



Constitution of the Student Body of Wabash College

Preamble

We, the students of Wabash College, in order to provide an organization to regulate the matters of our student body and in the spirit of the Gentleman's Rule, and that each Wabash Man shall uphold the values of Thinking Critically, Acting Responsibly, Leading Effectively, and Living Humanely do ordain and establish this Constitution for the Student Body of Wabash College.

Article I - Name

Section 1. Name. The name of this organization will be the Student Body of Wabash College.

Article II - Membership

Section 1. Membership. Every man enrolled as a full-time student of Wabash College will be ipso facto a member of the Student Body of Wabash College and subject to all fees, duties, responsibilities and rights that befall that honor and as set forth in this Constitution.

Article III - Executive Branch

Section 1. Authority. The executive authority of this organization will be vested in the President of the Student Body of Wabash College.

Section 2. Eligibility. Every member of the Student Body seeking the Office of the President or the Vice-President must be a member for the entirety of the executive term to which he will serve and must qualify for his respective office as outlined by the Student Senate.

Section 3. Executive Term. An executive term will be from one Convocation of the Student Senate until the next.

Section 4. Oaths of Office. The oaths of office will be administered to the President and the Vice-President by a ranking official of the College at the Convocation of the Student Senate.

- a. The oath of office of the President of the Student Body is as follows: "I, . . . , do solemnly swear to faithfully execute the duties of the Office of the President of the Student Body of Wabash College and will, to the best of my ability, serve the members of the Student Body, and preserve, protect ,and defend the Constitution of the Student Body of Wabash College."



- b. The oath of office of the Vice-President of the Student Body is as follows: "I, ... , do solemnly swear to faithfully execute the duties of the Office of the Vice-President of the Student Body of Wabash College and will, to the best of my ability, serve the members of the Student Body, and preserve, protect ,and defend the Constitution of the Student Body of Wabash College."

Section 5. Structure of the Executive Branch. The executive branch will consist of the Offices of the President and the Vice-President, the President's Cabinet, the 4 standing committees outlined in Section 9, and any special committees established by the President.

Section 6. The President's Cabinet. There will exist a Cabinet to advise the President of the Student Body in matters regarding the Executive Branch. Meetings of the Cabinet will occur once every two weeks as scheduled by the President of the Student Body. Membership of the Cabinet will consist of at least the following members:

- a. The Vice-President of the Student Body
- b. The Secretary of the Student Senate
- c. The Treasurer of the Student Senate
- d. The President Pro Tempore of the Student Senate
- e. The Chairman of the Student Senate
- f. The Chairman of the Diversity and Inclusion Committee
- g. Chairman of the Senior Council

Section 7. Duties and Powers of the President. The President of the Student Body will:

- a. Serve as Chief Executive of the Student Body,
- b. Chair all meetings of the President's Cabinet,
- c. Make final decisions regarding all actions of the Executive Branch,
- d. Preside over all meetings of the Student body,
- e. Act as the official representative of the Student Body to the College's Board of Trustees, and
- f. Serve in all other capacities as directed by the Student Senate.

Section 8. Duties and Powers of the Vice-President. The Vice-President of the Student Body will:

- a. Serve as chief advocate of the Executive Branch,
- b. Chair meetings and break all ties of the standing committees, unless expressly outlined otherwise, of the Executive Branch, though his presence is not necessary at all meetings
- c. Chair all special committees of the Executive Branch, unless the President expressly outlines otherwise,
- d. Function as liaison to the Senate for the Executive Branch,



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- e. In the absence of the President, execute his duties,
- f. Act as the official representative of the Student Body to the National Association of Wabash Men, and
- g. Serve in all other capacities as directed by the Student Senate.

