# The Constitution of the Trinity College Student Government Association

# Ratified \*DATE\* Amended \*DATE\*

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## Preamble

We, the students of Trinity College, to officially represent the voice and concerns of the Student Body; to develop democratic ideals; to promote the academic, cultural, and social welfare of the Student Body; to develop responsible student participation in the College's governance and activities; to maintain high standards of cooperation, loyalty, and school spirit, and to teach respect for law and order, ordain and establish this constitution for the Student Government Association of Trinity College.

# Article I: Name

Section 1. The name of this organization shall be the 'Trinity College Student Government Association', hereafter referred to as the 'SGA'.

# Article II: Purpose

- Section 1. The SGA shall be the official representative voice of the Student Body to the greater Trinity College community.
- Section 2. The SGA shall promote communication among the Student Body, administration, faculty, staff, and other members of the Trinity College community.
- Section 3. The SGA shall provide an open forum for the Student Body to express their views.
- Section 4. The SGA shall act upon the views of the Student Body in an appropriate manner, as determined by the SGA.
- Section 5. All members of the SGA shall ensure all procedures as outlined by this constitution are properly followed.
- Section 6. The business and events of the SGA shall be open on a non-discriminatory basis to members of the Trinity College community. As such, the SGA does not discriminate on the basis of age, color, disability, gender identity and expression, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, national or ethnic origin, race, religion, physical characteristics, or socioeconomic status. To promote and provide for a diverse and inclusive community, this nondiscriminatory clause shall be binding throughout this constitution.

# Article III: Structure and Membership

Section 1. The SGA shall consist of the Executive Board, Senate, Class Councils, Academic Affairs Committee, Communications Committee, Budget Committee, Inter-Organizational

Council, Multicultural Affairs Council, Programming Board ("Barnyard"), Student Life Committee, and various ad hoc committees as deemed necessary by the SGA.

Section 2. All students of Trinity College in good academic and disciplinary standing shall be eligible for membership in the SGA. Special requirements may apply for specific positions, as outlined in this constitution.

### Article IV: The Executive Board

### Section 1. Purpose

- A. The purpose of the Executive Board shall be to oversee and direct the operations of the SGA.
- B. The Executive Board shall meet weekly to fulfill its purposes, as outlined below.

#### Section 2. Members

- A. The members of the Executive Board shall be the:
  - 1. President of the SGA, hereafter referred to as the President, who shall serve as an ex officio and non-voting member, except in the case of a tie
  - 2. Vice President
  - 3. Secretary, who shall serve as an ex officio and non-voting member
  - 4. Parliamentarian, who shall serve as an ex officio and non-voting member
  - 5. Academic Affairs Chair
  - 6. Communications Chair
  - 7. Finance Chair
  - 8. Greek Affairs Chair
  - 9. Inter-Organizational Council Chair
  - 10. Multicultural Affairs Chair
  - 11. Programming Chair
  - 12. Student Life Chair

#### Section 3. Roles and Responsibilities

#### A. The President shall:

- 1. Serve as the head of the SGA
- 2. Be present at all Senate and Executive Board meetings
- 3. Preside over all Senate and Executive Board meetings
- 4. Maintain regular communication with the Student Body, Office of Student Activities, Involvement, & Leadership, College President, faculty, Dean of Students Office, and other members of the Trinity College community
- 5. Convene emergency Senate and Executive Board meetings as deemed necessary

- 6. Create ad hoc committees upon the Senate's approval
- 7. Oversee the Senate's budget
- 8. Ensure collaboration within the Executive Board to complete projects and gather input
- 9. Nominate students to serve as representatives and liaisons on school-wide committees
- 10. Directly communicate with the Student Body via public messages, working with the Communications Committee to develop such messages
- 11. Submit a report to the Senate and the Secretary, for record-keeping, detailing what they have accomplished mid-semester and at the conclusion of each semester

