

# **Student Government Association Constitution**

## **Student Voice**

The Shorter University Student Government Association will serve as the student voice for institutional decision-making. The student voice is critical to the educational mission of the University. The Dean of Students or designee will serve as the advisor to the Student Government Association. The advisor serves as liaison between the University and students on issues, including the institutional decision-making processes, and encourages active student participation in academic and campus life. To ensure practices, all Student Government Association meetings are open to the public.

## **Purpose and Leadership**

The Student Government Association is the officially recognized student organization that provides the channel through which students may cooperate with administration and faculty in many aspects of University functioning. Led by its Executive Council and Senate, SGA is responsible for student appointments to appropriate committees, for carrying out its own stated purposes, and for the administration of the Student Activity Fee.

## **Constitution**

### **Article I. Name of the organization and membership**

The name of the organization shall be the Student Government Association of Shorter University. The Association shall be comprised of all students of Shorter University who shall become members upon enrollment. Students are subject to all rules and regulations as may be herein stated or enacted under this Constitution.

### **Article II. Purpose**

The purpose of the Student Government Association shall be:

- A. To develop principles of democratic self-government.
- B. To promote wholesome student relationships and to provide a means of cooperation among students, faculty, and administration.
- C. To maintain the Christian ideals of the University.
- D. To maintain both the rights and responsibilities of each member of the Student Government Association.

### **Article III. Legislative Department**

Section 1. All legislative powers of the Association shall be vested in the Student Senate and the Faculty Student Legislative Committee.

Section 2. The Shorter University Student Government Association shall follow Roberts Rules of Order (Revised) for parliamentary procedure.

## **Article IV. Student Senate**

### **Section 1. Membership**

- A. Student Senate shall be comprised of seven (7) students elected from each of the respective classes in a school-wide election held approximately six (6) weeks before the end of the school year.
- B. Each candidate must have and maintain a cumulative 2.50 grade point average. Senators not maintaining the required average must vacate office.
- C. All Senators will be elected by their respective classes, in a school-wide vote, to a one-year term that shall terminate at the end of the school year. Any Senator may seek election an unlimited number of times. If any vacancies occur in the Student Senate during the school year, nominations from Student Senators and Executive Council members will be taken and a vote will ensue. For a new Senator to be elected he/she must have an affirmative majority vote of quorum. The person elected to fill the vacancy shall serve the remainder of the school year in which the vacancy occurs.

### **Section 2. Officers of the Student Senate**

- A. The Vice President of the Student Government Association and President of the Student Senate, who will be a voting member only in the case of a tie.
- B. The President Pro Tempore of the Senate, who shall be elected at the first meeting of the Fall semester from the members of the Senate and shall serve as Head of the Senate in the absence of the President of the Senate.
- C. The Secretary of the Senate, who shall be the secretary of the Student Government Association, and who shall be responsible for keeping Senate records, taking minutes of Senate meetings, issuing student Senate tests, and other duties deemed necessary.
- D. The Treasurer of the Senate, who shall be the treasurer of the Student Government Association, and who shall keep a permanent record of all sources of income and disbursements of the Student Government Association.
- E. The Fitton Activities Board Director, who shall direct the Fitton Activities Board, and who shall be responsible for all planning of events sponsored by the Fitton Activities Board.
- F. The Parliamentarian of the Senate, elected by the Senate at the first meeting of the Fall semester, who shall advise as to the proper procedures and organizational rules.

### Section 3. Powers of the Student Senate

- A. To enact rules and regulations for the student body.
- B. To review all constitutions of new organizations, all proposed constitutional changes to existing organizations, and to make recommendations before approval or rejection.
- C. To provide for the publication of legislation in order that the student body may be informed.
- D. To confirm all appointments made by the President of the Student Government Association by a majority vote of the Senate membership.
- E. To institute impeachment and/or approve impeachment, by a two-thirds vote, of any officer of the Legislative or Executive Branch of the Student Government Association for malfeasance or serious abuse of the Senate membership. Action of both houses is required.
- F. To override, if necessary, the veto of the President of the Student Government Association by a two-thirds vote of the total Senate membership.
- G. To allocate available funds to student organizations which petition for funding.
- H. To sponsor special projects.

