

Appalachian State University Student Government Association
The Rules Committee Bylaws

Revised on 10/6/22



The Preamble

[Reserved]

Authority

Chapter four (4) of the ASU-SGA General Statutes define that Judicial Operating Procedures shall be adopted by the Committee and the Committee observes that unless explicitly stated otherwise within the Judicial Operating Procedures of the Committee these bylaws cannot be applicable to the Rules Committee as exercising its authority as Chief Judicial Authority of the ASU-SGA. Furthermore, it is given that these Bylaws act in supplementation and inferiority to the Association Constitution and Student Senate Bylaws.

Article I: Composition

1) Membership-

- a) The Rules Committee Chair shall be a committee member and retain all parliamentary rights as a member
- b) Liaison
 - i) The Vice President has the duty to serve as a liaison to the Rules Committee. This shall not be construed to service as a non-voting or other quasi-member of the Committee.

2) Officers- The officers of the Rules Committee shall be comprised of the Committee Chairperson, Ranking Member, Sergeant-at-Arms, Parliamentarian, Clerk, and any other such position as created by the Rules Committee Chairperson and confirmed by the committee.

- a) All Officers of the Rules Committee shall require confirmation by a majority vote of the Committee, with exception to the Ranking member who shall be confirmed with a 2/3rd vote
- b) If the Chair shall be temporarily or permanently incapacitated the process of succession shall follow as defined in the ASU-SGA Constitution
- c) If the Ranking Member shall be temporarily or permanently incapacitated- as defined within the ASU-SGA Constitution- or must take on the role of Acting Rules Committee Chair, the line of succession for the Ranking Member shall be as follows: The Rules Committee...
 - i) Sergeant-at-Arms
 - ii) Parliamentarian
 - iii) Clerk

- iv) Members that have been appointed to created office by the Rules Committee Chair in order of confirmation
- v) Committee Members in order by most senior in regards to:
 - (1) Sessions served on the Rules Committee, and if there is a tie, the most senior of those tied in regards to,
 - (2) Sessions elected to the Senate, and if there is a tie, the most senior of those tied in regards to,
 - (3) Order of Rules Committee Confirmation in the occurring session
- d) The specific, enumerated, duties/powers of the Chairperson shall be as follows:
 - i) Set the agenda, organize, and serve as the presiding officer at the Rules Committee meetings
 - ii) Direct the Rules Committee Officers, provide them with additional reasonable responsibilities, and delegate tasks
 - iii) Report actions taken and recommendations made by the Rules Committee to the Senate
 - iv) To recommend the addition or removal of members of the committee
 - v) Continue throughout their term to educate and guide the Rules Committee members on the goals and purposes of the committee by providing them with any information deemed necessary
 - vi) Receive and number all legislation to be scheduled for the Senate's consideration and make special assignments when necessary to provide complete research for all pieces of legislation.
 - vii) Meet with or delegate committee members to meet with any introducer(s) and sponsor(s) of legislation before it is introduced to Rules and subsequently Senate to ensure accurate research and the fulfillment of the legislative research form.
 - viii) Keep the Senate Leadership Team up to date on any expectations the committee has for them or any legislation involving their committee.
 - ix) Reserve the right to facilitate and foster discussion in the form of questioning during closed session meetings of the Committee.
 - x) Report any information to the Senate or Senate President upon request.
 - (1) Closed committee records may not be reported without the consent of the committee.
 - xi) Schedule all persons involved in being screened or representing//authoring legislation to appear before Rules for a formal review session.
 - xii) Assign committee members as liaisons to other committees.
 - xiii) Conduct or facilitate legislative workshops each semester as deemed necessary.
 - xiv) Unilaterally move the Committee into closed session

