**Student Government Association Senate**

**Northern Illinois University**

**Friday September 13th, 2024 – 4:00 PM**

**Holmes Student Center Sky Room**

**Public Streaming:** [**http://go.niu.edu/SGASenateLive**](https://niu-edu.zoom.us/j/82215987778?pwd=SlBtaEFiaG0xWmp0SWs4b0VZZVhpZz09)

*Members of the public wishing to give public comment, please submit an* [*Intent to Speak*](https://cglink.me/2sZ/s54) *form, no later*

*than 11:59 pm, September 12th , 2024.*

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call**
2. **Verification of Quorum**
3. **Public Comments**
4. **Approval of Minutes**
5. **Approval of Agenda**
6. **Speaker’s Report**
7. **Special Report**
8. **Office of the Speaker Report(s)**
9. **Committee Report(s)**
10. **Executive Branch Report(s)**
    1. Student Trustee Report
11. **Cabinet Report(s)**
12. **Old Business**
13. **New Business**
    1. **SR56001:** A resolution to approve all meeting times, locations, and dates for the upcoming semester
    2. **SR56002**: A resolution to approve the 56th Senate Operating Manual
    3. **SB56001:** A bill to update the SGA Bylaws to allow organizations to be recognized if restricted by a national organization.
    4. **SB56002**: A resolution to reorganize and update the Senate Line of Succession as Temporary Speaker of the Senate
    5. **SR56003:** A resolution to approve a Deputy Speaker
14. **Good of the Order**
15. **Announcements**
16. **Adjournment**

*Please be advised that public comments will be limited to five (5) minutes per person, and that any one*

*topic may not be discussed for more than 15 minutes.*

We acknowledge that we are on the traditional land of the Peoria, Kaskaskia, Piankashaw, Wea, Miami,

Mascoutin, Odawa, Sauk, Mesquaki, Kickapoo, Potawatomi, Ojibwe, and Chickasaw Nations.

**New Business First Reading**

**Agenda Item: A**    **September 13th, 2024**

**Author:** Speaker Corpuz

**Sponsor:** Speaker Corpuz

**ENROLLED SENATE RESOLUTION 56001**

**Fifty–Sixth Session**

**Summary:** A resolution to approve all meeting times, locations, and dates for the upcoming semester

**Legislation:**

WHEREAS, the Senate shall meet on a weekly basis on Fridays at 4:00 PM in various rooms of the Holmes Student Center for the fall 2024 semester;

WHEREAS, the meeting schedule must be agreed upon and approved by the members represented in the Senate;

THEREFORE, the students of Northern Illinois University represented in this approve of the Fall 2024 Senate Meeting Schedule as listed below:

**SGA SENATE MEETING SCHEDULE FALL 2024**

*All meetings shall be at 4PM in the Holmes Student Center unless otherwise noted. Rooms will be announced via agendas each week.*

Friday, September 13th – Sky Room

Friday, September 20th – Sky Room

Friday, September 27th – Sky Room

Friday, October 4th – Sky Room

Friday, October 11th – Capitol Room

Friday, October 18th – Sky Room

Friday, October 25th – Sky Room

Friday, November 1st – Sky Room

Friday, November 8th – Sky Room

Friday, November 15th – Capitol Room

Friday, November 22nd – Capitol Room

Friday, November 29th – No Meeting (Thanksgiving Break)

Friday, December 6th – No Meeting (Reading Day)

Friday, December 13th – No Meeting (Semester Break)

***This resolution is ordered to take immediate effect.***

**­­­New Business First Reading**

**Agenda Item: B**  **September 13th, 2024**

**Author:** Speaker Corpuz

**Sponsor:** Speaker Corpuz

**ENROLLED SENATE RESOLUTION 56002**

**Fifty-Fifth Session**

**Summary:** A resolution to approve the 56th Senate Operating Manual

**Legislation:**

WHEREAS, according to Part I, Article II, §1.I of the Student Government Association Bylaws, “The Senate shall adopt a set of Senate Operating Rules. The rules shall have a status inferior to the SGA Bylaws and superior to Robert’s Rules of Order; and

