

**CONSTITUTION OF THE STUDENT BODY  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN OSHKOSH**

PREAMBLE

We, the students of the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh, in order to establish, maintain, and insure self-government in student affairs and full consideration in all other areas of the academic and non-academic operations of our University, do hereby ordain and establish this constitution.

Article I

NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Oshkosh Student Association of the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh, hereinafter known as OSA.

Article II

MEMBERSHIP

All students currently enrolled at the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh shall be members of OSA.

Article III

RESPONSIBILITIES

OSA, as the constitutionally recognized voice of the student body, shall have primary responsibility for the formulation and review of policies concerning student life, services, and interest at the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh. All rights, privileges, and protections will be provided to all members of OSA, in accordance with Wisconsin State Statute 36.05(5). The student body reserves to itself the power to initiate legislation in the Student Senate and the Student Assembly, to review all constitutional amendments, and to recall any official of OSA. All members of OSA shall be free from discrimination on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, creed, religion, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, physical ability, marital status, national origin, political ideology, or age.

Article IV

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

All legislative powers granted herein shall be vested in the Student Senate, hereinafter known as the Senate, and the Student Assembly, hereinafter known as the Assembly.

Section 1 - Senate

A. Membership

Membership of the Senate shall include twenty-five (25) Senators elected by and from the student body. The membership of the senate shall include twenty four (24) undergraduate students and at least one (1) graduate student elected by and from the student body. The Senate may appoint, by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of those present, such Alternate Senators as it deems necessary.

B. Tenure

A Senator shall be elected by a plurality vote in an all-campus election; if the seat of a Senator shall be vacated by resignation, academic probation, recall election, non-enrollment in the University, impeachment, or otherwise. A Senator shall serve from the date of his/her election or appointment until the next all-campus senatorial election. If a Senator wishes to resign from their respective office, a letter of resignation must be submitted to the Vice President within ten (10) full class days of the effective date.

C. Powers and duties

The powers and duties of the Senate shall be:

1. To serve as the official voice of the student body.
2. To oversee and approve all campus elections and referenda.
3. To establish standing and special committees of the Senate.
4. To have power to override a Presidential veto by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Senators present;
5. To establish the Senate Bylaws and rules of proceedings;
6. To elect a Vice President Pro-Tempore from among its voting membership;
7. To approve the OSA budget;
8. To serve office hours established with the OSA Advisor and OSA Office Manager;
9. To serve on a minimum of two (2) OSA affiliated committees and report on the proceedings of those committees.
10. To enact all legislation, which shall be necessary and proper to execute and enforce the foregoing and all other powers, vested by this constitution in OSA or in any department or office thereof.

Section 2 - Assembly

A. Membership

The Assembly Representative shall include one student from each organization recognized by the Senate and Assembly. A student member of the Assembly shall serve at the pleasure of his/her respective organization. No student may serve as both an Assembly Representative as well as a student-senator. No student may represent more than one organization.

B. Powers and Duties

The powers and duties of the Assembly shall be:

1. To serve as the official voice of the student organizations
2. To improve communications among the member organizations;
3. To originate legislation and make recommendations to the Senate and the President;
4. To establish the Assembly Bylaws and rules of proceedings;
5. To establish standing and special committees of the Assembly;
6. To elect a Speaker of the Assembly from among its membership;
7. To elect a Speaker Pro-Tempore of the Assembly from among its membership.

### Section 3 - Joint Legislation

All orders, resolutions, or votes of either house to which the concurrence of both houses may be necessary shall be known as joint legislation.

#### A. Original Senate Legislation

All legislation originated in and passed by the Senate, except that which deals with procedural affairs of the Senate or Senate Bylaws, shall be presented to the Assembly for approval. Senate legislation which is not defeated by a simple majority vote of the Assembly taken within ten (10) class days following its passage in the Senate shall be sent to the President for his/her signature.

#### B. Original Assembly Legislation

All legislation originated in and passed by the Assembly, except that which deals with procedural affairs of the Assembly or Assembly Bylaws, shall be presented to the Senate for approval. Assembly legislation which is not defeated by a simple majority vote of the Senate taken within ten (10) class days following its passage in the Assembly shall be sent to the President for his/her signature.

#### C. Powers and Duties Common to the Senate and Assembly

The powers and duties common to the Senate and Assembly shall be:

1. To confirm all Presidential appointments as empowered by this constitution by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Senate and Assembly.
2. To grant or withdraw official recognition for each student organization which seeks or holds such recognition and to grant or withdraw voting power of these organizations in the Assembly.
3. To approve or deny requests from the OSA President to withdraw monies from the OSA Reserve Account.

