

Constitution of The Rice University Student Association

Adopted by votes of the student body as of DAY MONTH YEAR

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ARTICLE I: ESTABLISHMENT

SECTION 1: NAME & MISSION

- A. The Name of this organization shall be the Rice University Student Association.
- B. The mission of the Student Association shall be to give every student the opportunity to shape the undergraduate experience. To this mission, the Student Association shall provide channels of communication and cooperation among all part of the Rice community, provide a form of government for the coordination of student activities, provide a forum for the expression of student views and interests, maintain academic freedom and academic responsibility, enhance the value of the Rice undergraduate experience, and promote national and international understanding.

SECTION 2: MEMBERSHIP & POLICIES

- A. All currently enrolled undergraduate students of Rice University shall be members of the Student Association and, accordingly, shall be required to pay the undergraduate Blanket Tax.
- B. The Student Association is independent from the Residential Colleges. The Student Association and the Residential Colleges shall cooperate in matters of campus wide importance to further the interests of the undergraduate student body. The Student Association is not merely a council of Residential Colleges.
- C. Undergraduate student organizations shall be governed by the Student Association. The Student Association will facilitate the creation and administration of student organizations in collaboration with the Office of Student Activities.
- D. **Nondiscrimination Policy.** The Student Association shall not discriminate against individuals on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national or ethnic origin, ancestry, age, disability, or veteran status.
- E. **Anti-Hazing Policy.** The Student Association shall not engage in any form of hazing, as defined by the Code of Student Conduct and any other applicable Rice University rules and regulations.
- F. Conflict of Interest Policy. Members of the Student Association shall not hold Student Association positions nor shall the business of the Student Association be conducted in such a manner that creates a conflict of interest or the reasonable appearance thereof. The President shall have the authority to determine whether an arrangement constitutes a conflict of interest or the reasonable appearance thereof unless overruled by a majority vote of Senate or by the University Court.
- G. **Approval of Contracts.** No commitments or contracts shall be binding on the Student Association without the pre-approval of both the Office of Student Activities and a

majority vote of

- i. The Executive Committee when under \$1,000
- ii. The Senate when over \$1,000
- H. Public Record. Matters of public record as expressed in this Constitution and Bylaws shall be maintained by the Secretary and be available to any member or organization of the Student Association and greater Rice University community upon their request. Matters of public record shall be held for at least five years.

ARTICLE II: EXECUTIVE

SECTION 1: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- A. The executive powers of the Student Association shall be vested in the Executive Committee.
- B. The Executive Committee shall be composed of the elected officers of the Student Association, who shall be the President, the Internal Vice President, the External Vice-President, the Secretary, and the Treasurer.
- C. The Executive Committee shall meet periodically at its discretion to discuss the activities and projects of the Executive Committee, the Executive Branch, Senate, and the Student Association. Meetings of the Executive Committee shall be either open or closed at the discretion of the committee. The Executive Committee may, at its discretion, invite persons to attend its meetings.

SECTION 2: PRESIDENT

The Powers and duties of the President shall be:

- A. To serve as the chief executive and official spokesperson of the Student Association.
- B. To serve as Chair of the Student Association Senate
- C. To set priorities for the current term of the Student Association.
- D. To keep the Senate informed of all official activities of the Executive Committee.
- E. The President shall be a nonvoting member ex-officio of all Student Association committees.
- F. The President shall delegate tasks to members of the Executive Committee and other appointed officers.
- G. To carry out any other duties as set forth in this Constitution, the Bylaws, or assigned by the Senate.

SECTION 3: INTERNAL VICE PRESIDENT

The Powers and duties of the Internal Vice President shall be:

- A. To coordinate communication between all units of the Student Association.
- B. To assist the President in ensuring that the Student Association, Senate, and Executive Committee function in furtherance of the mission and purpose of the Student Association and in compliance with the Constitution and Bylaws

SECTION 4: EXTERNAL VICE PRESIDENT

The Powers and duties of the External Vice President shall be:

- A. To facilitate interactions and foster communication between the Student Association and external groups, organizations, and individuals in the Rice University and Houston communities.
- B. To assist the President in representing the Student Association in the Faculty Senate, University Standing Committees, and other departments at Rice University and solicit input from members of the Student Association.

