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Northeastern University

Student Government Association Governing Documents

Student Government Association

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Student Government Association Standing Procedures

Student Government Association, Northeastern University

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STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY

STANDING PROCEDURES

ARTICLE I: Friendly Amendments
At any point, when an amendment is made to a standing motion, if the maker of the motion and its seconder are in favor of the amendment, or do not oppose it, the amendment shall be deemed "friendly." There shall be no debate, and the original motion shall continue in its amended form.
ARTICLE II: Unanimous Consent
A motion to approve by unanimous consent is in order for all matters. Any objection to this motion will automatically withdraw it.
ARTICLE III: Acclamation
A motion for acclamation is a motion for unanimous consent before question time (when applicable) and debate have occurred. The motion requires no second and passes unless an objection is heard. If an objection is heard, standard debate and/or question time will commence. If no objection is heard, the motion passes.
ARTICLE IV: Recognition of Students-at-Large
Students-at-Large will be recognized directly by the chair during Question Time and Open Discussion. During all other points of the meeting, a Student-at-Large must be recognized by an active senator of the Association.
ARTICLE V: Straw Poll
If at any time in the Senate, if the chair or any member of the body deems it necessary to get an unofficial sense of the body's opinion on a matter, a motion can be made for a straw poll vote on the issue at hand. The motion is not debatable, and if there is any objection, passes with a majority vote. Voting shall only be completed by a placard vote and shall not be binding on the Association or substitute for a formal vote on the pending matter.
ARTICLE VI: Editorial Authority
Authors have complete control over the legislation they propose until a Committee approves it or until it is submitted to the Executive Board for placement on the Senate Agenda. At such point in time, only the Committee or Board can modify the legislation until the Senate considers it. After the document has been approved by the Senate, the Executive Board is given limited authority over spelling, punctuation, placement, and grammar.
ARTICLE VII: Adjournment
General Senate meetings will run 1 hour and 40 minutes unless a motion is made to extend such adjournment time. There is no set adjournment time for Joint Senates.
ARTICLE VIII: Elected or Confirmed Officials
All elected or confirmed members of the Association will be formally addressed by their elected/confirmed title in meetings and documentation.

ARTICLE IX: Amendments
To amend these Standing Procedures, the Joint Senate must approve a motion by a simple majority vote.

Proposed amendments to the Standing Procedures must be submitted in writing no less than one (1) week in advance of a Joint Senate meeting to the Executive Board to be placed on the agenda and considered by the Senate.

The agenda and proposed amendments will be provided to the Senate no less than three (3) working days before the Joint Senate meeting.