Section 9. Standing Committees of the Executive Branch. The Executive Branch will have the following standing committees, and each committee shall have a treasurer, selected by the members of the committee with the consent of the Vice President, who conducts the meetings, unless expressly outlined otherwise:

- a. **The Events Committee:** The Events Committee will be responsible for planning, hosting, and executing large-scale events for the whole of the student body. This committee will consist of five members, at least one of which will come from the membership of the Student Senate. The membership of the committee will be named by the President of the Student Body and need not be confirmed by the Student Senate.
- b. **The Student Life Committee:** The Student Life Committee will be responsible for the constant improvement of the day-to-day life of the student body of Wabash College. The committee will be responsible for hosting small-scale events and improving existing campus infrastructure with the intent of benefiting the whole of the student body. This committee will consist of three members at least one of which shall come from the membership of the Student Senate.. The membership of the committee will be named by the President of the Student Body and need not be confirmed by the Student Senate.
- c. **The Environmental Concerns Committee:** The Environmental Concerns Committee will be responsible for lessening the environmental impact of the Student Body of Wabash College. The committee will organize events and projects as they see fit, with the expressed intent of making Wabash a more environmentally friendly institution. This committee will consist of three members. The membership of the committee will be named by the President of the Student Body and need not be confirmed by the Student Senate. One member of the committee shall also attend the environmental concerns committee of the Faculty to be determined by the committee itself.
- d. **The Crawfordsville to Campus Committee:** The Crawfordsville to Campus Committee will be responsible for the organization and implementation of community outreach programs by the Student Body. The committee will serve to strengthen the bond between the student body and the Crawfordsville community. This committee will consist of three members. The membership of the committee will be named by the President of the Student Body and need not be confirmed by the Student Senate.
- e. **The Diversity and Inclusion Committee.** The Diversity and Inclusion Committee shall be responsible for fostering communication, collaboration, community building, and inclusivity of all people in the Wabash Community and beyond. Unlike the other aforementioned committees, the Diversity and Inclusion Committee will have a Chairman that is appointed by, and reports to directly to, the President of the Student Body. The Chairman may structure an executive board as he sees fit. The Chairman of the Diversity and Inclusion Committee shall be a part of the President's Cabinet and retain voting rights in Senate. The Committee shall meet regularly and consist of the following



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members:

- i. The Chairman of the Diversity and Inclusion Committee,
 - ii. The Treasurer of the Diversity and Inclusion Committee,
 - iii. The Secretary of the Diversity and Inclusion Committee,
 - iv. The Chairman of the Malcolm X Institute of Black Studies or proxy,
 - v. The President of Unidos Por Sangre or proxy,
 - vi. The President of the International Student Association or proxy,
 - vii. The President of 'shOUT or proxy,
 - viii. The President of the Muslim Student Association or proxy,
 - ix. The President of the African Student Association or proxy,
 - x. The President of the Vietnamese Student Association or proxy, and
 - xi. Any other members the Chairman of the Diversity and Inclusion Committee, with the consent of the President of the Student Body, deems necessary and proper for the Committee's purpose.
- f. **Senior Council.** Senior Council is responsible for representing the senior class' interest, assist in the process of transitioning into an alumnus, and fostering class unity in the final year of many Wabash Men's undergraduate career. Senior Council reserves the right to allocate a quarter of the senior class' student activity fees in the fall semester, and three-quarters of the senior class' student activity fees in the spring semester. The Senior Council will organize and execute projects for the senior class in the spirit of the three specified goals. The Chairman of Senior Council is nominated by the President of the Student Body, and confirmed by a two-thirds vote by Student Senate. The Chairman then appoints all the subsequent positions in the executive team. The Senior Council will include the following:
- i. Chairman of the Senior Council,
 - ii. Vice-Chairman of Professional Development,
 - iii. Vice-Chairman of Senior Events,
 - iv. Treasurer of Senior Council,
 - v. Secretary of Senior Council,
 - vi. President of the Student Body,
 - vii. President of the Interfraternity Council,
 - viii. President of the Independent Men Association,
 - ix. President of the Sphinx Club,
 - x. Chairman of the Diversity and Inclusion Committee,
 - xi. Two at large seats that attempt to invite underrepresented voices, appointed by the Chairman of the Senior Council and confirmed by the majority of Student Senate, and
 - xii. All other positions the Chairman of the Senior Council finds necessary and proper to function at its highest potential.

Section 10. Special Committees. Special committees are appointed to fulfill a specific purpose, as outlined by the President of the Student Body. The membership, purpose, and size of these committees are solely at the discretion of the President. The President will dissolve a special committee upon the completion of its function.



