

Constitution of the Truman State University Student Government

(Last revised Fall 2015)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ARTICLE I: LEGISLATURE

Section 1: Legislative Power

Section 2: Membership

Section 3: Definitions of Majority Votes

Section 4: Student Representative to the Board of Governors

Section 5: The Speaker of the Student Senate

Section 6: Organization Representatives

Section 7: Associate Members

Section 8: Powers

Section 9: Impeachment

Section 10: Censure

Section 11: GPA Requirement

Section 12: Absences

Section 13: Standing Committees

Section 14: Subcommittees

Section 15: Select Committee on Parking Appeals

Section 16: Meetings

ARTICLE II: EXECUTIVE

Section 1: Executive Power

Section 2: President of the Student Association

Section 3: Treasurer

Section 4: Secretary

Section 5: Executive Staff

Section 6: Absences

Section 7: Executive Committee

Section 8: GPA Requirement

ARTICLE III: ELECTIONS

Section 1: Terms

- Section 2: Election Administration
- Section 3: Incoming Senator Eligibility
- Section 4: Senator Eligibility
- Section 5: Senior Senator Eligibility
- Section 6: Graduate Senator Eligibility
- Section 7: Presidential Eligibility
- Section 8: Length of Term – Spring Installation
- Section 9: Length of Term – Fall Installation
- Section 10: Presidential Vacancy
- Section 11: Exclusivity of Positions

ARTICLE IV: STANDING RULES AND ETHICAL CODE OF CONDUCT OF THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT

- Section 1: Standing Rules
- Section 2: Ethical Code of Conduct

ARTICLE V: INDEPENDENT COUNCILS

- Section 1: Definition of Independent Councils
- Section 2: Creation and Relation to the Student Government
- Section 3: Amendments

ARTICLE VI: RECALL, REFERENDUM, AND INITIATIVE

- Section 1: Recall
- Section 2: Referendum
- Section 3: Initiative

ARTICLE VII: AMENDMENT

- Section 1: Proposal
- Section 2: Passage

ARTICLE VIII: CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY

- Section 1: Authority
- Section 2: University President
- Section 3: Constitutional Supremacy

The Truman State University Student Government is committed to the continual betterment of the University community from the perspective of the Student Association. To this end, the Student Government strives to:

ACTIVELY participate in the fulfillment of the University's mission as an exemplary Public Liberal Arts and Sciences University,

REPRESENT the views of the Student Association in the formulation of University policy through legislation and membership on University committees,

FACILITATE communication and mutual understanding between the Student Association, faculty, staff, and administration, and

PROMOTE a cohesive vision for the future of the University.

Through this mission, the Student Government seeks to uphold the values and ideals of the Student Association both now and in the future.

ARTICLE I LEGISLATURE

Section 1: Legislative Power

The legislative power of the Student Government shall be vested in a Student Senate.

Section 2: Membership

Clause 1

The membership of the Student Senate shall include: the student representative to the Board of Governors, the Speaker of the Student Senate, five senior senators, fifteen senators, four incoming senators, a graduate senator, organization representatives, and associate members.

Clause 2

When full, the voting membership of the Student Senate shall include: five senior senators, fifteen senators, a graduate senator, and four incoming senators.

Section 3: Definitions of Majority Votes

Clause 1

A simple majority shall be defined as an affirmative vote by at least one fourth of the total voting membership as well as a majority of those members present and voting.

Clause 2

A two-thirds majority shall be defined as an affirmative vote by at least one third of the total voting membership as well as a two-thirds majority of those members present and voting.

Clause 3

Any further types of majority votes shall be defined as at least the majority needed divided by two of the total voting membership voting affirmatively as well as the majority needed of those members present and voting.

Section 4: Student Representative to the Board of Governors

Clause 1

The student representative to the Board of Governors shall serve as an intermediary between the Student Government, the Student Association, and the Board of Governors.

Clause 2

An all student committee chosen by the President of the Student Association and the current student representative to the Board of Governors shall select three names to be sent to the governor of Missouri. The committee shall be comprised of the following members: President of the Student Association (chair), current student representative to the Board of Governors (vice-chair), a voting member of Student Senate, a residential living representative, a Student Activities Board representative, a campus media representative, and a student-at-large.

