Constitution
The United Student Association of South Seattle College

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South Seattle College does not discriminate against individuals on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, sex, disability, age, religion, honorably discharged veteran or military status, or sexual orientation.
ARTICLE I: PREAMBLE

The officers of the United Student Association (USA) are committed to nurturing our community by fostering a comfortable and supportive environment. We advocate for the needs and interests of the diverse student body at South Seattle College. We strive to accomplish this commitment by promoting and encouraging self-development, community involvement, and cultural sensitivity.

ARTICLE II: NAME

The name of this organization shall be the South Seattle College United Student Association, hereafter referred to as the "USA".

ARTICLE III: OBJECTIVE

The objective of the USA shall be to provide opportunities for students’ academic success, leadership activities, and to further the growth of student relations administration, faculty, staff, student population, and the community.

ARTICLE IV: AUTHORITY AND POWERS

1. Under Washington State Law, the Board of Trustees of South Seattle College (SCC) is charged with the ultimate authority and responsibility for all programs and services at SCC. The administration of the programs and services that are supported by the USA have been delegated by the District Board of Trustees with the guidance of the college administration. In acceptance of this authority and responsibility, USA will administer programs and funds in compliance with the rules and regulations prescribed by the College and the laws of the State of Washington as well as its right and responsibility to advocate on behalf of student interests.

2. The USA, constituting the governing body of the SSC student body, shall be empowered to act for the student body in matters of the government, activities, and finances of the USA. As
the governing body, the USA shall comply with the state open public meetings act to the 
extent required by RCW 42.30.200.

3. The USA shall consist of duly selected or appointed Officers, in full compliance with the 
USA Constitution and Bylaws. Every Officer shall have one vote. The Presiding Officer shall 
only vote to break a tie.

ARTICLE V: SELECTIONS

1. All students applying must be enrolled at minimum five credits while maintaining a 2.5 or 
above cumulative GPA at the time of application and during the entire term of employment.

2. All new USA members shall be selected through a selection process conducted by current 
USA members during the spring quarter. The incoming President & Vice President, Treasurer 
and Officers alike will take office prior to Fall Quarter.

3. Members of the United Student Association (USA) shall be selected in accordance with the 
conditions set forth in the USA Bylaws.

4. A Selection Committee shall be assembled as described in the Bylaws. The Selection 
Committee shall be responsible for administering the selection process with the support of the 
Student Life Staff.

5. The USA may appoint a new committee chairperson position at the request of said Committee, 
through the process laid out in Article VII.

6. A Selection Handbook with procedures and application shall be produced by Selection 
Committee and Student Government Advisor. Incomplete and/or late applications will not 
receive consideration.
ARTICLE VI: OFFICER COMPENSATION

Officers of the USA shall receive payment based on their duties and responsibilities, as defined in the Bylaws, while serving.

ARTICLE VII: SELECTED OFFICERS

1. The Student Body will select all officers annually in the spring as provided in Article VII, excepting provisions within subsection 2 of Article VI. The President, Vice President and USA officers shall serve a terms of one year, not to exceed two consecutive terms.

2. The USA reserves the right to make any appointments governing mid-term vacancies, as stipulated in Articles V and VIII. Any such appointment shall be in full compliance with this Constitution and USA Bylaws.

ARTICLE VIII: MID-TERM VACANCY

1. The USA shall determine if mid-term vacancies in officer positions will be filled. If so, the entire campus will be notified that a vacancy exists and that interested candidates may apply for the position.

2. In the case of vacancies, the USA reserves the right to appoint an officer in full compliance with this Constitution and USA Bylaws.

3. All applicants shall present themselves for an interview by the USA, or with a representative delegation of USA Officers following the application deadline. Applicants are expected to attend a mandatory informational meeting at which interview times and dates shall be provided. Interviews, with specific questions prepared in advance shall be conducted in an identical manner for each applicant.

4. All new Officers will participate in an appropriate orientation by the President & Vice President, and Student Life staff as appropriate.

