

Student Organizations Council (SOC) Constitution

I. Official Name of the Organization.

- A. The official name of this organization shall be the Student Organizations Council (SOC) of the University of Wisconsin-Parkside.

II. Rationale for Existence of SOC.

- A. The encouragement of meaningful dialogues between all student organizations at the University of Wisconsin – Parkside, with the particular aim of increasing awareness of rich diversity of activities available in the campus community.
- B. The provision of support structure for all SOC-sanctioned campus organizations.
- C. To fund SOC-sanctioned organizations in order to keep all these diverse groups on campus and able to provide services for their members.

III. SOC Membership

- A. SOC- as its component organizations-shall not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, sex, age, handicap, sexual orientation, or any other factor(s).
- B. Duties and Privileges of SOC Member Organizations.
 1. Each active member organization shall send at least one representative to every SOC meeting. Said representative may be the president of a SOC member organization of his/her official designate.
 2. Each active SOC member organization shall have membership, voting, and perhaps budgetary privileges that shall governed by several constraints.
 - a.) Each active SOC member organization shall hold only one vote only regardless of the number of members from said organizations that are present at an SOC meeting.
 - b.) Failure of an SOC member organization to attend two consecutive SOC meetings shall result in the immediate revocation of that organization's active status and suspension of its voting privileges. If said SOC member organization has outstanding budgetary request with SOC than it shall also forfeit said money.
 - c.) An SOC member organization's revoked active status and suspended voting privileges shall be restored at the time that the organization returns for the second consecutive SOC meetings. In the case of an SOC member organization that lost its SOC project request due to absence its return for the second consecutive SOC meetings shall entitle it to file a new project request not to exceed the amount of the original request.
 - d.) While major status organizations may exercise voting privileges at SOC meeting on motions concerning SOC procedural matters, they may not utilize voting privileges concerning SOC budgetary policy.

- C. A single Representative for a SOC member organization may, for purposes of attendance at SOC meetings, represent at most two SOC member organizations; however said representative may exercise voting privileges in the name of only one of those groups. Multiple representations are not recommended and should only be done in emergency situations.

IV. SOC Meetings.

- A. SOC shall meet the first Monday of each Month and BNRC will meet on every Monday after that for the rest of the month, unless otherwise stated, and except during the final exam periods.
- B. The SOC President at the last meeting of the ending semester shall disclose the date of the first SOC meeting of each upcoming semester.

V. Required Quorum for SOC Meetings.

- A. Quorum for SOC meetings shall require the presence of a simple majority of the voting SOC membership and at least one Executive Board member unless otherwise stated in this Constitution.

VI. The SOC Executive Board.

- A. The executive Board shall consist of a President, Vice-President, and a Secretary. [Officers will meet the Student Eligibility Criteria by holding a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.0 and be in good standing, and carry at least 6 non-audit credits.](#)
- B. Each Executive Board member shall serve for a term of one year.
- C. The Executive Board member shall develop a yearly SOC budget in consultation with the SOC advisor and B&RC.
- D. Each Executive Board member shall be independent and impartial. Members of the Executive Board shall not give special treatment to organizations that they were affiliated with or are affiliated with or any other organization that may interact with the SOC. Such treatment could prompt the SOC to bring up impeachment hearings per section XI of this document.
- E. To maintain SOC member organization confidence in an independent and impartial Executive Board, members shall not represent an SOC member organization at meetings. It shall be permissible for an Executive Board member to represent a member organization if no other feasible options are available. In this situation said board member may not exercise voting privileges on any voting issues that may arise at meeting.

VII. Duties of SOC Executive Board Members.

- A. The SOC President.
 - 1. The President shall summon prepare agendas for, and preside over all meetings of the SOC.

2. The President shall liaise between the SOC membership, the administration, faculty, and staff of the University of Wisconsin – Parkside; and other student organizations on campus.
3. The President shall announce upcoming SOC elections of any variety at least two weeks in advance of the election date.
4. The President shall not exercise voting privileges at SOC meetings except in the case of a tie.
5. The President, in case of Vice Presidential vacancy, shall appoint a member of the Budget and Review Committee (B&RC) to succeed to the Vice Presidency; said appointment shall be subject to a simple majority approval by the SOC membership present.
6. The President, in case of a Secretarial vacancy, shall appoint a member of and SOC member organization to succeed to the Secretary; said appointment shall be subject simple majority approval by the SOC membership present.
7. The President shall be forbidden to become a member of B&RC.

B. The SOC Vice President

1. Upon the resignation, impeachment and removal, or incapacitation of the President, the Vice President shall succeed to the SOC Presidency and appoint a new Vice President per section VII subsection A subsection 5 of this document.
2. The Vice President shall chair all meetings of B&RC.
3. The Vice President shall present a report concerning matters addressed by B&RC at all SOC meetings.
4. The Vice President shall not exercise voting privileges at SOC meeting except when acting in the capacity of the president.
5. The Vice President shall help member organizations with all paper work with regards to B&RC.
6. The Vice President shall announce at every SOC and B&RC meetings the remaining amount in the SOC Budget.