### Section 4. Voting

- A. A quorum for Student Senate shall consist of two-thirds of all members. All formal business and voting must take place with a quorum present.
- B. Any motion must pass by two-thirds of the Senate present.

### Section 5. Senators are obligated to abide by the following rules:

- A. Any Senator receiving more than two unexcused absences from Senate meetings, whether regular or called, and one (1) unexcused absence from any Senate function, during the academic semester, shall have his/her terms as Senator terminated and his/her name extracted from the Senate roll. The Secretary of the Senate will excuse valid absences. The Secretary may only validate excuses submitted within twenty-four (24) hours of the Senator's missed obligation.
- B. Any Senator arriving late for, or leaving early during, a Senate meeting, without being excused by the Secretary of the Student Government Association, shall receive one-half unexcused absence.
- C. All Senators will have three weeks to pass a test on the Constitution and Robert's Rules of Order. The test must be passed by 70% of correct answers. Upon failure of the first test, a retest will be given within one week. If a Senator does not pass the test, a replacement Senator must be elected. The Secretary will be responsible for drafting the test.

- D. Newly appointed Senators filling vacant Senate seats throughout the academic year must take, and pass, the Constitution test within three weeks of appointment.

## **Article V. Executive Officers of Student Government**

### Section 1.

- A. The Executive members of the Student Government Association shall be President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Director of the Fitton Activities Board.
- B. No Executive Officers may serve as a Student Senator or as a member of the Faculty-Student Legislative Committee.

### Section 2. Qualifications

- A. The President shall:
  - 1. Be elected from the incoming Junior or Senior class.
  - 2. Have and maintain a cumulative scholastic average of at least 2.50.
  - 3. Have served on Senate for at least one *full* semester.
- B. The Vice President shall:
  - 1. Be elected from the incoming Junior or Senior class.
  - 2. Have and maintain a cumulative scholastic average of at least 2.50.
  - 3. Have served on Senate for at least one *full* semester.
- C. The Secretary shall:
  - 1. Be at least a rising sophomore.
  - 2. Have and maintain a cumulative scholastic average of at least 2.50.
- D. The Treasurer shall:
  - 1. Be at least a rising sophomore.
  - 2. Have and maintain a cumulative scholastic average of at least 2.50.
- E. The Director of the Fitton Activities Board shall:
  - 1. Be at least a rising sophomore.
  - 2. Have and maintain a cumulative scholastic average of at least 2.50.
  - 3. On an interim basis only, may be a second-semester freshman if he/she has served on the Fitton Activities Board.
  - 4. Have served on the Fitton Activities Board or the Student Senate for at least one year.

### Section 3. Duties

- A. The President of the Student Government Association shall:
  - 1. Call and preside over meetings of the student body.
  - 2. Call special meetings of the Student Senate, if deemed necessary.

3. Appoint any committee that he/she deems necessary to further the administration of the Student Government Association.
4. Have power to veto any legislation passed by the Student Senate.
5. Serve as intermediary for students, the Student Senate and the administrative officials of the University.
6. Be responsible for disseminating information concerning the Student Government Association, its powers and duties, and school regulations to new students during orientation.
7. Serve as Chairperson of the Elections Committee.
8. Shall appoint Student representatives for University-wide committees.

B. The Vice President of the Student Government Association shall:

1. Serve as President and Speaker of the Student Senate.
2. Serve as President of the Student Government Association in the event the President is unable to perform the duties of the office.
3. Serve as Chairperson of the Legislative Committee.
4. Vice President nominates candidates for the positions of President Pro Tempore and Parliamentarian, which will be voted on by Senate at the first meeting of the school year.
5. Shall appoint senators to the Student Government Association committees.
6. Shall call and preside over the Freshman class meeting and shall serve as acting President of the Freshman class until the election of Freshman senators in the Fall semester.