- xv) Appoint parliamentary assistance in the absence or inability of the parliamentarian.
 - xvi) Maintain historical records and institutional knowledge within the Association with the assistance of the Clerk.
 - xvii) Appoint special subcommittees to study the specific problems or concerns that fall within the scope of responsibilities of the Committee.
 - xviii) Provide a list of sample questions on legislation to the Committee
 - xix) Assign committee members to Screen Legislation and establish what the committee members responsibilities are in doing so
- e) The specific duties of the Ranking member shall be as follows:
- i) Assist the Rules Committee Chair in ensuring that the Committees Officers properly exercise their office.
 - ii) Assume the duties of the Chair temporarily in the event of their absence or inability to carry out their duties
 - iii) At the request of the chair, assist the Rules Committee in preparing for and organizing committee meetings.
 - iv) At the request of the chair, assist in meeting with any introducer(s) of legislation before it is placed on New Business
 - v) At the request of the chair, assist with keeping Committee members informed and guiding them with the goals and purpose of the Rules Committee.
 - vi) At the request of the chair, assist with verifying senator's research and being a resource for new legislation.
 - vii) Carry out other assignments given by the Chair relating to the Rules Committee.
- f) The specific duties of the Sergeant-at-Arms shall be as follows:
- i) At the order of the Chair, ensure decorum in meetings
 - ii) Advise individual members as to decorum, outside of meetings
 - iii) Ensure the secrecy of closed session and closed records
 - iv) Provide advice that entrance into closed session occurs properly, pursuant to North Carolina Law
 - v) At the request of the Chair, secure meeting space for the Committee
 - vi) Ensure that the Association website includes the Committee meeting time and location for each meeting, pursuant to North Carolina Law
 - vii) Advise the Rules Committee Chair as to breaches of conduct or ethics statute- that may be cited herein- by committee members
 - viii) Assume the responsibilities of the Ranking Member in the case of their absence or incapacitation
- g) The specific duties of the Parliamentarian shall be as follows:

- i) Ensure the committee properly complies with Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised, through advice
 - ii) Provide parliamentary assistance at the request of the chair.
 - iii) Advise the Rules Committee Chair as to breaches of ethics statute- that may be cited herein- by committee members
 - iv) Assume the Sergeant-at-Arms role when they are temporarily absent or deemed incapable of fulfilling their duties.
- h) The specific duties of the Clerk shall be as follows:
 - i) Record attendance for the Rules Committee meetings.
 - ii) Record the minutes of the proceedings of the Rules Committee.
 - iii) Maintain all records of the Committee.
 - iv) Assist with preparing and scheduling all meetings for individuals before the start of the meetings.
 - v) At the direction of the Chair fulfill the duties of the Parliamentarian in the event of their absence or when deemed incapable of fulfilling their duties

Article II: Committee Meetings

- 1) The committee shall meet weekly, provided the existence of new or pending business before the Senate, which will be used as a basis of its agenda, unless otherwise provided by the Committee Chairperson. The committee and its agenda are under the direct supervision of the Chairperson.
- 2) All meetings shall be made public, unless moved into closed session upon call of the chair or as defined within the committees parliamentary authority
- 3) The Chair shall have the authority to call special meetings of the committee when deemed necessary
- 4) Upon the presentation of a petition of two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) or more of the voting membership to the Chair, members of the committee may call special meetings.
 - a) A petition must contain member's names, signatures, university email addresses, and an objectively formatted explanation as to the purpose of the meeting.
 - i) The Chair will construct the meeting's agenda in accordance with the provisions set forth by the committee membership in the petition.
- 5) Quorum shall consist of a majority of members. Should quorum not be established, the committee may conduct no official business, except where provided within the Committees parliamentary authority
- 6) The most current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall be the Parliamentary Authority of the Rules Committee

