

# UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE SPACE INSTITUTE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION CONSTITUTION

Adopted January 31, 2006

Amended March 11, 2015

## PREAMBLE

We, the students of the University of Tennessee Space Institute, having in view a realization of the objectives of the Institute and the importance of education in a free society, in order to carry out through one representative body the purposes stated, do hereby establish this Constitution.

## ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of the subject organization is the Student Government Association, hereinafter referred to as the SGA.

## ARTICLE II - MISSION

The mission of the SGA is to:

1. Review, inspect, propose change to, or creation of policy statements, rules, and practices of the University of Tennessee Space Institute, hereinafter referred to as UTSI, and its parent organization, the University of Tennessee at Knoxville, hereinafter referred to as UTK, to insure the fair treatment and optimum service to all UTSI students;
2. Represent student concerns to the University, its agents, administrators, or hirelings;
3. Supervise the spending of student monies to best serve the greatest interests of the students;
4. Supervise the apportionment and spending of student monies to the various student clubs and organizations that exist at UTSI;
5. Enhance the social and intellectual welfare of the students of UTSI;
6. Foster a spirit of cooperation between the student body and the administration, faculty, and staff of UTSI and UTK;
7. Provide assistance to administration to enhance the quality of the academic experience.

## ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP

Every registered full- and part-time student of UTSI shall be a member of the student body and shall have equal rights of suffrage and candidacy as outlined within the Bylaws. Students of UTSI "Short Courses" are excluded from Student Body Membership.

Regular Student Body Meetings shall be held once per month and shall be announced to the Student Body at least one week prior to the meeting date established by the current SGA President. In order for a meeting to take place a quorum of the elected Senators is required to be in attendance. The purpose of the regular Student Body Meeting is to uphold the Mission of the SGA. Special meetings of the Senators and/or the Executive Committee may be called by the current SGA President at any time the President deems it is necessary.

#### ARTICLE IV - SGA ORGANIZATION

The leadership of the SGA shall be comprised of the following:

1. An Executive Committee comprised of a President, Vice-President, and a Secretary/Treasurer;
2. The Senate;
3. UTK Graduate Student Senate representatives, hereinafter referred to as GSS representatives;
4. Webmaster/Historian

#### ARTICLE V – PROCEDURE

1. The rules contained in the most current edition of Robert’s Rules of Order shall govern the SGA, in all cases in which they are consistent with the Constitution and Bylaws.
2. A quorum shall be defined by a two-thirds vote of the eligible voting body.
3. A majority shall be defined as greater than half of the eligible voting body.

#### ARTICLE VI - ELECTIONS

1. The elections to fill the positions of SGA shall take place in accordance with the bylaws.
2. To serve as custodians of elections and to insure that the bylaws concerning elections are observed, an election committee shall be named.

#### ARTICLE VII - REMOVAL OF OFFICIALS

Any SGA Officer, Senator, GSS representative, club president, or other official may be removed from office on grounds of misuse of funds, abuse of power or position, dereliction of duties, or any other reason which makes the official unfit to serve in that office as outlined by the Standards of Conduct in the most recent edition of the Hilltopics Student Handbook.

#### ARTICLE VIII - CAMPUS CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

The SGA may officially recognize a campus group or organization receiving funds and support from the SGA as an official club, hereinafter referred to as a club.

#### ARTICLE IX - AMENDMENTS

Any changes to the constitution or bylaws of the SGA, as well as situational deviations from their confines, requires a quorum vote of the SGA at a regular Student Body Meeting. The amendments and/or deviations shall be announced one week prior to the corresponding meeting.

#### ARTICLE X - BYLAWS

Appropriate Bylaws to carry out the provisions of this Constitution which shall be concurrently adopted.

#### ARTICLE XI – ADOPTION

This Constitution shall become effective upon its acceptance by unanimous

vote of the Executive Committee and Senate, as outlined in Article IV.