#### D. Execution of Joint Legislation

After clearing both houses, all joint legislation shall be presented to the President for his/her action. All joint legislation shall take effective immediately upon receiving the President's signature or five (5) class days following its clearance of both houses if the President fails to act within that time. If the President vetoes such legislation, the veto message, including any comments the President may make, shall be presented to the

Senate, and the Senate may override the veto by a two-thirds (2/3) vote. The Senate may not take more than ten (10) class days following a veto.

Article V  
EXECUTIVE BRANCH

Section 1 - President

A. Qualifications

The President of OSA shall have completed, prior to his/her candidacy not less than twenty-four (24) college credits at the University of Wisconsin at Oshkosh and shall have maintained a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.50 for these credits. The President shall maintain a 2.50 grade point average while in office. The President may not serve as a president or vice-president of any organization, activity, or interest group, except UW System Student Representatives, during his/her term of office. The president may not serve as a state, local or county elected official while in office.

B. Tenure and Succession

The President shall be elected by a plurality vote in an all-campus election for a term of one (1) year as defined in the Election Bylaws, this term shall end when the next duly elected President assumes office. If the office of the President shall be vacated by resignation, academic probation, recall election, non-enrollment in the University, failure to maintain a grade point average of 2.50 while in office, impeachment, or otherwise, the Vice-President shall succeed to the office of the President for the remainder of the President's term.

C. Powers and Duties

The powers and duties of the President shall be:

1. To serve as the official representative of the student body.
2. To appoint or hire such staff as he/she deems necessary to carry out the executive functions.
3. To appoint, with the consent of the Senate and Assembly, the student members of all student-faculty, OSA, and University committees.
4. To require reports of any nature of any branch or executive officer of OSA.
5. To delegate any of the above powers to any executive department or agency at his/her discretion.
6. To sign or veto all joint legislation within five (5) class days of its clearance of both houses.
7. To chair all meetings of the Executive Board and to have one vote at these meetings.
8. To prepare the Executive Budget of OSA and approve spending.
9. To serve office hours established with the OSA Advisor and OSA Office Manager.

10. To have other executive powers necessary to carry out the provisions of this constitution.

11. To have emergency powers subject to review and ratification by the Senate and Assembly as a special order of business at their next meeting

## Section 2 - Vice President

### A. Qualifications

The Vice President of OSA shall have completed, prior to his/her candidacy, not less than twenty four (24) college credits at the University of Wisconsin at Oshkosh, maintaining a 2.50 grade point average for these credits, and must attend UW Oshkosh for two consecutive semesters. The Vice President shall maintain a 2.50 grade point average while in office. The Vice President may not serve as a president or vice-president of any organization, activity, or interest group, except UW System Student Representatives, during his/her term of office. The vice-president may not serve as a state, local or county elected official while in office.

### B. Tenure and Succession

1. The Vice President shall be elected by a plurality vote in an all-campus election, held simultaneously with the election for President, for a term of one (1) year as defined in the Election Bylaws. The Senate shall elect a Vice President Pro-Tempore at the beginning of its term from amongst its membership who shall chair meetings of the Senate in the absence of the Vice President. If the office of Vice President shall be vacated by resignation, academic probation, recall election, non-enrollment in the University, failure to maintain a grade point average of 2.50 while in office, impeachment, or otherwise, the Vice President Pro-Tempore shall temporarily assume the duties of the Vice President. The President shall appoint, with approval of the Senate and Assembly, a person to assume the Vice Presidential position at the next regular meetings.

2. If the offices of both the President and Vice President are vacant simultaneously, the Vice President Pro-Tempore shall temporarily assume both offices, and the Senate shall sponsor a special all-campus election within four (4) weeks after the date of these vacancies to fill both offices for the remainder of the term. If less than two (2) academic months remain, the Vice President Pro-Tempore shall become President and the Speaker of the Assembly shall become Vice President, the Speaker Pro Tempore of the Assembly shall become Speaker of the Assembly and the Senate and Assembly shall elect new persons to the vacated offices respectively.

### C. Powers and Duties

The powers and duties of the Vice President shall be:

1. To chair all meetings of the Senate.
2. Approve of the Senate agendas before they are sent out
3. To appoint, with consent of the Senate, the members of all standing and special committees of the Senate.

4. To serve as an Associate Senator and Associate Assembly Representative.
5. To assist the President.
6. To call special meetings of the Senate on his/her own initiative, at the request of the President, or at the call of simple majority of the Senate.
7. To prepare the agenda for the Senate meetings.
8. To serve office hours established with the OSA Advisor and OSA Office Manager.

