

THE CONSTITUTION

of the

Corban University Student Government Association



TABLE OF CONTENTS
Article I: Name and Function
Article II: The Senate
Article III: The Executive
Article VI: The Central Hearing Committee
Article V: Impeachment
Article VI: Amendments and Referendums
Article VII: The Student Chaplain

Preamble

We, the students of Corban University, with Christ as our foundation, in order to further a spirit of community, ensure a voice for all students in institutional affairs, and promote an atmosphere conducive to individual and corporate growth with a Christ-centered perspective, establish this Constitution by the power vested in us by the Corban University President and the Corban Vice President of Student Life, and the authority vested in us by the Students of Corban University.

To Christ be all the glory, Amen.

Article 1. Name, Function, and Membership

- II. The Name of this Organization shall be The Corban University Student Government Association hereafter referred to as the SGA.
- III. The SGA shall speak for and serve the Students of Corban University.
- IV. All full-time undergraduate students who have paid their student fees shall be members of the SGA and will hereafter be referred to as the Student Body. They are entitled to vote in all elections and to be represented well by the SGA.

Article 2. The Senate

- II. Membership in the Senate
 - a. The Senate shall be made up of no less than one (1) representative from each living group, including commuters, dorms, and other University properties.
 - b. The Senate may add to itself more members according to the needs of changing student demographics.
 - c. No Senator shall, during their term, be permitted to hold any other SGA position.
 - i. Senators shall be permitted to pursue office, elected or appointed, during their term of service but must resign when they begin the official duties of that new position.
 - ii. In case of resignation, Senators shall have the power to appoint their replacement except in cases of impeachment or discipline.
 - d. The Senate shall be elected on a semesterly basis.
 - III. Officers
 - a. The Executive Vice President of the SGA shall be President of the Senate but shall have no vote, unless there is a tie.
 - b. The Senate shall choose other Officers, including an Officer to maintain clean records of the Senate's activities, as well as any other officers they may see as useful in their function.
 - II. Committees
 - a. The Senate may delegate responsibilities to committees made of their membership.
- Rules and Regulations

- b. The Senate will appoint an election committee to oversee all SGA Elections and maintain rules thereof.
- III. Rules and Procedure
 - a. The Senate may determine its Rules of Procedure, have exclusive right to discipline its membership, and, with a two-thirds vote, may expel a Member.
 - b. The Senate shall keep meeting minutes, and will on a regular publish these minutes to the Student Body, including the Yays and Nays for each vote.
 - i. The Senate may keep certain deliberations by 2/3 majority vote.
- II. Responsibilities
 - a. The Senate shall have the responsibility to approve all Presidential appointments by 2/3 majority vote.
 - b. The Senate shall have final say over all distribution of SGA funds and will have final say in the setting of the SGA budget in cooperation with the President and Cabinet by a majority vote.
 - c. The Senate shall have the right to summon to offer testimony anyone deemed useful to their deliberations.
- II. Senate Mandates
 - a. The Senate shall have the power to pass rules and regulations to govern SGA's activities, as well as set the goals of the SGA, in the form of Senate mandates.
 - i. Senate mandates may be passed by a simple majority vote.
 - ii. Mandates must be signed by the President.
 - iii. If the President refuses to sign they may veto the mandate. The mandate will then be returned to the Senate with the Presidents objections.
 - iv. The President will not have veto power over Senate actions concerning budget or cabinet appointments.
 - v. If the President fails to sign or veto the Mandate in seven (7) days of it being delivered to them, the Mandate will go into full force.
 - vi. The Senate shall then reconsider the Mandate and may either amend it to be made acceptable to the President or else may pass it again with 2/3 majority. At this point, the Mandate will be in full force.
- II. Cadangan President
 - a. The Senate shall name a Cadangan President with a majority vote at the beginning of the academic year who will assume the office of President in the case of neither President nor EVP being able to perform their responsibilities.

Article 3. The Executive

- II. Election
 - a. All election will be well publicized.
 - b. The President and EVP must be nominated by a petition bearing one hundred (100) students signatures.
 - c. Petitions must be submitted to the SGA advisor(s) at least two (2) weeks prior to the election.
 - d. The offices of President and EVP will be elected by simple majority vote with every member of the Student Body being given one (1) vote.

- i. The President shall be the person who has the most votes.
 - ii. The EVP shall be the person with the next greatest number of votes.
- II. The President
 - a. The executive power shall be vested in the President of the SGA.
 - b. The President shall hire the Cabinet, subject to the 2/3 approval of the Senate.
 - i. The President will have the power to fire any member of the SGA under their authority without Senate approval.
 - c. The President shall propose a budget to the Senate that will take into account the needs of the Student Body.
 - d. The President will be required to make a regular report of the activities of the SGA to the Senate.
- III. The Executive Vice-President
 - a. The EVP will be the presiding officer of the Senate.
 - b. The EVP will be responsible for the regular meeting and smooth operation of the Senate.
 - c. The EVP shall assume the office of the President in the case of the President being unable to perform their responsibilities.
- IV. The Cabinet
 - a. The Cabinet will be made up of Presidential hires and approved by the Senate.
 - b. The Cabinet will function under the management of the President.
 - c. The Cabinet will oversee the administration of the SGA.
 - d. Members of the Cabinet may hire coordinators if it is approved by the President.
- V. Term of office
 - a. The term of office for both President and EVP shall begin on the day of Commencement.
 - i. The University President shall administer an oath of office to the President and EVP before the Senate.
 - b. The term of office will end at the same time a year later.

