

Student Government Association Senate
Northern Illinois University
Friday October 24th, 2025 – 4:30 PM
Holmes Student Center – Sky Room
Public Streaming: <http://go.niu.edu/SGASenateLive>

Members of the public wishing to give public comment, please submit an [Intent to Speak](#) form, no later than 11:59 pm, October 9th, 2025.

- I. Call to Order and Roll Call
- II. Verification of Quorum
- III. Public Comments
- IV. Approval of Minutes
 - A. Senate Minutes 10.03.2025
 - B. Senate Minutes 10.17.2025
- V. Approval of Agenda
- VI. Special Report
- VII. Speaker's Report
- VIII. Office of the Speaker Report(s)
- IX. Committee Report(s)
- X. Executive Branch Report(s)
 - A. Vice President Rivera
- XI. Cabinet Report(s)
- XII. Old Business
 - A. SB57009: A bill to clarify communication between Finance Committee and student organizations
 - B. SB57010: A bill to revise communications regarding student organizations
- XIII. New Business
- XIV. Good of the Order
- XV. Announcements
- XVI. 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

Agenda Item: A

Author: Speaker Gonzalez

Sponsor: Speaker Gonzalez

First Reading

Friday October 15, 2025

ENROLLED SENATE BILL 57009

Fifty–Seventh Session

Summary: A bill to clarify communications between Finance Committee and student organizations

Legislation:

WHEREAS, the Student Government Association, SGA, receives many communications from student organizations and their representatives, students or faculty, regarding financial decisions or finance questions in general; and

WHEREAS, there are guidelines for respectful communication between SGA and student organizations, but that is only found regarding supplemental funding; and

WHEREAS, Student Government Association representatives are still students and must fulfil academic obligations which enables said representatives to maintain the GPA requirements but also fulfil other life obligations; and

WHEREAS, Student Involvement staff that assist SGA in financial matters also have responsibilities and obligations outside SGA that they are required to attend; and

WHEREAS, these provisions do not encourage SGA members to neglect their duties, responsibilities, or decrease communication with student organizations and any indication that they are shall be considered a dereliction of duty that the Speaker of the Senate or the SGA President may investigate further to determine any disciplinary actions based on which branch they pertain too; and

WHEREAS, this shall be one bill of two that will help to streamline communication between the Student Government Association and student organizations regarding finance discussion items for streamline purposes and mitigate confusion or miscommunication regarding SGA policies and decisions; and

WHEREAS, Part I, Article II, §1.B of the Student Government Association Bylaws 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 resolve the SGA Bylaws be amended as follows:

ARTICLE II
FINANCE COMMITTEE

Section 3

Finance Committee Communication

Continuously contacting individuals associated with the SGA Finance Committee, accounting department, or SGA as a whole privately via social media, private email, or in person without scheduling a meeting in regard to decisions, request, information, or all other matters related to or made by the SGA Finance Committee may be viewed as harassment which can result in suspension or loss of recognition by the SGA Finance Committee, Speaker of the Senate, or SGA Treasurer. Only the committee shall overturn such discretionary decisions.

This legislation is ordered to take effect immediately.

Old Business

Agenda Item: B

Author: Deputy Speaker Guerrero, Speaker Gonzalez

Sponsor: Deputy Speaker Guerrero, Speaker Gonzalez

First Reading

October 15th, 2025

ENROLLED SENATE BILL 570010

Fifty–Seventh Session

Summary: A bill to revise communications regarding student organizations

Legislation:

WHEREAS, the Student Government Association, SGA, receives many communications from student organizations and their representatives, students or faculty, regarding recognition of or other matter pertaining to their oversight; and

WHEREAS, there is a lack of clear guidelines regarding student organizations and SGA leadership and how to communicate in a professional and respectful manner; and

WHEREAS, student organizations who are seeking full approval sometimes jump ahead without yet being fully recognized and provide push back to SGA officials, or Student Involvement representatives, who are attempting to clarify or provide information; and

WHEREAS, Student Government Association representatives are still students and must fulfil academic obligations which enables said representatives to maintain the GPA requirements but also fulfil other life obligations; and

WHEREAS, Student Involvement staff that assist SGA in student organization and development matters also have responsibilities and obligations outside SGA that they are required to attend; and

WHEREAS, these provisions do not encourage SGA members to neglect their duties, responsibilities, or decrease communication with student organizations and any indication that they are shall be considered a dereliction of duty that the Speaker of the Senate or the SGA President may investigate further to determine any disciplinary actions based on which branch they pertain too; and

WHEREAS, this shall be one bill of two that will help to streamline communication between the Student Government Association and student organizations regarding finance discussion items for streamline purposes and mitigate confusion or miscommunication regarding SGA policies and decisions; and

WHEREAS, Part I, Article II, §1.B of the Student Government Association Bylaws 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 resolve the SGA Bylaws be amended as follows:

ARTICLE IV

PROCEDURE FOR RECOGNITION

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.

- A. 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).
- B. Office of the President Review
1. The Vice President or Director of Organizational Development shall collect all necessary recognition forms, documents, and other materials that pertain to the new student organization.
 2. The Vice President or Director of Organizational Development shall take a review of all the materials to ensure that everything required by Student Government Association is met. Upon satisfaction to either party, the Vice President or Director of Organizational Development will submit the organization to the Organization Oversight Committee.
- C. Organization Oversight Committee Review
- The Organization Oversight Committee will meet with the leader(s) of the organization, review its constitution, and make a recommendation to approve or reject the organization for full SGA Senate approval. 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.
- D. Organization Oversight Notification
- If the organization has no members able to attend the assigned meeting and does not contact the SGA in advance. The Organization Oversight Committee will hold the organization for three (3) months from the day it was introduced to the committee before the SGA. Organization Oversight Committee may proceed to reject the organization for full approval. They shall resubmit all application materials as outlined in these Bylaws to return to the SGA Organization Oversight Committee for approval without time penalty.
- E. Senate Notification
- Upon notification from the Organization Oversight Committee, the Chairperson of Organizational Oversight Committee must state the organization for which was approved during the committee. The Senate shall be empowered to compel the Chairperson to notify of any organization approvals if after two (2) weeks they have failed to do so at a Senate meeting. The Chairperson's failure to notify the Senate does not impact the full recognition of the new student organization in any way. 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.

E. Reapplication Following Rejection

Any organization that has been rejected by the Organization Oversight Committee for approval must wait at least one (1) full calendar year from the date of rejection to reapply for recognition. Prospective organizations that were rejected due to being on the agenda for three (3) months are exempt from this provision. 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.

F. 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.

G. Communication Between Student Organizations and SGA

The organization shall receive notification of their recognition only through the Student Government Association email and shall only respond with questions or concerns to the SGA email or the Organization Development department in the chosen form of contact. Continuously contacting individuals associated with the Organization Oversight Committee, Organization Development department, or SGA as a whole privately via social media, private email, or in person without scheduling a meeting in regards to the decision made by the Organizational Oversight committee may be viewed as harassment which can result in loss of recognition at the discretion of the Organization Oversight Committee, Speaker of the Senate, or Chairperson of Organization Oversight Committee. Only the committee shall overturn such discretionary decisions.

This legislation is ordered to take effect immediately.