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5. Any Officer resigning shall provide written notice of resignation to the USA President and the USA Advisor. Any vacancies must be announced to the USA no later than the next regularly scheduled USA meeting. Upon such notification, the USA both may immediately declare that position vacant and proceed to fill it by a mid-term selection or through the process detailed in subsection 2 of this Article.

ARTICLE IX: REMOVAL FROM OFFICE AND OTHER SANCTIONS

1. Failure to maintain the qualifications of office, as stated in the USA Bylaws, or within this Constitution, shall constitute sufficient cause for an Officer to be removed from office. Any action on the part of the USA to impose sanctions or remove any Officer from their post will require a 2/3 majority in the USA.

2. However, if it is determined that an Officer no longer meets the minimum qualifications (including student status, grade point average, and/or good conduct standing), the decision to remove from office will be the sole responsibility and discretion of the Dean of Student Life with input from the USA Advisor.

3. The USA may place any member on probation, for any cause deemed to be in violation of officer good conduct standards as stipulated by this Constitution and the USA Bylaws, or after ten (10) days absence from duty or 2 missed meetings without any excuse. A written report of any probation will promptly be presented to the USA for further review.

4. Any officer placed on probation may undergo reduction and/or cessation of any payment. An overview of Officer violations (within federal privacy restrictions) must accompany any request for steps taken to bring said Officer into compliance. The USA, in reference to this Constitution and the USA Bylaws, shall conduct determination of any Officers duties. Any action by the USA to suspend, alter, or terminate any award or stipend must meet a 2/3 majority approval.
5. Before removal, a letter shall be mailed to the Officer at their current address. This letter shall state the alleged cause for removal, the date on which the matter will be brought to the USA for recommendations (not less than seven (7) calendar days after mailing). The officer shall be given a reasonable opportunity to respond to the USA.

6. Officers of the USA removed from office are ineligible for appointment or candidacy to any S&A Fee funded position until the first day of the following academic year.

ARTICLE X: PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order shall govern all meetings to which they are applicable and consistent with this Constitution, the Bylaws, and any special rules of order that the USA may adopt.

ARTICLE XI: USA MEETINGS

1. The USA shall meet as stated in the Bylaws. A quorum of 51% of Officers must be present in order to conduct any meeting. USA actions may be taken only by a majority of the Officers present at a duly called meeting, excepting occasions requiring a 2/3 majority. There shall be proxy votes via online motions.

2. Every Officer shall have one vote. The Presiding Officer shall only vote to break a tie.

ARTICLE XII: USA COMMITTEES

1. Standing Committees shall be as provided in the USA Bylaws.

2. The President may appoint any member of the USA to serve on an Ad-Hoc Committee. Ad-Hoc Committees shall be established at need. Ad-Hoc Committee Chairs shall serve at the recommendation of the President.

3. Officer Committee Membership responsibilities are provided in the USA Bylaws.
ARTICLE XIII: BUDGET

1. The USA shall operate within the guidelines of the approved fiscal Budget.

2. The Budget Committee shall be chaired by the Treasurer and shall be responsible for budget preparation and monitoring expenditures ensuring student funds are used in the manner most appropriate. The Treasurer may provide monthly expenditure and budget status reports.

3. The Treasurer of the United Student Association shall serve as a Chair of the Services and Activities Fee Board and report back to Budget Committee and United Student Association regarding issues, topics, and concerns regarding student fees.

4. Proposed amendments to this Financial Code may be submitted to the SSC USA and read at any regularly scheduled meeting. The proposed amendment may be voted upon at any regularly scheduled meeting following the first reading so long as the time elapsed between the first readings and voting does not exceed one month. Amendments will be certified as passed when a 2/3 majority of the USA members, sitting in quorum, vote in the affirmative. After administrative review, the proposed amendment will then be forwarded for approval to the South Seattle College Dean of Student Life. Approved amendments shall be returned to the SSC USA for insertion into the copy of the South Seattle College Financial Code.

ARTICLE XIV: AMENDMENTS

1. All amendments and revisions to this Constitution must be approved by the SSC Student Body in a campus referendum, USA Advisor, Dean of Student Life, Vice President of Student Services, President, and by the Board of Trustees in accordance with District Policies and Procedures.

2. Past Amendments

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