SECTION 5: TREASURER

The Powers and duties of the Treasurer shall be:

- A. To prepare the Student Association's annual budget according to the procedures in this Constitution and Bylaws
- B. To manage the Student Association's funds accordingly.
- C. To chair the Blanket Tax Committee as it sets the Blanket Tax budget, approves new Blanket Tax organizations, and manages the Initiative Fund.

SECTION 6: SECRETARY

The Powers and duties of the Secretary shall be:

- A. To ensure the transparency of Student Association activities by updating and maintaining the records of the Student Association
- B. To publish information about the activities of the Executive Committee and Senate to members of the Student Association and any other relevant parties.

SECTION 7: VACANCIES & SUCCESSION ORDER

- A. In the event of a vacancy occurring in any executive officer positions before the end of the normal term, the vacancy shall be filled by the President by temporary appointment for a period no more than three weeks. The Senate shall consider such nominations, and shall, by a majority vote, appoint a replacement. The temporary appointment shall take effect immediately.
- B. The Senate shall call a special election to be scheduled two weeks from the date it is called for the vacant position at its next regular meeting. If the general election or

- second-round election is less than three weeks away, the Senate shall not call a special election for any position.
- C. If the office of President is vacant, the following officers shall assume the office of President in the order prescribed:
 - 1. Internal Vice President, and
 - 2. External Vice President.
 - 3. If the above officers are unable to assume the office of President, the Senate shall call a special election for the position at its next regularly scheduled meeting to be scheduled two weeks from the date it is called.

SECTION 8: APPOINTED OFFICERS

- A. The Appointed Officers of the Association shall be the Parliamentarian, Director of Elections, Student Association Committee Chairs, University Standing Committee Representatives and any other Appointed Officers created in the Constitution or Bylaws.
- B. The Appointed Officers shall assist the Executive Committee to facilitate the operation of the Student Association
- C. Appointed Officers shall be appointed by the President subject to approval by a majority vote of the Senate.
- D. Appointed Officers shall serve until the end of the legislative session in which they are appointed, unless reappointed by the incoming President.
- E. The Bylaws may further prescribe duties & powers to Appointed Officers not otherwise mentioned in the Constitution

SECTION 9: STUDENT ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE CHAIRS

- A. The Chairs of all Student Association committees shall be charged with the responsibilities of their respective committees in order to facilitate the operation of the Student Association.
- B. Student Association Committee Chairs shall be chosen as prescribed by the Bylaws.

SECTION 10: UNIVERSITY STANDING COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES

- A. All representatives to University Standing Committees shall represent the interests of the Student Association to their respective University Standing committee
- B. Representatives shall relay information from the University Standing Committees to the Student Association.
- C. University Standing Committee Representatives shall be chosen as prescribed by the Bylaws and shall serve until the end of the current term of the Student Association.

ARTICLE III: SENATE

SECTION 1: PURPOSE

- A. Subject to the powers of the members and other limitations provided for in this Constitution, the activities and affairs of the Association shall be conducted and all legislative authority shall be exercised by or under the direction of the Senate for the promotion of the welfare and interest of the students.
- B. The Senate shall represent and advocate for the Student Association in all relations with the faculty, administration, trustees, alumni, and other bodies.
- C. The Senate has the ultimate authority over the Student Association Budget, the Blanket Tax, and the budgets of Blanket Tax Organizations.
- D. The Senate shall review the reports, decisions, and actions of all Student Association committees and overrule any such reports, actions, or decisions it deems unjustified.
- E. Regulate the conditions under which registered student organizations are founded, operated, dissolved, in compliance with this Constitution and its Bylaws, and regulations of the Student Association and Rice University.
- F. Take any suitable action necessary to fulfill the duties and powers expressed or implied in this Constitution.