Clause 3

The committee must be selected before application packets are made available. The membership of this committee, except for the President of the Student Association and current student representative to the Board of Governors, shall remain secret from the Student Association and the Student Government until the nominations are sent to the Student Senate for confirmation.

Clause 4

The three names sent to the governor of Missouri by a date specified in the standing rules shall be approved in a manner similar to those of other appointments as specified in this constitution and/or the standing rules.

Clause 5

The student representative may not hold a voting position in the Student Government or the positions of Speaker of the Student Senate, President of the Student Association, Vice President of the Student Association, Secretary, Treasurer, or standing committee or subcommittee chair.

Clause 6

The student representative shall be called upon during a roll call vote to voice an opinion of support, oppose, or no comment.

Section 5: The Speaker of the Student Senate

Clause 1

The Speaker of the Student Senate shall preside over the general and special meetings of the Student Senate, except where specified in this constitution and the standing rules, and shall set the agenda for the general meetings of the Student Senate. The Speaker may not vote on any matter before the Student Senate.

Clause 2

The voting members of the Student Senate shall elect the Speaker by a two-thirds majority vote.. The Speaker may not hold any executive position or voting position on the Student Senate. The Speaker shall be selected for a term beginning at the transitional meeting and ending at the next transitional meeting.

Clause 3

If the Speaker is unable to preside over a general or special meeting of the Student Senate, he or she shall designate a Speaker Pro Tempore to preside, except where stated in this constitution or the standing rules. Any member of the Student Association, except for the President of the Student Association, Secretary, and Treasurer, shall be eligible for this position. If the Speaker Pro Tempore is a voting member of the Student Senate, he or she shall not be able to exercise his or her vote while presiding over the Student Senate.

Clause 4

The Speaker shall have the authority to call special meetings of the Student Senate.

Section 6: Organization Representatives

Clause 1

Any organization that is chartered by and in good standing with the University may petition the Student Senate to send a representative to the Student Senate.

Clause 2

The selection process, duties, and responsibilities of organization representatives shall be defined in the standing rules. While attending meetings of the Student Senate, organization representatives shall have all of the rights and obligations of voting members of the Student Senate except for the right to vote.

Clause 3

Organization representatives shall be called upon during a roll call vote to voice, on behalf of his or her organization, an opinion of support, oppose, or no comment.

Clause 4

Organization representatives shall be selected for a term beginning on their confirmation and ending at the next transitional meeting.

Section 7: Associate Members

Clause 1

The selection process, duties, and responsibilities of associate members shall be defined in the standing rules. While attending meetings of the Student Senate, associates shall have all of the rights and obligations of voting members of the Student Senate except for the right to vote.

Clause 2

Associates shall be called upon during a roll call vote to voice an opinion of support, oppose, or no comment.

Clause 3

The Speaker shall appoint associate members in a manner consistent with the constitution and standing rules. Associate members shall be selected for a term beginning on their confirmation and ending at the next transitional meeting.

Section 8: Powers

Clause 1

The Student Senate shall approve such legislation as it deems necessary through a simple majority vote, unless another vote or majority requirement is stipulated in this constitution or the standing rules. In the event that the presidency is vacant or invalid, all legislation must be adopted with a two-thirds majority vote, unless a higher majority is required.

Clause 2

The Student Senate shall have the power to override Presidential vetoes by a two-thirds majority vote.

Clause 3

The Student Senate shall have the power to confirm or reject all appointments except where stated in this constitution. The following appointments do not have to be confirmed by Student Senate: temporary representatives to external committees, Speaker Pro Tempore, and Presidential aide. All slates of nominees may be split unless specified in this constitution or the standing rules.

Clause 4

The Student Senate shall have the power to create and charge with a duty any necessary ad hoc committees by a majority vote.

Clause 5

The Student Senate may override an executive order by a two-thirds majority vote.

Clause 6

The Student Senate shall have the final authority to interpret this constitution and the standing rules.

Section 9: Impeachment

Clause 1

All members of the Student Government shall be subject to removal from office on impeachment for, and conviction of, serious violations of the Student Government's Ethical Code of Conduct, Standing Rules of the Student Government, Constitution of the Student Government, and violations of the Student Conduct Code, University Regulations, Missouri statutes, and/or federal law.

