right to fundraise to procure additional revenue for initiatives, but this money may not be used to supplement salaries;
  5. SGA shall not spend or budget to spend more than 75% of money in the SGA budget on salaries for SGA Officers.
- B. Rules and guidelines regarding the apportionment of the SGA budget and roles related to this shall be detailed in the SGA By-Laws.

### **Article IX: Amendments**

- A. The Constitution shall be amended according to the following procedure:
1. Any undergraduate student at APU, including SGA Officers, may propose an amendment to the Constitution by submitting it in writing to the SGA President;
  2. The proposed amendment shall then be presented for review at a Business Meeting;
  3. Following the presentation, the amendment may be approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of SGA Officers;
  4. If approved, the amendment shall be presented to the student body at least one week prior to a Special Election or the regularly scheduled Election for ratification;
  5. The amendment shall become effective immediately after approval by two-thirds (2/3) of the students voting in the election, provided at least 10% of undergraduate students cast a ballot.
- B. For consistency of language and format, the amendment, once passed, shall be reviewed and edited by SGA Officers, provided that the intent of the revised clause is not altered.

### **Article X: Ratification**

- A. This Constitution shall become effective immediately upon approval by two-thirds (2/3) of the students voting, provided at least 20% of undergraduate students cast a ballot.