- 7) All individuals presenting legislation, appointments, non-traditional items, etc. must be present at their hearing in order to provide the committee insight into their consideration or items of consideration
 - a) Virtual attendance may be permitted by the Chairperson
- 8) The “dress code” of the Committee shall be defined as “business casual”
- 9) All presentations to the Committee shall follow the format of: opening statement, questioning, closing statement unless otherwise directed by the Rules Committee
- 10) Specific duties of committee members during meetings include, but are not limited to:
 - a) Be prepared by reviewing proposed legislation/appointments and have questions and proposed amendments ready to be asked/discussed prior to the scheduled meeting.
 - b) Keep any closed discussion within the body confidential.
 - c) Respect the opinions of the other Committee members and, when need be, disagree in a proper and parliamentary manner.
 - d) Participate in discussion and questioning.
 - e) Remain objective in voting and consideration.
 - f) Keep discussions focused on powers/responsibilities of the Rules Committee
 - g) Be attentive to relevant details.
 - h) Always keep in mind the Committee Bylaws, Senate Bylaws, Statute and ASU-SGA Constitution

Article III: Committee Rating and Recommendation Guidelines

- 1) **Recommendation Guidelines-** The following Guidelines are the categories of recommendations the Rules Committee may issue to the Senate.
 - a) **Legislative Guidelines**
 - i) **Solvency** (Also referred to as “Objective”)- How effective is the legislation at solving the problem it seeks to address? How well does it achieve its goal? Etc.
 - (1) The legislation must describe the problem in sufficient detail.
 - (a) Consideration here ought to be directed towards whether or not the bill has proper foundation on the issue.
 - (2) It must be directed at the correct administrators, departments, etc.
 - (3) The legislation must have adequate details of its implementation.
 - ii) **Research** (Also referred to as Significance)- Determining the significance of a bill through qualitative and quantitative research. Is the legislation of

significance? Is the problem effectively researched sufficiently and objectively? Etc.

(1) Qualitative Research

- (a) Research concerning the values and goals of the legislation
- (b) Saliency- The issues the legislation addresses should be to *a degree* prominent on campus and in the community and should be proven through research.
- (c) Examples of qualitative research: Quotes, Petitions, Values, Personal testimony, etc.

(2) Quantitative Research

- (a) Polling and Surveys
- (b) Conglomerations of research on sister and peer institutions
- (c) Research of History

(3) The Committee reserves the right to consider research outside of the specific categories of Qualitative and Quantitative, provided that the Committee explains that it has done so

- iii) **Technical Merit-** Adherence to the Rules Committee Legislative Mandates; the overall organization, grammar, structure, and language of the legislation.
- iv) **Constitutionality-** All legislation must comply with the Constitution of the ASU-SGA and all applicable governing documents
- v) **The Alternative Recommendation System** Provision: With three fourths (3/4) vote of the members present, the committee may invoke the Alternative Recommendation System Provision. This provision allows the committee members to adopt a temporary recommendation system. A temporary recommendation system may be used in order to adjust to any non-traditional items of consideration, or in order for the committee to increase the thoroughness of review. Before the use of an alternative system, the new system must be completely documented in the minutes and voted on by the committee with a simple majority vote.

(1) The Alternative Recommendation System Provision changes shall always include the Constitutionality Recommendation category as prescribed in these bylaws.

- b) **Nomination and Appointment Guidelines-** The Rules Committee shall review all appointments and nominations and make recommendations to the Senate about each based on the following guidelines

i) Qualification Fulfillment

- (1) The Appointee must prove through sufficient presentation that they possess a thorough understanding of the position for which they were appointed.

