

# **Undergraduate Student Government Constitution**

*To uplift the interests and promote the welfare of all college students at the University of Chicago, particularly of those students on the margins; to further effective student participation in areas of undergraduate concern in concert with the University community at large; to create a results-focused interface that aims to orient University authorities towards the values of the Student Association; to represent the Student Association over time by maintaining continuity and institutional knowledge; to support student voices, organizations, and activities; we, the students of the College at the University of Chicago, hereby establish an Undergraduate Student Government under the following Constitution.*

## **ARTICLE I: THE STUDENT ASSOCIATION**

1. All students of the College at the University of Chicago shall be members of the undergraduate Student Association.
  - a. A student shall be any person, registered in the College, jointly or fully, or with advanced standing or on Extended-College Status and assessed a student services fee, considered a student in residence by the University of Chicago.
2. The undergraduate Student Association shall be represented by an Undergraduate Student Government (USG) composed of a College Council, its Committees, and its Cabinet; as well as its Student Advocate's Office and staff cadre, which support USG operations but do not represent students. All members of the Undergraduate Student Government shall be members of the undergraduate Student Association.
3. The Undergraduate Student Government shall constitute and maintain at all times a set of By-Laws to this Constitution describing its operations and laws, which may be amended by College Council with a two-thirds vote.
4. Members of the Student Association shall have the right to speak, in order, at all official Undergraduate Student Government meetings.
  - a. Members of the Undergraduate Student Government shall not have the right to speak or vote during deliberations of Recognized Student Organization funding decisions if they are a current board member or leader, or have been a member of leadership within the prior thirty days, of a Recognized Student Organization which is under consideration to receive funding.
  - b. Members of the Undergraduate Student Government shall not have the right to speak or vote, except as a candidate, during the deliberations of an appointment or decision to break an electoral tie if they are a candidate in the vote at hand.
5. The College Council and any other Undergraduate Student Government units, as specified in the By-Laws, shall be required to post and make public to the Student Association all minutes and other pertinent information from their official meetings and formal operations. All official Undergraduate Student Government meetings, minutes,

resolutions, and proceedings shall be appropriately made public. Any and all minutes from official Undergraduate Student Government meetings must reflect how each voting member voted in any and all votes taken, and all members of the relevant unit must be listed by name.

## **ARTICLE II: THE COLLEGE COUNCIL**

1. All legislative powers herein granted shall be vested in a College Council, which shall be the primary decision-making body of the Undergraduate Student Government and the voice of the undergraduate Student Association.
2. Subject to the powers of the members and other limitations provided for in this Constitution and the By-Laws, the activities, policies, and affairs of the undergraduate Student Association shall be conducted and all legal and political authority shall be exercised by or under the direction of the College Council.
  - a. Any policy, order, project, initiative, consultation, or other effort—by any member of the Undergraduate Student Government—that attempts to or does effect change on the University of Chicago, and any other University, business, stakeholder, holder of public office, or institution, with the exception of Recognized Student Organizations, shall require the consent or derivative authority of the College Council before such effort is undertaken.
  - b. Only public statements, events, projects, and other initiatives that have the legislative approval of the College Council may carry the full weight and use the title of the Undergraduate Student Government.
3. In addition to the power to legislate on any topic within the purview of the undergraduate Student Association, the College Council has the following powers, in accordance with the By-Laws:
  - a. To develop with the advice but not the consent of the Cabinet, at the start of each academic year, an Advocacy Agenda which consists of a series of student concerns to be prioritized and pursued by all units of the Undergraduate Student Government;
  - b. To approve the annual operating budget of the Undergraduate Student Government and other financial decisions, in accordance with the By-Laws;
  - c. To create, elect members to, and oversee all Committees;
  - d. To create new Committees and Subcommittees, in accordance with the By-Laws;
  - e. To confirm appointments to positions of leadership;
  - f. To submit referenda to the Undergraduate Student Association;
  - g. To select or appoint Officers, so long as their responsibilities do not contradict, interfere with, or otherwise overlap with those of another Officer;
  - h. To create or remove elected positions not prescribed in this Constitution by three-fourths majority;
  - i. and To refuse or amend the funding, under the auspices of the Undergraduate Student Government, of any Recognized Student Organization, in accordance with the By-Laws.