C. The Secretary of the Student Government Association shall:

1. Keep on file all records and minutes of the Student Senate. The Secretary shall distribute minutes of all Senate meetings to members of Senate and the Faculty-Student Legislative Committee.
2. Attend to the correspondence of the Executive Committee and the Student Senate.
3. Check the Senate Roll at each meeting.
4. Serve as acting President in the absence of the Vice President and President Pro Tempore of the Student Senate.
5. Serves as Chairperson of the Student Services Committee.
6. Maintains files and records of the Student Government Association, including but not limited to the Student Government Association Constitution, Student Organizations Constitutions, etc.
7. Shall prepare a meeting agenda for all Senate meetings.

8. Be responsible for checking grades for eligibility at the end of the semester and before elections.

D. The Treasurer of the Student Government Association shall:

1. Keep a permanent record of all sources of income and disbursements of the Student Government Association.
2. Submit a financial report at each Student Senate meeting and a detailed report to the Budget Committee at the first meeting in January.
3. Serve as Chairperson of the Budget Committee.
4. Serve as Acting Secretary in the absence of the Secretary.
5. Formulates a yearly operating budget to be presented to the Senate at the beginning of the Fall Semester.

E. The Director of the Fitton Activities Board for Student Government Association shall:

1. Report to Senate on the progress and expenses of all upcoming events of the Fitton Activities Board.
2. Keep Senate informed on the calendar for the upcoming semester. Submit a budget for next year for approval by Senate in the spring of the current year.
3. Attend Senate meetings and stay for their entirety as a member of the Executive Council.
4. Submit a list of seven (7) students to serve as the chairpersons on the Fitton Activities Board committees.

Section 4. Attendance requirements for Student Senate meetings will be the same for all Executive Officers as it is for the Senators.

Section 5. Executive decision making powers:

- A. In the manner of making a decision when appropriate information is not attainable or a conclusion cannot be made and the deadline for such an instance falls before the next scheduled meeting, the Senate shall have the authority to turn over decision-making powers to the Executive Council of the Student Government Association for the matter in question. This transference can only occur after an affirmative vote of two-thirds of all Senators present at the meeting in which this motion is made and seconded. The aforementioned power will last no longer than the interim between two meetings, after which the Senate will regain authority over the matter if not yet resolved. If it so wishes, the Executive Council may refuse the power to make a decision for the Senate.
- B. When an emergency situation arises in which a decision must be made in a timely manner but does not allow for review by the Senate of the Student Government Association, the Executive Council may choose to resolve the issue if it deems it necessary. When this power is invoked, a full report of the situation, the decision made, and the motivation behind the specified

decision must be presented to the Senate at its next meeting. This restricted power can only be used two times a semester. The Senate may approve another allotment of two Executive decision-making privileges by the affirmative vote of two-thirds present at the meeting in which this motion is made and seconded. The Executive Council may refuse this power to make emergency decisions for the Senate body. If the Senate or Executive Council cannot be contacted, and it is imperative that a decision is made, the President of the Student Government Association may assume the responsibility of settling the issue as he/she sees fit. This will use an allotted decision-making privilege.

## **Article VI. Committees of Student Senate**

- Section 1. The Executive Committee shall consist of the Executive Officers of the Student Government Association. The Executive Committee shall appoint the members of each Senate committee.
- Section 2. The Elections Committee shall consist of the President of SGA, who shall serve as chairman and seven Senators selected by the Student Senate. The purpose of the committee is to supervise all school-wide elections, to validate the eligibility of candidates, and to post the final list of nominees ten days prior to each election. The committee is responsible for counting the ballots.
- Section 3. The Legislative Committee, comprised of seven Senators, including one from each class, shall review all constitutions of new organizations and all proposed constitutional changes submitted to SGA by student organizations and make recommendations to the Student Senate and the Faculty-Student Legislative Committee concerning approval or rejection. It shall also review all concerns of legislative matters. The chairman shall be the Vice President of SGA.
- Section 4. The President's Committee, comprised of seven Senators, including one from each class, shall assist in planning major events for the student body. The chairman shall be the President of SGA.
- Section 5. The Student Services Committee, comprised of seven Senators, including one from each class, shall assist in the preparation for each event sponsored by the SGA. This includes creating and distributing fliers, voice mail messages, etc. The chairman shall be the Secretary of SGA.
- Section 6. The Budget Committee shall be comprised of the SGA Treasurer, who shall serve as chairman, and seven Senators appointed by the President and Vice President of the SGA and approved by Senate. The primary function of this committee is to determine the amount of money to be fairly allotted to the various organizations and committees according to the benefits to be received by the allotment. The committee shall have the power to determine the validity of requests for money submitted by organizations to the Student Senate and to make recommendations to the Senate concerning the specified allotment at the first Senate meeting following the initial request.
- Section 7. The Fitton Activities Board shall be made up of seven (7) members of the student body, including all four classifications. The committee will be chaired by the Director of the Fitton Activities Board. The Board will plan and staff all