- (2) The Appointee must prove through sufficient presentation that they possess an appropriate level of understanding of the general purpose and procedures of the ASU-SGA
 - (3) The Appointee must prove through sufficient presentation that they possess an appropriate level of qualifications to adequately fulfill the expectations of the Association
 - ii) Substantive Merit
 - (1) The Appointee must prove through sufficient presentation that they possess a level of merit worthy to fulfill the positions for which they were appointed. Merit will be rated from following categories:
 - (a) Leadership/Professional Experience – The Leadership/Professional roles, positions, qualifications, etc. the appointee possesses/possessed.
 - (b) Relevant Experience – Experience that relates to the position in which the appointee has been appointed.
Example Question: What press/publication/advertisement /etc. experience does the Press Director have?
 - (c) Vision – The objective goals for how the appointee will fulfill the expectations of their job to a standard of performance
 - iii) Academic and Behavioral Standing (when applicable)
 - (1) GPA Requirement
 - (2) Student Conduct Violations
 - iv) Constitutionality
 - (1) All appointments and nominations must comply with the Constitution of the ASU-SGA and other applicable governing documents

2) **Rating Guidelines-** The following Guidelines are the categories of ratings the Senate Rules Committee may issue for each recommendation to the Student Senate.

- a) **Legislative Ratings:** There are three categories of ratings the committee may render as they relate to legislation:
 - i) Favorable
 - ii) General.
 - iii) Unfavorable
- b) **Appointments/Nominations Ratings:** There are two categories of ratings the committee may render as they relate to appointments and nominations:
 - i) Sufficient
 - ii) Insufficient
- c) **Constitutionality:** There are two categories of ratings the committee may render as they relate to Constitutionality of Items:

- i) Favorable - The item complies with all provisions of the Student Government Association Constitution, Governing Bylaws, and Statutory provisions
 - ii) Unfavorable – The item fails to comply with all provisions of the Student Government Association Constitution, Governing Bylaws, and Statutory provisions
- d) **The Alternative Rating System Provision** - With three fourths (3/4) vote of the members present, the committee may invoke the Alternative Rating System Provision. This provision allows the committee members to collectively interchange the legislative rating system with the appointment and nomination rating system, and/or adopt a temporary rating system. A temporary rating system may be used in order to adjust to any non-traditional items of consideration, or in order for the committee to increase the thoroughness of review. Before an interchange of existing systems, and/or use of a temporary system, the new system must be completely documented in the minutes and voted on by the committee with simple majority vote.
 - i) The Alternative Rating System Provision may not be invoked for the recommendation category of Constitutionality.
- e) **Refer/Delay** - The Committee reserves the right to delay consideration of legislation for up to fifteen (15) days, unless delay would cause the Senate to be unable to consider the legislation due to delay and the end of the Legislative Session. The Committee further reserves the right to refer any legislation to other committees or to sub-committees.

Article IV: Association Officer Investigations

1) Investigation Process

- a) The Chairperson shall immediately notify the Rules Committee upon receipt of an opened inquiry from the Senate and the Rules Committee shall meet within six (6) calendar days of an opened inquiry
 - i) At this meeting the Rules Committee shall determine if any witnesses need to be called, what documents should be subpoenaed from ASU-SGA officers, and an intended timeline of the investigation. The information decided at this meeting shall be reported to the Senate at the request of the Senate President.
 - (1) These shall be guidelines and shall not in any way preclude future changes in these determinations.

- b) ASU-SGA officers who refuse to testify in good faith or turn over ASU-SGA documents or communications to the Rules Committee shall result in a finding of Contempt of the Student Senate and obstructing a Student Senate investigation which shall be reported to the Student Senate
 - i) Officers testifying before the Rules Committee may not refuse to answer questions provided to them
- c) As is Constitutional intent, the Rules Committee shall report all charges found within its investigation back to the Senate
- d) As is Constitutional intent, the Rules Committee shall not make any recommendations as to what action ought be taken by the Senate in relation to its findings
- e) The Rules Committee Chair shall present the Rules Committee report to the Senate with the assistance of any Rules Committee member that they deem necessary