4. The College Council may delegate its authority to any person or persons or committee, however composed, provided that the activities and affairs of the undergraduate Student Association shall be managed and all legal authority shall be exercised under the ultimate direction of the College Council. However, the College Council shall not delegate the following powers:
  - a. the power to amend the By-Laws of this Constitution;
  - b. the power to schedule a referendum or an election to change either this Constitution or its By-Laws;
  - c. the power to initiate amendments to this Constitution or its By-Laws;
  - d. the power to confirm appointments.
5. The College Council shall adopt and maintain standing rules inferior to the By-Laws and this Constitution.
6. The above powers of the College Council shall not be construed as a limitation or specific enumeration of the powers of the legislature.

## **ARTICLE III: COMMITTEES**

1. The Undergraduate Student Government shall have several Committees that devise, review, plan, initiate, and carry-out all projects, initiatives, orders, policies, events, and legislation. Each Committee shall be the hub of knowledge, expertise, and authority on their relevant matters. All Committees shall be overseen and supervised by a Chair, who shall have no vote, unless the Committee be equally divided.
2. Committees may undertake and carry-out projects under their own name with the supervision of their Chairs. Any efforts of any Committee shall only occur after the enactment of legislation by the College Council according to Article II §2 of this Constitution. Each Committee shall only operate on matters within its scope or pertaining to its purpose, scope, and mission.
3. Any decision or action by the College Council or the Cabinet shall have the advice of the relevant Committees, and any effort taken by any member of the Undergraduate Student Government shall occur in concert with the relevant Committees, except in such cases that a project or act does not align with a Committee or Officer.
4. Any revision to the Articles of the By-Laws that specify the operations of a specific Committee shall only be amended with the advice and consent of the relevant Committee, or with a four-fifths vote of the College Council.
5. The following Permanent Standing Committees shall exist in the following issue areas:
  - a. The Election & Rules Committee (E&R);
  - b. Advocacy:
    - i. The Committee on Marginalized Student Affairs (COMSA);
    - ii. The Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Committee (SAAP);
  - c. Campus Life:
    - i. The Residence Life and Dining Committee (RLDC);
    - ii. The Committee on Campus Sustainability (CCS);
  - d. Student Affairs:
    - i. The Academic and Career Affairs Committee (ACAC);

- ii. The Health and Wellness Committee (HAWC);
- e. Student Organizations:
  - i. The Student Government Finance Committee (SGFC);
  - ii. The Committee on Recognized Student Organizations (CORSO);
  - iii. The Program Coordinating Council (PCC)
  - iv. The Committee on Academic Teams (CAT)
  - v. The Sports Club Fund (SCF)
  - vi. The Community Service Fund (CSF)
- 6. The Undergraduate Student Government shall have the power to create additional Subcommittees to disaggregate or expand—without conflicting with other Undergraduate Student Government entities—an existing Committee’s operations, in accordance with the By-Laws.
- 7. New Committees shall not be created unless there is a significant and long-lasting interest and need for the Committee’s mission, proposed work, and administration; and an existing Committee cannot oversee the relevant issue within its scope or as a Subcommittee.
  - a. New Committees shall be proposed no later than the fifth week of Autumn Quarter and shall be granted Permanent Status if and only if:
    - i. The Committee does not place an onerous financial and operational burden on the Undergraduate Student Government;
    - ii. Creation of the Committee is in the unique and vital interest of the undergraduate Student Association, as determined by a two-thirds vote of the College Council in the Autumn Quarter in which it is proposed;
    - iii. The Committee successfully operates *ad hoc* and with discretionary funding in the Autumn and Winter Quarters for the academic year in which it is proposed;
    - iv. At least one plausible candidate for Chair of the proposed Committee for the following academic year is identified by the last day of Winter Quarter;
    - v. and The undergraduate Student Association approves the Committee’s permanent formation by simple majority as an amendment to §5 of this Constitutional Article.
  - b. The Cabinet may, in exigent circumstances only, vote by two-thirds majority to establish a Standing Committee for the duration of the present term, upon the fourth-fifths majority approval of the College Council.
    - i. Committees established in this method shall not receive a line-item budget and shall not be reestablished in consecutive academic years, unless as a candidate for Permanent Standing status.
    - ii. Committees shall only be established in this method if it is not possible to incorporate its proposed responsibilities and mission within an existing Committee or as a Subcommittee.
  - c. Non-Committee entities, like the Student Advocate’s Office, Emergency Fund, or Judicial Council, may exist in the By-Laws, but shall not serve the function of a Committee—as defined by this Constitution—without following the procedures set forth in this Article.