#### B. The Vice President shall:

- 1. Serve as the head of the SGA in the President's absence
- 2. Be present at all Senate and Executive Board meetings
- 3. Maintain regular communication with the Student Body, Office of Student Activities, Involvement, & Leadership (S.A.I.L.), College President, faculty, Dean of Students Office, and other members of the Trinity College community
- 4. Oversee the Senate's budget
- 5. Ensure collaboration within the Executive Board to complete projects and gather input
- 6. Oversee the ad hoc and standing committees of the SGA, including the Class Councils by providing them with necessary guidance and support to ensure the committees are well-equipped, working toward a vision, and functioning efficiently
- 7. Meet regularly with the Chairs to provide support and guidance
- 8. Submit a report to the Senate and the Secretary, for record-keeping, detailing what they have accomplished mid-semester and at the conclusion of each semester

#### C. The Secretary shall:

- 1. Be present at all Senate and Executive Board meetings
- 2. Record comprehensive minutes at all Senate and Executive Board meetings
- 3. Responsible for taking attendance at all Senate and Executive Board meetings
- 4. Distribute minutes to all members of the Senate and Executive Board, and to the Director of S.A.I.L.
- 5. Gather and compile minutes from all ad hoc and standing committee meetings, including Class Councils
- 6. Main an organized record of all SGA documents and materials including membership, minutes, Executive Board reports, attendance, proposed measures, passed measures, templates, etc.
- 7. Create and maintain any and all templates for agendas, minutes, resolutions, referendums, etc.
- 8. Notify any SGA member if they are in violation of the SGA's Attendance Policy, as outlined in this constitution

9. Submit a report to the Senate detailing what they have accomplished midsemester and at the conclusion of each semester, and archive this report

#### D. The Parliamentarian shall:

- 1. Be present at all Senate and Executive Board meetings
- 2. Have a comprehensive understanding of this constitution
- 3. Ensure that all procedures as outlined by this constitution are properly followed
- 4. Serve as the facilitator of all Senate meetings, using *Robert's Rules of Order* as deemed necessary for parliamentary procedure
- 5. Ensure all members of the SGA have a comprehensive understanding of the SGA's parliamentary procedure
- 6. Notify the Senate of the dates of all meetings at the beginning of each semester
- 7. Censure members of the SGA as determined by the judicial process
- 8. Compile the agenda for all Senate meetings, where any member of the SGA and Trinity College community may request an item to be on the agenda
- 9. Distribute the agenda for the Senate meeting at least one (1) day prior to the meeting
- 10. Submit a report to the Senate and the Secretary, for record-keeping, detailing what they have accomplished mid-semester and at the conclusion of each semester

#### E. The Academic Affairs Chair shall:

- 1. Be present at all Senate, Executive Board, and Academic Affairs Committee meetings
- 2. Serve as the head of the SGA's Academic Affairs Committee
- 3. Maintain regular communication with the Office of the Dean of the Faculty, the Vice President of Academic Affairs, and all other relevant members of the Trinity College community
- 4. Serve on Trinity College's Academic Affairs Committee
- 5. Facilitate all meetings of the SGA's Academic Affairs Committee
- 6. Develop a course of action for the Committee, which shall contain the committee's goals for the term
- 7. Delegate duties amongst all Committee members
- 8. Ensure all Committee members are equally active participants and fulfilling their designated responsibilities
- 9. Update the Senate and Executive Board regarding the Academic Affairs Committee's activities
- 10. Collaborate with other Chairs to complete projects and gather input
- 11. Submit a report to the Senate and the Secretary, for record-keeping, detailing what the Academic Affairs Committee has accomplished mid-semester and at the conclusion of each semester

#### F. The Communications Chair shall:

- 1. Be present at all Senate, Executive Board, and Communications Committee meetings
- 2. Serve as the head of the Communications Committee