activities for the student body. The expenditures are to be approved by the Student Senate. The funds are included in the overall budget of the Student Government Association.

## **Article VII. Financial procedures of Student Senate**

### Section 1. The purpose of an allotment

- A. To provide money to organizations that have no outside source of funds and who do not contradict the morals and codes of Shorter University.
- B. To provide emergency loans for a detailed particular purpose upon special request.

### Section 2. Eligibility requirements

- A. Those organizations that directly receive activity fees, i.e., the Fitton Activities Board, Shorter Christian Association, and Argo, and those funded from outside the University, i.e. the Baptist Collegiate Ministries, are not eligible for extra allotments or emergency loans.
- B. Other organizations that might emerge that receive funding from outside the University or directly from activity fees would not be eligible.
- C. During the summer proceeding the Fall semester, the SGA Treasurer will set a date for the Treasurer's workshop in the Fall and Spring semesters. In order to receive an allotment:
  1. The President and/or Treasurer of each organization must attend the Treasurer's Workshop.
  2. A current constitution and list of officers with phone numbers and box numbers must be presented.
  3. If no one from an organization attends the meeting, that organization will not be eligible for an allotment that semester. Acceptance of absences is at the discretion of the Budget Committee.
- D. Following this meeting, arrangements will be made for the organizations present to receive a first semester allotment in an amount not to exceed \$250.00, providing they comply with the following rules:
  1. Organizations receiving an allotment may spend the money as they see fit, as long as the organizations do not contradict the morals and codes of Shorter University.
  2. Organizations that allow membership only to certain students will still be eligible to apply for allotments from SGA as long as the organizations have legitimate reasons for restricting membership, such as GPA requirements (i.e. honor societies, music fraternities) and gender requirements (i.e. social fraternities and sororities).
  3. If the members of an organization are receiving hourly credit for membership and/or participation, it will not receive an allotment from SGA.

4. A copy of the organization's constitution and current list of officers should be filed with SGA. The Secret Sophomore Sabots are exempt for filing a Constitution.
  5. Accepting the \$250 from SGA means the organization understands that in order to receive a second semester allotment, it will have to produce bank statements showing how its first semester allotment was spent, including all transactions (withdrawals and deposits). In the event that an organization does not have a bank account, receipts may be submitted for review by the Budget Committee.
- E. At the beginning of the second semester, a balance sheet will be sent for each organization to complete and return along with bank statements (see D.5) showing how it spent the allotment. The Budget Committee will then review the information and determine an amount not to exceed \$250.00. This decision will be based on the following factors:
1. How the organization used its first semester allotment (saved or spent). If the organization wishes to save its money, there must be proof from a bank statement to show this and a brief explanation of planned expenditures.
  2. The Budget Committee will make a recommendation to Senate, and the Senate will vote on the final amount organizations will receive for the Fall and Spring semesters.
  3. In the event that the organization does not provide a balance sheet by the specified deadline, acceptance of a "second chance" balance sheet will be at the discretion of the Budget Committee.