8. Permanent Standing Committees shall not be abolished unless the College Council makes a determination by three-fourths vote that it is no longer in the interest of the undergraduate Student Association to maintain the Committee and:
  - a. At least two complete academic quarters pass between the time that a resolution making the above determination passes and a second resolution reaffirming the determination passes the College Council by three-fourths vote;
  - b. The Cabinet has made all reasonable efforts to nominate individuals for the Committee, but has been unable to seat at least one individual during the two academic quarter waiting period;
  - c. and The undergraduate Student Association approves the Committee's permanent abolition by simple majority as an amendment to §5 of this Constitutional Article.

## **ARTICLE IV: LEADERSHIP AND CABINET**

1. The executive power shall be vested in a President of the Undergraduate Student Association. The President shall be the leading representative and Chief Executive Officer of the undergraduate Student Association:
  - a. Overseeing the functions of the Undergraduate Student Government, and communicating its operations to external persons, individuals, and other actors;
    - i. Communication shall entail the College-wide publication, in consulting with other members of the Cabinet, of Undergraduate Student Government initiatives, events, goals, and other important updates;
  - b. Convening, setting the agenda of, and presiding over the meetings of the Cabinet;
  - c. Taking care that the initiatives, projects, and legislation of the Undergraduate Student Government be faithfully executed;
  - d. Preparing and delivering proposals on matters of policy and action for the consideration of the College Council and the Committees;
  - e. Maintaining the Undergraduate Student Government Office;
  - f. Advising the members of the Undergraduate Student Government in their efforts;
  - g. Ensuring the maintenance and continuation of the long-term vision, goals, and mission of the Undergraduate Student Government and Student Association;
  - h. Liaisoning, as necessary, with the members of any graduate student governing body at the University of Chicago;
  - i. And other powers delegated by the By-Laws of this Constitution and the acts of legislation of the College Council.
2. The President shall be elected by the undergraduate Student Association as a Slate with an Executive Vice President.
3. The College Council shall elect a Chair and Vice-Chair by and among its membership in the Spring Quarter before the beginning of the term. The Chair shall relinquish their position as a College Council Representative upon ascension. The Chair and Vice-Chair shall oversee the legislative processes of the Undergraduate Student Government:
  - a. Convening and presiding over the meetings of the College Council;