Section 11. Removal from Office. Any officer of the Executive Branch may be removed from office by a three-quarter majority vote of no confidence of the Student Senate. In votes of no confidence against the President and/or the Vice-President, the vote will be out of the total number of voting members of the respective body. Upon being removed from office, an executive officer will be expelled from the Student Senate.

Section 12. Vacancy in Office. Upon vacancy in the office of the President of the Student Body, the Vice-President shall assume the role of President by taking the presidential oath of office. Upon vacancy in the office of the Vice-President of the Student Body, the President Pro Tempore shall assume the role of the Vice-President by taking the vice-presidential oath of office.

Article IV - Legislative Branch

Section 1. Authority. The legislative authority of this organization will be vested in the Student Senate of Wabash College.

Section 2. Convocation. The Convocation of the Student Senate will be the first meeting of the Student Senate of each spring semester.

Section 3. Membership. The membership of the Student Senate will consist of:

- a. The President of the Student Body,
- b. The Vice-President of the Student Body,
- c. The Chairman of the Student Senate,
- d. The Secretary of the Student Senate,
- e. The Treasurer of the Student Body,
- f. One Senator elected to represent each living unit,
- g. One additional Senator elected to represent each living unit exceeding eighty residents,
- h. One Senator appointed from among the members living in off-campus housing by, the President and approved by a simple majority vote of the Student Senate,
- i. Four Senators elected from each of the three under-classes at-large, and
- j. The Chairman of each Student Senate Standing Committee.
- k. The Chairman of the Diversity and Inclusion Committee
- l. The Chairman of the Senior Council

Section 4. Voting Members. The following members of the Student Senate and no others will be afforded voting privileges:

- a. Each Senator elected to represent a living unit,

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- b. The Senator appointed from among the members living in off-campus housing, if the total number of members living off-campus is at least twenty, and
- c. Each Senator elected from the three under-classes at-large.
- d. The Chairman of the Diversity and Inclusion Committee

Section 5. Eligibility. Each member of the Student Senate must be a member of the Student Body and must qualify for his respective office as outlined by the Student Senate. No member of the Student Body may hold more than one vote on the Student Senate, nor may the President or Vice-President hold another seat on the Student Senate during their executive term of office.

Section 6. Oath of Office. The oath of office will be administered to each member of the Student Senate by the President of the Student Body at the Convocation of the Student Senate or the first meeting of the Student Senate after the election or appointment of the member. The senatorial oath of office is as follows: “I, . . . , do solemnly swear to faithfully represent those for whom I speak and execute the duties of a member of the Student Senate of Wabash College, and will to the best to the best of my ability preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of the Student Body of Wabash College.”

Section 7. Officers of the Student Senate. The Student Senate will have four officers. All duties and powers of these officers are outlined in the bylaws of the Student Senate. The officers will be:

- a. **The Chairman of the Senate.** This office will be nominated by the Student Senate and confirmed by a two thirds absolute majority vote of the Student Senate. This officer will:
 - i. Chair all meetings of the Senate,
 - ii. Cast a vote in the case of a tie within the Senate.
 - iii. Appoint the sergeant-at-arms of the Senate,
 - iv. Appoint all standing and special committees of the Senate, with the approval of the Senate, defined as a simple majority vote,
 - v. Serve as chairman of all committees where no other chairman has been appointed,
 - vi. Serve as an ex-officio, non-voting member of all committees of the Senate when not serving as a voting member of said committee, and
 - vii. Serve in all other capacities as directed by the Senate.
- b. **The President Pro Tempore of the Student Senate.** This office will be filled by the longest serving voting member of the body. When two or more members are equal in length of service, the senate shall decide by a majority vote. This officer will:
 - i. Act as the student representative to the Faculty,
 - ii. Assume the duties and responsibilities of the Vice-President if the office of the Vice-President is vacant,
 - iii. Assume the duties and responsibilities of the Vice-President in the case of the absence of the Vice-President.