### Section 3 –Vice President Pro Tempore

#### A. Qualifications

The Vice President Pro Tempore of OSA shall have completed, prior to his/her candidacy, not less than fifteen (15) college credits at the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh, maintaining a 2.50 grade point average for these credits. The Vice President Pro Tempore shall maintain a 2.50 grade point average while in office. The Vice President Pro Tempore may not serve as a state, local, or county elected official while in office.

#### B. Tenure and Succession

1. The Senate shall elect a Vice President Pro Tempore at the beginning of its term from among its membership according to the Election Bylaws. If the office of Vice President shall be vacated in resignation, academic probation, recall election, non-enrollment in the University, failure to maintain a grade point average of 2.50 while in office, impeachment, or otherwise, the Vice President Pro Tempore shall temporarily assume the duties of the Vice President.
2. If a vacancy occurs in the office of Vice President Pro Tempore through, academic probation, recall election, non-enrollment in the University, failure to maintain a grade point average of 2.50 while in office, impeachment, or otherwise, a new election shall be held immediately upon his/her vacancy. The Vice President Pro Tempore must give (10) class days notice of effective resignation date, after this notification the next Senate meeting will allow for nominations.

#### C. Powers and Duties

The powers and duties of the Vice President Pro Tempore shall be:

1. To temporarily assume the powers of Vice President in the absence of the Vice President.
2. To accurately record and coordinate the activities of all of the student appointments to student-faculty, OSA, University, and Senate committees.
3. To continue the powers and duties of Senator.
4. To assist the President and Vice President.
5. To serve office hours established with the OSA Advisor and OSA Office Manager

#### Section 4- Speaker of the Assembly

##### A. Qualifications

The Speaker of the Assembly shall have completed, prior to his/her candidacy, not less than twelve (12) college credits at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh. The Speaker of the Assembly shall have earned a 2.50 grade point average and shall maintain that grade point average while in office. The Speaker of the Assembly may not serve as a state, local or county elected official while in office. If the Speaker of the Assembly wishes to resign from their respective office, a letter of resignation must be submitted to the President within ten (10) full class days of the effective date.

##### B. Tenure and Succession

1. The Speaker of the Assembly shall be elected by the Assembly at the beginning of its term from among its membership according to the Assembly Bylaws. If the office of Speaker of the Assembly shall be vacated by resignation, academic probation, non-enrollment in the University, failure to maintain a grade point average of 2.50 while in office, impeachment, or otherwise, the Speaker Pro Tempore shall assume the duties of the Speaker for the remainder of the Speaker's term.

##### C. Powers and Duties

The powers and duties of the Speaker of the Assembly shall be:

1. To chair all meetings of the Assembly.
2. To appoint, with consent of the Assembly, the members of all standing and special committees of the Assembly.
3. To call special meetings of the assembly on his/her one (1) initiative, at the request of the President, or at the call of a simple majority of the Assembly.
4. To prepare the agenda for the Assembly meetings.
5. To serve office hours established with the OSA Advisor and OSA Office Manager

#### Section 5- Speaker Pro Tempore of the Assembly

##### A. Qualifications

The Speaker Pro Tempore of the Assembly of OSA shall have completed, prior to his/her candidacy, not less than fifteen (15) college credits at the University of Wisconsin- Oshkosh. The Speaker Pro Tempore of the Assembly shall have earned a 2.50 grade point average and shall maintain that grade point average while in office. The Speaker Pro Tempore of the Assembly may not serve as a state, local, or county elected official while in office. If the Speaker Pro Tempore wishes to resign from their respective office, a letter of resignation must be submitted to the Speaker of Assembly within ten (10) full class days of the effective date.

##### B. Tenure and Succession

1. The Speaker Pro Tempore of the Assembly shall be elected by the Assembly at the beginning of its term from among its membership according to the Election Bylaws.

If the office of Speaker of the Assembly shall be vacated by resignation, academic probation, non-enrollment in the University, failure to maintain a grade point average of 2.50 while in office, impeachment, or otherwise, the Speaker Pro Tempore of the Assembly shall succeed to the office of the Speaker of the Assembly for the remainder of the Speaker's term. The Speaker Pro Tempore must give (10) class days notice of effective resignation date, after this notification the next Assembly meeting will allow for nominations.

2. If a vacancy occurs in the office of Speaker Pro Tempore of the Assembly through, academic probation, non-enrollment in the University, failure to maintain a grade point average of 2.50 while in office, impeachment, or otherwise, a new election shall be held immediately upon his/her vacancy.

