Kresge Student Parliament Constitution

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ARTICLE I: FUNCTIONS OF THE KRESGE STUDENT PARLIAMENT

Section I: The Kresge Student Parliament, as a political body, (hereafter referred to as “the Parliament”) shall serve as the official voice of the Kresge College student community. It is the responsibility of the Kresge Parliament members to be open and courteous to the ideas and people that come before them in an attempt to best represent the community and the Kresge Statement of Ethics.

Section II: The Kresge Parliament shall:

A: Discuss and formulate opinions, decisions, and political ideas that directly affect the Kresge community. Serve as a forum for the discussion of topics that directly affect the Kresge community, and that are presented to the Parliament by students, faculty, and staff.

B: Serve as a forum for political decisions and actions regarding issues pertinent to the Kresge community. Work together to formulate a unified stance that accurately reflects the collective will of the Kresge Student Body and vote accordingly whenever serving as representatives of the students, to the best of their ability.

C: Elect officers to Parliament and appoint members to college committees. Elect Officials within the Parliament to assist in the weekly operations of the Parliament.

D: Elect members to represent the Kresge Student Body on both Kresge College and campus-wide committees.

E: Allocate funds of Parliament.

ARTICLE II: MEMBERSHIP IN THE KRESGE STUDENT PARLIAMENT

Section I: Membership in the Kresge Student Parliament is limited to currently registered and enrolled students of the University of California, Santa Cruz who are affiliated with Kresge College.
Section II: All students of Kresge College are voting members provided that they are eligible to become voting members in the Parliament.

A: Have attended at least two consecutive meetings of the Kresge Parliament in the current academic quarter. Voting rights are attained at the commencement of the second consecutive meeting of the Parliament attended by the student in the current academic year.

    AND

B: Have not missed four consecutive meetings of the Kresge Parliament. Voting rights are lost when a voting member has missed four or more consecutive meetings of the Parliament in the current academic year. Voting rights may be regained in accordance with Article II, Section II, Subsection A.

Section III: All members of the Kresge student body, regardless of voting status, have the right to speak at Parliament.

ARTICLE III: OFFICERS OF OFFICIALS OF THE PARLIAMENT

Section I: The Kresge Student Parliament shall elect from among its members the following Executives:

A: Chair (or co-chair) who is responsible for: coordinating and distributing the agenda for each meeting to the membership and to the administrator, no later than 48 hours (two days) before the meeting is scheduled to take place; facilitating the deliberations of the Kresge the Parliament; and ensuring the voting process. The Chair is also responsible for involvement in summer and fall orientation and training must contribute personally in some way to all Parliament-run philanthropic drives during the period in which they serve. The Chair must also contribute personally to the Parliament’s student outreach efforts. It is recommended that the Chair has served at least two full quarters on the Parliament before being elected to the position, but it is not a requirement for the position. The Chair is, in no way, the official voice of Parliament.

B: A Vice Chair, who is responsible for: filling in for any absent Officials during meetings of the Parliament, including serving as the temporary Chair in the absence of the official Chair; ensuring that all activities of the Parliament function according to this constitution; declaring all unconstitutional activities as such; being able to provide copies of this consti-
stitution for all members and guests of the Parliament; and assisting the Chair whenever possible. The Vice Chair also has the option of convening a Constitutional Congress, as outlined in Article IX, Section I. It is recommended that the Vice Chair has served at least two full quarters on the Parliament before being elected to the position, but it is not a requirement for the position.

Section II: The Parliament shall elect from among its members the following Officers:

A: A Treasurer, who is responsible for: attending to the finances of the Parliament, including submitting a weekly Treasurer’s report to be distributed before each meeting; maintaining the official financial ledger of the Parliament; reporting to the Parliament regarding these finances; notifying funding requesters of their financial status; and serving as the temporary Chair in the absence of the official Chair both executives.

B: A Secretary who is responsible for: recording the proceedings of Kresge the Parliament; posting these minutes publicly, and distributing copies of the minutes to the student governments of all colleges and the following Kresge staff: College Administrative Officer, Provost, College Program Coordinator, Residential Life Coordinators, Academic Preceptors and Advisers and the Kresge Receptionist. It is also the responsibility of the secretary to make the minutes available to be posted online. Chair and Advisor. The minutes must be posted online and posted physically in the Kresge Mail Room. The minutes must be submitted no later than 96 hours (four days) after each meeting has taken place.

