

**UCSC Student Union Assembly
Proposed Constitutional Amendments
2019 Ballot Language**

This amendment focuses on providing new mechanisms for transparency and accountability concerning the Student Union Assembly. A total of 162 changes address loopholes in quorum calculation, reform the executive officer recall process, and add a Judicial Council to address SUA member conduct and the actions of the SUA in general. Further, the amendment provides a robust impeachment process, a method for constituent organizations to disagree with the SUA, and also tie the SUA to the California Ralph M. Brown Act governing meetings and equitable access. Finally, the amendment acknowledges the jurisdiction, power, and rights of student organizations on this campus. Ultimately, these changes serve as a step forward in building trust between the SUA, student organizations, student governments, and the Undergraduate Student Body at UC Santa Cruz.

A vote of YES is a vote in favor of adopting this amendment into the SUA Constitution effective at the beginning of the 2018-2019 academic year. A vote of NO is a vote against adopting this amendment.

Guide to the SUA Constitutional Amendment
Drafted by Stephan Edgar
Last Updated - March 11th, 2019

What is This?

This document serves as a comprehensive guide to the changes proposed for the SUA Constitution as it will be placed on the ballot for the May 2019 election season. This is intended to provide details as to the rationale and context for the proposed changes.

Who Can I Contact?

Stephan Edgar is the lead writer of the amendment and is dedicated to version-tracking and accumulating feedback. You can reach him at sedgar@ucsc.edu or (831) 601-8311.

What's the Timeline for This?

The Dean of Students sets the deadlines for proposed amendments to the SUA Constitution through the [UCSC's Elections Policy](#). Sponsorships are required to be submitted to the Dean of Student's Office no later than April 3rd at 5:00pm. At present, feedback is being accumulated through March 8th and the goal will be to acquire sponsorships during the week of March 11th through March 15th. This accelerated timeline is due to the incoming Spring Break and Finals Week. It is unlikely that students will be available during that time frame and as such, we want to finalize this process while students may have some semblance of availability. Regardless, the timeline is a narrow one and I apologize for any inconvenience.

At a Glance:

This amendment to the Constitution of the Student Union Assembly is the first amendment since October of 2015. Additionally, this amendment fundamentally alters the structures, checks and balances, and systems of governance of the SUA. The goal of this amendment is to acknowledge the existence and capabilities of student organizations, provide mechanisms of real accountability for members and decisions of the SUA, ensure fair and open meetings, safeguard the SUA from corruption, and fix loopholes and errors that have the capability of mitigating or harming the SUA's pursuit of its' core mission.

Quick Note on Notation

At times, this document will cite portions of the constitution in the format X.Y.Z, this indicates that the relevant portion of the SUA Constitution is Article X, Section Y, Subsection Z. If you have any trouble finding relevant sections, please feel free to contact me and I'll be happy to guide you through it!

Changes Since v1.0

The following are a list of changes made to the amendment since the initial comment phase. These supplement the changes outlined below. I highly recommend additional scrutiny on these changes because they were made outside of the scope of the SUA Vision Committee's deliberations since they were not able to meet prior to the confirmation vote.

Article II

Section B - Upheld that all undergraduate students shall be allotted the right to run for a SUA elected representative position while SUA executive officer positions shall investing the SUA Bylaws with the authority to establish new requirements for Executive Officers as needed.

Article III

Section B - Subsection 2 - Renamed the Historian/Media Director to 'Communications and Chronicling Director' and expanded the scope of responsibilities to include being a liaison between the SUA and student-run media. Additionally, added the ability for the Assembly to call upon this individual to research specific instances and provide backing documentation that may be usable to the Assembly.

Section F - Set the bar for confirming a new member to a vacant officer position from simple majority (50% + 1) to a two-thirds majority. Applied same requirement to Parliamentarian vacancies.

Section G - Excluded student government chairs from signing the petition to initiate a recall election.

Article VI

Section F - Set a higher bar of evidence for impeachment proceedings (beyond a reasonable doubt vs propensity of evidence).

The Preamble of the SUA Constitution

The Student Union Assembly serves as the representative voice of undergraduate students at the University of California, Santa Cruz. In this capacity, the SUA is enshrined with the responsibility to foster growth, learning, and activism within our shared spaces. In pursuit of these goals the SUA shall strive to address the systems of inequality and oppression that impact the students on our campus. As the SUA, we shall advocate, we shall represent, and we shall speak truth to power. We adopt this constitution in furtherance of our cause.

Core Changes

Article I - Purpose Slogan and Membership

- Edits to I.B greatly expand the scope of what the SUA can accomplish, illustrating that the SUA has impacts on local, state, and federal levels. Additionally, this section acknowledges the existence of systems of oppression on our shared campus, and encodes the responsibility to act against these systems as core to what the SUA is about.
- Edits to I.E reduce the SUA's dependence on the legal definition of discrimination in favor of our own. While our definition is consistent with the current legal definition, the express articulation of the definition mitigates the harm to the SUA should the definition change at the federal level. In the current political climate, reducing this dependence is required.

Article II - Structure

- Edits to II.A sets a requirement for the executive board to reach out and work with student orgs that foster the purpose for which SUA exists. The goal is to require that the SUA do a better job with communicating with, learning from, and developing in tandem with student orgs that already do the work that the SUA aspires to contribute to.
- Edits to II.B serve to both expand and constrict the authorities of the Parliamentarian. On one hand, the Parliamentarian is required to recuse themselves whereas a conflict of interest exists (that being a matter where the parliamentarian is biased). On the other hand, the Parliamentarian is put in charge of the SUA Judicial Council, which will be detailed later. Additionally, this and all sections of the SUA Constitution remove the 'registered' requirement for student organizations. Student-run organizations may very well have ethical or moral reservations when registering with SOAR/SOMeCA. Additionally, the finding of an advisor to the student organization can be a high barrier to entry, especially on an impacted campus. As a result, the SUA no longer mandates that a student organization be registered in order to be entitled for voting privileges or other interactions with the SUA. The exception to this rule is with regard to funding requests due to the accountability restrictions for which SUA uses its money, but this particular avenue of discussion is suited to the SUA Bylaws and is not covered in this amendment.
- Edits to II.D Terminology Note: Quorum is a legal term used to indicate the minimum number of voting members required to allow a certain action to take place (like hold a meeting). When quorum is 'met,' actions and votes may be taken. If quorum is 'not met,' then there is not enough people for actions and votes to take place. A couple of loopholes were fixed here to prevent abuse, firstly that the SUA is not allowed to make any sort of decision without quorum, that and quorum for the Summer session is given a default value rather than allowing for the SUA to arbitrarily decide without guidance.
- Edits to II.E include a few very important changes. Firstly, meeting details will be required to be posted three business days in advance, which is meant to prevent last-minute agenda additions without the consent of the assembly. Secondly, the Student Union Assembly will be tied to California Legislation called the Ralph M. Brown Act. The SUA receives money from the students and is granted a fairly wide latitude to

use that money as it sees fit. However, even though it receives student money, the SUA is not required to have open and transparent meetings through any California State Legislation. It should be noted that this is the exception, not the rule. California Community College Student Governments are required by CA Law to abide by the Ralph M. Brown Act, California State University Student Governments are required to abide by the Bagley-Keene Act, the Universities of California are not required to abide by any legislation on this front. In the past, this has raised concerns over transparent voting practices. Since the UC system is unwilling to ensure transparency within student governments, the responsibilities rest with the students to hold themselves accountable. The Ralph M. Brown Act requires that every student is allowed to participate in public comment, sets standards for public notice of meetings, and prevents many avenues of corruption that would otherwise be implicitly permitted. Finally, the SUA shall be explicitly held to Robert's Rules of Order and a clearer line of communication is set to exist between the SUA and the heads of college governments and student organizations to ensure that our record-keeping is better.

- Sources: [The Daily Bruin](#), [Student Press Law Center](#)

Article III - Officers, Representatives, and Staff

- Edits to III.A require that all executive officer members prepare transition documents aimed at assisting their successors when they come into office. This is a requirement because officers often come into their roles without guidance, leading to a sort of 'trial by fire' situation where they are expected to take on everything their roles require (hiring, office management, initiative planning, financial allocations, etc) without so much as a primer. The goal here is to provide a cushion of knowledge for new officers to take advantage of when coming into their roles. This will be supplemented with information in the SUA Bylaws regarding the contents of these documents. Additionally, the Vice President of Student Life position is allocated the additional responsibility of operating the SUA Food Pantry. This was an initiative that *started* last year but has proven to be a priority for the SUA and deserves constitutional recognition.
- Edits to III.F allow for the IVP to temporarily guide a newly-appointed SUA President (in case of a mid-year vacancy) through their role for a period not exceeding two weeks. During this time, the IVP takes on the role of the President at the discretion of the SUA.
- Edits to III.G completely overhauls the process for recalling an executive officer of the SUA. Formerly, this process required every college government chair, student organization chair, and another SUA officer to convene and vote. This vote didn't have an established quorum and the process was vague and unrepresentative. This has been replaced with a system where every space with voting membership in the SUA is permitted to transmit one vote to the SUA Parliamentarian. Meaning that each space can decide as their space whether to vote to recall or not, instead of vesting that authority within an executive officer. The new system also sets up a process of communication and documentation that ensures transparency to the public.

