

PURPOSE

We, the Student Government Association of the University of Mary Washington, hereby establish this Code of Ethics as applicable to all persons in elected or appointed positions within Student Government.

SENATORIAL DUTIES

- i. Members of SGA are required to adhere to their individual duties and responsibilities as articulated in the Constitution.
- ii. Members of SGA are expected to objectively and indiscriminately analyze every bill that comes to the floor.
- iii. Members of SGA shall be familiar with and represent their constituents to the best of their abilities.
- iv. Members of SGA are required to follow both federal law and school policy, including but not limited to the UMW Honor Code.
- v. The Parliamentarian/Secretary, Vice President, President, and all other participating students will be held to the same standards and ethics as the Senators.

SENATORIAL CONDUCT

- i. Members of SGA are required to act in a respectful and professional manner both inside and outside of Senate meetings.
- ii. Members of SGA are prohibited from using their position within SGA to advance the cause or position of a particular club or organization above any other club or organization.
- iii. Members of SGA will be honest, sincere, and transparent regarding their communications with members of SGA and their constituents.
- iv. Members of SGA are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that reflects positively on the University of Mary Washington.
- v. Members of SGA are prohibited from granting or receiving favors in exchange for goods or services of any kind or value.
- vi. Members of SGA will respect every member of the UMW community and will not discriminate on the basis of race, class, color, gender expression, ethnicity, origin, sexual orientation, political affiliation, religion, ability, or age.
- vii. Members of SGA shall not make misleading or untruthful statements to any internal or external media sources or outlets.
- viii. In the event of a perceived conflict of interest over the subject of a bill, any member of SGA has the right to bring the matter to the Senate floor. After a unanimous vote amongst the Chairs that a conflict of interest is taking place, the Senate President retains the right to slot the bill into any committee they deem fit.

EXPECTATIONS OF A CHAIRPERSON

- i. All Chairpersons shall treat their committee members with equal respect and afford them equal opportunities within the committee.
- ii. All Chairpersons shall divide incoming bills equally among committee members in order to evenly distribute duties.
- iii. All Chairpersons maintain the right to request updates and set deadlines on the status of research and bills.

SANCTIONS

- i. Any SGA member has the right to report a perceived violation to the Elections, Appointments and Ethics Committee.
- ii. The Parliamentarian will defer decorum violations to the EAEC as articulated in the bylaws.
- iii. The EAEC will determine if the violation is minor or major. Minor violations will have the option to have a hearing. All major violations will result in a hearing with a judicial board chosen by the EAEC Chairperson.
- iv. All hearings will follow the rules set forth in the SGA Elections and Procedures Handbook.
- v. Sanctions will be determined by the Chairperson.
- vi. Members of SGA have the right to appeal their sanctions, in which case the hearing will be transferred to the UMW Student Conduct Review Board. All SCRIB sanctions are final.

Updated 12/23/2024