- 3. Maintain regular communication with the Office of Communications and all other relevant members of the Trinity College community
- 4. Facilitate all meetings of the Communications Committee
- 5. Develop a course of action for the Committee, which shall contain the Committee's goals for the term
- 6. Delegate duties amongst all Committee members
- 7. Ensure all Committee members are equally active participants and fulfilling their designated responsibilities
- 8. Approve all communications materials for distribution
- 9. Update the Senate and Executive Board regarding the Communications Committee's activities
- 10. Collaborate with other Chairs to complete projects and gather input
- 11. Submit a report to the Senate and the Secretary, for record-keeping, detailing what the Communications Committee has accomplished mid-semester and at the conclusion of each semester

#### G. The Finance Chair shall:

- 1. Be present at all Senate, Executive Board, and Budget Committee meetings
- 2. Serve as the head of the Budget Committee
- 3. Maintain regular communication with Trinity College's Chief Financial Officer and all other relevant members of the Trinity College community
- 4. Facilitate all meetings of the Budget Committee
- 5. Develop a course of action for the Committee, which shall contain the Committee's goals for the term
- 6. Delegate duties amongst all Committee members
- 7. Ensure all Committee members are equally active participants and fulfilling their designated responsibilities
- 8. Update the Senate and Executive Board regarding the Budget Committee's activities
- 9. Collaborate with other Chairs to complete projects and gather input
- 10. Submit a report to the Senate and the Secretary, for record-keeping, detailing what the Budget Committee has accomplished mid-semester and at the conclusion of each semester

#### H. The Greek Affairs Chair shall:

- 1. Be present at all Senate, Executive Board, and Inter-Greek Council meetings
- 2. Serve as the liaison between the SGA and Greek Life on-campus
- 3. Collaborate with other Chairs to ensure collaboration between Greek Life and the SGA
- 4. Submit a report to the Senate and the Secretary, for record-keeping, detailing what the Greek Affairs Chair has accomplished mid-semester and at the conclusion of each semester

#### I. The Inter-Organizational Council Chair shall:

- 1. Be present at all Senate, Executive Board, and Inter-Organizational Council meetings
- 2. Serve as the head of the Inter-Organizational Council

- 3. Maintain regular communication with the leaders of on-campus student organizations
- 4. Facilitate all meetings of the Inter-Organizational Council
- 5. Develop a course of action for the Council, which shall contain the Council's goals for the term
- 6. Delegate duties amongst all Council members
- 7. Ensure all Council members are equally active participants and fulfilling their designated responsibilities
- 8. Update the Senate and Executive Board regarding the Inter-Organizational Council's activities
- 9. Collaborate with other Chairs to complete projects and gather input
- 10. Submit a report to the Senate and the Secretary, for record-keeping, detailing what the Inter-Organizational Council has accomplished mid-semester and at the conclusion of each semester

#### J. The Multicultural Affairs Chair shall:

- 1. Be present at all Senate, Executive Board, and Multicultural Affairs Council meetings
- 2. Serve as the head of the Multicultural Affairs Council
- 3. Maintain regular communication with the Multicultural Affairs Office and all other relevant members of the Trinity College community
- 4. Facilitate all meetings of the Multicultural Affairs Council
- 5. Develop a course of action for the Council, which shall contain the Council's goals for the term
- 6. Delegate duties amongst all Council members
- 7. Ensure all Council members are equally active participants and fulfilling their designated responsibilities
- 8. Update the Senate and Executive Board regarding the Multicultural Affairs Council's activities
- 9. Collaborate with other Chairs to complete projects and gather input
- 10. Submit a report to the Senate and the Secretary, for record-keeping, detailing what the Multicultural Affairs Council has accomplished mid-semester and at the conclusion of each semester

### K. The Programming Chair shall:

- 1. Be present at all Senate, Executive Board, and Programming Board meetings
- 2. Serve as the head of the Programming Board
- 3. Maintain regular communication with the Office of Student Activities, Involvement, & Leadership, and all other relevant members of the Trinity College community
- 4. Facilitate all meetings of the Programming Board
- 5. Develop a course of action for the Board, which shall contain the Board's goals for the term
- 6. Delegate duties amongst all Board members
- 7. Ensure all Board members are equally active participants and fulfilling their designated responsibilities