Clause 2

The Student Senate shall have the authority, by a two-thirds majority vote of the total current voting membership, to impeach any member of the Student Government.

Clause 3

The Student Senate shall convict and remove impeached members of the Student Government from office by a three-fourths majority vote of the current total voting membership.

Clause 4

Neither articles of impeachment nor removal from office may be reconsidered, repealed, or expunged from the record in any way by the Student Senate.

Clause 5

The Student Senate may stipulate in the standing rules an additional process for removing members of the Student Government from non-voting, appointed offices.

Section 10: Censure

Clause 1

All members of the Student Government shall be subject to censure for violations of the Student Government's Ethical Code of Conduct, Standing Rules of the Student Government, Constitution of the Student Government, or other important misconduct.

Clause 2

The Student Senate shall have the authority by a two-thirds majority vote of the total current voting membership to censure any member of the Student Government.

Clause 3

Censure may not be reconsidered, repealed, or expunged from the record in any way by the Student Senate.

Section 11: GPA Requirement

The Speaker, senior senators, and senators must have at the time of installation and throughout their tenure in office a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.75. Incoming senators must have throughout their tenure in office a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.75.

Section 12: Absences

The number of absences that result in removal from the Student Senate and the process for removal shall be specified in the standing rules.

Section 13: Standing Committees

Clause 1

The Academic Affairs Committee strives to ensure the continuance of the academic quality of Truman State University from the perspective of the Student Association. This committee strives to promote: a diverse curriculum encompassing the philosophy, values, content, and ideals of a Liberal Arts and Sciences education; academic integrity and other ethics and values inherent in a liberal arts and sciences education; academic advising of the highest caliber which assures that students understand the role of the liberal arts and sciences in the University's curriculum; and proper student representation within faculty and University governance.

Clause 2

The Student Affairs Committee strives to assure the fulfillment of the University's mission in the non-academic aspects of the University community from the perspective of the Student Association. This committee actively works to: improve the quality of student life;

guarantee the rights and promote the desires of the Student Association; further the enhancement of an all-encompassing living and learning environment; and assure that University policies and programs are commensurate with the best interests of the Student Association.

Clause 3

The External Affairs Committee strives to promote communication between the Student Association and the larger society of which it is a part. This committee actively works to: establish and maintain communication with members of the Kirksville community, the Missouri State Government, and the student governments from other Universities in order to share perspectives and gather information, **thereby** increasing the awareness of the Student Association on issues which impact its well-being in order to create an informed citizenry, exchange information and perspectives with prospective and future members of the Student Association, and gather student opinion on issues that impact the Student Association and the University community.

Clause 4

The Environmental Affairs Committee strives to ensure the maintenance of a campus environment that is commensurate with the goals of a liberal arts and sciences university from the perspective of the Student Association. This committee carefully considers issues concerning resource management/recycling, construction, repairs, renovations, campus beautification, and handicap accessibility in order to assure that: all facilities and grounds are optimally utilized and maintained in a safe and environmentally responsible manner; decisions affecting the campus environment will receive appropriate student, faculty, staff, and administrative input prior to implementation; and the University's facilities in no way inhibit or hinder, but rather enhance, the liberal arts and sciences environment.

Clause 5

The Campus Diversity Committee strives to improve the harmony among the diverse population of the Student Association. The Committee shall promote diversity in all of its forms through one Diversity Week per year, other diversity programs, and involvement in University policy making.

Clause 6

The Health, Wellness, and Safety Committee strives to nurture a campus environment of well-being through a commitment to continuous improvement of University public health and safety. The committee will serve in order to: advocate for mindful health practices of the Student Association at large by promoting awareness of healthy lifestyle development, fervently identifying protection concerns, solving comfort problems, and securing safety measures for the general welfare of all University students, faculty, and staff.

Section 14: Subcommittees

Subcommittee creation and regulation are outlined and defined in the Standing Rules.

Section 15: Select Committee on Parking Appeals

There shall be a permanent select committee called the parking appeals select committee. This committee shall render decisions on student parking appeals. The membership and selection of members for this committee shall be defined in the standing rules.

Section 16: Meetings

Clause 1

A quorum consisting of a majority of the current voting membership of the Student Senate shall be necessary to conduct legislative business.

