**Student Government Association Senate**

**Northern Illinois University**

**Friday October 4th , 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, October 3rd , 2024.*

1. Call to Order and Roll Call
2. Verification of Quorum
3. Public Comments
4. Approval of Minutes
   1. Minutes from September 27th, 2024
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. Vice President Report
11. Cabinet Report(s)
12. Old Business
    1. SB56003: A bill to update and simplify the oversight of organizational funding requirements
13. New Business
    1. SB56004: A bill to update the procedures of recognizing student organizations
    2. SR56007: A resolution to confirm student organizations
    3. SR56008: A resolution to appoint a new Chief of Staff
    4. SR56009: A resolution to appoint a Deputy Treasurer
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.

**Old Business**   **First Reading**

**Agenda Item: A**   **September 20th, 2024**

**Author:** Speaker Corpuz

**Sponsor:** Speaker Corpuz

**ENROLLED SENATE BILL 56003**

**Fifty–Sixth Session**

**Summary:** A bill to update and simplify the oversight of organizational funding requirements

**Legislation:**

WHEREAS, the Finance Committee shall be in charge of the allocation of funds towards student organizations; and

WHEREAS, the Finance Committee has a set list of requirements to approve or deny funding requests by student organizations; and

WHEREAS, the Finance Committee shall notify student organizations of the conditions needed to receive funding from SGA; and

WHEREAS, the SGA Bylaws are required to cover a general oversight of funding for student organizations and does not need an in-depth review of the Finance Committee’s parameters for funding; and

WHEREAS, the Purchasing Guidelines that are set forth to student organizations when funding is requested is an obligated set of rules set forth by the University and the state; 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:

**ARTICLE VI**

**FUNDING OVERSIGHT**

**Section 1**

**General Oversight**

~~All organizations using SGA allocated funds must adhere to all SGA Treasurer rulings, SGA Supreme Court rulings, SGA policies, NIU policies, the Student Organization Handbook, and related laws. Failure to do so will result in the organization being placed on suspended status and/or loss of SGA recognition. Departments are also subject to this oversight as it relates to receiving SGA allocated funds. Some of these rules include but are not limited to:~~

1. ~~Reusable Items shall be returned to be stored by the SGA for future student use.~~
2. ~~Funding shall not recover spent money by applicants.~~
3. ~~No physical cash will be delivered to applicants.~~
4. ~~Funding for food shall only feed students.~~
5. ~~SGA will not purchase gift cards for applicants.~~
6. ~~Any purchases for merchandise must only be for the members of an organization.~~
7. ~~No funding will go directly to funding a philanthropic cause.~~
8. ~~All funding requests for organizations under Councils, Centers, or Departments should attempt to go through those bodies first and sent by them to the Finance Committee of the SGA.~~
9. ~~Funding may not be spent on interstate travel if applicants do not respond to requests for information within two business days.~~
10. ~~All communication should only go through the SGA email and accountancy department unless in person meetings have been scheduled.~~
11. ~~Use of SGA funding shall be accompanied by using the SGA logo and tagging SGAs current social media account in all promotional materials and posts.~~
12. ~~The SGA may reduce the amount guaranteed in funding if the preliminary budget does not meet the final cost.~~

All organizations that receive funding from SGA are required to follow all rulings and policies made by the SGA Treasurer, Finance Committee, SGA Supreme Court, and NIU organization-related laws. The Finance Committee shall regulate and maintain requirements for organizational funding in accordance with the most current Purchasing Guidelines set by the Office of Student Involvement, the University and the state. Failure to follow any rulings or policies may result in an organization’s suspension or loss of SGA recognition.

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

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**­­­New Business First Reading**

**Agenda Item: A**  **October 4th, 2024**

**Author:** Speaker Corpuz, Deputy Speaker Gonzalez

**Sponsor:** Speaker Corpuz, Deputy Speaker Gonzalez

**ENROLLED SENATE BILL 56004**

**Fifty–Sixth Session**

**Summary:** A bill to update the procedures of recognizing student organizations

**Legislation:**

WHEREAS, the SGA Bylaws Article IV §1.C of the Student Government Association Bylaws governs the procedures of new organizational approval,

WHEREAS, Student Government Association runs the risk of breaching anti-discrimination laws if rejecting a new organization not based on their merits; and

WHEREAS, this will provide a more efficient and streamlined way for new student organizations to be approved; and

WHERAS, having need an expedited business flow allows for the Senate to discuss, debate, and vote on other resolutions or bills that impact the students, staff, and community of Northern Illinois University; 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.

**ARTICLE IV**

**PROCEDURE FOR RECOGNTION**

The SGA shall outline an orderly process to assist organizations in obtaining recognition and prevent false or inappropriate groups from receiving recognition. The Vice President, together with the Organization Oversight Committee is charged with overseeing the recognition process. The recognition process consists of the following steps listed below.