- 8. Update the Senate and Executive Board regarding the Programming Board's activities
- 9. Collaborate with other Chairs to complete projects and gather input
- 10. Submit a report detailing what the Programming Board has accomplished midsemester and at the conclusion of each semester

#### L. The Student Life Chair shall:

- 1. Be present at all Senate, Executive Board, and Student Life Committee meetings
- 2. Serve as the head of the Student Life Committee
- 3. Maintain regular communication with the Office of the Dean of Students, Office of Student Activities, Involvement, and Leadership, Career Development Center, Campus Safety, Office of Residential Life, Recreation Office and all other relevant members of the Trinity College community
- 4. Facilitate all meetings of the Student Life Committee
- 5. Develop a course of action for the Committee, which shall contain the Committee's goals for the term
- 6. Delegate duties amongst all Committee members
- 7. Ensure all Committee members are equally active participants and fulfilling their designated responsibilities
- 8. Update the Senate and Executive Board regarding the Student Life Committee's activities
- 9. Collaborate with other Chairs to complete projects and gather input
- 10. Submit a report to the Senate and the Secretary, for record-keeping, detailing what the Student Life Committee has accomplished mid-semester and at the conclusion of each semester

### Article V: The Senate

#### Section 1. Purpose

- A. The Senate shall meet weekly to fulfill its purposes, as outlined below
- B. The purpose of the Senate shall be to officially represent the interests of the Student Body to the greater Trinity College community and to act on those interests as the Senate deems appropriate, by:
  - 1. Representing the Student Body through the Senate's representatives
  - 2. Bringing resolutions and/or petitions before the administration, faculty, trustees, and other members of the Trinity College community
  - 3. Discussing and making recommendations to the College on matters pertaining to the Student Body
- C. The purpose of the Senate shall be to handle all legislative business pertaining to the SGA and the Student Body. This includes the power to:
  - 1. Recognize and derecognize student organizations

- 2. Develop school-wide policies for the Student Body
- 3. Create ad hoc committees, bylaws, SGA offices, or subsidiary groups by a simple majority vote as deemed necessary
- 4. Approve minutes from and the agenda for all Senate meetings
- 5. Consider and recommend the amount of the Student Activities Fee (SAF) to the administration, upon recommendation from the Budget Committee
- 6. Approve the SGA's annual budget by a simple majority vote
- 7. Hold student elections and fill position vacancies
- 8. Take steps deemed necessary and proper for the Student Body's general welfare

#### Section 2. Structure

- A. The members of the Senate shall be the:
  - 1. Executive Board
  - 2. Four (4) representatives from each undergraduate class
  - 3. President from each undergraduate class, who shall serve in the same capacity as a representative within the Senate
  - 4. Treasurer from each undergraduate class, who shall serve in the same capacity as a representative within the Senate
  - 5. Two (2) representatives from the Individualized Degree Program (IDP)

#### Section 3. Roles and Responsibilities

- A. Each Class Representative, including each Class President and each Class Treasurer, shall:
  - 1. Be present at all Senate and Committee meetings, including Class Council meetings
  - 2. Serve on two (2) Committees
    - a. Each representative, including Class Presidents and Class Treasurers, shall serve on each respective class' Council
    - b. Class Treasurers shall automatically serve on the Budget Committee
    - c. The Committees Class Representatives, excluding Class Treasurers, may sit on are the Academic Affairs Committee, Communications Committee, Inter-Organizational Council, and Student Life Committee
  - 3. Be active participants in all SGA meetings
  - 4. Represent their respective class' interests in all SGA meetings and matters
- B. Each Class President shall:
  - 1. Serve as a Class Representative in all Senate meetings
  - 2. Adhere to the same responsibilities for Class Representatives, as outlined above
  - 3. Facilitate Class Council meetings
  - 4. Develop a course of action, outlining their respective Class Council's goals
  - 5. Oversee the planning and execution of class-specific events