Article IV - Relationship between the College Governments, Student Organizations, and Student Union Assembly

- Edits to IV.B acknowledge that the student organizations exist. This article previously only acknowledged the jurisdiction of college governments and said nothing of student organizations. In the amendment, student organizations are acknowledged, set as important allies to the SUA, and respected for their expertise in matters of relevance to their membership.
- Edits to IV.C allows for college governments and student organizations to dissent (oppose) an action taken by the SUA. It details a process through which a group expresses their dissent and requires the SUA to publish it as having made a decision unaligned with the tenets of that group.

Article V - Committees

- Edits to V.B.8 remove the requirement for SUA members to sit on a SUA committee. Every student has different levels of availability, and imposing committee participation prevents equitable access to SUA members who may work multiple jobs, care for children, or deal with a myriad of situations where their availability is restricted. Instead, there are multiple potential plans, and one among them is to pay SUA members who take on the additional responsibility of sitting on a SUA committee. This serves as an incentive to SUA members that is likely to come forward in future edits to the SUA Bylaws. In the meantime, the requirement is stricken from the SUA Constitution. It may be re-imposed in the SUA Bylaws as needed.

Article VI - Judicial Council

- By and large the biggest edit to the SUA Constitution in this process, the Judicial Council is making good on several promises of the SUA. Currently, there is no real consequence for violating any part of the SUA Governing Documents, nor is there particular consequences for outrageous SUA member conduct. In fact, there is no enforceable SUA Code of Conduct. This has plagued SUA for years and a constant request by parliamentarians, members, and officers has been to form some sort of system of accountability. This is the answer.
- The Judicial Council is a seven-member group chaired by the SUA Parliamentarian and is invested with the responsibility to resolve constitutional crises (as with the previous Constitutional Interpretation Commission) and make judgments regarding SUA actions and decisions. The members of the Judicial Council are selected by the Student Committee on Committees (SCOC) who also appoints student reps to administrative bodies and is trained on fair hiring processes. Additionally, the Judicial Council fits within a system of checks and balances to prevent a 'rule by judges' situation. The Judicial Council must be explicitly activated by the SUA or a petition of students, and can only make recommendations that are approved/rejected/modified by the SUA. However, all outcomes of the Judicial Council are made public for the benefit of the public trust.

SUA Constitutional Revision Project - 2019

Master Edit Log

- **Current Draft v0.1 Editing by Stephan Edgar**
- **Draft v0.2 – Stephan Edgar February 17th, 2019 2300HRS UTC/PST**
 - Draft released to Emma and David for initial comments and further edits.
- **Draft v0.3 – Stephan Edgar February 20th, 2019 0058HRS UTC/PST**
 - Draft includes revised language plus suggestions from Isabella regarding VPSL and new Sections for Article IV (org inclusivity/right of dissent/no confidence)
- **Draft v0.4 – Stephan Edgar February 25th, 2019 1700HRS UTC/PST**
 - Draft includes revised language for the preamble, Summer quorum, incidental motions, parliamentary impartiality for recall procedures, Judicial council membership, and Judicial council voting/opinions. Thanks to David Miller Shevelev for the detailed feedback!
- **Draft v0.5 – Stephan Edgar February 26th, 2019 1815HRS UTC/PST**
 - Draft includes the results of feedback from the SUA Vision Committee. Removed Vote of No Confidence, expanded language regarding the purpose of the SUA, removed officers from judicial council ex-officio, and more.
- **Draft v1.0 – Stephan Edgar March 2nd, 2019 2304HRS UTC/PST**
 - Open Commentary Phase
 - Draft includes first-round feedback from members of the SUA. Fixes typographical errors in student org names, clarifies membership of the Judicial Council, fixes Article headers, relegates additional authorities regarding judicial council to the SUA bylaws, removes committee attendance requirement, tethered the SUA to both Robert's Rules of Order and the Ralph M. Brown Act for transparency and accountability. Removed registration requirement for student organizations throughout.
- **Draft v.1.1 – Stephan Edgar March 11th, 2019 1620 Hours UTC/PDT**
 - Accumulated feedback from various students and orgs have resulted in several changes, including authorizing the bylaws to outlay additional qualification requirements for executive officers, setting a higher bar of evidence for impeachment proceedings, reforming the former Historian position into the Communications and Chronicling Director, and using a two-thirds majority to appoint replacements for mid-year vacancies rather than simple majority.
 - ***Sponsorship Phase – No Further Edits Permitted***

In accordance with the SUA Constitutional Amendment policy outlined in Article X, Section A of this Constitution, I, Stephan Edgar, propose that this amendment be brought forth for consideration by the Undergraduate Student Body of the University of California, Santa Cruz. I attest that the contents of this amendment have been generated in accordance with policies established by the Dean of Students office and commensurate with the UCSC Elections Policy (Policy #SS001). I further attest that the contents of this amendment have, at various stages, been reviewed by fellow students and has been submitted to all members of the Student Union Assembly, all Student Governments, and no less than twenty (20) student organizations on this campus.

STUDENT UNION ASSEMBLY CONSTITUTION

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CONSTITUTION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA CRUZ STUDENT UNION ASSEMBLY

Preamble

The Student Union Assembly serves as the representative voice of undergraduate students at the University of California, Santa Cruz. In this capacity, the SUA is enshrined with the responsibility to foster growth, learning, and activism within our shared spaces. In pursuit of these goals the SUA shall strive to address the systems of inequality and oppression that impact the students on our campus. As the SUA, we shall advocate, we shall represent, and we shall speak truth to power. We adopt this constitution in furtherance of our cause.

Article I. PURPOSE, SLOGAN, AND MEMBERSHIP ~~OF THE STUDENT UNION ASSEMBLY~~

Section A. Name:

1. The name of this organization shall be "The Student Union Assembly" of the University of California, Santa Cruz; hereinafter referred to as "the SUA."

Section B. Purpose:

1. The SUA shall be the official Student Government of the undergraduate Student Body at the University of California, Santa Cruz (UCSC), which is composed of voting members as stated in Article II, Section B. Due to its broad ~~based~~ constituency and ~~its~~ expertise on issues, the SUA is the most qualified body to formulate and communicate the undergraduate student position at UCSC on ~~campus-wide, system-wide and nation-wide levels.~~ local, state, and national levels. Thus, the Student Union Assembly shall be the official legitimate voice of UCSC undergraduate students on ~~campus-wide and system-wide~~ all affiliated committees. The SUA shall use that voice to serve the individual and collective needs of the undergraduate student body at UCSC. The SUA shall promote activism, civic participation, discussion, debate, and awareness of public issues from a variety of perspectives and viewpoints. The SUA ~~can~~ shall host campus-wide events, rallies, conferences, and educational forums ~~that that, for example, may~~ train students in direct action organizing, empowerment, and representation. The SUA shall acknowledge and act against systems of oppression as experienced by marginalized populations on campus.

Section C. Slogan:

1. The official slogan of the SUA shall be "Student Voice. Student Power. Student Action."

Section D. Membership:

1. Every registered undergraduate student of the University of California, Santa Cruz shall be a member of the Undergraduate Student Body regardless of race, color, national origin, creed, gender, religion, sex, disability, gender identity, academic standing, age, medical condition, ancestry, ethnicity, marital status, citizenship, sexual orientation, military status, or socioeconomic status.

2. All registered undergraduate students of the University of California Santa Cruz shall be eligible to hold office within the Student Union Assembly or participate in any of its committees, subcommittees, and task forces regardless of race, color, national origin, creed, gender, religion, sex, disability, gender identity, academic standing, age, medical condition, ancestry, ethnicity, marital status, citizenship, sexual orientation, military status, or socioeconomic status.

Section E. Nondiscrimination:

1. The Student Union Assembly shall not participate in or affiliate with any organization which discriminates ~~(as discrimination is legally defined)~~ on the basis of: race, color, national origin, creed, gender, religion, sex, disability, age, medical condition, gender identity, ancestry, ethnicity, marital status, citizenship, sexual orientation, military status, or socioeconomic status.
 - a. Discrimination for the purposes of this section is defined as the unfair or inequitable treatment of an individual or group on the basis of one or more of the characteristics listed above.

Section F. Powers and Responsibilities:

1. Decisions made by the SUA ~~shall~~ will be made on behalf of ~~UCSC undergraduate students~~ the Undergraduate Student Body.
 - a. A decision of the SUA shall be defined as a resolution, stance, action, or motion approved by the voting membership of the SUA (Article II, Section B).
2. The specific powers and responsibilities within the jurisdiction of the SUA include, but are not limited to the following:
 - a. Serve the Undergraduate Student Body at UCSC.
 - b. The sponsorship of student programming as it deems appropriate.
 - c. Ensure continuous and constructive relationships with UCSC student organizations and the UCSC college student governments.
 - d. The maintenance of constructive relations with student governments and associations at other universities and colleges.
 - e. The approval of the annual budget of the Student Union Assembly, its committees, subcommittees and taskforces.
 - f. Advocacy network of the Student Body and therefore campaigns for concrete improvements in the lives of the student body.
3. The SUA may delegate any of its powers or responsibilities to a designated committee, subcommittee, task force, board, or commission by stating so in the bylaws that supplement this constitution (Article XII).
 - a. Any decision of an endowed SUA committee, subcommittee, task force, board, or commission is subject to the provisions outlined for all committees of the SUA (Article V, Section B). Except for in the case of an Officer recall convention (Article III, Section F) or decisions of the Constitutional Interpretation Commission (Article VI).