SECTION 2: MEMBERSHIP

- A. The voting members of the Senate shall be composed of eleven (11) Senators and eleven (11) College Presidents elected by the Residential Colleges.
- B. The voting members of the Senate shall also include the Treasurer, the Secretary, the External Vice President, the Internal Vice President, and the President. The President shall serve as chair of the Senate.

SECTION 3: MEETINGS & QUORUM

- A. Two-thirds $(\frac{2}{3})$ of the voting members of the Senate shall constitute a quorum. Vacant positions shall be disregarded in determining quorum.
- B. All weekly meetings, set by the Executive Committee, shall be publicly announced. The schedule may be changed at the discretion of the Executive Committee.
- C. The Senate may go into a closed session, by a two-thirds vote, to discuss matters requiring unusual privacy. No legislation or Articles of Impeachment may be passed during a closed meeting. Minutes must be recorded for closed meetings and will remain sealed for a term of five years.

- D. The President may call a special meeting of the Senate, which must be announced at least twenty-four hours in advance. Special Meetings may also be called by five voting members of the Senate, a Vice-President, or five percent of the Student Association.
- E. Unless otherwise provided for in the Constitution or Bylaws, the Senate shall take action by majority vote. A majority vote shall be defined as a simple majority of those voting in the affirmative or in the negative.
- F. Unless otherwise qualified in the Constitution or Bylaws, a two-thirds vote shall be defined as a two-thirds vote of those voting in the affirmative or in the negative.

SECTION 4: MAIN MOTIONS & RESOLUTIONS

A. All main motions & resolutions must be sponsored and introduced by at least one member of the Student Association who has contributed substantially to its text.

SECTION 5: TERMS

- A. A legislative session of the Senate shall be the period from one changeover to the next.
- B. Changeover shall be a specific date in which incoming elected officers of the Student Association, incoming College Presidents, and incoming College Senators begin representing their constituency at Senate, thus commencing a new session of Senate.

ARTICLE IV: UNIVERSITY COURT

SECTION 1: ESTABLISHMENT

- A. The University Court shall be vested in the University Court, and the University Court shall have original jurisdiction over all Student Association matters.
- B. The University Court shall be a separate entity from the Student Association and shall perform the judicial functions of the Student Association that fall under this Constitution.
- C. Hearings before the University Court shall be conducted without violating the rights of the parties involved or the integrity of the University Court and the Student Association. Hearings before the Court shall not be adversarial;. The Court shall make determinations of fact based on a standard of more likely than not.

SECTION 2: MEMBERSHIP

- A. The University Court shall have a Chair elected by the Student Association, and shall have additional officers and members as provided for by its Constitution.
- B. Members of the Court are expected to make decisions in a fair and unbiased manner.

- C. Members shall recuse themselves from judicial proceedings arising under this Constitution If they feel unable to make a fair and unbiased decision in a matter.
- D. Members are expected to use their discretion to determine whether they should recuse themselves. The Chair (or other presiding member) may compel a member to recuse themselves.
- E. Reasons for recusal include, but are not limited to:
 - 1. Having a close personal relationship with any of the parties involved; and/or
 - 2. Having detailed prior knowledge of the matter in question not available to other members of the Court.

SECTION 3: INDEPENDENCE OF THE CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT

- A. All proceedings arising under this Constitution shall be independent of and separate from any proceedings in the same or related matter arising under the Code of Student Conduct.
- B. Alleged violations of this Constitution shall be adjudicated by the University Court.
- C. Violations of the Constitution, the Bylaws or the governing documents of registered organizations shall not themselves constitute violations of the Code of Student Conduct.
- D. If, in the exercise of the duties prescribed by the Constitution and Bylaws, the Court finds evidence that a violation of the Code of Student Conduct may have occurred, it shall separately and additionally respond to that evidence in accordance with the Code of Student Conduct.