Clause 2

The rules contained in the most recent edition of Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the Student Senate in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with this constitution, the standing rules, and any other special rules of order that the Student Senate may adopt.

Clause 3

The legislative session of the Student Senate shall be defined as the period of time from the first day of classes until the day before finals begin of each semester.

Clause 4

The Student Senate shall meet **at least once every two weeks** during the Fall and Spring legislative sessions at the time provided in the standing rules. The Student Senate may **waive** this requirement for one week by a two-thirds majority vote.

Clause 5

Members of the Student Senate shall have the authority to call a special meeting during the legislative session by presenting a petition, signed by ten voting members, to the Speaker, who shall thereupon call such a meeting within seventy-two hours of the presentation of the petition.

ARTICLE II EXECUTIVE

Section 1: Executive Power

The executive power herein granted shall be vested in the President of the Student Association. The Vice President of the Student Association, Secretary, Treasurer, standing committee chairs, and executive staff shall assist the President by carrying out the duties delegated to them by the governing documents of the Student Government.

Section 2: President of the Student Association

Clause 1

The President shall be the chief executive of the Student Government. The President may not hold any position on the Student Senate.

Clause 2

Unless otherwise specified in this constitution or the standing rules, the President shall have the authority to make appointments subject to the confirmation of the Student Senate.

Clause 3

The president may not appoint any voting senators between the end of the spring elections and the end of the fall elections.

Clause 4

The President shall have the power to veto legislation adopted by Student Senate within 96 hours of its passage and shall file a written account of his or her veto with the Speaker and Secretary within 96 hours from the adjournment of the meeting in which the legislation was passed.

Clause 5

Legislation adopted by the Student Senate shall become effective after the President signs it or seventy-two hours after its passage if the President does not veto it, whichever occurs first.

Clause 6

The President shall have the power to create any necessary ad hoc committee.

Clause 7

The President shall have the authority to call special meetings of the Student Senate.

Clause 8

The President shall call special elections in the case of initiatives and referendums in accordance with the provisions in this constitution and the standing rules.

Clause 9

The President shall serve as a student representative to Faculty Senate and Faculty Senate Executive Committee. In the event of scheduling conflicts, the Vice President shall attend, or the President may appoint a temporary replacement representative to Faculty Senate.

Clause 10

The President shall give a regular report to the Board of Governors on behalf of the Student Government and the Student Association.

Clause 11

The President shall have the authority to issue executive orders, which shall be recorded in the records of the Student Government. These orders may:

- a. authorize student representatives to committees to have the Student Government's support or opposition of a matter recorded in their respective minutes as long as this authorization does not conflict with an effective piece of legislation,
- b. require committees of Student Senate to investigate a specified area of interest at a time, and
- c. require committees of Student Senate to present their findings and subsequent proposals to the Student Senate by a specified date.

Clause 12

The President shall be a non-voting, ex-officio member of the committees of Student **Government** except where specified in this constitution or the standing rules. While attending meetings of the Student Government or its committees, the President shall have the same rights and obligations of voting members, except for voting privileges.

Clause 13

The President shall serve as the chief representative of the Student Association and Student Government to the faculty, staff, and administration of this University.

Clause 14

The President shall preside over the executive committee except where specified in this constitution or the standing rules.

Section 3: Vice President of the Student Association

Clause 1

The Vice President shall assist the President and encourage internal communication within the Student Senate as is enumerated within the standing rules.

Clause 2

The Vice President may not hold any position on the Student Senate, other than pro tempore committee chairmanships.

Clause 3

The Vice President shall be a non-voting, ex-officio member of the committees of Student **Government** except where specified in this constitution or the standing rules. While attending meetings of the Student Senate or its committees, the Vice President shall have the same rights and obligations of voting members except for voting privileges.

Clause 4

The Vice President shall serve as an additional representative of the Student Association and Student Government to the faculty, staff, and administration of this University.

Section 4: Treasurer

Clause 1

A student shall assume the office of Treasurer upon appointment by the President and confirmation by a majority vote.

Clause 2

The Treasurer shall keep an account of the finances of the Student Government.

Clause 3

The Treasurer shall coordinate all Student Government fundraisers.

Clause 4

The Treasurer shall be responsible for making deposits and withdrawals on behalf of the Student Government.