1. Recognition Form: All groups seeking recognition must complete an Organization Registration Form on NIU’s Student Organization Platform that consists of the following:
   1. Organization Description: for use by all new organizations as well as returning organizations that wish to change their description.
   2. Organization Officers: for use at the beginning of each academic year any time an officer or faculty advisor changes during the academic year and during Mid-Year Transition.
   3. Faculty/Staff Advisor Agreement: for use when starting an organization and at any time the faculty advisor changes during the following school year.
   4. Governing Documents: including the organization’s constitution, bylaws, and national constitution (if applicable).
2. Organization Oversight Committee Review

The Vice President or Director of Organizational Development will submit the organization to the Organization Oversight Committee. The Organization Oversight Committee will meet with a representative from ~~the leader(s) of~~ the organization, review its constitution, and ~~make a recommendation to~~ approve or reject the potential organization ~~to the full Senate.~~ The Organization Oversight Committee will also determine the classification of the organization if approved. The Organizational Oversight Committee can motion to move an organization out of approval should further review and discussion be needed on a specific organization, otherwise be granted full recognition by committee members. The Chairperson of the Organization Oversight Committee will notify ~~each organization as well as~~ the treasurer of the SGA of the organization’s full recognition as well as the organization’s designated classification being granted after approval in the Organization Oversight Committee meeting. Committee members must disclose any current or previous involvement in organizations requesting recognition. Furthermore, individuals currently serving in organizations requesting recognition must abstain from voting on the consideration of that organization’s recognition. ~~Recommendation of recognition of an organization can be made without a meeting with the leaders of the organization only following approval from both the organization and the Organization Oversight Committee.~~

1. ~~Senate Review~~

~~Upon notification from the Organization Oversight Committee, the Senate will add the item to an upcoming Senate meeting for a vote. Each organization recommended for approval will be discussed and voted on as one business item. Senate can motion to move an organization out of approval should further review and discussion be needed on a specific organization. The Chairperson of the Organization Oversight Committee will notify each organization as well as the treasurer of the SGA of the organization’s their full recognition as well as the organization’s designated classification being granted after approval in the senate meeting. Senators must disclose any current or previous involvement in organizations requesting recognition. Furthermore, individuals currently serving in organizations requesting recognition must abstain from voting on the consideration of that organization’s recognition.~~

1. Reapplication Following Rejection

Any organization that has been rejected by the Organization Oversight Committee ~~the Senate~~ for approval must wait at least one (1) full calendar year from the date of rejection to reapply for recognition. In cases where an organization has lost recognition due to violations of Student Government Association policy and/or Student Code of Conduct and/or has shown a pattern of such behavior, the university may advise on the waiting period for reapplication.

1. Recognition After Cease of Existence

If a recognized student organization either voluntarily or involuntarily disbands or ceases to exist on campus in an official capacity for longer than one academic year the organization must go through the recognition process again.

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

**­­­New Business First Reading**

**Agenda Item: B**   **October 4th, 2024**

**Author:** Speaker Corpuz, Deputy Speaker Gonzalez

**Sponsor:** Speaker Corpuz, Deputy Speaker Gonzalez

**ENROLLED SENATE LEGISLATION 56007**

**Fifty–Sixth Session**

**Summary:** A resolution to confirm student organizations

**Legislation:**

WHEREAS, the Organization Oversight Committee has granted the below student organizations temporary recognition and;

WHEREAS, the Senate has the Responsibility to approve of official recognition for student organizations;

THEREFORE, the students of Northern Illinois University represented in this Senate hereby grant official Student Government Association to;

1. Chemistry and Biochemistry Graduate Student Association
2. NIU Golden Apple
3. Hispanic Student Nurses Alianza
4. Renaissance Dance Team
5. Punk Rock Club
6. Iranian Cultural and Academic Association

***This legislation is ordered to take immediate effect***

**New Business First Reading**

**Agenda Item: C**    **October 4th , 2024**

**Author:** Speaker Corpuz

**Sponsor:** Speaker Corpuz

**ENROLLED SENATE RESOLUTION 56008**

**Fifty–Sixth Session**

**Summary:** A resolution to appoint a new Chief of Staff

**Legislation:**

WHEREAS, Part I, Article III, §4.A of the Student Government Association Bylaws states that “The Student Government Association Cabinet is created by the President and exists for the purpose of assisting the president in the performance of their duties and responsibilities”; and

WHEREAS, Part I, Article III, §4.B states that “All Directors shall be appointed by the President or Vice President and confirmed by the Senate”; and

WHEREAS, President Ja’Kobe Jones has appointed Ashley Johnson to serve as Chief of Staff; and

WHEREAS, “Only the Senate shall have the power to authorize a person to be paid from student fee monies”;

THEREFORE, the students of Northern Illinois University represented in this Senate hereby approve the appointment of Ashley Johnson to serve as Chief of Staff.

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

**New Business First Reading**

**Agenda Item: D**    **October 4th , 2024**

**Author:** Speaker Corpuz

**Sponsor:** Speaker Corpuz

**ENROLLED SENATE RESOLUTION 56009**

**Fifty–Sixth Session**

**Summary:** A resolution to appoint a Deputy Treasurer

WHEREAS, Article III, §3.D of the Student Government Association Constitution states that the Treasurer “shall have only one (1) paid Deputy Treasurer”; and

WHEREAS, Treasurer Pesavento has appointed Nicholas Lazaric to serve as Deputy Treasure; and

WHEREAS, “Only the Senate shall have the power to authorize a person to be paid from student fee monies”;

THEREFORE, the students of Northern Illinois University represented in this Senate confirm Nicholas Lazaric as the Deputy Treasurer.

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