Article II. STRUCTURE ~~OF THE STUDENT UNION ASSEMBLY~~

Section A. Executives of the Student Union Assembly

1. The following Officers of the Student Union Assembly shall be vested with executive powers of the Student Union Assembly:
 - a. President
 - b. Vice President of Internal Affairs
 - c. Vice President of External Affairs
 - d. Vice President of Academic Affairs
 - e. Vice President of Diversity and Inclusion
 - f. Vice President of Student Life

2. Shall be elected by the full membership of the Undergraduate Student BodySUA in the Spring election (Article III, Section C) and are to carry out the responsibilities outlined in this Constitution and the SUA bylaws.
3. The following shall be the powers of the Executive:
 - a. The day-to-day operations of the SUA.
 - b. Hiring of SUA "Constitutionally Mandated Staff" (Article III, Section B).
 - c. Actively represent the SUA to outside entities. Including, but not limited to, the UCSC administration, UC regents, and the Office of the President.
 - d. Call emergency meetings of the SUA voting membership and place items on the agendas for meetings of the SUA.
 - e. Take on tasks, campaigns, and projects that will better the student experience at UCSC.
 - f. Actively communicate with, learn from, and collaborate with student organizations that share a common purpose as illustrated in Article I, Section B.

Section B. Voting Membership of the Student Union Assembly:

1. Parliamentarian of the SUA
 - a. Shall serve as the Presiding Officer in all meetings of the SUA, unless the Parliamentarian cannot remain impartial, in which case, the SUA bylaws shall outline who shall serve as Presiding Officer for the issue in question.
 - i. The Parliamentarian may voluntarily recuse them self by citing a conflict of interest.
 - ii. The Parliamentarian may be temporarily removed as the Presiding Officer for the issue in question through a two-thirds majority vote of the SUA.
 - b. The Parliamentarian shall be elected by the last meeting of the SUA in Spring Quarter, for the term outlined in Article III, Section C5, in a manner outlined in the SUA bylaws.
 - c. A Parliamentarian is an expert in rules of order and the proper procedures for the conduct of meetings of deliberative assemblies. Parliamentarians assist organizations in the drafting and interpretation of bylaws and rules of order, and the planning and conduct of meetings.
 - d. Shall serve as the chair for the SUA Judicial Council unless the Parliamentarian cannot remain impartial, in which case, the SUA bylaws shall outline who shall serve as Presiding Officer for the issue in question.
 - i. The Parliamentarian may voluntarily recuse themselves by citing a conflict of interest.
 - ii. The Parliamentarian may be temporarily removed as the Presiding Officer for the issue in question through a two-thirds majority vote of the SUA.
 - e. Shall not hold any other position in the SUA.
2. Executive Officers of the Student Union Assembly ~~(Article III, Section A)~~
 - a. Executive Officers of the SUA shall be elected by a popular vote of the Undergraduate Student Body during Spring Quarter SUA Elections.
 - i. This election shall be administered by the Student Union Assembly and fall under the purview of the SUA election bylaws.
 - ii. These elections shall function to ensure that those who hold the greatest power within the SUA are representative of the student body and their voice.
 - iii. The SUA Bylaws shall outline any additional requirements needed to be fulfilled in order for an Executive Officer to maintain their position or for a candidate for an Executive Officer position to be eligible for such role.
3. College Representatives
 - a. Each college shall have three Representatives to the SUA:
 - b. One representative shall be elected by a popular vote of the students of their respective college during Spring Quarter SUA elections.

- i. This election shall be administered by the Student Union Assembly and fall under the purview of the SUA election bylaws.
 - ii. These elections shall function to further ensure equal opportunity for all undergraduate students to serve as a student representative to the SUA.
 - iii. The other representatives shall be chosen in a manner determined by their respective college government, in accordance with applicable federal and state law and university policy, must be open to any student regardless of race, color, national origin, creed, gender, religion, sex, disability, age, gender identity, medical condition, ancestry, ethnicity, marital status, citizenship, sexual orientation, military status, or socioeconomic status.
4. One representative at large from each of the following registered student organizations at UCSC: ~~African/Black Student Alliance~~ Black Student Union (A/BSABSU); Asian Pacific Islander Student Alliance (APISA); ~~Queer Student Union~~ Student Coalition for Gender, Sex, and Sexuality (QSUPrism); Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano/a de Aztlán (MEChA); Student Alliance of North American Indians (SANAI); and five (5) other ~~registered~~ student organizations
 - a. If an organization ceases to exist, or wishes to not have a voting Representative in the SUA for a year, the organization may remove their seat within the SUA by notifying the SUA President and Parliamentarian. Upon notification, the position will be considered vacant and the SUA President or SUA Parliamentarian shall administer an application process in Spring Quarter by means of an application review commission and select organizations to have a voting Representative to the SUA for either the remainder of the year or the following year for the vacant seat(s).
 - i. This process shall also apply to the five seats that do not have an assigned organization.
 - ii. The named organizations above shall be entitled to a voting position within the SUA during the academic year following the year they remove their voting position seat.
 - iii. Any organization that is ~~registered with a unit on campus and is~~ student run is eligible to apply for the vacant seat(s).
 - iv. The commission's selection shall be confirmed by 2/3rd of the voting membership of the SUA. If there are not confirmed organizations for vacant seats by the last SUA meeting of Spring Quarter, the application process may be reopened for vacant seats in the following Fall quarter.
 - v. The confirmed organization(s) shall have the right to that seat for the year (starting July 1st and ending June 30th) for which they applied and were confirmed for. In no circumstances may the confirmed organization lose the right to appoint a representative during the year unless they expressly notify the SUA President and SUA Parliamentarian as noted above.
 - b. ~~The Registered~~ student organizations, in accordance with applicable federal and state law and university policy, must be open to any student regardless of race, color, national origin, creed, gender, religion, sex, disability, gender identity, age, medical condition, ancestry, ethnicity, marital status, citizenship, sexual orientation, military status, or socioeconomic status.

Section C. Voting of the Student Union Assembly:

1. Each voting member of the SUA, (Article II, Section B) shall each be given one vote and have the power to vote on all questions.
2. Only voting members of the SUA may make or second motions.
3. Vote by proxy shall not be permitted.
 - a. Each college and organization with voting representatives to the SUA shall be allowed no more than 2 alternates to vote in the absence of their voting representatives. Alternate representatives are not considered proxy votes.
 - b. Alternates require documentation signed by the head of their respective college government or organization. This shall be presented to the Parliamentarian of the SUA before attendance is taken of the SUA.
4. Abstentions by voting members of the SUA shall not be counted toward any required two-thirds (2/3) vote.
5. The SUA shall operate by consensus. If consensus cannot be achieved, then the SUA shall operate by simple majority rule (50% + 1), unless otherwise stated in this constitution or bylaws.

Section D. Quorum:

1. Quorum is defined as half plus one of the current SUA voting membership (Article II, Section B).
2. The SUA shall not vote-make any decision on any matter if quorum is not present.
3. The SUA shall, at the last meeting of the spring quarter, determine the requirements for quorum of the Student Union Assembly during the Summer Session.
4. By the last meeting of the Spring quarter, the SUA Parliamentarian shall acquire a listing of all of the college and student organization representatives that shall be available during the Summer to convene for meetings of the Student Union Assembly.
 1. This listing shall be used, in addition to the quantity of Executive Officers, to calculate quorum for the Summer session.
 2. By default, Summer quorum shall be half plus one of the listed combined representatives and elected officers of the SUA.
 - a. During the last meeting of the SUA in the Spring quarter, the assembly may, by simple majority vote, determine an alternative arrangement for quorum over the Summer period.

Section E. Procedures:

1. The SUA shall meet at least twice per month throughout the regular academic year.
2. The Parliamentarian of the SUA shall be the Presiding Officer over all meetings of the SUA. The SUA bylaws will outline what happens in the Parliamentarian's absence.
3. All members of the SUA, voting or non-voting, have the right to speak at meetings of the SUA.
4. Any person wishing to speak or make a motion, at any meeting of the SUA, must be recognized by the Parliamentarian before doing so with the exception of incidental motions.~~o-~~
5. The agenda of each meeting of the SUA shall be distributed at least three (3) business days~~48~~ hours in advance to the SUA voting members in a manner they determine. Also, the agenda shall be publicly posted at least three (3) business days~~48 hours~~ in advance of each meeting.
6. The minutes of each meeting of the SUA and its committees, subcommittees, and task forces shall be public, except matters in closed session, as defined in the bylaws; and disseminated via e-mail and posted outside the SUA office within 72 hours~~three (3) business days~~.
7. Meetings of the Student Union Assembly shall be conducted in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order (Newly Revised – 11th Edition).
 - a. The SUA Parliamentarian shall be vested the right to enforce Robert's Rules of Order and shall be considered the Chair for all purposes therein described.
 - b. The SUA shall retain the right to suspend or amend rules as detailed within Robert's Rules of Order.