Article V: Legislative Mandates and Definitions

- 1) Student Government Official Definitions: The Rules Committee recognizes the following definitions as the formal definitions for the purposes of the Appalachian State University Student Government Association.
 - a) Bill Number: In order to correctly and efficiently categorize legislation. This shall be composed of three numbers to designate the Senate session and three more to identify the actual legislation number, for example: “044-001”
 - b) Type of Legislation: This is where it needs to be established whether this is a Statute Bill, Enabling Bill, Policy Resolution, or a Support Resolution.
 - c) Long Title: This should clearly state the purpose and what the act seeks to do. This should be concise and “to-the-point.”
 - d) Short Title: The short title will be used for classification purposes. This should be the long title, just shortened to a few words, for example: “Part Bus Act”.
 - e) Introducer: The senator introducing the bill itself. This must be a voting member of the Student Senate representing his or her constituency.
 - f) Sponsor: Any person or group of people may sponsor a bill. This is just showing that the person or group supports the legislative initiative.
 - g) First Reading Date: The date in which the legislation will be formally brought before either the Rules Committee or the Student Senate (if the Rules are suspended).

- h) Version Date: The date in which the bill was drafted by the introducer(s).
 - i) Version: Either “Initial” or “Final” for the bill after Senate.
 - j) Reference Line: From which committee the legislation arose.
 - k) Whereas Clause: To explain the need for the legislation and the basic purpose.
Does not need to tell a story, just a brief explanation. Each line shall begin with the word “Whereas” and shall contain only one sentence each, ending in a semicolon along with the word “and”. The last clause in the “Whereas” shall end in a semicolon along with the words “now, therefore, be it”.
 - l) Resolved Clause: To state the action(s) that needs to be taken in addressing the issue/concern/idea. If there is a time frame that needs to be established, it would be listed in the clause. After the “Whereas” clause, it shall begin with the word “Resolve” and shall end in a period.
 - m) Senate Vote and Signatures: Here is where the formal vote is taken that was made in the Student Senate as well as the signatures of the President and Senate President (if not vetoed or if the legislation fails). This shall only be included in the Final Edition of the bill.
- 2) The Rules Committees Mandates on Student Government Legislation
- a) The Rules Committee mandates that a research form accompany all legislation in order to fulfill a basic level of technical merit.
 - b) The Rules Committee Mandates that there will be 4 permanent classifications of bills as prescribed in the Senate Bylaws
 - c) Surveys for Legislative Initiatives must meet the following mandates to be considered valid by the Rules Committee.
 - i) Surveys are highly recommended for Policy Bills.
 - ii) Surveys are recommended for Support Resolutions, Statute Bills, and Enabling Bills, however they are not required.
 - iii) Surveys must have a minimum of 100 participants, unless otherwise approved by the Senate Rules Committee Chair.
 - d) Grammar - legislation containing few and infrequent grammatical errors may qualify as a favorable in the category of technical merit, provided sufficiency in other stated criteria.
 - e) When an introducer wishes to have legislation placed on the Docket, they must ensure the Rules Committee Chairperson receives the appropriate documents (legislation, research form, addenda, survey questions and answers, etc.)

Article V: Rules Committee Code of Ethics

- 1) Each Committee member shall be expected to uphold the Rules Committee Member Code of Ethics, which includes the following provisions:
 - a) Committee members are expected to rate legislation based solely upon the parameters established in Article V. They are prohibited from rating legislation based on personal bias and other external factors. Committee members who are unable to vote without personal bias should recuse themselves from the committee until that piece of legislation has received its rating.
 - b) Committee members should treat all affiliates of SGA with respect.
 - c) Committee members should not pressure senators to author legislation, or discourage them from authoring legislation as a result of their personal biases.
 - d) Committee members should follow the processes and procedures of the Rules Committee. Thus, they are prohibited from disclosing information obtained during closed sessions (i.e. debate, voting) to other senators or cabinet members. Substantive questions regarding executive session are to be deferred to the Chair.
 - e) Rules Committee members are to refrain from sharing Rules Committee minutes with anyone outside of the committee, and must defer any requests for the minutes to the Chair.
 - f) Violation of the Code of Ethics constitutes grounds for removal from the Rules Committee upon the decision of the Chair following an investigation from the Ethics and Compliance Officer.
 - g) The Senate Rules Committee Ethics and Compliance Officer
- 2) The Rules Committee Ethics and Compliance Officer shall be responsible for conducting all investigations relating to Rules Committee Members conduct and these Bylaws.