C: An Outreach Officer (1-2 positions), who is responsible for: publicly displaying the agenda for the upcoming meeting no later than 24 hours (one day) before the meeting is scheduled to take place; controlling all online outreach efforts made by the Parliament, including but not limited to the Parliament’s Facebook page and website; and creating as well as publicly displaying (after simple-majority approval by the Parliament) posters/brochures/pamphlets/flyers/etc., both physical and digital, to increase membership in the Parliament and to make the public more aware of the Parliament’s activities. The Outreach Officer may request permission from the Chair to create an Outreach Committee to delegate outreach efforts as they see fit, provided that any Outreach Committees formed hold no more than five members total; the Outreach Officer will be acting Chair of any Outreach Committees that are formed.
D: A Transfer Community Representative, who is responsible for: accurately representing the voice the Kresge Transfer Students living in the Transfer Community at Porter College and elsewhere on campus, and expressing their collective ideas, thoughts, and concerns. It is recommended that the Transfer Community Representative either currently live in the transfer community or be a Kresge Transfer Student themselves, but it is not a requirement for the position. The Transfer Community Representative must actively reach out to Kresge Transfer Students for input by meeting at least once per quarter with a transfer community CA.

Section III: The Chair may appoint from among the members of Parliament the following Chiefs:

A: A Chief of Current Affairs, who is responsible for: giving a short brief on current affairs, both within the UCSC campus and nationwide, during the announcements at each regular meeting of the Parliament.

B: A Chief of Nutrition, who is responsible for: attending weekly dining meetings and reporting back to the Parliament.

Section IV: The requirements for holding an office of Kresge Parliament are as follows To hold an Executive, Officer, or Representative position in the Parliament, one must:

A: Be a voting member of Kresge Student Parliament

AND

B: Be elected by a majority plurality of the voting members in attendance, each member being allowed one vote,

AND

C: Take the responsibility to attend all regularly scheduled Kresge Parliament meetings of the Parliament.

Section V: Elections Official positions will be held filled as follows:

A: The following year’s Chair Executives will be elected during the spring quarter at a time determined by the Kresge Parliament, but no later than the second-to-last meeting of the year.
B: Secretary and Treasurer: The Officers for the current academic year will be elected at the second meeting of each fall quarter, along with any and all representatives to Kresge College and campus-wide committees.

C: Chiefs may be appointed by the Chair at any time, provided that all other non-Chief Official positions have been filled. Any appointments made by the Chair may be overturned by a simple majority vote, in which case the Chair may either appoint a different member to the vacant position; call for an election to fill the vacant position in accordance with Article III, Section IV; or leave the position vacant. The Chair may choose to call for an election, rather than appoint a member of his/her choosing, if there are multiple viable candidates for a Chief position. If a Chief is elected rather than appointed, they are officially an Officer of the Parliament, and all regulations in this document governing the behavior of Officer positions applies to the elected Chief(s) as well.

Section IV: Officers of the Parliament may be challenged for their seats at any time during any quarter, by any voting member, provided that two-thirds of the voting members present support an election. The election to remove between the challenged officer Official and any/all challengers will take place at the following meeting.

Section VII: Any Executive, Officer, or Representative of Parliament may step down from their position for any reason at any time. An election for that office will commence to fill the newly vacated position will be held at the following meeting in accordance with Article III, Section IV.

Section VIII: Any Chief of the Parliament may step down from their position for any reason at any time, in which case the Chair may either appoint a different member to the vacant position; call for an election to fill the vacant position in accordance with Article III, Section IV; or leave the position vacant.

Section IX: If either of the Executive positions cannot be filled in accordance with Article III, Section V, the position will be filled in interim by the most senior member of the Parliament. If both positions are vacant, priority is given to filling the position of Chair. If there exists only one viable candidate for either position, they are to be automatically appointed until a long term candidate can be found. If there exists two or more candidates for interim Chair or Vice Chair based on their equal seniority, an election will be held between them, and they will hold their positions until a long term candidate can be found. Once a long
term candidate has been found, they must be elected in accordance with Article III, Section IV.