SECTION 4: PUBLIC RECORD

- A. All University Court matters arising under this Constitution shall be matters of public record unless and until they become matters under the Code of Student Conduct.
- B. All proceedings and hearings held by the Court in matters arising under this Constitution shall be open meetings.
- C. All formal deliberations of the Court shall be closed proceedings.
- D. The Court shall prepare an abstract of any proceeding arising under this Constitution and shall include:
 - a summary of the Court's deliberations and the reasoning behind its finding;
 - 2. all records associated with matters arising under this Constitution, including but not limited to items of evidence, letters, abstracts of proceedings shall be public record; and
 - 3. all relevant records shall be easily accessible to members of the Student Association.

ARTICLE V: BLANKET TAX

SECTION 1: ESTABLISHMENT

- A. A Blanket Tax of \$85.00 per undergraduate student per year shall be collected and allocated to Blanket Tax Funds.
- B. \$14.50 of each student's Blanket Tax shall be allocated towards the Rice Thresher in in order to maintain editorial integrity and independence. Any unused funds shall return to the Blanket Tax. If the Rice Thresher is dissolved this subsection shall be null and void.
- C. An additional blanket tax of \$25.00 shall be collected and allocated to support the Intramural Sports program. This program shall not be a subsidiary organization and shall not be subject to oversight by the Blanket Tax Committee or to the processes provided for in this article.
- D. The Senate has the ultimate authority over the Student Association Budget, the Blanket Tax, and the budgets of Blanket Tax Organizations and shall consider the recommendations of the Blanket Tax Committee when making their decision.
- E. Every four years, the Senate and the Blanket Tax Committee shall consider increasing the Blanket Tax to accommodate inflation and other factors.

SECTION 2: BLANKET TAX COMMITTEE

- A. The Blanket Tax Committee shall oversee the Blanket Tax and conduct an annual review of organizations receiving Blanket Tax funds and a biannual review of initiative fund applications to ensure that Blanket Tax funds are utilized for organizational purposes and in furtherance of student interests and the interests of the Rice community.
- B. The Treasurer and Blanket Tax Committee may conduct an audit of the financial records of any Blanket Tax organization at any time to ensure compliance with the Constitution.
- C. The committee shall review proposals by qualified student organizations requesting priority access to Blanket Tax funds on a biennial basis.
- D. Members of the Blanket Tax Committee shall include:
 - 1. The Treasurer;
 - 2. Three (3) Senators who are not affiliated in a leadership role with Blanket Tax organizations;
 - 3. Two (2) officers of Blanket Tax organizations who do not hold positions in the Student Association;
 - 4. Blanket Tax Committee Advisor who shall hold a five-year term;
 - 5. The Parliamentarian, as a non-voting member;
 - 6. The Student Association Advisor, as a non-voting member;
 - 7. The Deputy Treasurer, as a non-voting member; and

8. Two (2) New Student Representatives, as non voting members.

SECTION 3: MEETINGS

- A. All Blanket Tax Meetings shall be open. Meetings may go into closed session at the discretion of the Chair, but no votes may be held.
- B. All formal committee decisions shall be made by a simple majority with a quorum of committee members.
- C. A quorum of the Blanket Tax Committee shall consist of at least two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) of the total voting membership.

SECTION 4: ANNUAL APPROPRIATION & REVIEW

- A. The Annual Review shall be conducted every Spring Semester by the Blanket Tax Committee to ensure proper adherence of Blanket Tax funds to the organization's purpose and the greater interests of the student body.
- B. All organizations shall submit a detailed, itemized operating budget for expenses during the current fiscal year. The organizations shall also submit their proposed budgets for the following fiscal year.
- C. The Student Association Treasurer shall announce the due date for all recognized Blanket Tax organization budget submissions.
- D. The Committee shall review submissions and submit a detailed report highlighting their findings and proposed allocations to the Senate with their recommendations for approval by the end of the Spring Semester.