Article VI: Record Keeping

- 1) Student Body Records: The Student Body Records are to include the following:
 - a) Each official version of the ASU-SGA constitution and governing documents, as amended.
 - b) Official copies of enacted legislation and judicial rulings.
 - c) Complete records of the membership of the executive cabinet and Senate leadership team, including temporary or permanent invocation of the lines of succession.
 - d) Complete records of vote specifications for each item of legislation.
- 2) Recordkeeping: It shall be the duty of each member of the Committee to ensure that all records are properly kept and maintained in a permanent fashion

- a) The Committee shall complete a yearly report, which shall be presented to the Senate with the details of the Student Body Records
- b) Each Officer of the Rules Committee shall utilize their office to maintain and keep all records

Article VII: Awards

- 1) **Codification of Awards:** Each official award established by the Rules Committee shall be codified as a separate section within this Article. Each such section shall include: the title of the award; the purpose of the award, including its founding date; any requirements governing eligibility; criteria for evaluating award nominees; guidelines for the nomination of potential awardees and selection of the final recipient; and any regulations regarding the administration and presentation of the award.
- 2) **Resolutions of Commendation:** The Senate Rules Committee may, in its discretion, adopt Resolutions of Commendation to honor specific individuals or organizations for whatever reasons it deems appropriate. Such resolutions shall not require official codification within these Statutes. No gift or compensation of any kind may be conferred by a Resolution of Commendation beyond honorary membership of the Student Senate Rules Committee.
- 3) **Documentation of Recipients:** A comprehensive listing shall be appended to this chapter containing all recipients of each award and honoraria, and the session in which the award or honoraria was given
- 4) **Awards:**
 - a) **The Senate Rules Committee Lifetime Achievement Award:** This honor is awarded to members of the Senate Rules Committee who exemplify the purpose and mission of the Committee in every action that they take. This individual has fought for the principles of legislative authority, institutional knowledge, and merit based decision making. Their legacy will forever be enshrined in history within the committee and the impact of their commitments will far surpass their time as a Student at Appalachian State University. This is the highest honor that can be bestowed upon a Rules Committee Member.
 - i) This award was founded in 2013 and is awarded to the individual that best meets the criteria prescribed therein. As the highest honor that may be bestowed upon committee members, it is tradition that this award be

granted to one member per year. The committee chair and membership may nominate an individual for this award before the first committee meeting of April each year. The Committee may award individuals with this award by a vote of two-thirds of members present. This award shall be reserved for individuals with a minimum of four semesters of any Rules Committee experience.

- (1) Recipients: 2014 – John C. Secrest – Chairman for the 47th Session
2015 – Nathan P. Bailey – Chairman for the 48th Session
2016 – Senator Ryan Dovel – Vice-Chairman for the 49th Session
2016 – Rena H. Hooker – Chairwoman for the 49th Session
2017 – Senator Madeline G. Hamiter – Vice-Chairwoman for the 50th Session
2018 – Walt Jennings Grayson – Chairman for the 50th and 51st Sessions

- b) The Rules Committee Policy and Procedure Award: This award goes to the individual with a dedication to the Rules of Order and Governing Code of Student Government Association. The recipient has proven their commitment to the Rule of Law through vocal support of the rules and points of order throughout meetings. This individual stands on principle and staunchly opposes the consequences of willful violations of established policy and procedure.

- i) This award was founded in 2017 and is awarded to the individual that best meets the criteria prescribed therein. As a high honor, it is tradition that this award be limited to one committee member per year. The Committee may honor individuals with this award by nominating members via a private ballot. Each member may nominate one individual for this award and ballots will be counted by the Chair and clerk to determine the final recipient.