- b. Establishing the agenda of College Council meetings;
  - c. Ensuring that all acts of legislation are reviewed by the relevant Committees;
  - d. and Representing the College Council alongside the President.
- 4. The Executive Vice President shall be the Chief of Staff of the Undergraduate Student Government:
  - a. Conducting the powers and responsibilities as President *pro tempore* in case of absence, resignation, removal or other vacancy;
  - b. Ensuring the maintenance of an accurate and complete ledger of the Undergraduate Student Government budget throughout the year, in collaboration with the Vice President of Student Organizations;
  - c. Maintaining coordination and relationships with University staff critical to the Undergraduate Student Government operations, including the Center for Leadership and Involvement and Student Centers;
  - d. Ensuring that the entire Undergraduate Student Government abides by its governing documents and acts of legislation, through managing the Parliamentarians;
  - e. Maintaining accurate records of all Undergraduate Student Government actions, deliberations, communications, and operations, in both the present term and for the benefit of posterity, through managing the Historians;
  - f. Providing resources of research and appraisal to all members of the Student Government for the betterment of all efforts and legislation, through managing the Analysts;
  - g. Facilitating the hiring, training, managing, and other human resource responsibilities of the staff cadre of the Undergraduate Student Government, including maintaining a regular relationship with the Office of Career Advancement for the provision of Metcalf and other subsidized positions;
  - h. and Overseeing the operations of the Election & Rules Committee, unless they are a candidate of an election while serving as Executive Vice President.
- 5. The Cabinet shall be composed of the President, College Council Chair and Vice-Chair, Executive Vice President, directly elected Vice Presidents of Campus Life, Student Affairs, and Advocacy; and an appointed Vice President of Student Organizations, confirmed by the College Council. The Vice Presidents shall oversee the operations of the Committees and Officers of their specific issue area. The President shall convene the Cabinet at least once per month. In addition to being voting members of the Cabinet, the Vice Presidents shall be the senior facilitators of the Undergraduate Student Association on matters of their issue area:
  - a. Maintaining relationships with the senior Administrators and other external stakeholders of their issue area;
  - b. Advising and coordinating the operations of Committees and Officers of their issue area by holding at least five meetings per academic quarter of the Committee Chairs and other Officers within their issue area;
  - c. Overseeing the activities and leadership of the Committee Chairs in their issue area, and serving as Committee Chair *pro tempore* in case of absence,

resignation, removal or other Chairperson vacancy, or by the consent or request of the Committee Chair;

- i. A Vice President shall not be regularly appointed as a Chair of any Committee within their issue area, except in the procedures outlined supra.
  - d. Informing the entire Student Government of the operations of their issue area on at least a bi-weekly basis during the academic year;
  - e. Being *ex-officio* non-voting members of each Committee in their issue area;
  - f. Authorizing emergency policy action within their issue area in exigent circumstances;
  - g. Responding in a timely manner to questions pertaining to the Committees in their issue area to the broader public.
  - h. And coordinating and providing for the collaboration between different relevant members and Committees on all efforts of the Undergraduate Student Government.
6. The Vice President of Student Organizations shall be selected by the outgoing Chairs of Committees in the Student Organizations issue area. The outgoing Vice President of Student Organizations shall collect applications from any individual who has been previously confirmed in an appointed role within the Student Organizations area.
  7. There shall be four Vice Presidents, one for each Committee issue area specified in Article III of this Constitution.
  8. The Cabinet shall also include an elected Trustee and Faculty Governance Liaison, who shall be responsible for maintaining relationships with faculty governing bodies and the University Board of Trustees.
  9. The President, with the consent of at least one other Cabinet member, may nominate up to two total appointed members of Undergraduate Student Government to the Cabinet level for the duration of the present term for the purpose of fulfilling the present term's Advocacy Agenda, with the majority approval of the College Council.
  10. The President shall prepare and deliver, with the assistance of the Executive Slate, quarterly addresses to the College Council on the State of the Student Association.
  11. The President shall within one hundred and twenty hours of the passage of an act of legislation, have the power to sign or veto that legislation in entirety, in accordance with the By-Laws.
  12. If the President decides to exercise their veto power, then the College Council may vote to override the veto by two-thirds majority—or a ratio of College Council Representatives equivalent to ten percent more than the ratio of approval votes on the original motion, rounded up to the nearest whole, if the original motion required supermajority support for approval.
    - a. The President shall not veto disciplinary or removal decisions.
  13. If the President does not sign or veto an act of legislation within one-hundred and twenty hours of passage, then the legislation shall go into effect as if it had the absent signature.