SECTION 5: INITIATIVE FUND

- A. The Initiative fund shall be appropriated to new and innovative projects that serve the interests of the Rice community, and the priorities established by the Student Association Senate and Blanket Tax Committee.
- B. The framework under which initiative fund applications shall be reviewed will be established at the beginning of each academic year. The framework shall be announced on the Student Association website and become public record.
- C. All student organizations who are registered for the review year and are in good standing are encouraged to apply.
- D. The amount available shall be made public prior to the fiscal year's first review on the Student Association website. A minimum balance of \$1,000 at the end of the fiscal year turnover shall be maintained.

SECTION 6: APPLICATION FOR ANNUAL BLANKET TAX FUNDING

- A. The purpose of the Blanket Tax Application process shall be to review and approve registered student organizations that further the interests of the student body and the Rice University community in general by providing sustainable funding for organizations that will exist long-term.
- B. The Committee shall review applications for qualifying organizations based on the criteria below on a biennial basis in the fall semester.
- C. Registered student organizations considering applying for access to blanket tax funds shall:
 - 1. Have been a registered student organization for three (3) consecutive years
 - 2. Be in good standing
 - 3. present sufficient documentation to indicate good financial record keeping and a strong financial need.
- D. If an organization knowingly or unknowingly presents false information to the Blanket Tax Committee, Senate or any member of the Student Association during their application for Blanket Tax status, the case shall be referred to the University Court to determine if there was wrongdoing and the appropriate course of action moving forward.
- E. **Criteria of Review.** Organizations that are eligible for and apply to have access to Blanket Tax Funds shall be evaluated in based on the extent with which they match the following criteria:
 - 1. The organization's mission and purpose serves the interests of the student body and the Rice University community in general;
 - 2. The requested funds would contribute to the organization's mission, purpose, and goals;
 - 3. The organization has a strong financial need; and
 - 4. The organization's financial need is long-term and annual.
- F. **Senate Approval.** The Blanket Tax Committee shall present its findings to the Senate for all eligible organizations who applied with its recommendations. The Senate shall, by a majority vote, approve or reject an organization's request for inclusion on the general election ballot.

SECTION 7: BLANKET TAX ORGANIZATIONS

- A. Blanket Tax Organizations are the following organizations that have been recognized by the student body to be given access to Blanket Tax annual funding. The organizations currently receiving annual funding are:
 - 1. Rice Campanile;

- 2. Rice Honor Council;
- 3. KTRU;
- 4. Rice Rally Club;
- 5. Rice Program Council (RPC);
- Rice Student Volunteer Program (RSVP);
- 7. Rice Thresher;
- 8. The Rice Women's Resource Center (RWRC)
- 9. Civic Duty Rice
- 10. Rice University Student Association; and
- 11. University Court.
- B. All Blanket Tax organizations shall abide by the policies and procedures laid out by the Student Association, Student Activities Office and Rice University.

SECTION 8: ELECTED LEADERSHIP OF BLANKET TAX ORGANIZATIONS

- A. The highest-ranking officer of each Blanket Tax organization shall be elected by the student body under the regulations provided in this Constitution and Bylaws, with the exception of Honor Council representatives.
- B. In the event of a vacancy, the affected Blanket Tax organization shall fill the vacancy with a temporary leader in accordance with its own governing documents.
- C. The Blanket Tax organization shall, within five class days of the vacancy, submit to the Student Senate a written explanation of the reason for the vacancy, the method by which the vacancy was filled, and the person filling the vacancy for approval by 2/3s majority of the Senate.
- D. Blanket Tax Organizations or Senate has the power to remove elected leadership in accordance with the policies in this Constitution and the Bylaws.
- E. Impeachment by Senate of a Blanket Tax organization leader shall not be in retaliation against or in anticipation of any decision by a Blanket Tax organization that the Student Association finds unfavorable