WHEREAS, the Speaker of the Senate shall be in charge of the Senate Operating Manual upon taking office before the next session; and

WHEREAS, the Speaker shall rewrite the Operating Manual before the start of the session that they shall serve as Speaker; and

WHEREAS, each SGA Senator has a responsibility to know about the SGA Operating Manual as it is a detailed explanation of the SGA Senate; and

WHEREAS, each SGA Senator has received a digital copy of the SGA Operating Manual which can be amended at any point during the current session;

THEREFORE, the students of Northern Illinois University represented by this Senate hereby confirm the Student Government Association 56th Senate Operating Manual for the 56th Session of SGA.

***This resolution is ordered to take immediate effect.***

**­­­New Business First Reading**

**Agenda Item: C**   **September 13th, 2024**

**Author:** Speaker Corpuz

**Sponsor:** Speaker Corpuz

**ENROLLED SENATE BILL 56001**

**Fifty–Sixth Session**

**Summary:** A bill to update the SGA Bylaws to allow organizations to be recognized if restricted by a national organization.

**Legislation:**

WHEREAS, student organizations are required to have a constitution that is reviewed by the Organizational Oversight Committee; and

WHEREAS, organizations can be restricted by a national organization from authoring a local constitution that could be edited to meet the requirements to be recognized by SGA; and

WHEREAS, student organizations are required to have the Northern Illinois University non-discrimination clause in their constitutions; and

WHEREAS, student organizations should still allow to be recognized, as long as there is a non-discrimination clause in the organization’s national constitution; and

WHEREAS, this new exception shall allow an organization to be recognized by SGA, along the basis that they meet the requirements of being an organization maintained by the Organizational Oversight Committee; and

WHEREAS, Article IV, §1.B of the Student Government Association Constitution states that, “The Senate shall have the power to create and amend the SGA Bylaws”;

THEREFORE, the students of Northern Illinois University represented in this Senate enact that the

SGA bylaws be changed to the following:

**Section 2**

**Membership and Required Positions**

1. Every student organization must have at least one (1) advisor
2. Student organizations must have at least three (3) interested members who are NIU Students to receive initial recognition.
3. Student organizations that cannot maintain at least three (3) members registered in NIU’s Student Organization Platform must work with staff in the areas of Fraternity and Sorority Life or Student Organization Development to develop a recruitment plan.
4. Every organization shall have a minimum of one (1) officer who will be designated as the President.
5. All student organizations must have an active membership that consists exclusively of currently registered students, staff, or faculty of Northern Illinois University.
6. Every organization shall include the following non-discrimination statement in their constitution:
   1. As a student organization recognized by the Student Government Association, we will prohibit discrimination on the basis of age, disability, ethnic origin, marital status, race, religion, political affiliation, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, military/ veteran status or any other identity prohibited by federal or state law or university policy. Accordingly, no student may be excluded from membership or leadership in a registered student organization based on any of the aforementioned identities, unless exempt under Title IX. However, registered student organizations may limit their membership and leadership to students who, upon individual inquiry, affirm that they support the organization’s sincerely held beliefs or statement of principles, comply with the organization’s standards of conduct, and further the organization's mission or purpose as defined by the organization.
7. The only exceptions to Part F immediately above are as follows:
   1. Organizations may place restrictions on members for not having good conduct with the organization or good standing with NIU.
   2. Social fraternities and sororities may select members based on sex, per exemptions under Title IX laws.
   3. Student organizations that serve as governing bodies may be allowed to restrict membership to those elected from the constituent groups.
   4. A student organization may outline in their constitution a desire to be a restrictive organization, where full membership and full participation is selected by a clearly outlined democratic process. A restrictive organization shall be unable to request any funding from the Student Government Association.
   5. Student organizations that are part of a national organization and are restricted from establishing a local constitution at NIU can be exempt, pending review by the Organizational Oversight Committee. The student organization shall provide physical evidence and the national organization’s constitution before the organization can receive temporary recognition as a student organization.
8. Any organization that offers certain privileges or opportunities t to a limited membership must clearly outline in their constitution how the organization’s regular membership is provided with ample opportunity for involvement.