## **ARTICLE V: STUDENT ADVOCATE'S OFFICE**

1. The Undergraduate Student Government shall continuously maintain a Student Advocate's Office charged with offering and providing free casework services to any undergraduate student navigating any University administrative or disciplinary process.
    - a. The Student Advocate's Office shall conduct its operations without regard to any bias or prejudice of a student, case, or pattern of facts.
    - b. All Student Advocate's Office services shall be free of charge.
    - c. The specific allocation and prioritization of casework resources shall be enumerated in the form of functional Divisions, as specified in the By-Laws.
2. The Student Advocate's Office shall advise students on how to best advocate for themselves before the University. Recognizing that disciplinary and administrative processes at the University are often difficult and intimidating for students to navigate, it shall principally serve as a resource and guide for students going through these processes.
  - a. The Student Advocate's Office shall fulfill its mission through the following mechanisms:
    - i. Advising students on how relevant University processes and procedures operate;
    - ii. Informing students of their rights and responsibilities within University processes and procedures;
    - iii. Assisting students with identifying the best manners to convey their positions to the University and its various entities;
    - iv. And acting as a support system before, during, and after disciplinary hearings.
  - b. Recognizing the higher burden that University processes place on First Generation, Low Income students, the Student Advocate's Office shall always prioritize these students in its advocacy.
  - c. The Student Advocate's Office shall not, in ordinary operations and particularly those involving regular University disciplinary hearings, directly represent a student before the University or write on their behalf.
  - d. The Student Advocate's Office shall not have the direct power of broad or significant policy recommendation or implementation, beyond those proposals deemed necessary in interactions with individual faculty and staff for the completion of the Office's mission, as outlined in Article II §2 of this Constitution, to any individual outside of the Undergraduate Student Government.
    - i. The Student Advocate's Office may establish a branch of policy analysts and advisors to devise and deliver Article II §2 recommendations illuminated by its regular student advising operations to the College Council and other Undergraduate Student Government members, so long as those analysts and advisors are either not directly involved in regular student advising operations, or are not directly involved in the attempts to implement those recommendations to external actors and institutions.
  - e. The above powers and methods of the Student Advocate's Office shall not be construed as a limitation or specific enumeration of the powers and methods of the Student Advocate's Office in fulfilling its mission.

3. Members of the Undergraduate Student Government not appointed or detailed to the Student Advocate's Office shall have the right to review general actions and operations of the Office without the inclusion of personal identifying information of any student whom the Office advises or otherwise assists, at the discretion of the Student Advocate.
4. The Student Advocate's Office shall be led by at least one Student Advocate, who shall serve as Director of the Office. The primary functions of the Student Advocate's Office shall be organized into Divisions; each Division shall be overseen and supervised by a Lead Caseworker, who shall report directly to the Student Advocate. The Student Advocate and Lead Caseworkers shall collectively form the Office's Leadership and be confirmed by the College Council. The Student Advocate's Office shall be overseen by the Vice President of Advocacy.
  - a. New Student Advocates shall be nominated by the President with the consensus of the Executive Vice President and Vice President of Advocacy, and the advice of the outgoing Student Advocates.
  - b. New Lead Caseworkers shall be nominated by the Student Advocate.
  - c. Student Advocates and Lead Caseworkers shall serve successive terms subject to reconfirmation by College Council, but shall automatically continue serving in successive terms absent such reconfirmation, or absent the appointment of relevant successors, resignation, removal, or other absence.
5. The Student Advocate's Office shall primarily consist of Caseworkers, who shall be undergraduate students nominated by the Office's Leadership and confirmed by the College Council at least once per academic year. The Caseworkers shall be organized into divisions and shall report directly to the relevant Lead Caseworker.
6. The Student Advocate shall prepare and deliver, with the assistance of Office Leadership, quarterly addresses to the College Council on the State of Student Advocacy in University Processes.