Clause 5

The Treasurer shall act as a consultant to the Student Senate on budgetary matters. While attending meetings of the Student Senate, the Treasurer shall have the same rights and obligations of voting members except for voting privileges.

Section 5: Secretary

Clause 1

A student shall become the Secretary upon appointment by the President and confirmation of the Student Senate by a majority vote of those voting members present and voting, not counting abstentions. The Secretary may not hold any voting position on the Student Senate.

Clause 2

The Secretary shall have the responsibility of recording the proceedings of regular and special meetings of the Student Senate and the executive committee. While attending meetings of the Student Senate, the Secretary shall have the same rights and obligations of voting members except for voting privileges.

Clause 3

The Secretary shall have the responsibility of keeping the records of the Student Government up to date and in order. The Secretary shall maintain an up to date copy of this constitution and the standing rules and ensure both are publically available.

Clause 4

The Secretary shall, with the assistance of other relevant members of the Student Government, have the responsibility of compiling the end of the year report.

Clause 5

The Secretary shall have the independent responsibility for enforcing the absence policy as adopted by the Student Government for all positions except for his or hers.

Clause 6

The Secretary shall have the responsibility to inform members of the Student Government that a veto has been filed upon receiving the written account of the veto from the President.

Section 6: Legislative Director

Clause 1

A student shall fulfill the position of Legislative Director as an Executive Staff Member upon major appointment by the President and confirmation of the Student Senate by a majority vote of those voting members present and voting, not counting abstentions.

Clause 2

The Legislative Director will be responsible for keeping up with both the state and national legislative bodies while they are in session and researching legislation in order to keep the Student Government and Association at large aware of how legislation may impact the Truman community.

Clause 3

The Legislative Director will be expected to communicate with the current Senatorial District 018 Senator, House District 003 Representative, and United States House District 06 Congressman.

Section 7: Executive Staff

Clause 1

Executive staff positions shall be created by the President of the Student Association.

Clause 2

Presidentially appointed executive staff positions can be rejected by a two-thirds majority vote, and the responsibilities and duties of such positions shall be defined in the standing rules.

Clause 3

Executive staff members shall have the same rights and obligations as associate members if not otherwise specified, unless he or she is a voting member of the Student Senate, in which case he or she shall retain the rights and obligations of voting members.

Clause 4

The President shall appoint executive staff in a manner consistent with this constitution and the standing rules.

Section 8: Executive Committees

Clause 1

The voting membership of the executive committee shall consist of the President of the Student Association, Vice President of the Student Association, Treasurer, Secretary, and standing committee chairs. The student representative to the Board of Governors, Speaker of the Student Senate, faculty advisor, staff advisor, and executive staff shall serve in an advisory, non-voting capacity on the executive committee. The non-voting membership of this committee may be expanded in the standing rules.

Clause 2

The executive committee shall ensure the proper administration of the Student Government and shall serve as a means of promoting communication and coordination between the executive and the Student Senate.

Clause 3

In the event the presidency is vacant or invalid, the Vice President shall become the temporary chair of the executive committee. Should both the presidency and vice presidency be vacant or invalid, the voting members of the executive committee shall elect from among themselves a temporary chair.

Clause 4

The executive committee shall be responsible for enforcing the absence policy with regards to the Secretary.

Section 9: GPA Requirement

Members of the executive, other than executive staff, shall have at the time of installation and throughout his or her term of office a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.75.

ARTICLE III ELECTIONS

Section 1: Terms

The Fall term shall be defined as the first day of first semester classes to the day before finals. The Spring term shall be defined as the first day of second semester classes through the Spring transitional meeting. Only service in the legislature or executive shall count when determining the number of terms served. If a member of the Student Association serves for over one-half of a term in the executive or legislature beginning with the date of his or her confirmation by the Student Senate, his or her service shall count as a full term.

Section 2: Election Administration

Student Government's elections shall be administered according to the standing rules.

Section 3: Incoming Senator Eligibility

A student meeting the necessary requirements for office shall be eligible to run for incoming senator if he or she is in his or her first semester at the University, not counting summer or winter interim sessions.

Section 4: Senator Eligibility

Any student meeting the necessary requirements for office shall be eligible to run for senator.

Section 5: Senior Senator Eligibility

Any student meeting the necessary requirements for office shall be eligible to run for senior senator if he or she has served for two terms as an elected member of Student Government.