- c. The Parliamentarian of the SUA shall be required to provide training resources regarding Robert's Rules of Order to any member of the Undergraduate Student Body who requests it.
 - i. The Parliamentarian shall additionally ensure that primer materials regarding Robert's Rules of Order are made available to the public and guest speakers at SUA Meetings.
- d. Significant changes to Robert's Rules of Order utilized within SUA meetings shall be required to ensure equitable access to the meeting for all involved parties.
- 8. All SUA and its committee meetings shall be open to the public except during times of closed session. To ensure transparency and public access, all meetings of the SUA and its subordinate bodies shall abide by the California Ralph M. Brown Act (California Government Code §54950)
 - a. The SUA and its subordinate bodies shall be open to the public except during times of closed session.
 - b. During closed session, these meetings shall be open only to the Parliamentarian, voting members, and members of the Executive of the SUA as specified in Article II, Section B.
 - c. The Parliamentarian or President shall call closed session when the SUA is discussing or voting on issues dealing directly with the hiring, firing, appointing, or removal of positions and staff within the SUA.
 - i. A call for closed session can be overruled by a majority vote of the voting membership in attendance of the meeting.
 - ii. The SUA shall move out of closed session by a 2/3rd vote of the voting membership in attendance of the meeting.
- 9. The President or Parliamentarian may convene the SUA for an "emergency" meeting at any time. Other voting members of the SUA may convene the SUA for emergency meeting at any time by petition of at least half of the voting membership (Article II, Section B).
- 10. The head of a college student government or student organization shall be required to submit approval documentation for an elected or appointed representative.
 - a. In the case of a mid-year vacancy, the head of a student government or student organization shall likewise submit approval documentation no less than 72 hours prior to the meeting for which the representative is to take office. The Parliamentarian shall require approval documentation needed by the first meeting of the quarter for the representative signed by both leaders of the college government or organization assuring their commitment and responsibilities of the SUA for the quarter.
 - b. Valid approval documentation shall include the representative's name, contact information, office hours, and statement of commitment to their duties and responsibilities as a member of the SUA.
 - c. There shall be some form of notification submitted to the SUA Parliamentarian whenever an assigned representative is unable to attend a meeting of the SUA.

Article III. OFFICERS, REPRESENTATIVES, AND STAFF ~~OF THE STUDENT UNION ASSEMBLY~~

Section A. Officers and Representatives:

- 1. President
 - a. Leader and principal spokesperson of the Undergraduate Student Body.
 - b. Ensure cohesive and effective interaction within the Assembly and the campus.
 - c. Act as an ex-officio, non-voting member of all SUA committees, subcommittees, task forces, and commissions.
 - d. Required to hold weekly office hours (3) at the SUA office.
 - e. Attend weekly officer meeting(s) to ensure communication and collaboration.
 - f. Work in collaboration with the other officers, SUA advisor, committees, subcommittees and task forces to create a budget for the following academic year, which must be approved by the SUA in spring (Article VII, Section A).

- g. Prepares a monthly report evaluating the SUA, which provides constructive criticism, for the purposes of improvement.
 - h. Carryout any other duties set forth in this constitution, and the bylaws and/or as assigned by the Assembly.
 - i. Appoints the Treasurer and the Recording Clerk by the last meeting of the Fall Quarter. The selection needs to be ratified for the Treasurer by the body by a simple majority vote.
 - j. Shall meet once a quarter with the College Senate Advisor and the Organization Advisor in conjunction with the Council of Chairs and Leaders of the Organizations to ensure cohesiveness and explain happenings of the Student Union Assembly in order to establish transparency.
 - k. The President does not adhere to any administration, unless stated in system wide or university policy.
 - l. Prepare and periodically update documentation aimed at assisting the next President in fulfilling their duties and responsibilities.
2. Vice President of Internal Affairs (VPIA)
- a. Primarily responsible for the internal operations of the Student Union Assembly.
 - b. Helps to coordinate the campus-wide internal campaigns in coordination with any applicable SUA officer, intern, committee, subcommittee, task force, campus organization or campus unit.
 - c. Acts as substitute for the President in their absence.
 - d. Serves as chair of the Student Committee on Committees.
 - e. Assists the President in carrying out SUA directives.
 - f. Coordinates student participation on all campus-wide committees, boards, and task forces including all academic senate and administrative committees.
 - g. Primary student government organizer on internal campus affairs.
 - h. Required to hold weekly office hours (3) at the SUA office.
 - i. Attends weekly officer meeting(s) to ensure communication and collaboration.
 - j. Prepares a monthly report evaluating the SUA, which provides constructive criticism, for the purposes of improvement.
 - k. Carryout any other duties as set forth in this constitution, the bylaws, and/or as assigned by the Assembly and/or the President.
 - l. Shall use the Executive Vice Chair of the Student Committees on Committees to help run the appointment process of SCOC and run the partnership.
 - m. The Vice President of Internal Affairs shall work or be a resource on all internal campus wide issues that come forth from the SCOC, e²: Engaging Education, Campus Sustainability Council or the Student Union Assembly.
 - n. Prepare and periodically update documentation aimed at assisting the next Vice President of Internal Affairs in fulfilling their duties and responsibilities.
3. External Vice President of External Affairs (VPEA)
- a. Primary student government organizer on external campus affairs.
 - b. Represents the SUA to the University of California Student Association (UCSA).
 - c. Represents the SUA to the United States Student Association (USSA).
 - d. Primary coordinator of campus-wide campaigns, UCSA campaigns and USSA campaigns.
 - e. Assists the President in coordinating advocacy efforts on behalf of student interests, by doing research analysis on university policy system wide and nationally, and coordinating legislative campaigns in the local, state and national level.
 - f. Represents the Student Union Assembly to off-campus entities as delegated by the President or the Assembly.
 - g. Required to hold weekly office hours (3) at the SUA office.
 - h. Attend weekly officer meeting(s) to ensure communication and collaboration.

- i. Prepare a monthly report evaluating the SUA, which provides constructive criticism, for the purposes of improvement.
 - j. Carryout any other duties as forth in this constitution, the bylaws, and/or assigned by the Assembly and/or President.
 - k. Appoints the Legislative Liaison and Campus Organizing Director for the External Office by the last meeting of the Fall Quarter.
 - l. Prepare and periodically update documentation aimed at assisting the next Vice President of External Affairs in fulfilling their duties and responsibilities.
4. Vice President of Diversity and Inclusion (VPDI)
- a. Maintains communication with resource centers, resource center directors, student organizations, Ethnic Student Organization Council (ESOC), Disability Resource Center (DRC), STARS, Educational Opportunity Program (EOP), and the retention and outreach student organizations.
 - b. Chairs the Diversity Commission.
 - c. Helps coordinate all programming that deal with issues of diversity.
 - d. Maintains communication between the SUA, campus units, and administrators that deal with issues of diversity, which include, but are not limited to, Hate/Bias and Title IX.
 - e. Track diversity statistics with regard to enrollment, retention, dropout rates and academic standing.
 - f. Attend weekly officer meeting(s) to ensure communication and collaboration.
 - g. Required to hold weekly office hours (3) at the SUA office.
 - h. Prepares a monthly report evaluating the SUA, which provides constructive criticism, for the purposes of improvement
 - i. Carryout any other duties as forth in this constitution, the bylaws, and/or assigned by the Assembly and/or President.
 - j. Shall maintain a volunteer base composed of the SUA representatives.
 - k. Prepare and periodically update documentation aimed at assisting the next Vice President of Diversity and Inclusion in fulfilling their duties and responsibilities.
5. Vice President of Academic Affairs (VPAA)
- a. Establishes and maintains communication with the UCSC and system wide Academic Senate and all undergraduate academic related programs.
 - b. Shall inform and represent the SUA on matters of academic policy.
 - c. Shall act as the representative to the Academic Senate on the Committee on Educational Policy.
 - d. Shall provide periodic polls and information surveys to assess student concerns.
 - e. Required to hold weekly office hours (3) at the SUA office.
 - f. Attends weekly officer meeting(s) to ensure communication and collaboration.
 - g. Prepares a monthly report evaluating the SUA, which provides constructive criticism, for the purposes of improvement.
 - h. Carryout any other duties as set forth in this constitution, the bylaws, and/or assigned by the Assembly and/or President.
 - i. Shall meet at least two times a quarter with the Student Academic Senate in order to establish a goals and criteria for academic policy and advocacy for the student body and delegate responsibilities.
 - j. Meet with all the Academic Student Representatives to discuss possible advocacy and policy within the Academic Senate.
 - k. Prepare and periodically update documentation aimed at assisting the next Vice President of Academic Affairs in fulfilling their duties and responsibilities.
6. Vice President of Student Life (VPSL)
- a. Works to improve communication and advertising with in the whole SUA.