## **ARTICLE VI: ELECTIONS**

1. The election of the members of the Executive Slate and other elected officers, as specified in the By-Laws, shall occur in the spring of each academic year on a date selected by the Election & Rules Committee, which shall govern all elections, subject to this Constitution and to its By-Laws. This date of the election may not be set later than the fifth week of the Spring Quarter.
2. The elected Executive Slate candidates shall comprise a unitary and indivisible slate of candidates. Votes shall be cast for such a slate of candidates, not for the individual candidates.
3. College Council elections and appointments shall occur in either the Autumn Quarter of each academic year or the Spring Quarter preceding each academic year or both until all representatives are determined.
4. Any member of the undergraduate Student Association is eligible to run for office.
5. Undergraduate Student Government members shall not permanently occupy multiple elected positions of office.

6. Elections shall be scheduled and conducted pursuant to the provisions of this Article and the By-Laws.
7. Vacancies in any position occurring before the expiration of the term of office shall be filled in accordance with the appropriate By-Laws.
8. The College Council shall have the power, on its own with three-fourths majority or through delegation or consent of the Election & Rules Committee, to establish all rules and procedures for all elections, and the Election & Rules Committee shall govern and hear all disputes regarding such elections. The Election & Rules Committee shall be the final judge of all election disputes and results.

## **ARTICLE VII: MEETINGS AND QUORUM**

1. The College Council shall hold no fewer than four meetings per quarter, excluding the Summer Quarter. The Cabinet, College Council, and Committees shall establish additional minimum meeting requirements or non-meeting guidelines for intra-quarter and inter-quarter operations in the By-Laws.
2. A quorum of any Undergraduate Student Government unit is required in order to conduct an official meeting in the name of that unit, in accordance with the By-Laws.
3. A quorum for each body shall consist of a majority of the eligible voting members.
4. All official business of each unit shall be governed by Robert's Rules of Order unless otherwise stated in this Constitution or unless otherwise specified in the By-Laws.
5. An official Undergraduate Student Government meeting or formal operation shall have occurred if the operation or meeting was publicly scheduled and announced in advance, or if the following have occurred:
  - a. Parliamentary procedure was consistently followed, and;
  - b. the action taken or the topics of meeting related to the responsibilities, tasks, functions, or initiatives of the Undergraduate Student Government, or;
  - c. The meeting or operation initiated a formal vote that resulted in a terminal decision or action by the Undergraduate Student Government, including but not limited to the passage of a resolution or statute.
  - d. Meetings of Investigative Committees in disciplinary proceedings and deliberations of the Student Government Finance Committee, Committee on Recognized Student Organizations, and any other RSO finance committees shall be exempt from the requirement to allow members of the Student Association to attend and speak at meetings.

## **ARTICLE VIII: INITIATIVE, REFERENDUM, RECALL, AND REMOVAL FROM OFFICE**

1. The rights of initiative, referendum, and recall are vested in the undergraduate Student Association.
2. The Elections & Rules Committee shall submit an act of referendum to repeal any legislative item within one month upon petition by 10% of the undergraduate Student

Association, with the exception that no referendum may be held during the summer quarter or a scheduled break, as determined by the Registrar.