Section 6: Graduate Senator Eligibility

Any student meeting the necessary requirements for office shall be eligible to run for graduate senator.

Section 7: Presidential Ticket Eligibility

Any pair of students, enrolled full-time at Truman State University and meeting the necessary requirements for office, shall be eligible to run as a ticket for President and Vice President.

Section 8: Length of Term – Spring Installation

Clause 1

The President, Vice President, three senior senators, and twelve senators shall be elected in the Spring general election for a term beginning at the transitional meeting and ending at the next transitional meeting.

Clause 2

Installation of these members shall occur providing the member meets the necessary requirements. Installation of students nominated and confirmed to fill vacancies in these seats shall occur after their confirmation.

Section 9: Length of Term – Fall Installation

Clause 1

Two senior senators, three senators, a graduate senator, four incoming senators, and any positions vacant before petitions for elections are made available to the Student Association for the Fall general election shall be elected in the Fall general election for a term beginning at the date of installation and ending at the next transitional meeting.

Clause 2

Installation of these members shall occur at a regular Fall meeting, no later than the date specified in the standing rules, providing the member meets the necessary requirements. Installation of students nominated and confirmed to fill vacancies in these seats shall occur after their confirmation.

Section 10: Presidential Vacancy

Clause 1

If there is a vacancy in the office of the presidency of the Student Association, the Vice President will assume the office of the presidency for the remainder of the term, appointing a new Vice President from within the Student Government as soon as possible. If there is a vacancy in both the offices of the President and Vice President, a special election will be held between nine and eleven days after the office became vacant, excluding vacations and holidays, to fill the office. This election shall be administered according to the standing rules.

Clause 2

If there is a vacancy in both the offices of President and Vice President, the Speaker of the Senate shall serve as President Pro Tempore until a new President is elected and sworn in.

Section 11: Exclusivity of Positions

No student shall be eligible to seek election to more than one Student Government position at a time.

ARTICLE IV STANDING RULES AND ETHICAL CODE OF CONDUCT OF THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT

Section 1: Standing Rules

Clause 1

The Student Government shall develop and maintain a set of standing rules, which shall be a governing document inferior to this constitution. The Student Senate shall adopt these rules by a two-thirds majority vote.

Clause 2

The Student Senate may amend and approve an updated version of the standing rules within the first four weeks of the Fall and Spring semesters, not counting the extended freshman week, by a two-thirds majority vote. If no new version is approved, the last approved copy shall remain in effect.

Clause 3

Standing Rules changes proposed by an ad hoc committee created for such a purpose shall require a two-thirds majority vote.

Clause 4

The Student Senate may amend the standing rules at other times than those specified above by a three-fourths majority vote.

Clause 5

The sections of the standing rules dealing with impeachment and censure may not be suspended. The sections of the standing rules dealing with impeachment and censure may only be amended within the first four weeks of the Fall or Spring semester, excluding the extended freshman week, and may not be amended while an impeachment or censure is pending.

Section 2: Ethical Code of Conduct

The Student Government's Ethical Code of Conduct will be binding on all members of the Student Government and may be amended or replaced by the Student Government at either of the two meetings of the Student Senate immediately following the Fall general election. After that time, the Student Government's Ethical Code of Conduct may only be amended by a three-fourths majority vote.

ARTICLE V INDEPENDENT COUNCILS

Section 1: Definition of Independent Councils

Independent Councils of the Student Government are bodies, which are permanent in nature, created to perform a service auxiliary to the primary function of the Student Government, whose regular business is generally autonomous from the Student Government.

Section 2: Creation and Relation to the Student Government

Clause 1

The Student Senate shall have power, through a two-thirds majority vote of the current voting membership of the Student Senate present, to create an independent council and

its constitution subject to a simple majority vote of the Student Association voting at a general or special election.

Clause 2

The Student Government shall approve the by-laws of independent councils with a majority vote of the Student Senate.

Clause 3

The ability of the Student Government to intervene in the actions of the independent councils shall be limited to those means explicitly expressed in this constitution or in the governing documents of the independent councils.

Clause 4

The ability of the chair of an independent council to introduce motions on the floor of the legislature shall be limited to those items concerning the council.

