

**St. Petersburg College**  
**Student Government Association Constitution**  
**(Rev. May 2014)**

**Article I- Name of Organization**

The organization shall be known as the Student Government Association of St. Petersburg College and hereafter, referred to as the SGA.

**Article II- Purpose of the Organization**

The purpose of the SGA is to serve as the official representative of the student body's interests, concerns, and needs at St. Petersburg College. They will also serve as the liaison on behalf of the student body to college administration. The SGA will make formal recommendations on matters affecting the educational and leadership services as they affect students at the college. Additionally, in accordance with Board of Trustee Procedure 6hx23-4.44, the Student Government Association is required to review request for charters of new student clubs/organizations. Upon review, SGA can recommend approving the club charter. Final approval of all club and organization charters rest with college administration. The SGA, as the official representative of the student body, is responsible for the allocation of the student activity fees, in accordance with the Department of Education rules and regulations.

**Article III- Membership**

Students involved in SGA must currently be enrolled in a minimum of 6 credit hours at St. Petersburg College, and in good academic standing in order to be eligible. SGA will be composed of at least one representative of each officially recognized club and organization in addition to senators. The number of senate seats available shall be set within the fall session based on campus enrollment. For every four hundred students or part thereof, there shall be one Senator or a minimum number of six, whichever is greater. Senators must maintain a minimum grade point average of 2.0. Membership will also include the executive board. Executive Board members are required to maintain a minimum grade point average of 2.5.

**Article IV – Term Limits**

Elected Executive Board members are only allowed to serve two consecutive academic years (no more than 7 terms) at all campuses at St. Petersburg College. Term limits will be determined by the start of service in an elected position.

**Article V- Student Council of Presidents**

A president and vice president of each officially recognized SGA will meet monthly as determined by the Student Council of President's Chair. This group will be herein after referred to as SCOP. The purpose of SCOP will be to address college-wide concerns, opinions, and perceptions in the general interest of the student body at St. Petersburg College. They will also make college-wide funding decisions and approve college-wide proposals. These funding decisions must be heard one meeting prior to a vote taking place. SCOP members must take information back to respective campuses for a majority-rules vote of the SGA. At the following SCOP meeting, the proposal can be voted on if a quorum is present – a two-thirds vote before it can be approved.

## **Article VI- College Wide Committees**

Once a college-wide committee is established by SCOP, it becomes SCOP's responsibility to determine the structure, function and organization of the committee, as well as how it will be organized.

## **Article VII - Removal from SGA**

Automatic removal shall be by two-thirds vote of the Executive Board. Automatic removal involves the Executive Board (normally the president) to inform the person by telephone call, official letter and e-mail. The criteria for automatic removal shall be:

- Failure to complete six (6) credit hours with the minimum grade point average required for Senators (2.0) and Officers (2.5).
- Violation of Board of Trustee Rules
- Failure to attend two consecutive meetings without prior approval of the SGA advisor.

The following shall be considered justification for removal proceedings:

- Inadequate performance of duties and responsibilities in SGA.
- Serving as a representative of SGA without approval of the Executive Board of SGA and the general student body.

Any SGA member may request that the following be removed from their SGA Position:

- Any elected officer
- Any appointed position (i.e.,) Sergeant of Arms, Parliamentarian, Public Relations Officer, Historian, and Jurisprudence.
- Any committee member or chairperson.
- Any club/organization representative.
- Any senator.

## **Article VIII - Amendments to the Constitutions**

Any amendments to this Constitution will not violate campus, college or Board of Trustees' Rules.

Amendments to the Constitution must be heard by SCOP one meeting prior to action taking place to the amendment. With a quorum present, a two-thirds vote is required for the amendment to take place. Final approval of the constitutional amendments rests with the college administration.

## **Article IX – Rights and Responsibilities of Advisors**

At any time an advisor, who serves as a representative of college administration, can use his/her professional judgment to execute functions in the best interest of the students and/or college. Should a quorum of students not agree to the advisor's decision, the board can appeal the advisor's decision to the campus' associate provost.