C. The SOC Secretary

1. The Secretary shall record minutes of all SOC and B&RC meetings.
2. The Secretary shall distribute typed copies of aforementioned minutes at SOC meetings.
3. The Secretary shall organize and maintain SOC and B&RC files containing minutes of all meetings-which shall be accessible to the general student population for a period of five years.
4. The Secretary has the voting privileges at B&RC in the case of a tie.

VIII. Election of SOC Executive Board Members.

- A. Candidates for Executive board positions shall stand for election at the last meeting of the spring semester.
- B. Two-thirds of the voting SOC membership must present in order to conduct an Executive Board election.

- C. Candidates for Executive Board positions shall be nominated from the floor.
- D. Outgoing members of the Executive Board shall provide blank ballots for polling purposes.
- E. Candidates for Executive Board positions shall be elected by a simple majority of the SOC membership present.
- F. If no candidate for an Executive Board position receives a simple majority, the candidate with the fewest votes shall be dropped from polling, and a second ballot shall be run.
- G. If, with only two candidates remaining, no candidate receives a simple majority after the second ballot, the election shall be postponed until the next SOC meeting, and the current officers will continue to execute the duties of the disputed position.
- H. Re-counts shall be held at the request of the SOC membership.
- I. Officers-Elect shall assume their duties at the SOC meeting following the completion of the Executive Board election.

IX. Impeachment and Removal of SOC Executive Board Members.

- A. The SOC membership shall have sole authority of impeachment of the Executive Board members.
- B. A removal hearing shall not be called until such time as two-thirds of the SOC membership present has voted to impeach an Executive Board member.
- C. Said removal hearing shall convene no sooner than two weeks from the day upon which the Executive Board member was impeached.
- D. A panel of five persons belonging to the SOC member organizations shall be nominated to conduct the proceedings of the removal hearing.
- E. Nominations to the removal board shall be approved by two-thirds of the SOC membership present.
- F. The members of the removal-hearing panel shall elect a chair from among their members to preside over the said hearing.
- G. The impeached Executive Board member must be informed in writing of the charges leveled against him/her and the place and time of the removal hearing at least one week in advance of the beginning of the said hearing.
- H. All other rules governing the removal hearing shall follow the tenets of parliamentary procedure.

- I. Should be impeached Executive Board member be removed after due process of the removal hearing, succession shall proceed as outlined in Article VII of this constitution.

X. The Budget and Review Committee (B&RC)

- A. B&RC shall oversee the allocation of funds of SOC member organizations on a project-by-project basis. Pending said projects uphold all University Segregated Fee funding and ensuring that funds are spent in the “Best interest of the general student population.”
- B. B&RC shall meet every Monday after the first SOC meeting of the month during both fall and spring semesters.
- C. The B&RC Chair.
 1. The SOC Vice President shall serve as chair of B&RC.
 2. The Chair shall summon and reside over all B&RC meetings.
 3. The Chair, in anticipation of his/her absence on a B&RC meeting date. Shall name an official delegate endowed with his/her authority to preside over said meeting.
 4. The Chair of or his/her official designate shall not exercise voting privilege at B&RC meetings except in a tie.
- D. B&RC Membership.
 1. Seven students who belong to SOC member organizations shall be elected to serve on B&RC.
 - a) Each B&RC member shall serve for a term of one year.
 - b) The seven B&RC members shall be up for election at the same time as the executive board elections.
 - c) To be elected to B&RC, candidates shall be nominated from the floor and must finish in the top six in balloting.
 2. Failure on part of a B&RC member attend at least half of the B&RC meetings in a semester shall result in that member’s removal from B&RC.
- E. If a vacancy occurs on B&RC, the Chair shall appoint a member of an SOC member organization to fill said vacancy; said appointment is subject to simple majority vote approval by the SOC membership present.
- F. Quorum for B&RC meetings shall require the presence of four B&RC members and the Chair or his/her official designate.
- G. B&RC Budgetary Guidelines.
 1. B&RC budgetary guidelines shall be distributed to all SOC member organizations at the first B&RC meeting of the fall semester.

2. Said guidelines shall include all pertinent budgetary information, including but not limited to expenditure limits and budgetary timetables.
- H. Any B&RC business must be approved by a simple majority vote of the SOC membership present at the subsequent SOC meeting.
 - I. B&RC along with the executive board shall submit a final SOC budget for membership approval.
 - J. Approval of the final SOC budget shall require a simple majority vote of the SOC membership present.
 - K. The SOC final budget must be completed and approved before the election of a new Executive Board.
 - L. B&RC shall be a “Independent and impartial” board, if a proposal is received that has to do with a B&RC board members group or a group said member has special interest in a said member shall abstain from voting on that proposal.

XI. Amendments to the SOC Constitution.

- A. Amendments of this Constitution shall be proposed at an SOC meeting and vote on at the following SOC meeting.
- B. Amendments to this Constitution shall require a two-thirds vote of the SOC membership present in order to enable their adoption.