### Section 3: Emergency Loans

- A. All organizations that are eligible may request, at any point in the school year, an emergency loan. The loan must be paid back by the end of the following semester or worked off by the end of the current semester. The attendance of the organization's members at work time will be worth minimum wage plus twenty-five percent per hour per member at event(s), subject to Senate approval. If the loan is not paid back in full by said time, the organization will not be eligible for allotments or additional loans until the semester following the semester the loan is paid back. Any eligible organization may request up to \$250 per loan no more than twice a semester. If an organization wishes to make two requests in one semester, there will be a mandatory two-week interval between the loans given. However, this two-week period may be waived by a three-fourths (3/4) vote of the Student Senate in case of an emergency, as determined by the Senate. An organization or group may not exceed a \$500 total amount of grants and/or loans in one semester.
- B. If an emergency loan is taken out that does not exceed \$250, the organization *must* choose to use its next semester's allotment as reimbursement if it has not already paid the loan back to SGA. If this situation arises, the

organization must still come to the Treasurer's Workshop or fill out a second semester allotment form. As long as the organization would normally be approved to receive the allotment, this can become its reimbursement. In this situation, the organization may not request another emergency loan until the following semester.

- C. SGA has the right to refuse a request for emergency loans if the members of Senate feel that the need is not substantial or valid. All emergency loan requests must include a full explanation of the purpose for which the funds are to be used. Each organization must fill out emergency loan forms properly the first time. Once a form has been submitted to the SGA Treasurer, it will not be available for adjustment. The organization must ask for a loan at a Senate meeting, in person, and must propose it in writing as well. At this time, the organization must propose the manner in which it will pay back or work off the loan, or it may request that Senate arbitrarily assign a duty. The loan request, in most situations, will then be tabled and voted on during the next Senate meeting; however, in extreme emergencies, the one-week waiting period may be waived by a vote of Senate or by an Executive decision so that immediate action may be taken.
- D. The SGA Treasurer will present a recommendation to the full Senate for a vote at the meeting. The Budget Committee will monitor the use of emergency loan funds to prevent any abuse of funds. The summer session(s) does not qualify for allotments or emergency loans.

#### Section 4: Activity Fee

- A. The Student Government Association is responsible for the allocation of funds to the Fitton Activities Board, the ARGO yearbook, the Shorter Christian Association, and SGA.
- B. Recipients of the funds from the student activity fee are expected to maintain a record of income, expenditures, and receipts. All requisitions to the University business office must be authorized with the advisor's signature.
- C. A tentative allotment budget for the activity fee distribution for the following year will be proposed during the spring semester by the SGA Budget Committee. The previously mentioned organizations will prepare a budget proposal for the Budget Committee. The Senate will make any necessary adjustments to the tentative budget in the fall semester.
- D. The previously mentioned organizations are expected to remain within their budgets.
- E. Organizations spending more than their annual allotment will have the difference of the amounts removed from the following year's allotment. The Student Government Association reserves the right to monitor and review the finances of the student activity fee.

## Section 5: Grants

- A. Grants, monies given to an organization without expectation of repayment, shall be at the discretion of the Budget Committee to review and present for a vote by the Senate.
- B. Any organization (that has previously turned in a copy of its constitution and list of officers) or group of students representing Shorter University shall be able to request a grant at any point during the school year.
- C. Any eligible organization or group may request a grant amount not to exceed \$250. An organization may not receive more than two grants a semester. An organization or group may not receive more than \$500 in grants and/or loans in one semester.
- D. Organizations desiring to receive a grant must complete the approved form given by the Budget Committee. This form must be presented to the Budget Committee at least one week in advance of the grant being given. If the grant is approved, the form must also be returned following the use of the grant.
- E. The Budget Committee will make recommendations to the Senate as to whether to approve a grant, advise the organization to pursue a loan, or deny a request.

## **Article VIII. Faculty Student Legislative Committee**

Section 1. The Faculty-Student Legislative Committee shall be comprised of five (5) full-time members of the faculty, appointed by the President of the University, and one student, appointed by the Vice President of SGA at the beginning of the Fall Semester, from each of the four classes. The Vice President for Student Affairs and the President of SGA are ex-officio members.