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- iv. Serve in all other capacities as directed by the Senate.
- c. **The Secretary of the Student Senate.** This office will be filled by a member of the student body nominated by the President and confirmed and by a two thirds majority vote from the Senate. This office need not be filled by a sitting Senator. Should a voting member of the Senate be selected to fill this office, he will retain his voting privileges. This officer will
- i. Keep a roll of the Senate, including its members, voting members, honorary Senators, Senate liaisons, and committees and other appointments,
 - ii. Keep accurate minutes of the meetings of the Senate,
 - iii. Maintain the electronic resources of the Senate, including but not limited to:
 - a. An accurate mailing list on which all relevant parties are member,
 - b. Any special email address as may be required by the officers and committees of the Senate,
 - c. Any social media accounts employed by the Senate,
 - d. A website that includes the Constitution, Bylaws, and policies of the Senate and its committees, the roll of the Senate, and any other pertinent information,
 - iv. Act as Chairman of the Senate in the absence of the Chairman,
 - v. Keep accurate records of the standing policies of the Senate and its committees, and
 - vi. Serve in all other capacities as directed by the Senate.
- d. **The Treasurer of the Student Body.** This office will be filled by a member of the student body nominated by the President and confirmed by the Senate. This office need not be filled by a sitting Senator. Should a voting member of the Senate be selected to fill this office, he will retain his voting privileges. This officer will:
- i. Serve as Chairman of the Audit and Finance Committee,
 - ii. Keep an accurate account of the assets of the Student Body,
 - iii. Direct the distribution of funds as approved by the Senate,
 - iv. Pay all approved expenses,
 - v. Report regularly to the Senate on the financial condition of the Student Body, and
 - vi. Serve in all other capacities as directed by the Senate.

Section 8. Expulsion. Any voting member of the Student Senate may call for the expulsion of any other member of the Student Senate. A three-fourths majority vote of no confidence of the Student Senate will be sufficient to expel a member. A member who is expelled from the Student Senate will not be eligible for re-election or appointment to the Student Senate until the next senatorial term of office. Removal of the Chairman of the Student Senate may be done by a three-fourths majority vote of no confidence by the Student Senate. The Sergeant-at-Arms will hear such a motion. Upon removal from office, the Chairman shall be expelled from the Senate.

Section 9. Vacancy in Seats. In the event that any seat of membership in the Student Senate becomes vacant,

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that seat will lose its voting privileges if it is a voting seat until the seat is filled. If the seat belongs to a living unit, that living unit may elect a new Senator. The living unit may request its voting privileges be returned. A simple majority vote of the Student Senate is required to return voting privileges. If the seat belongs to a class or off-campus housing, the President will nominate a qualifying member of the Student Body. That nominee must be approved by two-thirds of the Student Senate. Upon approval of the nomination, the new member will regain the voting privileges of the seat.

Section 10. Bylaws. The Student Senate will ordain and establish a set of bylaws by which it will govern itself. The Bylaws of the Student Senate of Wabash College will complement and not contradict this Constitution.

Section 11. Intermediary and Cooperation. The Student Senate will serve as the intermediary body between the members of the Student Body and the faculty and administration of the College, and will cooperate with the faculty and administration in all matters of common interest and mutual benefit.

Section 12. Student Organizations. The Student Senate will have the sole authority to recognize student organizations and activities; it will have the further authority to revoke recognition as it sees fit. The recognition of any student organization or activity that qualifies as inactive by the policies of the Student Senate will automatically be withdrawn.

Section 13. Student Activity Fees. The Student Senate will, by a two-thirds majority vote, have the authority to confirm the amount of the Student Activity Fees. The Treasurer of the Student Body and the Audit and Finance Committee will have the sole authority to set the amount of Student Activity Fees.

Article V - Assets and Apportionment

Section 1. Assets. The funds collected from the members of the Student Body in the form of

Student Activity Fees are the assets of this organization. All worldly goods and money, which is donated to the Student Body or the Student Senate, will become assets of this organization.

Section 2. Apportionment. The Student Senate will have the sole authority to apportion and regulate the disposal and use of the assets of this organization. All goods purchased with funds from the assets of this organization will be the property of the Student Body and the Student Senate thereof will regulate the use.

Section 3. Financial Policy. All financial policies of the Student Senate should be in the best interest of the security of the assets of this organization.