- (1) Recipients: 2017 – Senator Joe Wilkes – Sergeant at Arms for the 50th Session
2018 – Senator Joe Wilkes –Parliamentarian for the 51st Session

- c) The Legislative Power and Authority Award: This award goes to the individual with a dedication to the mission and purpose of the Legislative Branch of Student Government Association. They have consistently endorsed the rights of Senators and the enumerated and inherent powers of the Legislative Branch. The recipient of this reward holistically embodies the spirit of SB 049-007 – The Senate Power and Authority Act. This individual has left a substantive impact on the Legislative system and their legacy will live forever on the history books of the Student Government Association.

- i) This award was founded in 2018 and is awarded to the individual that best meets the criteria prescribed therein. As one of the highest honors that can be bestowed upon a committee member, it is strict tradition

that this award be limited to one committee member per year. The committee chair and membership may nominate an individual for this award. The Committee may honor individuals with this award by nominating members via a private ballot. Each member may nominate one individual for this award and ballots will be counted by the Chair and clerk to determine the final recipient.

- ii) Recipients: 2018 – Senator Lauren Moody 7.
- d) The Rules Committee Member of the Year Award: This award goes to the individual on the Rules Committee who contributed in the most substantive of ways. The recipient wrote legislation, debated, advocated for the student body, proficiently used Robert's Rules of Order, and stood on principle. They facilitated the legislative process and earned a unique level of merit that deserves recognition. This member and their accomplishments are forever valuable to the organization.
 - i) This award was founded in 2017 and is awarded to the individual that best meets the criteria prescribed therein. As a high honor, it is tradition that this award be limited to one committee member per year. The committee chair and membership may nominate an individual for this award. The Committee may honor individuals with this award by nominating members via a private ballot. Each member may nominate one individual for this award and ballots will be counted by the Chair and clerk to determine the final recipient.
 - ii) Recipients: 2017– Senator DeJon Milbourne– Parliamentarian for the 50th Session 2018– Senator Connor Lloyd Hughes – Sergeant at Arms for the 51st Session
- e) The Student Government Senator of the Year Award: This award goes to the Student Government Senator who has embodied the ideals and mission of the Student Senate and legislative Process. This individual has contributed in a substantive manner in debate, sponsorships, on committee, and in the Senate Chamber
 - i) This award was founded in 2017. As a high honor, it is tradition that this award be limited to one Senator per year. The committee chair and membership may nominate an individual for this award. The Committee may honor individuals with this award by nominating members via a private ballot. Each member may nominate one individual for this award and ballots will be counted by the Chair and clerk to determine the final recipient.
 - ii) Recipients: 2017 – Senator Lee Franklin 2018 – Senator Lee Franklin
- f) The Legislation of the Session Award: This award goes to the Student Government Senator and who has drafted substantive Legislation that

impacted the Student Body in a meaningful way. The Senate Rules Committee is the gatekeeper of legislative integrity and they deem this piece of legislation one of the highest quality passed during the session.

- i) This award was founded in 2017. As a high honor, it is tradition that this award be limited to one Bill per year. The committee chair and membership may nominate a bill for this award. The Committee may honor bills with this award by nominating members via a private ballot. Each member may nominate one individual for this award and ballots will be counted by the Chair and clerk to determine the final recipient.
- ii) Recipients: 2017 – The Free Feminine Products Act – Senator Bouzigard and Feeney 2018 – The Mountaineer Meal Share Act – Senator Cahill, Davis, and Hancock

