

# The Constitution of Students for Progressive Governance



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**Preamble**

The student members of Students for Progressive Governance aim to solicit diverse opinions on the current structure of Student Government and organization at the University of Michigan – Ann Arbor and to recommend changes to the current structure.

**Article I**

**Organization Name**

The organization will be known as Students for Progressive Governance or S4PG.

**Article II**

**Organization Membership**

SECTION 1. ELIGIBILITY. All students at the University of Michigan – Ann Arbor campus are eligible to join Students for Progressive Governance.

SECTION 2. MEMBERSHIP SELECTION. Any current member can nominate new members during a general body meeting. Upon a nomination and a second, the prospective member shall have a opportunity to address the General Body for a time determined by the Chair. Following the prospective members address, the Chair shall facilitate discussion. Once the question is called, the nominated student shall become a member upon a simple majority vote.

SECTION 3. VOLUNTARY WITHDRAWAL. Any member can voluntarily withdraw at any point by informing the Chair, Vice Chair or Secretary.

SECTION 4. REMOVAL. A motion to removal is in order at any general body meeting with quorum. Upon a motion and second, the member in question will have the opportunity to speak for an amount of time determined by the chair which must be greater than three (3) minutes. Following the defense, debate may take place. Once the question is called, the member will be removed by a simple majority vote of the present and voting general body.

(a) CIRCUMSTANCES OF REMOVAL. A member may be removed for failure to comply with this constitution, dereliction of duty, criminal offense, verbal abuse or attempt to deliberately impede the work of S4PG.

(b) RECALL OF OFFICERS. An officer may be recalled for any of the reasons outlined in section III.4.a. A motion to remove is in order at any general body meeting with quorum. Upon a motion and second, the member in question will have the opportunity to speak for an amount of time determined by the chair which must be greater than three (3) minutes. Following the defense, debate may take place. Once the question is called, the member will be removed by a simple majority vote of the present and voting general body.

### Article III

#### Organizational Structure

Students for Progressive Governance shall consist of a General Body and its sub committees and an Executive Council.

SECTION 1. THE GENERAL BODY. The General Body of Students for Progressive Governance consists of all current members. The General Body may by a simple majority vote create or disband internal sub- committees. The General Body may veto any action of the Executive council by a simple majority vote. The General Body shall be following Roberts Rules of Order (in its most current edition).

(a) INTERNAL SUB-COMMITTEES. The General Body may by a simple majority vote create or disband internal sub committees to aid with the internal S4PG initiatives. Upon the creation of an internal committee there shall be an election within one (1) week for a chair of that committee.

(b) EXTERNAL SUB-COMMITTEES. The General Body may by a simple majority vote create or disband external committees to focus on educating the student body about the internal S4PG initiatives. Upon the creation of an external committee there shall be an election within one (1) week for a chair of that committee.

SECTION 2. THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL. The Executive Council shall consist of the three executive officers and all Committee Chairs. The executive council shall act have the ability to act on behalf of the General Body in emergencies until a General Body meeting may be called. The Executive Council shall set the agenda for General Body meetings.

### Article IV

#### Organization Operations

SECTION 1. OFFICER ELECTIONS. All elections shall occur at a general body meeting with quorum. All elections for the Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary shall occur at the beginning of each academic year. Any current member of Students for Progressive Governance is eligible to run for officer positions. If the Chair is not available to preside over the meeting, the General Body shall

59 appoint an Interim Chair until a Chair is elected. All elections shall follow Roberts Rules of Order  
60 (in its most current edition).

61 SECTION 2. GENERAL BODY MEETINGS. The Chair shall preside over all General Body meetings  
62 and shall uses Roberts Rules of Order (in its most current edition) when during contested decision  
63 making. General body meetings must be announced one (1) week prior. Quorum for General Body  
64 meetings is 2/3 of organizational membership.

65 SECTION 3. COMMITTEE MEETINGS. The Committee Chair shall preside over their respective  
66 committee meeting in any way the Committee Chair deems fit.

## 67 Article V

### 68 Officer Responsibilities

69 SECTION 1. THE CHAIR. The Chair is the chief executive officer of S4PG. The Chairs responsible  
70 for setting and holding meetings. The Chair shall preside over all general body meetings with one  
71 (1) vote. The Chair shall also have the tiebreaking vote on the Executive Council. The Chair and  
72 shall oversee and coordinate outreach efforts of the organization. The Chair shall coordinate all  
73 press releases and media communication.

74 SECTION 2. THE VICE CHAIR. The Vice Chair is a member of S4PG with one (1) vote in the  
75 General Body and Executive Council. The Vice Chair is responsible for overseeing the internal  
76 operations of Students 4 Progressive Governance, including but not limited to facilitating cross  
77 committee collaboration. In the absence of the Chair, the Vice Chair shall assume all of the Chairs  
78 duties and responsibilities.

79 SECTION 3. THE SECRETARY. The Secretary is a member of S4PG with one (1) vote in the General  
80 Body and Executive Council. The Secretary shall keep and call roll at general body meetings, keep  
81 up to date minutes, insure efficient communication throughout the organization and shall insure  
82 that all internal documents are kept up to date. Furthermore, the Secretary shall coordinate the  
83 drafting efforts of S4PG.

84 SECTION 4. THE COMMITTEE CHAIR(S). The Committee Chairs must be members of S4PG. They  
85 are responsible for presiding over their respective committee meetings and reporting back to the  
86 General Body. A Committee Chair shall have one (1) vote on the Executive Council. The Committee  
87 Chair shall choose a Vice Chair with the advice and consent of the General Body.

88 (a) THE COMMITTEE VICE CHAIR(S). The Committee Vice Chairs are responsible for keeping  
89 records of the committee meetings and reporting back to the General Body.

**Article VI****Organization Finances**

SECTION 1. SOURCE OF FUNDING. Students for Progressive Government shall seek funding grants from any University sources that the Executive Committee deems appropriate. These sources include funding bodies from the various student governments on campus.

SECTION 2. FUNDING PRACTICES. The Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary shall be the authorized signers on the SOAS account. A disbursement may be made by any executive member pending the approval of the Executive Council and General Body.

**Article VII****Amendments**

Amendments may be made to this student organization constitution by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the General Body. Motions to amend are in order whenever the General Body session is called to order.

**Article VIII****Registration Renewal**

S4PG shall be renewed once each year during the month of September and is the responsibility of the incoming Chair.