3. The College Council shall consider any matter of initiative, except a referendum or a recall election, within two weeks of a petition by 15% of the Undergraduate Student Association.
4. A recall election for any elected officer of the Undergraduate Student Government shall be held within three weeks upon petition by 10% of the Student Association or that official's electoral unit; no recall election may be scheduled during the summer quarter.
5. All members of the Undergraduate Student Government shall agree to and abide by the terms of service, conduct, and conflict resolution outlined in the Undergraduate Student Government Code of Conduct established by the College Council. Those members who do not agree to the Code of Conduct within seven days of passage by the College Council shall automatically forfeit their position within the Undergraduate Student Government.
6. Members of the Undergraduate Student Government may be removed from office for violation of public trust, neglect of duty, or malfeasance of office by decision of the Judicial Council or a two-thirds vote of the College Council, in accordance with the By-Laws and relevant judicial codes. Removal shall only occur after having been offered a hearing in the relevant body, in accordance with the By-Laws and relevant judicial codes. Such violation, neglect, or malfeasance may include violation of the Code of Conduct upon a finding to that effect of the Judicial Council.
  - a. The Chair of the Judicial Council shall have the authority to suspend for up to seven days an appointee to the Undergraduate Student Government—but not the Student Advocate's Office—if the President and relevant Vice President determine that such a suspension is in the imminent and vital interest of the undergraduate Student Association and reports within twenty-four hours each such determination to the College Council. A suspended appointee shall be relieved of all authorities, accesses, and obligations of the relevant office for the period of suspension. The relevant Vice President or their designee shall serve in place of the suspended individual during the period of suspension.
    - i. The President shall not suspend an appointee for no more than two consecutive seven day periods, and no more than three seven day periods in a term of office.
    - ii. A determination to suspend an appointee shall automatically require the President to refer the appointee to the Judicial Council or the College Council, or both, for disciplinary action or removal from office.
    - iii. The Cabinet shall have the authority to review and overturn any suspension decision by a simple majority of the entire membership of the Cabinet. The decision to overturn a suspension shall also overturn any decisions made by the acting appointee during the suspension.
    - iv. A determination to suspend, or overturn a suspension, shall not presume guilt of misconduct for any individual involved.
  - b. All members of the Student Advocate's Office shall agree to and abide by the terms of confidentiality outlined in a Caseworker Ethics and Privacy Agreement

established each academic year by the Student Advocate, along with any additional privacy rules promulgated by Office Leadership.

- i. Under no circumstances shall information or documentation generated through casework, or that which is deemed sensitive or extremely sensitive, be disseminated to unauthorized individuals, as determined by the Student Advocate.
- ii. Caseworkers and Lead Caseworkers of the Student Advocate's Office may be removed from their position upon the recommendation of the Student Advocate, with the possibility of review by the Cabinet and appeal to the College Council.
- iii. Members of the Student Advocate's Office may report alleged violations of any ethical or privacy rules, or other acts of wrongdoing, to a member of the Cabinet, who shall be obligated to refer the matter to the Student Advocate, the rest of the Cabinet, and the College Council for regular investigation and determination.

## **ARTICLE IX: BY-LAWS**

1. The undergraduate Student Association may amend the By-Laws by a three-fifths majority of votes cast at the next scheduled election or at a special referendum.
2. The By-Laws shall be made available by the Election & Rules Committee for public inspection.
3. In no case shall the By-Laws be enacted or amended to contradict this Constitution.

## **ARTICLE X: CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS**

1. Amendments to this Constitution may be initiated by a three-fourths vote in the College Council or upon petition by 5% of the undergraduate Student Association.
2. Proposed amendments to the Constitution shall require the approval of three-fifths of the undergraduate Student Association members voting on the amendment. The Election & Rules Committee shall place proposed amendments on the ballot during the regularly scheduled Autumn Quarter or Spring Quarter elections.

## **ARTICLE XI: RATIFICATION AND INTERPRETATION**

1. This Constitution has been approved by the College Council of 2021-2022 on May 23rd, 2022, as authorized by the BUILD Act of February 2021 and subsequent Transition Committee legislation; and the approval by the undergraduate and graduate Student Associations of the constitutional referendum that concluded on April 23rd, 2021.
2. Should any question regarding the interpretation of this Constitution arise, the Executive Vice President, after consulting with the President, College Council Chair, and Historians, may issue an interpretation. This interpretation shall stand unless overturned by a three-fourths vote of the College Council.