Article VIII: Amendment Procedures & the Historical Record

- 1) Amendments- These Bylaws shall be amended via the process provided in the Senate Bylaws
 - a) These Bylaws are effective upon passage, and all previous Bylaws are hereby declared null
 - b) Upon passage of the Student Senate, the Chairperson will record in this clause the date the amendments were passed and will accompany the dates with their signature:
 - i) Date of Last Revision:
 - (1) Fall 2017 Date of Previous Bylaws Changes:
 - (a) Spring 2014
 - (b) Fall 2015
 - (c) Fall 2017
 - (d) Spring 2018
 - (e) Fall 2021
 - (f) Fall 2022
 - (2) Signature of the Directors of Legislative Operations:
 - (a) Nathan P. Bailey
 - (b) Rena H. Hooker
 - (c) Walt J. Grayson
 - (d) Connor L. Hughes

(3) Signatures of the Rules Committee Chairs

(a) Connor S. Schlaline

(b) Hunter D. Clark

- 2) **Historical Record-** In the 50th year of the Senate Rules Committee, Walt J. Grayson (Director of Legislative Operations), proposed a historical record of the Rules Committee Chairs and Committee accomplishments be retained in order to trace the rich and successful history for decades to come. The Appalachian State Student Government Rules Committee was founded in 1966. The following detailed record dates to the 47th year of the committee's History. The format of this historical guide should reflect that of the founding purpose.

- a) **47th Year: Russell Page Administration Chair: Alexandra R. Cotton and John C. Secrest** Accomplishments: Redrafted the SGA Constitution and restructured the Senate in order to be more representative of the Student Body. Senators were selected and voted on based on housing previously, and upon the passage represented classes, organizations, colleges, and more.
- b) **48th Year: Rich Tassitino Administration Chair: Nathan P. Bailey** Accomplishments: The Legislative and Appointment Guidelines that provided structure for the organization were passed as an addendum to the Rules Bylaws, and the committee passed legislation updating the terms “Chairman” to “Chairperson” and “Sergeant of Arms” to “Sergeant at Arms”. Chairman Bailey championed internal reforms and left lasting contributions on the ASU-SGA Governing Documents.
- c) **49th Year: Rich Hamrick Administration Chair: Rena H. Hooker** Accomplishments: Incorporated a code of ethics into the bylaws and restructured the rating and recommendation process. The committee transitioned from blanket rating items to rating items on the categories of Purpose, Feasibility, and Technical Merit. Chairwoman Hooker initiated the drafting of the Senate Rules Committee Code of Ethics to promote increased oversight and transparency
- d) **50th Year: Howard Dawson Administration Chair: Walt J. Grayson** Accomplishments: Expanded the rating and recommendation system by providing detailed provisions and definitions for each individual category. Developed a detailed training curriculum, maintained governing documents, and oversaw the largest constitutional reform effort in a decade.
- e) **51st Year: Clayton Lee Administration Chair: Walt J. Grayson** Accomplishments: Brought forth the largest expansion and most thorough review of the Rules Committee and Elections Bylaws to date. Fought to expand the constitutional role of the committee and recorded long-standing committee procedure. Further solidified the committee and organizations records keeping guidelines and process. Facilitated the largest amount of bills passed in a session under the leadership of Walt J. Grayson.

- f) **52nd Year: Milbourne Kelley Administration**
- g) **53rd Year: Milbourne Davis Administration: Connor Schlaline**
- h) **54th Year: Davis Hunter Administration Chair: Trey Blackwood**
Accomplishments: Operating during the “COVID-19” online year, the Rules Committee began to operate under newly established Senate Bylaws. These Bylaws established Senate Bills and Senate Resolutions, changing the requirements each. The Rules Committee also considered three Writs of Constitutional Review. Multiple members of the committee took part in establishing and writing a new Constitution that was passed at the end of the 54th Session.
- i) **55th Year: President Gardin & President Blackwood: Connor Schlaline**
Accomplishments: Chairman Schlaline led the Committee through its first year as “Chief Judicial Authority” by virtue of leading the Committee through its first year operating under the heavily amended Constitution of the 55th Session.
- j) **56th Year: President Montalbano & President**