SECTION 9: REMOVAL OF BLANKET TAX STATUS

- A. A Blanket Tax Organization may cease to be such and instead become a dependent organization only by a vote of the Student Association to remove its access to Blanket Tax funding or by an amendment of this Constitution to remove the organization from the list of Blanket Tax Organizations.
- B. Blanket Tax organizations that become dependent organizations shall retain their assets unless they are required to return some or all of their assets to the Blanket Tax Funds or all of the following occur:

- 1. The University Court finds the organization in violation of this Constitution;
- 2. The violation is related to the organization's use of Blanket Tax funds;
- 3. The University Court recommends, in addition to any binding sanctions or remedies, revoking the organization's access to Blanket Tax funding;
- 4. The Senate approves, by a two-thirds vote, the recommendation of the University Court;
- 5. The Senate calls for a proposition to revoke the organization's access to Blanket Tax funding and to seize some or all of its remaining assets; and
- 6. The Student Association approves the revocation and seizure by the passage of the proposition in accordance.

SECTION 10: DISSOLUTION OF BLANKET TAX ORGANIZATIONS

- A. A Blanket Tax organization may be dissolved by an initiative or referendum vote of the Student Association. If the organization requests dissolution, the organization may be dissolved with the approval of a majority vote of the Senate.
- B. Upon request and return of all liquid and illiquid assets, a Blanket Tax organization may continue as a dependent organization at the discretion of the Parliamentarian.

SECTION 11: FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

All organizations receiving Blanket Tax shall adhere to Rice financial policies and other policies outlined by the Bylaws.

SECTION 12: PUBLIC RECORD

Minutes shall be kept at all formal committee meetings and all documents associated with initiative fund, annual review, and Blanket Tax application process shall be made public record.

ARTICLE VI: STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

SECTION 1: PURPOSE

All student organizations shall have a mission and purpose that serves the interests of the student body and the Rice University community in general and, where applicable, a broader community.

SECTION 2: DEPENDENT ORGANIZATIONS

A. Dependent organizations are student organizations that are registered through the Student Activities office.

- B. Dependent organizations include those organizations receiving annual Blanket Tax funding unless otherwise specified by the Constitution.
- C. Applications for new Dependent Organizations shall be submitted to the Committee for Club Approvals.
- D. All dependent organizations shall abide by Rice University and Student Activities policies and procedures.

SECTION 3: PRIMACY OF THE STUDENT ASSOCIATION

- A. The Constitution of the Student Association shall be binding upon all dependent organizations. The Constitution and Bylaws of dependent organizations shall be subordinate to this Constitution.
- B. The Honor Council shall abide by and adhere to the policies of the Honor Council Constitution, since its creation supersedes the creation of the Student Association Constitution.

SECTION 4: DISSOLUTION OF DEPENDENT ORGANIZATIONS

- A. A dependent organization may dissolve itself by notifying the Senate and the Student Activities Office, provided it has no financial debts outstanding.
- B. The Senate may, by a two-thirds vote, may dissolve a dependent organization for failure to comply with this Constitution or Rice University policies or upon the recommendation of the Office of Student Activities. Such a decision is subject to appeal to the University Court.

SECTION 5: REALLOCATION OF ASSETS

- A. Any assets remaining in the name of a dependent organization or Blanket Tax Organization after its dissolution and the payment of its outstanding debts and any assets returned by or seized from an organization in accordance with this Constitution shall be reallocated to the Blanket Tax Funds.
- B. The Blanket Tax Committee shall assume control over any illiquid assets and shall have the authority to either transfer the assets to other organizations, giving priority to Blanket Tax organizations, or sell the assets and allocate the proceeds to the Blanket Tax Funds.

ARTICLE VII: ELECTIONS

SECTION 1: GENERAL

- A. The Student Association shall conduct elections in accordance with this Constitution in to elect Student Association officers, officers or representatives of Blanket Tax organizations, members of the Honor Council, amendments to the Constitution, and propositions
- B. All members of the Student Association, except those on disciplinary or academic probation, are eligible to hold and/or seek any office filled by a Student Association election. Specific offices may have their own requirements for candidacy.