- a. The Senior Class President is responsible for overseeing the planning and execution of Senior Snowball, 100 Days, and Senior Week activities
- 6. Submit a report to the Senate and the Secretary, for record-keeping, detailing what their Class Council has accomplished mid-semester and at the conclusion of each semester
- C. Each Class Treasurer shall:
  - 1. Serve as a Class Representative in all Senate meetings
  - 2. Adhere to the same responsibilities for Class Representatives, as outlined above
  - 3. Oversee their respective Class Council's account
  - 4. Serve on the Budget Committee
- D. Each representative of the Individualized Degree Program (IDP) shall:
  - 1. Serve as representatives for all IDP students in all Senate meetings
  - 2. Adhere to the same responsibilities for Class Representatives, as outlined above
  - 3. Serve on the Individualized Degree Program Council

### Article VI: Committees

#### Section 1. Academic Affairs Committee

- A. The purpose of the Academic Affairs Committee shall be to:
  - 1. Meet weekly to discuss its course of action and to gather input regarding the Committee's activities
  - 2. Communicate regularly with the Office of the Dean of the Faculty, other members of the faculty, administration, and other relevant members of the Trinity College community regarding student perspectives on academic policies
  - 3. Honor student achievement
  - 4. Propose new academic policies or changes reflecting student interests
  - 5. Provide suggestions for action and programming pertaining to academic departments' activities
  - 6. Host regular academic events on-campus
- B. The Academic Affairs Committee shall consist of:
  - 1. The Academic Affairs Chair
  - 2. Five (5) representatives from the Senate

#### Section 2. Budget Committee

A. The purpose of the Budget Committee shall be to:

- 1. Meet weekly to discuss funding requests from students and student organizations, to discuss its course of action, and to gather input regarding the Committee's activities
- Oversee the distribution of the Student Activities Fee (SAF) allocated to the SGA to fund SGA-approved student organizations, trips, conferences, etc. as outlined by the Budget Committee's bylaws
- 3. Guide students and student organizations through the budgeting process, such as requesting funds, creating proposals, funding appeals, and efficient budgeting
- 4. Ensure confidentiality among its membership regarding financial and allocation decisions
- 5. Collaborate with the Senate and the Inter-Organizational Council to ensure student interests are reflected in the SGA's financial matters
- 6. Be fiscally responsible in the distribution of the Student Activities Fee (SAF) allocated to the SGA
- B. The Budget Committee shall consist of:
  - 1. The Finance Chair
  - 2. The four (4) Class Treasurers
  - 3. Two (2) at-large representatives from each undergraduate class, elected by the Student Body

#### Section 3. Class Councils

- A. The purpose of the Class Councils shall be to:
  - 1. Plan and execute class-specific programming
    - a. The Senior Class Council shall be responsible for planning and executing Senior Snowball, 100 Days, and Senior Week activities
  - 2. Promote school spirit and camaraderie
  - 3. Hold at least one (1) class-specific program per semester
  - 4. Provide a forum in Class Council meetings for students in each class to voice their concerns
- B. The Class Councils shall consist of:
  - 1. The Class President
  - 2. The Class Treasurer
  - 3. Four (4) Class Representatives, as elected by the Student Body
  - 4. Non-SGA students from the class, acting as non-voting members
- C. The IDP Council shall consist of:
  - 1. Two (2) IDP representatives
  - 2. Non-SGA IDP students

#### Section 4. Communications Committee

- A. The purpose of the Communications Committee shall be to:
  - 1. Meet weekly to discuss its course of action and to gather input regarding the Committee's activities

- 2. Communicate regularly with the Office of Communications
- 3. Ensure the SGA and Student Body are well-connected
- 4. Oversee the exchange of information between the SGA and the Student Body
- 5. Manage the SGA's communication outlets such as the website, social media platforms, emails, SGA app, and postings regarding all SGA matters
- 6. Provide an open forum, physical and/or virtual, for students to express their views
- 7. Poll the Student Body on relevant issues
- 8. Handle all publicity matters for the SGA
- B. The Communications Committee shall consist of:
  - 1. The Communications Chair
  - 2. Five (5) representatives from the Senate