Article 4. The Central Hearing Committee

- I. Function
 - a. The Central Hearing Committee (CHC) is the final court of appeal for any action made by the SGA, giving equal representation to students and faculty.
- II. Structure
 - a. The CHC shall be made up of three permanent members, The CHC Chair, The President, and SGA Advisor(s).
 - i. The CHC Chair shall be a Member of the student body who is
 - 1. Of good spiritual standing and Godly character
 - 2. Holds no other office of Student Leadership

- III. The CHC Chair shall be nominated by the Senate, confirmed by the President, and confirmed again by the University Vice-President of Student Life for a term of up to two (2) academic years or however long they remain at Corban as a full-time undergraduate student.
 - a. The CHC Chair shall be charged with the smooth running, orderly conduct and constitutionality of the CHC.
 - b. Temporary members shall be one University faculty, and one University staff appointed by the University Vice President of Student Life, and two students appointed by the President. Any standing member of the CHC, the President or University Vice President of Student Life, has the authority to call a CHC hearing to order.
 - c. Additionally, non-voting members may be appointed, by the CHC Chair, to offer expertise on the subject set before the CHC.
 - i. The University Vice-President shall be a permanent Non-Voting member.
- II. Appeals
 - a. Appeals to the CHC may be made by any member of the Student Body concerning the constitutionality of the mandates and consistency of decisions and policies made by any aspect of The SGA.
- III. Rulings:
 - a. All CHC rulings must be made public within three (3) days of the date of the ruling, including any majority and minority opinions given with the ruling.
 - b. Decisions made by the CHC are approved by a two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) vote. A majority of the CHC members must be present to vote. Decisions are final.

Article 5. Impeachment

- II. If any member of the SGA is suspected of violating the Constitution and members of the SGA seek to impeach, this request must come in the form of a written complaint, submitted to the Senate.
 - a. The written complaint should include the name of the officer(s), identity of those filing for impeachment, and a detailed account of the alleged violation with the relevant portions of the Constitution cited, the official response requested.
- II. The Senate may then call, by 2/3 majority, for impeachment.
- III. Should the Senate calls for impeachment the Advisor will inform the named officer in writing and will appoint two investigators from the University's Student Life investigator pool. Together, the investigators will determine the appropriate investigation strategy needed to gather the information to make a determination.
- IV. If the investigators find that a hearing is necessary the Advisor, with consultation from the University Vice President for Student Life, will recommend to the Senate if the accused SGA officer's role should be revised during the course of the investigation. Although calling a hearing is not a determination of guilt, there may be some circumstances where it is appropriate for the accused officer to take a lesser role until a finding has been rendered.
- V. When the investigators determine they have gathered all of the information necessary to justify a hearing, they will submit an investigation report to the CHC Chair, who will call the CHC.
 - a. The investigators will serve as non-voting consultants.
- III. The hearing will be conducted according to the rules of the CHC:

- a. The decision panel may arrive at one of a number of decisions:
 - i. Once a decision has been rendered, the Advisor will notify the appropriate parties in writing.
 - ii. Once the relevant parties have received the panel's decision in writing, they have up to two business days to appeal should they desire for the decision panel's findings to be reviewed.
 - 1. If the CHC Chair approves the request for appeal qualifies to be heard, the CHC will reconvene with newly appointed temporary members and reconsider the case.
 - 2. The decisions of the reconvened CHC shall be final.

Article 6. Amendments and Referendums

II. Amendments

- a. The proposed amendment must be presented to the Senate. The Senate shall be empowered to make any changes in the proposed amendment wording that it deems necessary to make it consistent in style with the rest of the Constitution as long as such changes do not affect the intent or meaning of the proposal, and are agreed upon by the sponsor of the amendment. The Amendment will be considered passed with a $\frac{2}{3}$ majority vote of the Senate. The EVP will then submit the Amendment to the CHC no later than one (1) week following its passage by the Senate.
 - i. The CHC may:
 - Vote to Ratify the Amendment as is,
 - ii. Or make recommendations for altering the amendment and return the amendment to the Senate.
 - b. Once a single version of the Amendment has been passed by both the Senate and CHC the the amendment will come into full force

III. Referendums

- a. If the Student Body wishes to propose a student mandate they shall be required to draft a petition with the appropriate language for a mandate.
- b. If the petition gains one hundred (100) student signatures it will be submitted to the student body for a campus-wide vote no later than four (4) weeks after the petition has been submitted. In the event of a majority vote, it will be considered on the same level of authority as a passed Senate Mandate.

Article 7. The Student Chaplain

- II. The Student Chaplain will be charged with stewarding the spiritual needs of the Student Body and will serve for one academic year.
- III. The Student Chaplain will be appointed by unanimous approval of the Senate.