***This bill is ordered to take immediate effect.***

**­­­­New Business First Reading**

**Agenda Item: D**  **September 13th, 2024**

**Author:** Speaker Corpuz

**Sponsor:** Speaker Corpuz

**ENROLLED SENATE BILL 56002**

**Fifty–Sixth Session**

**Summary:** A resolution to reorganize and update the Senate Line of Succession as Temporary Speaker of the Senate

**Legislation:**

WHEREAS, the succession as Speaker of the Senate has positions that no longer exist in SGA and positions that have been created as of the 55th Session; and

WHEREAS, Senate needs a clear line of succession to be Temporary Speaker of the Senate based on their current highest position if the Speaker is no longer able to responsibly carry out their duties; and

WHEREAS, Article IV, §1.B of the Student Government Association Constitution states that, “The Senate shall have the power to create and amend the SGA Bylaws”;

THEREFORE, the students of Northern Illinois University represented in this Senate enact that the

SGA bylaws be changed to the following:

**Section 6**

**Senate Order of Succession**

If at any time during their one-year term in office the Speaker of the Senate chooses by their own free will or is forced to ~~pass~~ ~~as chair in a situation~~ step down from their position temporarily, ~~the Senate Order of Succession will take place to determine who assumes the Temporary Speaker of the Senate role. The title of Temporary Speaker of the Senate is only for the length of time that a piece of legislation is on the floor and once the legislation has been decided, then the Speaker of the Senate will assume the chair position once again until such a time they choose by their own free will or are forced to pass on the chair again.~~ the Temporary Speaker of the Senate will be chosen from the Senate Order of Succession and will serve until the vote has been finalized in the case of legislation, in which the Speaker of the Senate can assume the position once again. In the case that the Speaker is removed from their position or chooses to step down indefinitely, the Temporary Speaker of the Senate will be chosen from the Senate Order of Succession and will serve until the end of the term or choose to pass to the position in line of the Senate Order of Succession. If a person serves multiple positions on the Senate Order of Succession, they will represent the highest position and shall not be eligible to be on the Order of Succession for any lower positions. The Senate order of Succession is as follows:

1. Deputy Speaker of the Senate
2. Legislative Director
3. Historian
4. Sergeant at Arms
5. Chair of Organization Oversight Committee
6. Chair of Public Affairs Committee
7. Chair of ~~Campus~~ Student Life and Greek Affairs Committee
8. Chair of Campus Life Environmental Affairs Committee
9. Chair of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee
10. Director of Community Service
11. Most Senior Senator as determined by most amount of time in office.

***This bill is ordered to take immediate effect.***

**New Business First Reading**

**Agenda Item: E**  **September 13th, 2024**

**Author:** Speaker Corpuz

**Sponsor:** Speaker Corpuz

**ENROLLED SENATE RESOLUTION 56003**

**Fifty-Fifth Session**

**Summary:** A resolution to approve a Deputy Speaker

**Legislation:**

WHEREAS, according to Part I, Article II, §1.P of the Student Government Association Bylaws, “The Speaker shall have the authority to appoint the Deputy Speaker of the Senate”; and

WHEREAS, Senator Nathan Gonzalez has served as a vice president of SGA at Harper College and has had some experience in running SGA at Harper College; and

WHEREAS, the Speaker has elected to appoint Nathan Gonzalez to serve as Deputy Speaker;

THEREFORE, the students of Northern Illinois University represented in this Senate hereby confirm Senator Nathan Gonzalez as Deputy Speaker for the 56th session of the Northern Illinois University Student Government Association Senate.

***This resolution is ordered to take immediate effect.***