#### Section 5. Inter-Organizational Council (IOC)

- A. The purpose of the Inter-Organizational Council shall be to:
  - 1. Meet weekly to ensure all student organizations have the resources necessary to properly operate
  - 2. Guide new student organizations through the approval process
  - 3. Oversee the club approval process, which concludes with the Senate's vote on student organizations
  - 4. Coordinate with the Office of Student Activities, Involvement, & Leadership to ensure groups receive leadership training and development regarding proper procedures for funding, booking event/meeting spaces, etc.
  - 5. Communicate regularly with student organizations' leaders to ensure collaboration across groups and to answer questions about proper procedures
  - 6. Oversee the process of appointing student organization representatives from different categories to the Programming Board
- B. The Inter-Organizational Council shall consist of:
  - 1. The Inter-Organizational Council Chair
  - 2. Five (5) representatives from the Senate
  - 3. One (1) student leader from each SGA-approved student organization oncampus

#### Section 6. Multicultural Affairs Council

- A. The purpose of the Multicultural Affairs Council shall be to:
  - 1. Meet weekly to ensure cross-cultural collaboration, ensure each organization has the resources it needs to operate, and to gather input
  - 2. Communicate regularly with the Office of Multicultural Affairs
  - 3. Encourage and develop regular cross-cultural programming
  - 4. Raise awareness regarding multicultural issues on-campus
  - 5. Work with student organizations to bridge racial, gender, ethnic, religious, and other social divides on-campus
  - 6. Promote respect and diversity on-campus

- B. The Multicultural Affairs Council shall consist of:
  - 1. The Multicultural Affairs Chair
  - 2. One (1) student leader from each cultural, themed, and other student organizations funded by the Office of Multicultural Affairs

#### Section 7. Programming Board

- A. The purpose of the Programming Board shall be to:
  - 1. Meet weekly to plan and execute school-wide programming
  - 2. Communicate regularly with the Office of Student Activities, Involvement, and Leadership
  - 3. Promote school spirit and camaraderie
  - 4. Gather input from the Senate regarding programming
  - 5. Ensure school-wide programming is diverse and engages the entire campus community
  - 6. Ensure confidentiality among its membership regarding the planning and execution of events
  - 7. Have a rotating membership such that no student organizations are represented in consecutive years
- B. The Programming Board shall consist of:
  - 1. The Programming Chair
  - 2. One (1) at-large representative from each undergraduate class, as elected by the Student Body
  - 3. Two (2) student representatives for Greek Letter Organizations, as appointed by the Inter-Greek Council
  - 4. Two (2) student representatives for Athletics, as appointed by the Athletics Department
  - 5. Two (2) student representatives for cultural organizations, as appointed by the Multicultural Affairs Council
  - 6. Two (2) student representatives for arts organizations, as appointed by the Inter-Organizational Council
  - 7. Two (2) student representatives for academic organizations, as appointed by the Inter-Organizational Council
  - 8. Two (2) student representatives for community service, as appointed by the Office of Community Service and Civic Engagement
  - 9. Two (2) at-large student representatives for the general Student Body
  - 10. One (1) student representative for special interest organizations, as appointed by the Inter-Organizational Council
  - 11. One (1) student representative for religious organizations, as appointed by the Inter-Organizational Council

#### Section 8. Student Life Committee

A. The purpose of the Student Life Committee shall be to:

- 1. Meet weekly to discuss student concerns about student life and to develop a course of action regarding those concerns
- 2. Communicate regularly with the Office of the Dean of Students, Office of Student Activities, Involvement, and Leadership, Career Development Center, Campus Safety, Office of Residential Life, and Recreation Office
- 3. Advocate and act on student interests regarding facilities, technology, dining services, parking, and other resources on-campus
- 4. Oversee student-to-student interactions regarding racism, sexism, homophobia, sexual assault, religion, etc., collaborating with the Multicultural Affairs Council
- B. The Student Life Committee shall consist of:
  - 1. The Student Life Chair
  - 2. Five (5) representatives from the Senate

