



Student Government Resolution 119.004

A Resolution Establishing the 2019-2020 Rules Revision Ad Hoc Committee

Sponsored by Deanna Schmidt, President of the Student Association; Katie Alexander, Vice President of the Student Association; Jared Kolok, Rules Revision Ad Hoc Committee Chair; Maddie Sarasio Meyer, Academic Affairs Committee Chair; and Kiren Macleod, Voting Senator

WHEREAS,

- The Student Government is the official governing body of the Student Association and exists to represent the present and long-term best interests of the Student Association in the formulation of University policy and in the fulfillment of the University's mission; and
- The Student Government has established an ad hoc Rules Revision Committee for the last two consecutive years, following many disparate efforts of former administrations to revise the governing documents on an ad-hoc basis; and
- These committees have modified the Constitution and Standing Rules of the Truman State University Student Government without a unified vision from year to year resulting in an unnecessarily lengthy and grammatically and structurally inconsistent document; and
- After years of additions, the Constitution of the Truman State University Student Government contains more words than the Constitution of the United States¹; and
- The Constitution of the Truman State University Student Government should convey the mission of the Student Government and its fundamental institutions so that the following are clearly defined²:
 - Name and object of the organization;
 - Qualifications of members;
 - Officers, their elections and duties;
 - Essential functions of the organization;
 - How to amend a constitution; and
- The Standing Rules of the Truman State University Student Government should contain those rules which are related to the primary administration of the Truman State University Student Government, its legislative procedures, and those rules which can be suspended or changed without approval from the Student Association; and
- Many sections in the current Constitution are more compatible with the Standing Rules and should be transferred accordingly; and

¹ <https://www.constitutionfacts.com/us-constitution-amendments/fascinating-facts/>

² Robert, Henry M. 1876. *Robert's Rules of Order*. Bedford, MA: Applewood Books.

- The governing documents are in need of targeted, significant, and concise revisions; and
- Therefore, a comprehensive committee, framework, and approach are necessary to review and amend the governing documents, primarily the Constitution of the Truman State University Student Government; and
- The primary goal of the 2019-2020 Rules Revision Ad Hoc Committee will be to comprehensively review and amend the governing documents so that year-to-year major revisions are not necessary;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT,

- Establishes the 2019-2020 Rules Revision Ad Hoc Committee; and
- Authorizes the previously appointed Rules Revision Ad Hoc Committee Chair³ to chair this committee; and
- Requests the committee maintain a diverse membership with a wide range of experience, viewpoints, and goals within Student Government; and
- Authorizes this committee to:
 - Identify articles, sections, and clauses of the governing documents that would be more effectively removed, amended, or placed in a different governing document;
 - Identify structural changes to the Constitution of the Truman State University Student Government that would clarify the mission and fundamental institutions and procedures of the Truman State University Student Government;
 - Author resolutions amending the governing documents subject to thorough discussion from the committee prior to review and approval from the Student Senate, President of the Student Association, and Student Association commensurate with legitimate amendment procedures outlined in the governing documents; and
- Authorizes the Rules Revision Ad Hoc Committee until the Spring Transitional meeting and, commensurate with Article I, Section 3, Clause 5 in the Constitution of the Truman State University Student Government, subject to renewal by the 2020-2021 administration of the Truman State University Student Government.

THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT DIRECTS THAT,

Additional copies of this resolution be disseminated to President Sue Thomas; Board of Governors; Janna Stoskopf, Vice President for Student Affairs; Office of Special Collections and the Truman Media Network.

³ [18 August 2019 General Body Meeting: First Session of the 2019-2020 Student Government](#)

Passed by Unanimous Consent, October 13, 2019.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Deanna Schmidt". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial 'D'.

Deanna Schmidt, President of the Student Association.