Section X: Any Officer position that cannot be filled in accordance with Article III, Section V, will be filled in interim by members appointed by the Chair; any appointments made by the Chair may be overturned by a simple majority vote, in which case the Chair will appoint a different member to the vacant position in interim. If there are no viable candidates for the position, the duties fall to the Vice Chair until another interim or permanent candidate for the position can be found. Once a long term candidate has been found, they must be elected in accordance with Article III, Section IV.

ARTICLE IV: CAMPUS-WIDE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PARLIAMENT

Section I: Each appointed campus representative must be elected by Parliament in accordance with Article III, Sections II, IV, VI, and VII. Each appointee is responsible for representing the needs, concerns, and values of Kresge. They are to vote and act in accordance with official decisions and opinions of the Kresge community as voiced through the Parliament and are to report back to Parliament on a regular basis.

Section II: Kresge The Parliament should appoint three members as representatives to the Student Union Assembly, or three if the circumstances are such that there is no representative elected by the Kresge Student Body.

Section III: Kresge The Parliament should appoint one member as a representative to the University Core Council.

Section IV: Kresge The Parliament should appoint one member as a representative to the Academic Senate.

Section V: Kresge The Parliament should appoint one member as a representative to the Student Committee on Committees.

Section VI: Kresge The Parliament should appoint one member as a representative to the Student Union Governance Board.

Section VII: Kresge The Parliament should appoint members to any future campus wide organizations requesting Kresge representation, or any organization within which Kresge wishes to be represented.
Section VIII: The Kresge Student Parliament may appoint alternates to any of the preceding positions and/or appoint a voting member to fulfill the position in an emergency situation.

ARTICLE V: PROCEDURES FOR KRESGE THE PARLIAMENT

Section I: The Kresge Student Parliament shall meet weekly throughout each quarter of the academic year with the exception of finals week, and the one week each quarter when Town Hall Meetings are held in another location at which time Parliament may elect to have a meeting. The Parliament may vote to cancel any future meetings.

Section II: A quorum of Kresge the Parliament, consisting of no less than six voting members, must exist at all times in order to conduct official business.

Section III: The Kresge Student Parliament may establish such committees as deemed necessary to effectively conduct their affairs.

Section IV: Official guests recognized by Parliament shall have the right to speak.

Section V: All proposals shall be given adequate time for presentation and questioning prior to any deliberations or voting.

Section VI: Non-Kresge students may be present for proposal presentations and initial questioning, but shall be required to leave for the deliberations and voting.

Section VII: Parliament shall operate on a dual-consensus system. Each proposal will be discussed individually. Before a motion may be offered unanimous consent from Parliament, conclusion of the general discussion must be reached. Once a motion has been placed before Parliament by a voting member and seconded by a like member, then the motion offered and only the motion offered may be deliberated by the Parliament. If the motion is approved, it becomes the official position of the Parliament. If the motion is rejected, another motion may be offered in a like manner as the first. In deliberating a motion, a voting member of Parliament may act in one of the following ways.... Each proposal placed before the Parliament shall be discussed individually. After the Chair has made a call for discussion of the proposal at hand, a motion may be offered by any voting member of the Parliament at any time. Once a motion has been placed before Parliament by a voting member, the Chair shall call for a second by a like member. Once a motion has been made and seconded, the Chair shall call for discussion of that motion and only that motion. Once
discussion has concluded, the Chair shall call for a vote in accordance with Article V, Section VIII. If the motion is approved, it becomes the official position of the Parliament. If the motion is rejected, another motion may be offered in a like manner as the first.

Section VIII: In deliberating a motion, a voting member of Parliament may act in one of the following ways:

A: A voting member may consent to vote in favor of the motion in which case the member supports the passage of the motion.

B: A voting member may vote in opposition to the motion in which case the member does not support the passage of the motion.

C: A voting member may abstain from the vote in which case the member neither voices approval nor disproval of the motion yet is allowing the motion to pass by remaining in quorum.

D: A voting member may stand aside from the vote in which case the member is extracting themselves from quorum for the vote at hand.