A. Powers and Duties

The Powers and duties of the Speaker Pro Tempore of the Assembly shall be:

1. To temporarily assume the powers of the Speaker of the Assembly in the absence of the Speaker of the Assembly.
2. To maintain accurate records of all student organizations and student clubs.
3. To accurately record and coordinate the activities of Assembly committees.
4. To continue the powers and duties of Assembly Representative.
5. To serve as an Associate Senator.
6. To assist the Speaker of the Assembly.
7. To serve office hours established with the OSA Advisor and OSA Office Manager

## Section 5 - Executive Boards

A. Membership of the Campus-Wide Executive Board

The membership of the campus-wide Executive Board shall include the Executive members of the OSA, United Students in Residence Halls, Reeve Union Board, Multicultural Education Coalition, Student Allocations, Greek Life and Reeve Advisory Council.

B. Membership of the OSA Executive Board

Membership shall consist of the President, Vice President, Vice President Pro Tempore, Speaker of the Assembly, Speaker Pro Tempore of the Assembly, and Chief of Staff.

C. Powers and Duties

The powers and duties of the Executive Boards shall be:

1. To provide a general direction for the affairs of the student body.
2. Only the OSA Executive Board may act on behalf of OSA in cases of emergency, subject to review and ratification by the Senate and Assembly as a special order of business at their next meeting.



Article VI  
JUDICIAL

Section 1- OSA Judiciary Committee

A. Purpose

The OSA Judiciary Committee shall convene after a written request that outlines the complaint is received from an OSA member, to investigate and to factually report on the allegations to the Senate and Assembly for appropriate action within ten (15) class days of receiving the complaint.

B. Membership of the OSA Judiciary Committee

The OSA Judiciary Committee shall consist of three (3) voting OSA members and three (3) alternates (also members of OSA) and (1) hearing chair. The three voting members of the committee shall consist of one (1) Senate member, one (1) Assembly member, and one (1) At-Large student body member. The hearing chair will chair an impeachment hearing if needed, they will not conduct an investigation and will remain neutral. They shall be appointed by the OSA Advisor, through an Advisor appointment, and approved by the OSA Senate and Assembly at the beginning of the OSA Administrative year for a term of one year. If the Judiciary Committee shall convene, no member of the Judiciary Committee may be the subject of the complaint, if a member is a subject of the complaint the OSA Advisor will ask for an alternate member to take their place.

C. Powers and Duties

The powers and duties of the voting members of the OSA Judiciary Committee shall be:

1. To investigate the allegations presented in the written request
2. To agree by a  $\frac{2}{3}$  vote that intentional wrongdoing has occurred, this will be done for each listed allegations.
3. Compile a factual report of the allegations to be presented to the Senate and Assembly if intentional wrongdoing has occurred.

Section 2- Impeachment Process

If the Judiciary Committee finds intentional wrongdoing then the Judiciary Committee must present their report related to that allegation to Senate and Assembly within (15) class days of receiving the report.

The week after the allegations are presented to Senate and Assembly, Senate will not be held and instead a hearing will take place. The hearing chair will lead this meeting, allowing for all parties involved to defend themselves each speaking for a maximum of ten minutes, questions will be allowed.

At the next meetings after the hearing, the Senate and Assembly may or may not call a vote to impeach the person. If a vote is not called that week then process is over. If a vote is passed by  $\frac{2}{3}$  Assembly and  $\frac{2}{3}$  of Senate then the person will be removed from office immediately.

A motion to impeach may not occur within the final two (2) months of the academic year.

## Article VII

### SUCCESSION TO THE PRESIDENCY

#### Section 1

The following list signifies the order of succession in the event of resignation, academic probation, recall election, non-enrollment in the University, failure to maintain a grade point average of 2.50 while in office, impeachment or otherwise of the OSA President

1. OSA Vice President
2. OSA Speaker of Assembly
3. OSA Vice President Pro Tempore
4. OSA Speaker Pro Tempore of the Assembly

#### Section 2

If both the offices of President and Vice President are vacant simultaneously, the Speaker of the Assembly shall become President, the Vice President Pro Tempore shall become Vice President and the Speaker Pro Tempore shall become Speaker of the Assembly.

## Article VIII

### PROCEDURES TO AMENDING THE CONSTITUTION

#### Section 1

Proposed amendments to this constitution shall be accepted for consideration by the Senate and Assembly by a two thirds ( $\frac{2}{3}$ ) majority vote of the Senate and Assembly by the provisions for the initiative.

#### Section 2

Proposed amendments approved by a two-thirds ( $\frac{2}{3}$ ) vote of the Senate and Assembly shall be ratified and become part of this constitution upon receiving an affirmative vote of the members of OSA voting on the proposed amendment in an all campus student referendum.

**Revised: May 2, 2017**