SECTION 2: PROPOSITIONS

- A. A representative of a proposition must submit the petition to the Parliamentarian for approval prior to collecting signatures. The Parliamentarian shall approve all petitions that meet the requirements of this Constitution. The Parliamentarian's denial of a petition may be overturned by a majority vote of the Senate. The Senate's denial of a petition may be appealed to the University Court.
- B. Upon the presentation to the Parliamentarian and Senate of a petition signed by members of the Association numbering at least five (5) percent of the student body or by a majority vote of the Senate, any proposition question, may be submitted to a vote of the membership of the Student Association. Constitutional amendments are governed by Article IX.
- C. A representative of a proposition may, after properly submitting the petition and pending the results of the election, request that the University Court freeze the contested actions of the Senate.
- D. A matter passed by vote of the membership may not be repealed or amended by the Senate for five years, unless the proposition language explicitly provides an exception. Such matters may be amended or repealed by a subsequent majority vote of the membership of the Association at any time.
- E. In the case of two or more conflicting proposition questions passed concurrently, all non-conflicting parts shall be enacted and the conflicting parts which are part of the measure receiving the highest proportion of positive votes, excluding abstentions, shall be enacted.
- F. If the filing deadline for the next general election or second-round election is more than three weeks after the date of submission of a valid petition with sufficient signatures or the date of Senate's request for a vote on a proposition. A special election shall be

announced and conducted if the proposition calls for the removal of an officer or Senate determines the proposition is time-sensitive by a majority vote. A representative of the proposition may appeal the decision of the Senate to the University Court.

SECTION 3: VOTING

- A. All Student Association elections provided for in this Constitution shall be conducted by secret ballot according to the rules set forth in this Constitution and Bylaws.
- B. All currently-enrolled members of the Rice Student Association are eligible to vote in all Student Association elections. If in question, a person's membership shall be verified by the Office of the Registrar.

SECTION 4: ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

The elected officers of the Student Association shall be selected for each legislative session in an election of the Student Association according to the timing and procedures set forth in the Student Association Bylaws.

SECTION 5: ELECTION OF COLLEGE PRESIDENTS & SENATORS

College Presidents and Senators shall be elected by their respective colleges according to their procedures. Only one person from each College shall fulfill the responsibilities of Senator or College President under this Constitution

ARTICLE VIII: BYLAWS

SECTION 1: PURPOSE

The Bylaws shall supplement this Constitution by establishing committees, and other subordinate organizations as the Senate deems necessary. The Bylaws shall enumerate powers, duties, and rules pertaining to these official organizations. The Bylaws shall also lay out procedures governing the functions of activities described in the Constitution and may assign additional duties to Executive Officers, Senators, and Appointed Officers

SECTION 2: AMENDMENTS

A two-thirds vote of the Senate shall be necessary to ratify, modify, or suspend portions of the Bylaws. The Bylaws may contain provisions prohibiting the suspension of specific portions of the Bylaws.

ARTICLE IX: AMENDMENTS

SECTION 1: AMENDMENTS

- A. An amendment to this Constitution may be proposed by either a two-thirds vote of the Senate, by a convention, or by a petition signed by members of the Student Association numbering at least ten percent of the student body and presented to the Elections Committee and Senate, which shall then call a proposition vote on the amendment in accordance with Article VII.
- B. A favorable vote of a majority of the votes cast for and against the amendment proposition shall be necessary for adoption of the amendment; if adopted, Unless otherwise stated, the amendment shall take effect on the date specified in the amendment, or if no date is specified, the conclusion of the election approving the amendment. The Parliamentarian shall update and publish the amended Constitution upon its approval.
- C. If two or more conflicting amendments shall be passed simultaneously, all non-conflicting parts shall be enacted and the conflicting part or conflicting parts of the measure receiving the highest proportion of positive votes, excluding abstentions, shall be enacted.