Section IX: A motion that was blocked the preceding week is subject to a majority vote after discussion has concluded. At any point during a discussion, a voting member may make a motion to table the discussion until the following meeting; any matter tabled by the Parliament is subject to a majority vote after discussion has concluded.

Section X: If any matter brought before the Parliament ends in a tie vote:

A: The Chair will cast the tie-breaker vote, provided that the Chair has not already cast a vote in favor of or in opposition to the motion at hand.

OR

B: The Advisor will cast the tie-breaker vote, provided that the Chair has already cast a vote in favor of or in opposition to the motion at hand.
ARTICLE VI: FUNDING AND FINANCIAL ALLOCATION

Section I: Allocated funds should be for the promotion and benefit of the Kresge community with priority given to events held at Kresge or supporting events organized by the students or staff of Kresge. All events sponsored by Kresge Parliament should be oriented towards building community, whether local or global, promoting multicultural awareness, community outreach or education.

Section II: Kresge Parliament will fund the following:

A: Fall Orientation
B: Graduation
C: College Programs Office
D: Spring College Event – PRIDE Day
E: Parliament Development

Section III: There exist particular events and activities that Kresge has consistently supported through successive Parliaments; it is the view of Parliament that Kresge should continue this support. Such events and activities include: the Kresge Food Co-op, Women of Color Film Festival, Women’s Ensemble Theater, Kresge Friday Night Music Series, Kresge College Nights, Kresge End of the Year Dance and the Kresge Fall Film Festival, Kids at Kresge, the Queer Fashion Show, community service and outreach, and optional quarterly Town Hall Meetings.

Section IV: Kresge Parliament feels strongly that the following events and activities are beyond the responsibility of Parliament’s funding capabilities:

A: Activities and events sponsored by the Kresge Residential Life Office that fall within the realm of exclusive residential programming.
B: Senior projects that have not first gone to the Kresge Provost for funding and do not directly benefit the students of Kresge.
C: All allocations concerning the Kresge Core Course.
D: Food is not to be funded for events that do not necessitate the presence of food with the exception of Kresge events planned by Kresge Parliament for the purpose of outreach and retention.
E: Transportation is not to be funded for events unless a strong argument can be made that it would directly benefit the Kresge Community.

Section V: Certain guidelines have been deemed necessary by the Parliament in an effort to remain consistent and content neutral with regard to allocating funds. The following shall be taken into consideration when deliberating specific funding requests:

A: Past allocations made to the same or similar organizations.
B: The specific benefit to Kresge students that these funds will provide, compared to past like-requests.
C: The clarity, organization, and overall professionalism of the organization.
D: The current availability of funds.

ARTICLE VII: The Kresge Student Parliament This Constitution must shall be made available to all members of the Kresge Community at any time for review, discussion or alteration.

ARTICLE VIII: Amendments to the Constitution

Section I: If there is any amendment which two-thirds, fifty percent of the Parliament or no less than forty members of the Kresge student community wish to place before the Parliament or the community at-large, they may do so at any time.

Section II: If so presented, such proposals must be approved by three quarters of the voting members in attendance or by a simple majority of Kresge students; a minimum of twenty percent of the entire population voting being necessary to bind Parliament to the outcome of the vote.

ARTICLE IX: Standing Subcommittees of the Parliament as per Article V, Section III

Section I: The Constitutional Congress

A: The Vice Chair shall have the option of convening a Constitutional Congress when he or she feels that the Constitution must be amended for efficiency and/or clarity.
B: The Constitutional Congress will be chaired by the current Vice Chair of the Parliament, and will be filled by two-to-four additional members of the Parliament, which will be selected by the Vice Chair and approved by the Chair.

C: The Constitutional Congress must meet at least twice to discuss possible changes and alterations to the Parliament Constitution.

D: The Constitutional Congress will present their proposed alterations no later than the third-to-last meeting of the Parliament for discussion and deliberation; if no alterations are to be proposed, the Constitutional Congress will say so at that time.

Section II: Food Outreach Representing Kresge Students

A: The Chief of Nutrition shall attend UCSC dining meetings as the Parliament FORKS representative.

B: Other Parliamentarians may join the Chief of Nutrition if they wish.

C: FORKS shall report back to the Parliament regarding the weekly UCSC dining meetings.