- A. One of the five faculty members shall serve as the Chairperson of the Committee. The Chairperson may vote only in case of a tie.
- B. Students elected to this Committee must have and maintain a cumulative scholastic average of 2.50 during the semesters he or she serves on the Committee.
- C. The Committee shall elect a Recorder in the first meeting of the year. The Recorder shall keep a complete record of all proceedings and shall keep these records on open file for the use of all students.
- D. Any student, excluding freshmen, who serves as a member of the Faculty-Student Legislative Committee shall have been a full-time student for at least one semester.
- E. Student vacancies shall be filled in the same manner as Senate vacancies. Faculty vacancies shall be filled in the same manner as original appointments.

- F. A quorum shall be two-thirds of the membership. A quorum is required for an official decision. A decision must be by at least 51% of the vote.
- G. A student member of the Faculty-Student Legislative Committee shall be required to attend the Student Senate meetings and report actions taken to the committee chairman.
- H. The Faculty-Student Legislative Committee shall have three weeks after written notification of the passage of any legislation in the Student Senate to initiate action upon that legislation. If no action has been taken within this three-week period, the legislation will go to the Vice President for Student Affairs.
- I. The Faculty-Student Legislative Committee shall meet, as deemed necessary by the Chairmen at least twice each semester of the school year.

Section 2. The purposes and powers of the Faculty-Student Legislative Committee are:

- 1. To serve as one House of Legislation in voting on all major legislation, rules, and regulations. Major legislation is defined as rules and regulations, constitutions of new student organizations, SGA constitution changes, and legislation deemed necessary by Senate and/or the Faculty-Student Legislative Committee.
- 2. To initiate legislation to be approved by the Senate.
- 3. To initiate and/or approve impeachment proceedings.
- 4. To initiate legislation to be approved by the Senate.

## **Article IX. Elections**

Section 1. The Elections Committee shall:

- A. Supervise all school-wide elections of the University.
- B. Provide a time and location for SGA candidates to present their platforms to the student body. If the candidate is running unopposed, he/she may opt to be excluded from this process.
- C. Perform the counting and tabulation of the votes, with three or more members, immediately after the polls are closed. No votes will be counted before that time.

Section 2. School-wide Elections

- A. School-wide elections shall be held at least four weeks prior to the end of school.
- B. The polls shall be open for a period of time to assure all students an opportunity to participate in the elections. The specific hours of the polls will be determined by the chairman and at least three (3) members of the Elections Committee.

- C. Ballots shall be placed in the Student Government office for a period of 48 hours after they have been counted. At any time during that period a candidate may demand and receive a recount.
- D. For Executive Committee positions, the candidate must receive at least 51% of the votes; otherwise, a runoff election will be held 48 hours later. In the case of Senators, where a number of positions are to be filled, these offices are to be filled by those candidates receiving the greatest number of votes.
- E. Opportunity to vote in a school-wide election by absentee ballot will be provided by the Student Government office upon request.
- F. Posters must be removed from the immediate vicinity of the polls on Election Day and elsewhere on the following day.
- G. These elections shall include Student Government Association Officers and Student Senators.
- H. Student Government Officers shall be installed prior to the end of the semester.
- I. Newly-elected Senators shall be required to attend Senate meetings after installation of Executive Officers and will have full voting power after the former Senators have vacated their positions in Senate. During the summer months, the newly elected Student Government Executive Council, in cooperation with the Student Government advisor, has authority to act on behalf of the entire Student Senate in making any and all decisions regarding expenditure of money for active ties or in cases of emergencies.
- J. Freshman Class Senators shall be nominated for candidacy at the beginning of November, their first semester.

### Section 3. Application for Candidacy

- A. Application for Student Government Association Executive Officers shall be available in the Student Government Association Office ten weeks prior to the end of the Spring semester.
- B. Application for Student Senate shall be available in the Student Government Association office ten weeks prior to the end of Spring Semester. Students, who, in the second semester of an academic year, are classified as first semester students in a higher classification are to attend the meeting of the class they will be a part of in the fall of the following year. Students that are currently seniors but will graduate with the current juniors or in December may run as a rising senior.
- C. Applications for the Freshmen Senators will be available eight weeks prior to elections and applicants will be required to attend a meeting. This meeting shall be called by the Vice President of the Student Government Association.