- b. Organizes and recruits students to attend programming sponsored by the Student Union Assembly.
- c. Works with other officers to create publications that further promote the purpose of the SUA.
- d. Makes and facilitates connections between campus movements/issues and those of the UC system as a whole.
- e. Be the main coordinator of SUA's involvement in Summer Orientation and move-in week.
- f. Provides Programs and Activities for the student body.
- g. Builds relationships between the SUA and organizations, specifically sustainability, SOAR, student media, department, college, OPERS, and all other student organizations.
- h. Works with SUA entities on publicizing and improving outreach events; for example, making events sustainable, making events accessible, and communicating SUA events to the student body.
- i. Works on long range development plan of campus life at UCSC including but not limited to improving athletic programs, music and arts facilities, Student Union, programming and organizing spaces, and the amphitheater.
- j. Required to hold weekly office hours (3) at the SUA office.
- k. Attends weekly officer meeting(s) to ensure communication and collaboration.
- l. Prepares a monthly report evaluating the SUA, which provides constructive criticism, for the purposes of improvement.
- m. Serves as the administrator of the SUA Food Pantry and actively seeks out opportunities for its growth, expansion, and service to the students of UCSC.
- n. Carryout any other duties as set forth in this constitution, the bylaws, and/or assigned by the Assembly and/or the President.
- o. Prepare and periodically update documentation aimed at assisting the next Vice President of Student Life in fulfilling their duties and responsibilities.

Section B. Mandated Staff of the Student Union Assembly

- 1. Regulations
 - b. Staff members outlined in this constitution shall be considered "Constitutionally Mandated Staff" and shall be appointed by the Executive of the SUA and confirmed by a majority of the voting membership of the SUA, by the fourth week of Fall Quarter.
 - c. The SUA bylaws may outline other staff of the SUA that need not be appointed by the Executive, nor confirmed.
 - d. All mandated staff shall submit an internal, quarterly report to the executives of SUA, which evaluates the SUA and provides constructive criticism, for the purposes of improvement.
- 2. Constitutionally Mandated Staff
 - e. Historian/Media Coordinator-Communications and Chronicling Director
 - i. Coordinates with the Student Union Assembly Officers about publicity and maintenance of items coming from the undergraduate students.
 - ii. Works with Student Media about finding new ways and ideas for getting out the student voice and opinions.
 - iii. Serves as a liaison between the SUA and student-run media outlets to ensure that the student voice is both engaged and informed.
 - iv. Coordinates history of past work for institutional memory.
 - v. Builds and maintains the network for maintaining institutional memory of the student governments and student organizations.
 - vi. Maintains the SUA publicity materials, including the website, news publications and campus outreach.

- vii. Create the campus history archives by connecting with every campus college and/or group and their history.
 - viii. Maintaining a media database for the Student Union Assembly to conduct media outreach for our campaigns.
 - ix. Writes and contacts all media outlets when needed during campaigns.
 - x. At the request of the Assembly, investigate and provide documentation regarding past events, actions, or circumstances relevant to college governments, student organizations, or the UCSC administration.
- f. Recording Clerk
- i. Shall work with the SUA Officers to assemble the agendas, minutes and other items as needed by the SUA.
 - ii. Will receive agenda item requests and meet with the President to distinguish what will go on the agenda. The Recording Clerk must receive the request by the Friday of the previous week in order to get on the Agenda for the next Tuesday.
 - iii. Shall have the agenda displayed for the body by Monday at noon before the SUA Board of Directors meeting Tuesday.
 - iv. The Recording Clerk must have the agenda to the officers by 5pm on the day of the meeting to prepare Agenda Packets.
 - v. The Recording Clerk will take minutes for the SUA Meetings and have them posted by the following Thursday at Midnight. Any corrections to the minutes shall be completed by the next Tuesday meeting.
 - vi. Shall coordinate with the Historian/Media Coordinator to send out and document Resolutions and Actions coming from SUA.
 - vii. Shall contact members of the SUA community and receive items or reports of the SUA for meeting purposes to be distributed to the SUA members by the Friday before the meeting.
- g. Treasurer
- i. Work with the SUA Officers on maintaining the budget of the year.
 - ii. Will work with campus Service Center to establish and maintain the budget throughout the year.
 - iii. Does not have budgetary authority but can make alternative budgets and suggestions for the fiscal health of the organization.
 - iv. Helps prepare checks and travel reimbursements, preparation for the SUA.
 - v. Will look at the expense reports of the year to analyze what changes can be made to the budget and present them to the President and SUA Board of Directors.
 - vi. Every year with approval of the President, based on budget expense reports, prepare at least 3 budget scenarios for the body to consider.
 - vii. Research ways to save money and advise the officers on spending from their office budget.
 - viii. Will look and advise the SUA Board of Directors on the UCSA and USSA budgets for improvements or suggestions during their budgetary cycles.
 - ix. Helps contacts with both USSA and UCSA to pay membership dues.
 - x. Will not advise Engaging Education or Campus Sustainability Council because they have budgetary autonomy from the Student Union Assembly, and therefore will not present or help prepare budgets to the Student Union Assembly.

- h. Legislative Director**
 - i.** The Legislative works with the Vice President of External Affairs and the external office in order to coordinate actions on and off the campus with legislative officials.
 - ii.** Sets up lobby visits for the Student Union Assembly to address student concern.
 - iii.** Researches local, state and federal legislation and how it affects the student body.
 - iv.** Works with UCSA and USSA as the legislative aid to the organization on behalf of UC Santa Cruz.
 - v.** Helps the Vice President of External Affairs carry out campaigns and budget for the External Office from year to year.
 - vi.** Will debrief and check in with legislators and officers about the state of the campus.
 - vii.** Shall help establish and maintain the Lobby Corps by recruiting students to join in on lobbying opportunities.
- i. Parliamentarian of the SUA**
 - i.** Shall remain impartial on all discussions and decision-making of the SUA, unless in the case of casting a vote to make or break a tie of the voting membership.
 - ii.** Works with the Recording Clerk to create agendas and minutes for meetings of the SUA.
 - iii.** Chair the meeting of the Assembly.
 - iv.** Maintain the official roster of the voting membership of the SUA.
 - v.** Foster teamwork between the voting membership of the SUA and the Officers of the SUA.
 - vi.** Carryout any other duties as set forth in this constitution, the bylaws, and/or assigned by the voting membership of the SUA.
- j. Representatives**
 - i.** Represent and express the student voice and concerns of students in their respective college or organization.
 - ii.** Required to hold at least one hour of weekly office hours.
 - iii.** Sit on and participate in at least one SUA committee.
 - iv.** Prepare a monthly report to the SUA President that gives an update on the happenings of the college or organization, which they represent.
 - v.** Prepares a monthly report evaluating the SUA, which provides constructive criticism, for the purposes of improvement.
 - vi.** Carryout any other duties as set forth in this constitution, the bylaws, and/or assigned by the voting membership of the SUA.

Section C. Elections and Terms of Office:

1. The SUA shall conduct campus-wide elections for members of the SUA (Article III, Section C) or Constitutional Amendments (Article X) in a fair and open election held during the Spring quarter of each academic year.
2. The SUA shall address all disputes, including issues of interpretation, regarding all candidates_s, and constitutional amendment items during any undergraduate student election.
 - a. The SUA may call for the convention of the SUA Judicial Council (Article VI) should these disputes fall within their purview.
3. The SUA shall charge an Elections Commissioner with the coordination of the SUA elections.
4. All Officers of the SUA (Article II, Section A1) shall be elected by popular vote of the undergraduate Student Body.
5. All Officers of the SUA shall serve for one year starting July 1st and ending June 30th.
6. Elected representatives of the Colleges (Article II, Section B3.i) shall be elected by popular vote of their college student body in a fair and open election at the time of SUA elections.
7. The Elected representatives of the Colleges shall serve for one year starting July 1st and ending June 30th.
8. Representatives of an organization (Article II, Section B4) shall be chosen through the methods as determined by those organizations.
9. The Representative of an organization shall serve for the designated time specified by the organization.
10. The other college Representatives (Article II, Section B3.iii) shall be chosen by their respective college government through methods as determined by the college government.
11. All other college Representatives (Article II, Section B3.iii) shall serve for the designated time specified by their college government.

Section D. Qualifications:

1. All Officers of and Representatives_s to the SUA must be ~~a~~ registered undergraduate students_s of the University of California, Santa Cruz to remain in office.

Section E. Compensation:

1. The Officers of the Student Union shall receive compensation for their services as stipulated in the bylaws.
2. The Representatives may receive compensation for their services as stipulated in the bylaws.

