

# **Charter of The George Washington University Student Government Association**

## **Preamble**

We, the students of The George Washington University have the right and the responsibility to achieve a system of representative governance. For this purpose we established The George Washington University Student Government Association. This association will foster student rights and responsibilities, and establish channels of communication within the University. The association will promote the general welfare of students and campus organizations, and cultivate interest in activities.

The George Washington University Student Government Association will have the responsibility to represent the interests of students under this Charter.

## **Article I - Membership**

The membership of the Student Government Association shall include all full-time, part-time, graduate, professional, and undergraduate students who are registered for academic credit at The George Washington University.

## **Article II - Authority**

The Student Government Association shall be the primary representative of the students of The George Washington University. The Student Government Association shall derive its authority to participate in the University governance from the Board of Trustees of The George Washington University.

## **Article III - Responsibilities**

The Student Government Association, as the primary representative of the students, shall make every effort to meet the needs and concerns of the students and the University community. The Student Government Association shall as a body, and/or through its chosen representative bodies and officers:

- A. Protect student rights, including those specified in the Statement of Student Rights and Responsibilities;
- B. Make every effort to encourage student involvement in development of University policies;
- C. Consult with and report to any University bodies on matters of concern to the students;
- D. Be aware of University actions concerning the students;
- E. Inform the University community of Student Government Association actions.

## **Article IV - Powers**

The Student Government Association shall have the power to fulfill its responsibilities within the provisions set forth herein and to act in any University-related matter not specified within the constraints of University regulations, policies, and procedures.

The Student Government Association shall also have the following powers:

- A. To administer and allocate Student Government Association monies and in connection therewith may receive assistance from University auditing resources;
- B. To obtain and review information made available on the affairs of the University;
- C. To develop and recommend a plan for the allocation of all University funds concerning student organizations and activities;
- D. To recommend the methods of selection of student representatives to standing University advisory committees, and other bodies upon request;
- E. To recommend student representatives to the Board of Trustees and its committees and as when

deemed appropriate by the Board;

- F. To enter into contracts and employ persons in a manner consistent with those articles and regulations, policies, and procedures of the University; and
- G. To provide appropriate penalties for malfeasance, misfeasance, and nonfeasance by elected and appointed representatives and to establish appropriate procedures to determine such violations.

#### **Article V - Enabling**

The Student Government Association shall have the authority to adopt by-laws, as necessary, to govern its organization and structure in a manner consistent with this Charter and the policies, regulations, and procedures of the University.

All amendments to this Charter must be approved by the Board of Trustees.

*Unanimously ratified by the Board of Trustees of  
The George Washington University, May 24, 1976.*

*Amendments approved by the Board of Trustees of  
The George Washington University, October 11, 1990.*

Oliver J. Carr, Jr.,  
Chairman of the Board

Thaddeus A. Linder,  
Secretary of the Board