#### Section 4. Qualification of candidates for Senator

In addition to other qualifications required of specific offices, each candidate must have a cumulative 2.50 grade point average. Any student not maintaining a cumulative 2.50 grade point average must vacate his or her elected position immediately.

#### Section 5. Qualification of voters

All members of the Student Government Association of Shorter University shall have voting rights in all school-wide elections.

### **Article X. Amendments, Ratifications, and By-Laws**

Section 1. This Constitution may be amended through legislation introduced in the Student Senate, and amendments must be passed by two-thirds of the members of Senate. The proposed amendment shall be presented to the Faculty-Student Legislative Committee for approval and shall become final by a majority approval of those voting in a school-wide ballot. All amendments shall be published in the Student Handbook in years following their adoption.

#### Section 2.

- A. This Constitution shall supersede all previous Constitutions and shall have full force and effect at the beginning of the academic year following its adoption by a two-thirds vote of Student Senate, approval by the Faculty-Student Legislative Committee, a majority of those voting in a school-wide ballot, and the approval of President of the University or Chairman of the Board of Trustees.
- B. To have an amendment to this Constitution go into effect immediately, it must have four-fifths (4/5) approval by the Student Senate, approval by the Vice President of Student Affairs, and approval by the President of the University or the Chairman of the Board of Trustees.

Section 3. By-laws may be created or modified by a majority vote of both houses.

### **BY-LAWS**

#### I. Class Chairperson

- A. Selecting Class Chairpersons
  - 1. Class Chairpersons are selected by class senators at the beginning of the Fall semester.
  - 2. Class Chairpersons are responsible for one semester of service, including but not limited to one event and/or project hosted by their represented class for the entire student body.
- B. Fellow class senators are responsible for aiding, providing, and supporting the chairperson.

- C. Service projects and/or events will be funded by the Student Government Association.

## II. Homecoming Elections

- A. The election of the Homecoming King and Queen is to be a school-wide election. The King and Queen are to be seniors.
- B. The Homecoming Court will include three senior males and three senior females nominated by the senior class, in addition to one senior male and one senior female nominated from each of the other classes (freshman, sophomore, and junior classes). There should be a total of six senior males and six senior females on Homecoming Court.

## III. Officers of Student Organizations

In an effort to give students the opportunity to participate in extracurricular activities at Shorter University, the following guidelines have been set:

- A. All officers of student organizations at Shorter must have and maintain a cumulative 2.50 grade point average.
- B. No student shall hold two offices as Treasurer.
- C. No student shall hold two offices in two branches of government.
- D. Due to the time commitments of several presidential positions, the Presidents of all fraternities and sororities, the President and Vice President of SGA, the Director of the Fitton Activities Board, the President of BCM, and the President of SCA cannot serve as president of any other organization, excluding Inter Fraternity Council or Panhellenic Council.

## IV. Senator of the Year

- A. The members of Senate will each have one vote as to whom they think deserves this honor. In the case of a tie, there may be two Senators of the Year.
- B. Senator(s) of the Year will receive a reward for their service.

## V. New Organizations

- A. Prospective new student organizations that wish to be chartered must present Senate with a typed constitution that includes the following: name and purpose, eligibility of membership, roles and duties of members, officer requirements and duties, attendance policies, financial procedures, and by-laws or amendments. They must also present a list of officers and contact information, a list of members, when available, and have a current Student Organization Information Sheet on file in the Office of Student Life.
- B. Before it can be voted upon, the proposal of new student organizations must be formally heard twice by the Senate.
- C. Upon approval, the group must also be approved by the Faculty-Student Legislative Committee. Depending on the nature of the group, the final

approval will come from the Board of Trustees (in the case of a new category).An organization must have a minimum of seven active members in order to receive its allotment. If an organization falls below seven active members in a given semester, its allotment for the following semester will be reviewed by the Budget Committee.

*All constitutions will be kept on file in the  
Student Government Association Office.*

*Revised September 23, 2010*