Section 3: Amendments

Clause 1

The constitution and by-laws of independent councils shall be amended by means provided in this constitution or in the constitution of independent councils.

Clause 2

Student Senate shall have the power, through a two-thirds majority vote, to amend the constitution of independent councils that are then subject to a simply majority vote of the Student Association at a general or special election.

Clause 3

Amendments of the by-laws of independent councils shall proceed as another piece of legislation.

Clause 4

The Student Association through an initiative, Student Government, and independent councils shall have the power to initiate amendments to the constitution of an independent council. The Student Government and independent council shall have the power to initiate amendments to the by-laws of an independent council.

ARTICLE VI RECALL, REFERENDUM, AND INITIATIVE

Section 1: Recall

Clause 1

The President of the Student Association, Vice President of the Student Association, and any voting member of the Student Senate are subject to recall at any time.

Clause 2

An incoming senator or graduate senator may be subject to recall by a petition signed by at least fifteen percent of his or her constituency as defined in this constitution.

Clause 3

The constituency of a member of the Student Government shall be defined as members of the Student Association who were able to vote for the candidate during his or her most recent election to the body.

Clause 4

The President, Vice President of the Student Association, senior senator, or senator may be subject to recall by a petition signed by at least fifteen percent of the Student Association.

Clause 5

When a recall petition has been duly signed, it shall be presented to the Student Senate, the seat that is being petitioned will be declared temporarily invalid. Thereupon, the Student Senate shall call a special election, which shall be held between the fifth and tenth days after said petition has been presented, excluding holidays and vacations, unless the petitioning party waives this right.

Clause 6

If a majority of the voters, which shall constitute at least ten percent of the position's constituency, favor the recall, the Student Government member in question shall be recalled and his or her office declared vacant.

Clause 7

All vacancies due to recall shall be filled as all other vacancies that occur in positions in the Student Government.

Section 2: Referendum

The Student Senate may, by a two-thirds majority vote, submit any proposal to the Student Association for a vote. The Student Senate may specify requirements for passage of measures submitted by referendum. The special election is to be held between the seventh and fourteenth day after this decision, excluding holidays and vacations, unless the Student Senate specifies otherwise.

Section 3: Initiative

Clause 1

The Student Association, by a petition signed by at least five percent of its members, shall cause a special election for consideration of any resolution or motion adopted by the Student Government. This petition must be submitted within thirty days, excluding holidays and vacations, from the date the Student Senate approved the legislation.

Clause 2

The Student Association, by a petition signed by at least ten percent of its members, shall cause a special election for consideration of its proposed amendments to this constitution or an independent council's constitution.

Clause 3

The special election is to be held between the seventh and fourteenth day after said petition has been presented, excluding holidays and vacations, unless the petitioning party waives this right.

Clause 4

The minimum number of votes cast in an initiative election must represent five percent of the Student Association for elections regarding resolutions and motions. The resolution or motion shall be declared null and void if a simple majority of those voting in the initiative election vote in favor of overturning the resolution or motion.

Clause 5

The minimum number of votes cast in an initiative election must represent ten percent of the Student Association for elections regarding amendments to this or an independent council's constitution. The amendment shall take effect at the transition of the Student Senate at the next transitional meeting following the special election, unless otherwise specified, if a majority of those voting on the amendment vote in favor of its adoption.

Clause 6

The Student Government's standing rules and an independent council's by-laws may not be amended through an initiative.

ARTICLE VII AMENDMENT

Section 1: Proposal

Amendments to the constitution of the Student Government may be proposed by a two-thirds majority vote of those voting members of the Student Senate present or through an initiative from the Student Association.

Section 2: Passage

Passage of any proposed amendment(s) shall require a majority vote of the Student Association voting at a general election. In a special election, this majority shall constitute at least five percent of the Student Association.

ARTICLE VIII CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY

Section 1: Authority

The authority of the Student Government and this constitution is derived from the authority inherent in the Truman State University Student Association.

Section 2: University President

The Truman State University President or his or her designee shall serve as the agent for the Board of Governors, as defined in the Board of Governors by-laws.

Section 3: Constitutional Supremacy

The Student Government constitution shall take precedence over any other special rules of order the Student Senate may adopt unless stated otherwise in the relevant section(s) of this constitution.