#### Section 9. Ad Hoc Committees

- A. Ad hoc committees shall be created by the President as deemed necessary, upon approval by the Senate
- B. Ad hoc committees shall dissolve once the task(s) for which they were created have been completed
- C. The Housing Committee
  - 1. Shall operate during the spring semester of each academic year
  - 2. Shall consist of the Student Life Committee and members from the Office of Residential Life
  - 3. Shall oversee the housing lottery process
  - 4. Shall determine lottery numbers by determining the ratings of various oncampus dormitories
  - 5. Shall oversee housing appeals from the Student Body
  - 6. Shall organize the day-of system for the housing lottery process

#### D. The Elections Committee

- 1. Shall operate during the election seasons of each academic year, which are at the beginning of the fall semester for first-years, mid-year to fill any vacancies, and at the end of the academic year
- 2. Shall consist of the senior members of the Senate and Executive Board for that academic year
- 3. Shall organize and execute student elections for the following academic year, which entails:
  - a. Collaborating with the Office of Student Activities, Involvement, & Leadership to set up the elections process
  - b. Determining and publicizing the guidelines for elections
  - c. Publicizing the eligibility requirements for candidates
  - d. Overseeing the publicity for elections by candidates
  - e. Ensuring elections occur properly and efficiently
  - f. Releasing election results

#### E. The Judicial Committee

- 1. Shall be created on an as needed basis, as deemed by the Senate
- 2. Shall operate in the event of any violation of this constitution, bylaws, or the Student Handbook by any member of the SGA
- 3. Shall consist of the Parliamentarian and four (4) representatives from the Senate, as elected by the Senate
  - a. In the event the Parliamentarian is in violation, the President or Vice President shall head this Committee
- 4. Shall inform the SGA member(s) of the accusations against them and of the date of the hearing at least five (5) days in advance
- 5. Shall gather information relevant to the accusations against the SGA member(s)
- 6. Shall present this information to the Senate at least one (1) week prior to the date of the hearing
- 7. Shall propose a course of disciplinary action to the Senate at least one (1) week prior to the date of the hearing

### Article VII: Elections

- Section 1. Elections shall occur in April of each academic year to elect representatives to the SGA for the following academic year
- Section 2. Elections shall occur in September of each academic year for first-years
- Section 3. Special elections shall be held to fill any vacancies as soon as the vacancies arise
- Section 4. Elections shall be conducted by the Elections Committee
- Section 5. Eligibility Requirements
  - A. All Executive Board positions shall require at least one (1) year of SGA experience to run
    - 1. The positions of President, Vice President, Secretary, and Parliamentarian shall require at least one (1) year of experience in the Senate
    - 2. The Chairs shall require at least one (1) year of experience in their respective Committees, excluding elections for the 2015-2016 academic year
    - 3. The Finance Secretary shall require at least one (1) year of experience in the Budget Committee
  - B. Students may only run for one SGA position per voting session

#### Section 6. Voting

A. The following positions shall be elected by the Student Body in April of each academic year:

- 1. President
- 2. Vice President
- 3. Academic Affairs Chair
- 4. Communications Chair
- 5. Finance Chair
- 6. Inter-Organizational Council Chair
- 7. Multicultural Affairs Chair
- 8. Programming Chair
- 9. Student Life Chair
- B. The following positions shall be internally elected by the Senate in April of each academic year:
  - 1. Secretary
  - 2. Parliamentarian
- C. The Finance Secretary shall be internally elected by the Budget Committee in April of each academic year
- D. The Greek Affairs Chair shall be elected in April of each academic year as follows:
  - 1. The Inter-Greek Council shall nominate candidates to the Senate
  - 2. All candidates shall present speeches to the Senate expressing their reasons for candidacy at least one (1) week prior to the Senate's vote on the position
  - 3. The Senate shall vote in the Greek Affairs Chair

# Article VIII: Voting Powers

- Section 1. Each representative in the Senate shall have one (1) vote
- Section 2. Each member of the Executive Board, excluding the President, Secretary, and Parliamentarian, shall have one (1) vote
- Section 3. The President shall only vote in the event of a tie

# Article IX: Attendance Policy

- Section 1. The SGA shall implement a three-strike policy on a per semester basis
- Section 2. Excused and unexcused absences for all Senate, Executive Board, Class Council, and Committee meetings shall be treated in the same manner
- Section 3. After a second absence, SGA members shall receive a written warning from the Secretary, also notifying the President, Vice President, necessary Chair(s), and the Director of S.A.I.L.

