



SGA

STUDENT GOVERNMENT
ASSOCIATION

CONSTITUTION

SGA CONSTITUTION: TABLE OF CONTENTS

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Terms & Definitions

Student Government Association (SGA)

The term *Student Government Association* or *SGA* refers to the student organization of governance established to govern, lead, and represent the Fresno Pacific University student body.

Student Government Officer(s)

The term *Student Government Officer(s)* refers, collectively or individually, to the elected or appointed officer(s) of the Student Government Association.

Executive Officer(s)

The term *Executive Officer(s)* refers, collectively or individually, to the six members of the Student Government who have been elected or appointed to lead and manage the governing body.

Representative Officer(s)

The term *Representative Officer(s)* refers, collectively or individually, to the 11 members of the Student Government who have been elected or appointed to represent a select group of students.

SGAFPU Member(s)

The term *SGAFPU Member(s)* refers, collectively or individually, to the traditional undergraduate (TUG) student body members taking at least 6 units.

Preamble

The members of the student body of Fresno Pacific University, in order to:

- A. provide the means for responsible and effective participation in the governance of the campus
- B. provide an official voice through which student opinion may be expressed
- C. foster awareness of this opinion in the campus, local, state, national, and international communities
- D. assist in the protection of the rights and interests of the individual student and the student body
- E. stimulate the educational, social, physical, cultural, and spiritual well-being of the university community

do hereby adopt the following constitution as the governing document for the operation of their association.

Article I: Name and Location of Principle Office

The name of the organization is the Student Government Association of Fresno Pacific University, hereafter referred to as SGAFPU externally, and SGA internally. The principle office for the SGA is 1717 South Chestnut Avenue #18, Fresno, California 93702.

Article II: Membership

Section A: Membership

Every Student enrolled at Fresno Pacific University in the Traditional Undergraduate (TUG) program and taking at least six units shall be a member of the Student Government Association of Fresno Pacific University; these students hereafter are referred to as the student body. Associate members are any non-TUG students attending Fresno Pacific University. Associate members shall not be subject to the Student Activity Fee. Additional associate memberships may be established by the Executive Officers, with privileges and restrictions of such membership also to establish by the Executive Officers.

Section B: Membership Privileges

Clause I

Participation in activities of SGA, which includes, but is not limited to, the right to compete for membership on SGA committees, boards, teams, and performing groups, and the right to use SGA owned or operated equipment subject to conditions set forth in the policies and procedures of the SGA, or as may be established by the Executive Officers.

Clause II

Admission to all activities sponsored by the SGA, subject to available seating and conditions as may be established by the Executive Officers and/or other responsible parties.

Clause III

Traditional Undergraduate (TUG) students shall have the right to vote in SGA elections and referenda.

Clause IV

Other privileges or restrictions authorized by the Executive Officers must be within the framework of FPU policies and procedures.

Article III: Student Government Officers

Section A: Corporate Powers

Be it known that the Board of Trustees hereby confirms that all matters relating to the Student Government Association of Fresno Pacific University, including without being limited to all procedures and policies relating to the number, duties and election of officers and committees, approval of budgets (including fees and other revenue sources, and the investment and expenditures of those revenues), and the structure and operations of the student government, have been and continues to be delegated to the President of Fresno Pacific University. The President may delegate some or all of his or her responsibility to a designee for some of all of these matters.

Student Government Officers are empowered to hold office for one year, from the end of the spring semester they are elected until the end of the following spring semester.

Section B: Student Government Powers and Duties

Clause I

Shall serve as a forum in which opinions and concerns, both spiritual and administrative, can be addressed and transmitted to the Student Leadership at FPU

Clause II

Shall reserve appropriate time at each meeting for the purpose of hearing Student Government Officer reports.

Clause III

Shall, at the last meeting of the fall semester, take a survey of the Representative Officers as to the effectiveness of each member of the Executive Officers.

Clause IV

Shall serve as the sanctioning/recognition body for those clubs seeking SGA recognized status. SGA recognized clubs are then eligible for SGA funding.

Clause V

Shall have final approval of all SGA budget allocations, with the exception that the Executive Officers may budget/allocate up to \$400 without Student Government approval for necessary administrator or emergency needs with an annual limit of \$3000.

Clause VI

Shall establish any committees within its membership, which will facilitate the performance of these duties, or additional responsibilities.

Section C: Executive Officer Qualifications, Powers, and Duties

Clause I

Executive Officers include:

- A. President
- B. Vice President
- C. Executive Secretary
- D. Finance Manager
- E. Clubs Coordinator
- F. Marketing Coordinator

Additional Executive Officer positions may be created, discontinued, or modified by a majority vote of the Student Government Officers in order to meet administrative needs of the Student Government Association.