Section F. Vacancies:

1. A vacancy occurs when any voting member of the SUA has resigned, been removed from office, is no longer a registered UCSC undergraduate student, or becomes otherwise ineligible for office as provided in this constitution.
2. If the vacancy is an Executive Officer position, other than SUA President, and has been vacated before the next SUA election, or in the event that a temporary emergency appointment by the voting membership of the SUA is called for, that position shall be advertised in campus media, and via fliers posted campus-wide for at least two weeks. Any candidate for the vacancy must have been a registered student at the time of the previous Officer's election. The President shall assume the duties of the vacant office until the position is filled.
3. All interested candidates shall be present at a specified SUA meeting at which time they will each have the equal opportunity to present themselves. The voting membership of the Assembly shall, ~~as a majority~~ by two-thirds majority, confirm one of the candidates present to fill the position for the remainder of the term.

4. If the vacancy is an elected or appointed College Representative position and has been vacated before the next SUA election, or in the event that a temporary emergency appointment by the SUA is called for, that position shall be chosen in a manner determined by their respective college government.
5. If the vacancy is an Organization Representative position or in the event that a temporary emergency appointment by the SUA is called for, that position shall be chosen in a manner determined by their respective organization.
6. If the vacancy is the Parliamentarian of the SUA, the voting membership of the SUA, at the next meeting of the SUA (regular or emergency), shall select-appoint a new Parliamentarian by a two-thirds majority vote. Until the position is filled, the President shall assume the duties of the Parliamentarian of the SUA.
7. In the event that the President position is vacant, the Internal Vice President shall assume the position and an Internal Vice President candidate search will begin. If there is no Internal Vice President or the Internal Vice President does not wish to become the President, then the External Vice President shall assume the duties of President and an External Vice President candidate search will begin. If there is no External Vice President or the External Vice President does not wish to become the President, then the Internal Vice President of the SUA shall serve as the interim President while a campus-wide search for President candidates is undertaken.
 - a. The Internal Vice President shall relinquish the role of President when the Student Union Assembly confirms a new President following a campus-wide search, as well until a candidate can be selected, after the search for a new President.
 - b. At the newly confirmed President's or the SUA's discretion, they may opt to keep the Internal Vice President in the role of President for a maximum of two (2) weeks following their confirmation for the purpose of ensuring a seamless transition of power.
8. If the vacancy occurs within 14 calendar days prior to the Sspring election, the position will not be filled on a temporary basis. The person elected shall take office immediately upon certification of election results by the SUA Elections Commissioner and the President shall assume the duties of the vacant office until that time.
9. If an Executive Officer-elect other than the President-elect chooses to not take office at the beginning of their term, the position will be offered to the candidate with next highest number of votes, provided that they received at least 30% of votes cast for that position. If they decline the position, it goes to the next candidate, and so on.
 - a. If no candidate that received at least 30% of the votes cast wants to take the position, it shall be filled by appointment as outlined in this section. The President shall assume the duties of the vacant office until it is filled.
 - b. If the President-elect chooses to not take office at the beginning of their term, the position will be offered to the Vice President-elect of Internal Affairs. If they decline the position, it shall be offered successively to the Vice Presidents-elect, in the order they are enumerated in this constitution.
 - i. The Vice President position vacated by this provision shall be filled by appointment, as outlined in this section. The President shall assume the duties of the vacant office until it is filled.
 - ii. If no Vice President-elect wishes to become President, the presidency shall be filled by appointment, as outlined in this section. The Vice President of Internal Affairs shall assume the duties of the presidency until the office is filled.

Section G. Recall, Procedures and Re-election of Student Union Assembly Members:

1. Any Executive Officer of the SUA may be subject to a recall process through either a three-fourths (3/4) vote by the SUA in the presence of quorum or through a petition of at least one hundred (100) registered undergraduate students where there are at least ten (10) student signatures from students affiliated with each college, excluding those students who hold the position of Chair of the respective college's student government.
 - a. Upon the approval of the minutes for which the vote took place or the certification of the petition, the SUA Executive Officer in question shall have the option to immediately step down before the process continues. If they choose to do so, the process ends and the position is filled via the relevant vacancy procedure as outlined in Article III, Section F.
 - b. If the Executive Officer refuses to step down, the SUA Parliamentarian shall instruct both the party requesting a recall and the Executive Officer to create written statements making their cases before the student body.
 - i. If the SUA Parliamentarian cannot maintain impartiality on the issue of recall, either by their own admission or a two-thirds majority vote of the SUA, the responsibilities assigned to them in this section shall instead be afforded to the President, Internal Vice President, or External Vice President as determined by the SUA.
 - c. The SUA Parliamentarian shall be responsible for sending both written statements to campus media, each college student government, and each student organization on campus within one (1) week of receiving the statements.
 - d. Upon the distribution of the statements, every college student government and every student organization that holds a voting seat on the SUA shall be apportioned one (1) vote. The vote must be submitted to the SUA Parliamentarian in addition to the minutes for which the vote was undertaken.
 - i. Abstentions regarding this vote shall not be counted in favor of or against a recall.
 - e. If a simple majority (half plus one) of votes are in favor of the recall, the Executive Officer is recalled and is forced to relinquish their position within the SUA. Otherwise, the Executive Officer survives the recall.
 - i. The result of the recall vote shall be likewise submitted to campus media, each college government, and each student organization.
 - ii. The result shall include the vote for each college government and student organization that holds voting power within the SUA.
 - iii. If the Executive Officer is recalled, the process outlined in Article III, Section F shall be immediately followed to fill the vacancy.
 - f. If more than three Executive Officers have been recalled, a school-wide special election is held.
 - g. ~~A recall convention for any Executive Officer may be called by a three-fourths (3/4) vote of the SUA. At this convention, each college government chair, each voting organization chair, and one officer chosen by the remaining officers shall each have one vote. Once the case for removal of the officer has been presented and appropriate time has been allowed for rebuttal, a vote shall be taken. If a simple majority of the college government chairs, the organization chairs and the Officers' delegation vote to remove the Officer, then the Officer shall relinquish their position immediately. The procedure listed in Article III, Section F shall be followed to fill the vacancy.~~
2. The Parliamentarian of the SUA (Article II, Section B1) may be recalled by three-fourths (3/4) of the SUA voting membership, after one week's notice.
3. Elected College Representatives (Article II, Section B3.i) may be recalled by three-fourths (3/4) of the SUA voting membership.

4. Elected College Representatives (Article II, Section B3.i) may also be recalled by the students of their respective college in a recall election. A recall election will be held if twenty percent (20%) of the students in the representative's college petition for an election to occur. The recall ballot would ask if the representative should be removed and shall only be voted on by students of that college. If a majority of the students voting in the recall election vote to remove the representative, that representative shall relinquish their position immediately. The procedure listed in Article III, Section F.4 shall be followed to replace the representative.
5. Other college representatives (Article II, Section B3.iii) can be removed from office by their respective college government.
6. Organization representatives (Article II, section B4) may be removed from office by their respective organization

Article IV. RELATIONSHIP OF BETWEEN THE COLLEGE GOVERNMENTS COLLEGE GOVERNMENTS, STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS, WITH AND THE STUDENT UNION ASSEMBLY

Section A. Jurisdiction of the College Governments:

1. Due to the expertise of the college governments on issues inside their colleges and the personal contact of the college government members to members of the college, the college governments shall continue to have full jurisdiction on the issues within their college.
2. The college governments shall handle issues relating to their college activities and policies.
3. The college government shall distribute college membership fees.
4. The college governments shall appoint their representative to the Academic Senate.
5. The college government may request assistance of the SUA on any issue to protect and assure the rights and needs of students.
6. Authority of the Student Union Assembly is recognized by the Regents of the University of California, the Chancellor of the University of California, Santa Cruz. Membership is strengthened by the participation of the college governments and organizations to the Student Union Assembly.

Section B. Jurisdiction of the Student Organizations

1. Due to the expertise that student organizations possess in matters related to their spaces, those student organizations shall continue to have full jurisdiction on the issues that impact their cause and purpose.
2. Student Organizations shall be considered an invaluable ally to the SUA and their participation within SUA shall be prioritized.
3. Student Organizations may, regardless of voting status, request assistance from the SUA on any issue to protect and assure the rights of their members and fellow students.

Section C. Right of Dissent

1. College Governments and Student Organizations shall have the right to dissent from a decision made by the Student Union Assembly.
2. If a College Government or Student Organization wishes to publicly express their dissent towards a SUA decision, they may submit a statement of dissent to the SUA President and Parliamentarian.
 - a. A Statement of Dissent shall be considered valid if it is officiated by the space, signed by the leadership or membership of the space, details the SUA decision, and provides the rationale for dissent.
 - b. A valid Statement of Dissent shall either accompany written publication of a SUA decision or any written publication of a SUA decision shall note the dissenting space.
 - c. A Statement of Dissent can be recalled by the issuing space in a manner according to the space's rules, a notice submitted to the SUA President and Parliamentarian shall be sufficient to recall a Statement of Dissent.

Article V. COMMITTEES OF THE STUDENT UNION ASSEMBLY

Section A. Actions:

1. Any action, resolution, charge, stance, or motion of a standing committee, subcommittee, ad-hoc committee, task force, board, or commission may be overturned by a 2/3rd vote of the voting membership of the SUA.
 - a. Procedural actions are not subject to being overturned.