- Section 4. After a third absence, SGA members shall be temporarily suspended from all SGA activities and participate in a judicial hearing process overseen by the ad hoc Judicial Committee
  - A. The Judicial Committee shall gather all relevant information pertaining to the violation(s) and shall present its findings to the Senate at least one (1) week prior to the Senate's vote
  - B. The Judicial Committee shall make a recommendation for disciplinary action to the Senate, which may be:
    - 1. Censuring member(s) for a designated period of time
    - 2. Re-evaluate member(s) at a later point in time to remove the censure
    - 3. Removing member(s) from the SGA altogether
  - C. Any member of the Senate may propose an alternative form of disciplinary action
  - D. The Senate shall vote on the form of disciplinary action to take

### Article X: Quorum

Section 1. For a vote to occur, at least 2/3 of the members of the body must be present Section 2. If quorum is not met, then a meeting shall still occur, but no vote shall occur

## Article XI: Vote of Confidence

- Section 1. The vote of confidence allows the Senate and/or Committee members to affirm or deny support for the members of the Executive Board for the remainder of the academic year
- Section 2. The vote of confidence shall occur at the last meeting of the fall semester for each Executive Board position within the Senate or within the Chairs' respective Committees
- Section 3. The vote of confidence shall be conducted by the Senior Class President for all Executive Board positions
- Section 4. The vote of confidence shall occur within the Senate for the President, Vice President, Secretary, and Parliamentarian
- Section 5. The vote of confidence shall occur within their respective Committees for the Chairs
- Section 6. If the vote of confidence is not conducted at the last meeting of the fall semester, then no business of the SGA shall resume for the spring semester until such a vote is conducted, which includes suspending all accounts related to the SGA, no SGA meetings, no voting on resolutions, etc.
- Section 7. The results of the vote of confidence shall be recorded and archived by the Secretary

- Section 8. The results of the vote of confidence for the Chairs shall be distributed to the President, Vice President, Secretary, and Parliamentarian, including feedback from the Committees about the Chairs' activities
- Section 9. In the event that a Committee denies support for a Chair or the Senate denies support for the President, Vice President, Secretary, or Parliamentarian, a Judicial Committee shall form to investigate the matter and the judicial procedures shall proceed

# Article XII: Resolutions and Amendments to the Constitution

- Section 1. Any student of Trinity College may propose a resolution or referendum to the Senate
  - A. A resolution proposed by a student outside SGA shall be cosponsored by at least one (1) member of the Senate
  - B. A referendum proposed by a student outside SGA shall be endorsed by at least 2/3 of the Senate
- Section 2. A resolution/referendum shall be presented to the Senate at least one (1) week prior to the Senate's vote on such legislation
- Section 3. Resolutions shall require a simple majority vote to pass
- Section 4. Referendums shall require a 2/3 vote in favor of the referendum by the Senate and a majority vote with at least ½ of the Student Body participating in the vote
- Section 5. The Constitution shall be reviewed and amended in April of each semester for each academic year

# Article XIII: Line of Succession

- Section 1. In the absence of the President, the Vice President shall assume the powers of the President if the Vice President agrees, and the Parliamentarian shall assume the powers of the Vice President if the Parliamentarian agrees
  - A. An internal election in the Senate shall occur for the position of the Parliamentarian
- Section 2. In the case that the Vice President cannot assume the powers of the President, then the Parliamentarian shall assume the powers of the President for at most two (2) weeks until special elections are held for the positions of President and Vice President