Clause II

Executive Officer Qualifications

- A. The elected voting membership shall be constituted as described in the SGA Bylaws
- B. Qualifications are outlined within the SGA Bylaws
- C. Individual responsibilities are outlined in the SGA Bylaws
- D. Election/selection procedures are as outlined in the SGA Bylaws

Clause III

Executive Officers Power and Duties

- A. Shall in collaboration with Representative Officers, manage the disbursement of monies from fees allocated by the university, and monies collected from publications, entertainment, and any other activities carried on by Student Government or affiliated clubs/organizations within the framework of FPU policies and procedures.
- B. Executive Officers shall have two representatives who serve on the Student Life Committee. One of the primary functions of the Student Life Committee is recommending to the University the various allocations that come from the Student Activity Fee.
- C. Shall be responsible for the updating and enforcement of the SGA Constitution and Bylaws
- D. Shall have jurisdiction over matters pertaining to SGA not delegated to some other authority within campus guidelines for such matters.

Section D: Representative Officers Qualifications, Powers, and Duties

Clause I

Representative Officers Include

- A. Elected Representative Officers:
 - 1. Four Class Representatives (one per class) elected by their Traditional Undergraduate (TUG) class
 - 2. One Commuter Representative elected by TUG commuters
 - 3. One Resident Representative elected by TUG residents
- B. Appointed Representative Officers:
 - 1. Three School Representatives (one per academic division) nominated by the Dean of the academic division, in consultation with faculty, and approved by the Executive Officers.

2. One Athletics Representative nominated by the Director of Athletics, in consultation with Athletics staff, and approved by the Executive Officers.
3. One International Representative nominated by the Director of International Programs and Services, in consultation with Student Life staff, and approved by Executive Officers.

Clause II

Representative Officer Qualifications

- A. Qualifications are as outlined with the SGA Bylaws
- B. Individual responsibilities are as outlined in the SGA Bylaws
- C. Election/selection procedures are as outlined in the SGA Bylaws

Clause III

Representative Officers Powers and Duties

- A. Shall in collaboration with Executive Officers, manage the disbursement of monies from fees allocated by the university, and monies collected from publications, entertainment, and any other activities carried on by Student Government or affiliated clubs/organizations within the framework of FPU policies and procedures.
- B. Shall develop and implement processes and programs through which the comments and concerns of their appointed constituencies may be heard and acted upon by Student Government as well as university staff, faculty, and administration.
- C. Shall develop and implement processes and programs to foster positive communication to their appointed constituency from Student Government as well as university staff, faculty, and administration.
- D. Shall participate in the governing duties of Student Government as initiated by the Executive Officers.

Article IV: Constitutional Amendments

Clause I

The student body may originate an amendment by presenting a petition to Student Government signed by not less than 10% of the Traditional Undergraduate student body.

Clause II

Student Government may originate an amendment by a majority vote.

Clause III

An amendment, however originated, must be posted within one week of its presentation.

Clause IV

The amendment shall be declared valid upon a 60% majority of the votes cast, provided at least 15% of the Traditional Undergraduate student body cast a ballot.

Article V: Amendments to the Bylaws

Clause I

Amendments shall be proposed by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Student Government.

Clause II

Amendments shall be adopted by a 60% majority vote of Traditional Undergraduate students, provided that 15% of eligible members cast votes.

Article VI: Initiative and Referendum

Clause I

Any action of the Student Government, upon petition of 10% of SGAFPU members, must be submitted to referendum vote of the student body and necessitate a majority vote of at least 15% of eligible voters in order to become binding.

Clause II

Any action being considered by Student Government, Executive Officers, or Representative Officers may, by majority vote, be referred to the members of the student body for approval.

Clause III

The student body may initiate any action not covered in the Constitution by a petition signed by 10% of the SGAFPU membership. Such an initiative would then be submitted as a referendum vote to the student body and necessitate a majority vote of at least 15% of the eligible voters in order to become binding.

Article VII: Restricted Funds

Clause I

All allocated student activity fee funds that are unspent at the end of the fiscal year are to be accumulated and added into the Restricted Fund. This fund is to be solely overseen by the SGA.

Clause II

Restricted Funds may only be used for capital expenditures, or physical improvements to Fresno Pacific University. These funds must be approved first by the Executive Officers, then by the Student Government. Once Approved, this is presented to the Traditional Undergraduate (TUG) student body for ratification. A minimum of 15% of the student body must vote on these proposals, and at least 60% of votes must be in favor of the expenditure for it to be approved.