Section 4. Recognition. Only student organizations and activities that are recognized by the Student Senate are eligible to receive funds from the assets of this organization.

Article VI - Elections



Section 1. Elections Commission. An Elections Commission will be established each fall semester, elected by the Student Senate. As outlined by the Student Senate, the Elections Commission will conduct and monitor the elections of the Student Body. No member of the Elections Commission may be a candidate for the office of President, Vice-President or Senators of a class at-Large. The Elections Commission will consist of three members, one of which will be named Elections Commissioner by a majority vote of the Student Senate. The members of Elections Commission need not be Senators.

Section 2. Time of Elections. The election of the President, Vice-President and Senators of classes at-Large will be held the week prior to final examinations each fall semester.

Section 3. Election of President and Vice-President. The student wishing to run for the office of President must select a Vice- President to join him on the same ballot. The student wishing to run for the office of Vice-President must select a President to join him on the same ballot.

Section 4. The Winner. The winners of the Office of the President and of the Office of the Vice-President will be the candidates who receive the highest number of votes for the respective offices. The winners of the elections for Senators of classes at-Large will be the four candidates from each class who receive the highest number of votes cast for the respective offices.

Section 5. Election of Senators. Each living unit will elect a Senator in a manner by which it sees fit to serve for the entire term of office.

Article VII - Rights of the Student Body

Section 1. Guarantee of Rights. The Student Body of Wabash College and its members are guaranteed the rights listed in this article.

Section 2. Petition to Consider Legislation. A written petition, signed by at least twenty-five members of the Student Body, will be sufficient to require the Student Senate to consider a piece of legislation.

Section 3. Petition of Discussion. A written petition, signed by at least fifty members of the Student Body, will be sufficient to require the President of the Student Body to bring before a meeting of the Student Body any legislation passed by the Student Senate for general discussion amongst the members of the Student Body.

Section 4. Petition of Referendum. A written petition, signed by at least one hundred members of the Student Body, will be sufficient to require the Student Senate to send a piece of legislation before the entire Student Body for ratification. Legislation will be approved by a simple majority of the ballots cast. The Student Body may pass no legislation unless at least one-third of the members of the Student Body cast unsoiled ballots.

Section 5. Petition to Overturn Legislation. A written petition, signed by at least one hundred and fifty members of the Student Body, will be sufficient to require the Student Senate to organize a vote of the Student

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Body to veto the legislation. Student Senate legislations will be vetoed by the Student Body by a two-thirds majority of the ballots cast in a valid vote.

Section 6. Guarantee of an Open Senate. Every non-executive session of the Student Senate will be open to the members of the Student Body. The minutes of every executive session of the Student Senate will be approved in a regular session and will be made available to the members of the Student Body for review.

Section 7. Right to Information. In disciplinary matters, the Student has the right to be informed of the issue concerning him.

Section 8. Right to a Private Hearing and Discussion. In disciplinary matters, the Student has the right to a private hearing and discussion between the members of the Dean of Students Office and himself.

Section 9. Right to Self-Representation. In disciplinary matters, the Student has the right to represent himself to the members of the Dean of Students Office in his own defense, and to bring witnesses in his own behalf.

Section 10. Right to a Timely Decision. In disciplinary matters, the Student has the right to a timely decision and to be informed of said decision as soon as possible after it has been made.

Section 11. Right to Appeal. In disciplinary matters, the Student has the right to appeal the decision of the members of the Dean of Students Office, unless otherwise prohibited by law.

Section 12. Right To Vote in Student Elections. All members of the Student Body shall be entitled to vote for President, Vice President, and their respective class representatives.

Article VIII - Amendments

Section 1. Origin. All proposed amendments to the Constitution of the Student Body of Wabash College will originate in the Student Senate. An amendment may not be proposed by a Petition of Referendum.

Section 2. Adoption. A two-thirds majority vote of the Student Senate will be required to send an amendment before the Student Body.

Section 3. Amendments. Amendments to this Constitution must be ratified by a two-thirds majority vote of the Student Body.

Section 4. Ratification. Upon ratification of this constitution by the Student Body of Wabash College, all prior Constitutions will be declared null and void.