Section B. Standing Committees:

1. The Student Outreach Committee: Facilitates the outreach to the Student Body, and creates and distributes publicity to inform students of the issues of SUA. The committee should sponsor campus-wide programming and educational events related to SUA issues.
2. The Diversity Commission: Facilitates the overview and tracking of all issues of diversity at UCSC.
3. Student Committee on Committees: Facilitates the appointment and tracking of all student representatives to campus-wide committees, including and administrative committees.
 - a. The Internal Vice President shall serve as the Chair of the SCOC.
 - b. The Internal Vice President shall serve as the Chair of the SCOC. b. Each College Government shall have the right to appoint one voting representative to the SCOC.
4. The Student Academic Senate Committee: Works to establish common goals among all the colleges and talk about academic and university policy to promote academic progress.
5. The Finance Board: Promotes fiscal sustainability of the SUA through continued oversight of expenses and funding practices to ensure responsible use of funds afforded to the SUA.
 - a. The President shall serve as the Chair of the Finance Board.
 - b. Each College Government shall have the right to appoint one voting representative to the Finance Board.
 - c. The Board will maintain accurate fiscal and spending information from both the Assembly and the Executive to ensure transparency and assess the budget allocations for future years.
6. The SUA is empowered to create additional committees, subcommittees as well as ad hoc committees as it deems necessary.
7. The SUA shall determine the rules and procedures for all committees, subcommittees, and task forces.
8. ~~College wide elected officials are required to sit on logistical committees for the Student Union Assembly. One shall sit on the Lobby Corps headed by the External and Internal Affairs Vice Presidents; one shall sit on an Organizing/Volunteer Corps headed by the Vice President of Student Life. Appointed representatives and organization representatives do not have sit on the Lobby Corps or Organizing/Volunteer Corps, but can if they decide to on their own.~~

Article VI. ~~CONSTITUTIONAL INTERPRETATION COMMISSION~~ JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF THE STUDENT UNION ASSEMBLY

Section A. Purpose:

1. To provide interpretation of the e governing documents is constitution in the event of a constitutional crisis and recommend amendments of this ~~Constitution~~ e governing documents to the SUA.
 - i. Constitutional crisis is defined as a disagreement over the interpretation of a specific Article, section or subsection within the Constitution, Bylaws, or other adopted legislation of the Student Union Assembly (SUA).

2. To investigate SUA member conduct when reported violations of the Code of Conduct occur and recommend a course of action following such investigation.
 - i. The SUA Code of Conduct and recommended actions to take prior to the activation of the Judicial Council shall be articulated in the SUA Bylaws.
3. To report on the validity of decisions made by the SUA, its members, committees, subcommittees, and task forces.
4. ~~Constitutional crisis is considered a disagreement over the interpretation of a specific Article, section or subsection within the Constitution of the Student Union Assembly (SUA).~~

Section B. Composition Membership and Selection

1. The overall responsibility for selecting members of the SUA Judicial Council shall be vested in the Student Committee on Committees (SCOC).
 - a. The SCOC shall develop criteria for membership that includes but is not limited to:
 - i. Proficient understanding of the SUA Governing Documents
 - ii. Capacity to make decisions in a multicultural space with the understanding that enduring institutions of white supremacy and discrimination both exist and are reinforced on this campus.
 - iii. Demonstrated capacity for or experience in:
 1. Holding institutions of power accountable for their (in)actions.
 2. Holding individuals in power accountable for their (in)actions.
 3. Having been in a situation where they were the vocal minority and they held true to what they believed to be right despite some source of adversity or pressure.
2. The ~~commission council~~ shall be composed of the following voting members;
 - a. ~~One elected college representative of each college at UCSC~~ Two (2) members or officers of a student government.
 - b. Two (2) members or officers of a student organization.
 - c. Two (2) members of the Undergraduate Student Body who do not hold a position within the SUA, its committees, subcommittees, commissions, nor task forces.
 - d. ~~The voting representative from each of the student organizations with a vote in SUA.~~
 - e. The Parliamentarian of the SUA
3. ~~The commission shall be composed of the following non-voting ex-officio members;~~
 - a. ~~The President of the SUA~~
 - b. ~~The Vice President of Internal Affairs~~
 - c. ~~The Vice President of External Affairs~~
 - d. ~~The Vice President of Student Life~~
 - e. ~~The Vice President Diversity~~
 - f. ~~The Vice President of Academic Affairs formidable~~

Section C. ~~Powers, Responsibilities and Procedures: Activation~~

~~The Parliamentarian shall chair the commission.~~

- ~~1. The Commission shall only meet in the event of a constitutional crisis, as defined in Article VI, Section A.2.~~
2. The ~~Judicial Council~~Commission shall be convened by the request of any of the following;
 - a. A 2/3 vote of the SUA voting membership.
 - b. A 2/3 vote of the college governments, rounded up.
 - c. A 2/3 vote of the voting student organizations, rounded up.
 - d. A petition signed by 10% of the undergraduate student body that must include the following in order to be valid:
 - i. A statement on the top of each page of the petition that reads one of the following:says
 - a. "We, the undersigned undergraduate students of the University of California Santa Cruz call for the Student Union Assembly (SUA), which is the undergraduate campus-wide student government, to convene ~~a Constitutional Interpretation Commission~~the Judicial Council to ~~review the~~review the interpretation of Article (Number), or Section (Letter), or subsection (Number/Letter), which reads (disputed part of constitution). The SUA's interpretation(s) of this section are: (List all interpretations from the SUA) As (State name(s) and/or student organization(s)) my/our interpretation is/are as follows: (List complaint interpretation) As there appears to be a disagreement over the interpretation, I call for ~~thea~~ SUA ~~Constitutional Interpretation Commission~~Judicial Council in accordance with Article VI, Section A ~~of~~in the SUA Constitution to be convened to determine the final interpretation."
 - b. "We, the undersigned undergraduate students of the University of California Santa Cruz call for the Student Union Assembly (SUA), which is the undergraduate campus-wide student government, to convene the Judicial Council to review the conduct of (SUA Member). We request that the Judicial Council determine if (Reported Conduct) is in line with the SUA Governing Documents, specifically (Section Where Potential Violation Exists).
 - c. "We, the undersigned undergraduate students of the University of California Santa Cruz call for the Student Union Assembly (SUA), which is the undergraduate campus-wide student government, to convene the Judicial Council to review the constitutionality of (SUA Decision). We request that the Judicial Council determine if the decision made by the SUA is in line with the SUA Constitution. Specifically, (Governing Document Language Potentially Contesting SUA Decision).
 - ii. ~~The~~ petition must include a printed name, signature, student I.D. number, college, and college box number for each person who signs, in order to be valid.
 - iii. In order to be valid, the petition must also include a section for phone and email address. This information would be listed as optional, but must be on the petition.
5. The ~~commission~~Judicial Council will automatically convene if there is a conflict of interpretation between SUA and University administration, following the procedures laid out for a constitutional crisis.

Section D. Procedures

1. The SUA Bylaws shall be invested the authority to clarify and expand upon the procedures established by this section.
2. Except for in cases of impeachment, the standard of evidence utilized in making judgments shall be by preponderance of evidence.
 - i. As defined, the Judicial Council shall determine if a violation of the SUA Governing Documents more likely than not occurred.
3. The SUA Parliamentarian shall serve as the chair of the Judicial Council.
 - i. The Chair shall be responsible for distributing resources, informing members, scheduling meetings, securing a private location, and receiving information from sources around campus as needed.
4. The Judicial Council shall meet no less than once a month when not officially convened.
 - i. In the case that there is no material to discuss, the meeting shall consist of refresher training on the SUA Governing Documents and/or Robert's Rules of Order led by the Parliamentarian. The meeting shall also be made open to the public.
5. Members of the Judicial Council who believe that they possess a conflict of interest shall be required to recuse themselves from the Judicial Council temporarily.
 - i. A conflict of interest is defined for the purpose of this section as the presence of beliefs, opinions, or bias that may prevent one from conducting themselves with impartiality.
 - ii. When a vacancy in the Judicial Council occurs due to the recusal of a Judicial Council member, the SUA shall be endowed with the authority to appoint a replacement as soon as possible.
 - a. The replacement shall only serve in the Judicial Council for the current issue.
6. When the Judicial Council is called to meet, the meetings shall be considered closed session.
 - i. During closed session, members of the Judicial Council may take personal notes for their reference. These notes may not be distributed under any circumstance.
7. Any decision of the Judicial Council shall be made by a simple majority vote.
 - i. During final votes that are considered a decision of the Judicial Council, no member may be permitted to abstain.
 - ii. Votes of the Judicial Council shall be tallied to the Chair.
 - iii. The identities of Judicial Council members who have voted shall remain anonymous.
8. The decision of the Judicial Council may not be overturned in cases where the Judicial Council has been convened to resolve a constitutional crisis.
 - i. The Judicial Council shall draft and publish a document detailing the rationale of their decision to the SUA.
9. If the Judicial Council is convened to determine the constitutionality of a member's conduct or a decision made by the SUA, the Judicial Council shall render one of four possible judgments:
 - i. Constitutional – The Judicial Council upholds the conduct or decision as valid and in line with the SUA Governing Documents.
 - ii. Unconstitutional – The Judicial Council asserts that the conduct or decision did violate some component(s) of the SUA Governing Documents.
 - a. In this case, the Judicial Council shall list all known violations, the rationale for its determination, and a recommendation for restorative action to the SUA.
 - b. The SUA Judicial Council shall not be construed to have the authority to unilaterally implement restorative actions as elaborated upon in Section E.

- iii. Constitutionally Irrelevant – The Judicial Council determines that the conduct or decision is not relevant nor adequately covered by the SUA Governing Documents.
 - iv. Insufficient Information – The Judicial Council determines that it does not have sufficient information to render one of the three above listed judgments.
10. In any judgment, the Judicial Council shall provide their opinion, concurring opinions, and any dissenting opinions to the public.
- i. All opinions rendered to the public from the Judicial Council shall be submitted anonymously.
11. As the result of any judgment, the Judicial Council shall be empowered to likewise provide recommendations to the SUA.
- i. Recommendations for the SUA may include proposed amendments, institutional changes, restorative actions, or other material that the Judicial Council wishes to submit to the SUA for consideration.
 - ii. The scope of permitted recommendations shall be dictated by the SUA Bylaws.
12. Elements of the Judicial Council meetings that are not dictated herein shall be relegated to the SUA Bylaws as appropriate.

Section E. Checks and Balances

1. The Judicial Council shall exist within a system of checks and balances to guarantee that no one group of individuals has overwhelming power within the Student Union Assembly.
2. Check by Students and Assembly: The Judicial Council may only be convened as outlined within Section C.
3. Check on Implementation: The Judicial Council shall submit their judgment and recommendation to the Student Union Assembly. If the Judicial Council found that the conduct or decision was unconstitutional, they may recommend that the questioned decision of the SUA be annulled or restorative action assigned of intensity not exceeding the impeachment of a member of the SUA.
 - i. Any recommendation by the Judicial Council shall be voted on by the SUA, who may pass the recommendation by a 2/3 majority vote.
 - ii. Alternatively, the SUA may vote down the recommendation and offer a new action that may be similarly approved by a 2/3 majority vote.
 - a. The new action recommended by the SUA may not include Impeachment.
 - iii. If the SUA fails to achieve sufficient consensus to commit to a specific action, the recommendations of the Judicial Council shall not be put into effect.

Section F. Impeachment

1. The recommendations of the Judicial Council may include, at the maximum severity, the removal of a SUA member from office. When this case is considered by the Judicial Council, the Chair shall note that the Judicial Council should proceed with extreme caution.
 - i. In making this recommendation, the Judicial Council shall demonstrate that the violations of a SUA member amounted to significant and harmful violations of the SUA Governing Documents that either:
 - a. Were harmful to the Student Body of UCSC.
 - b. Threatened the safety of any student or student-run organization at UCSC.
 - c. Substantially violated the purpose for which the SUA exists. (Article I)
 - d. Consisted of gross negligence, corruption, falsification, discrimination, or hate.

- ii. In making this recommendation, the Judicial Council shall ensure that the information gathered is accurate and correct.
 - iii. In making this recommendation, the Judicial Council shall determine if a violation of the nature detailed in (i) occurred beyond a reasonable doubt.
2. As with any other recommendation, the Checks and Balances noted in Section E shall be enforced in cases of Impeachment.
 3. If the SUA enforces the recommendation, the SUA Parliamentarian may call an emergency recess (non-debatable, non-objectable) to guarantee the following actions take place:
 - i. The space that the former SUA member represents shall immediately be notified by the SUA Parliamentarian.
 - ii. The impeached member shall forfeit all duties, responsibilities, and authority.
 - iii. The SUA Advisor and Executive Board shall take immediate steps to ensure that the impeached member no longer has access to sensitive SUA resources.
 - iv. If the safety of the space is threatened by the presence of the impeached member, they may be asked to leave regardless of whether or not the SUA is in closed session.
 - a. Alternatively, the remaining SUA agenda items may be tabled to the following meeting in the interest of member safety.
1. ~~The decision of the Commission shall be made by 2/3-majority vote.~~
 2. ~~The decision of the Commission shall be considered the SUA's final decision.~~
 - a. ~~The voting membership of the SUA may not overturn this decision.~~

Article VII. FISCAL MATTERS

Section A. Fiscal Authority:

1. The SUA shall have authority over all the budgets of the SUA or any of its committees, subcommittees, and task forces.
 - a. The SUA must approve a budget in spring for the following academic year
 - b. The President has overall responsibility for proper fiscal management of the Student Union Assembly.
 - c. The Internal Vice President shall be responsible for other financial matters as assigned by the SUA, the President or the bylaws.
 - i. The budget of the Student Union assembly shall be public to anyone in accordance with campus policies and law.
 - d. The SUA may specify in the bylaws restrictions on the use of SUA funds
 - e. The SUA Budget shall be reviewed by the voting membership of the SUA by the 5th week of the Spring Quarter to be ratified by the 9th or 10th week of quarter. If this does not occur, the Student Union Assembly must meet in emergency session, including going into summer session until a budget is passed.

Article VIII. CONSTITUTIONAL SUPREMACY

Section A. Supremacy:

1. This Constitution shall be the supreme governing document of the Student Union Assembly. All bylaws and regulations of the Student Union Assembly shall be inferior to this Constitution.

Article IX. STUDENT UNION ASSEMBLY BYLAWS

Section A. Purpose:

1. The SUA bylaws shall supplement this constitution by establishing such boards, councils, committees, subcommittees, and task forces the SUA deems necessary. The bylaws shall enumerate powers, duties, and rules pertaining to these boards, councils, committees, subcommittees, and task forces. The bylaws shall also lay out procedures governing the function and/or activities described in the constitution, and may assign additional duties to the Officers and Representatives.

Section B. Amendments and Procedures:

1. A two-thirds (2/3) vote of the SUA shall be necessary to ratify, modify, or suspend portions of the bylaws.
2. One-week notice must be given to the Assembly before amendments, creation or removal of any bylaws.

Article X. AMENDMENTS OF THIS CONSTITUTION

Section A. Procedures:

1. An amendment to this Constitution may be proposed by either a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the SUA, two-thirds (2/3) of the college governments (rounded up), or petition signed by at least ten-percent (10%) of all registered undergraduate students and shall be taken to a vote in accordance with Article III, Section B.1.
2. Approval of any amendment requires a simple majority where twenty-percent (20%) of the Student Body, the undergraduate students of UCSC has voted on the amendment measure. If adopted, the amendment shall take effect on the date specified in the amendment, or if no date is specified, immediately upon confirmation of election results by the Elections Commissioner of the Student Union Assembly.
3. Proposed amendments cannot be approved by the SUA, a student petition, or college government during Summer Session.
4. Whenever the constitution is amended, an annotation of the date on which the amendment is adopted shall be placed at the end of the "as amended" section of this Constitution.
5. If two (2) or more conflicting amendments are passed simultaneously, all nonconflicting parts shall be enacted and the conflicting part(s) of the measure receiving the highest number of votes shall be enacted.
6. Typographical, grammatical, or formatting changes to this constitution shall not be considered an amendment, and may be proposed by the Executive to the voting membership of the SUA.
 - a. If a consensus of the voting membership of the SUA does not confirm the proposed changes as typographical, grammatical, or formatting, the voting membership can call the Constitutional Interpretation Commission (Article VI) to approve the proposal by consensus.
7. Anyone from the Student Union Assembly or Partnerships can call for a Constitutional Emergency for amendments to the Constitution and bylaws without a campus wide vote until a campus wide election can be run. SUA requires a 2/3rd's vote from the Student Union Assembly, and then majority vote (50% + 1) of the Partnerships of the Student Union Assembly (Engaging Education, Campus Sustainability Council and the Student Committees on Committees) in order for an amendment to be considered. A 2/3rd's vote is then required of the SUA body in order to pass.
8. A "Partnership" is a taskforce or a standing committee that is a part of the SUA.

Article XI. TRANSITION

Section A. Procedures:

- 1.** All pre-existing bylaws and regulations that do not conflict with new constitutional amendments shall remain in effect.
- 2.** If a new elected position is created by a constitutional amendment, an interim appointment shall be made as specified in Article III Section E.2 until the next SUA election is held, unless otherwise stated in the amendment.
- 3.** If an elected position is eliminated by a constitutional amendment in the same election as that position is filled, the winner of that election shall remain in office for the specified term.
- 4.** All approved changes to the constitution shall be completed by the Spring Quarter Election of the next year. In order to ensure updated constitution to the student body, all changes to the Constitution must be completed/changed by the SUA to be presented to the entire student body two months after the results of the election are given through the website and paper documentation.

Article XII. Adopted: May 1985

Article XIII. As Amended: May 1988

Article XIV. As Amended: May 1995

Article XV. As Amended: May 2002

Article XVI. As Amended: May 2003

Article XVII. As Amended: May 2005

Article XVIII. As Amended: May 2015

Article XIX. Last Amended: October 2015

Article XX. As Amended: May 2019