

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

Upon enrolling in the college, each student becomes a member of the Student Government Association (SGA) and a participant in the obligations, benefits, and privileges conferred thereby. The purpose of the SGA is to plan activities for the students, to hold student discussions, to present helpful student suggestions to the faculty and administration, and to act in an advisory capacity to students. SGA leadership consists of a president, vice president, secretary-treasurer, three members from the sophomore class, three members from the freshman class, and five dormitory representatives. The president of the SGA serves as a member of several college committees representing the student body in policy and procedure discussions.

The president, vice president, and secretary-treasurer are elected in April by the student body to serve during the following year. The other council members are elected during the first month of the fall semester. Administrative staff members are appointed by the President of the College to serve as advisers. In order to assure proper representation from this association, all students should exercise their right to vote and should select a candidate on the basis of sincerity and capability.

CONSTITUTION

Constitution of

The Student Government Association Of Northeast Mississippi Community College

Preamble

We, the students of Northeast Mississippi Community College, by and with the consent of the faculty, in order to promote worthy student activities and to advance the general welfare of the college, do ordain and establish this constitution for the Student Government Association of the Northeast Mississippi Community College.

ARTICLE I - Name

SECTION 1—this organization shall be known as Northeast Mississippi Community College Student Government Association.

SECTION 2—the governing body of this organization shall be the Student Council.

ARTICLE II - Purpose

SECTION 1—The object of this organization shall be to maintain the best ideals of the school, to promote worthy activities, to train the students in the practice and principles of self-government, and to maintain the highest standards of honor in every phase of college life.

SECTION 2—this organization is to deal with the problems of the student body, and to promote a better relationship between the administration, faculty and students.

ARTICLE III – Membership

Upon enrollment in the college, each student becomes a member of the Student Government/Association and a participant in the obligations, benefits, and privileges conferred thereby.

ARTICLE IV – Election of Officers and Representative

SECTION 1—the officers of the association shall consist of fourteen members of the council. The council shall consist of a president, vice president, a secretary-treasurer, three class representative

from each of the two college classes, and five dormitory representative consisting of one representative from each dorm.

SECTION 2—the president, vice president, and the secretary-treasurer shall be elected prior to the end of the Spring Term. At the time of the election, all of these officers must be enrolled in their second regular semester. Candidates for the office of president must have a 2.5 grade point average either as a fulltime vocational student or as an academic or technical student carrying 12 academic hours. Candidates for the office of vice president and secretary-treasurer must have a 2.5 grade point average either as a fulltime vocational student or as an academic or technical student carrying 12 academic hours. Prospective candidates for these offices must file the necessary forms with the Director of Event Planning & Housing. These forms will be reviewed by the Director of Event Planning & Housing and prospective applicants meeting the requirements are then eligible to campaign for the office in which they have qualified.

SECTION 3—the election for the office of president, vice president and secretary-treasurer will consist of a primary election to be held prior to the end of the Spring Term. The candidates receiving the greatest number of votes in the general election will become the Student Government officers for the next school year. In the event any elected officer should fail to return his sophomore year, there will be an election as stated in Article IV, Section 2.

SECTION 4—the representatives shall be elected not later than the last week of /September of the new school year. The freshman representatives may succeed themselves in the office the following year as sophomore representatives or dormitory representatives. If a vacancy occurs in the position of representative, an election shall be held for this office.

SECTION 5—the candidates for freshman representatives must have not been enrolled previously in a regular school term. The candidates for sophomore representatives must not have been enrolled in more than three regular semesters, and must have completed two vocational semesters or is an academic or technical student and completed 28 semester hours. All must have a 2.0 grade point average. Freshman and sophomore representatives must plan to attend Northeast both semesters of the year of nomination and be full time students. The candidates for dormitory representatives must meet the same requirements as do the class representatives and must live in the dormitory both semesters.

ARTICLE V - Expenditures

The three officers may expend 10% of the SGA funds for activities during the first month of classes provided all these officers are in agreement. Other expenditures must be approved by a majority of the student council. All expenditures must be made according to the fiscal regulations of NEMCC and approved by the Director of Student Activities.

ARTICLE VI

All laws and regulations of the Student Government Association must be voted on first by the council. The sole power to originate laws is vested in the council.

ARTICLE VII

SECTION 1—before any business can be transacted, there must be a quorum of voting members present.

SECTION 2—each representative present shall have one vote.

SECTION 3—In the event of a tie vote, a second vote shall be cast and should the tie occur again, the chairman shall have the power to cast the deciding vote. In no other instance shall the chairman be entitled to vote.

SECTION 4—all general campus elections shall be held at some centrally located place on campus. The Student Council or some other group approved by the council shall conduct the polls and count

the votes. The council shall publish before each election the requirements and procedures for said election.

SECTION 5—the representatives shall attend all meetings and carry out all assignments made by the president. After three absences any member of the council shall be considered for impeachment by the council. There will be a roll call at each meeting.

ARTICLE VIII - Meetings

SECTION 1—The Student Council shall meet on Thursday of the first and third weeks of each month of the school year, unless otherwise announced. These special sessions must be properly announced so that all members are informed of the meetings.

SECTION 2—the council president may call a special session when he deems necessary or must do so on the request of two-thirds of the council. These special sessions must be properly announced so that all members are informed of the meeting.

SECTION 3—the council is authorized to name student representatives to invited committees of the college which would enhance the general welfare of the student body.

SECTION 4—the newly elected council officers must meet with the outgoing council at the last meeting of the council.

ARTICLE IX – Duties of Officers

SECTION 1—the president shall preside at all meetings of the council and the associations, and shall represent the association on all public occasions. The president shall appoint all committees not otherwise provided by the council.

SECTION 2—the vice president shall act as parliamentarian of the SGA and assume the duties of the president in the absence of the latter.

SECTION 3—the secretary-treasurer shall keep a record of all meetings of the council and shall conduct all correspondence of the council. These records should be kept in a file and turned over to the Dean of Student Affairs at the end of the fiscal year. The secretary-treasurer shall have charge of the finances of the Association, and keep specific records available at all times and shall disburse funds when authorized to do so by the council. At the end of the school term, a complete audit of all financial records of the Student Government Association must be made. The secretary-treasurer is responsible for all secretarial duties of the council.

ARTICLE X

This constitution may be amended at any time upon review of the proposed amendment by the faculty and two-thirds affirmative vote of the voting student body. Any proposed amendment must be put before the student body at least a week before any action is taken.

A revised constitution shall become effective when it is approved by two-thirds affirmative vote of the voting student body.

ARTICLE XI - Parliamentary Authority

Robert's Rules of Order, Revised, shall be the parliamentary authority for all meetings.

Student's Role in Institutional Decision Making

Each Northeast student who desires change(s) to occur in the college's operation or structure may submit a planning proposal. Such student proposals are to be submitted to the SGA in the approval process. In addition, a planning proposal may originate with the SGA and is, then, forwarded to the appropriate Dean or Director for approval prior to gaining final approval. Through the appropriate procedures, students at Northeast are encouraged to participate in planning and decision making for the institution. Institutional planning proposal forms may be secured from the Office of Event Planning & Housing.

Equal Opportunity

Northeast Mississippi Community College adheres to the principles of equal education and employment opportunity without regarding race, sex, age, color, creed, or national origin. Policy includes the qualified handicapped and extends to all programs and activities supported by the College.

Compliance Policy

In compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; Title IX, Educational Amendments of 1972 of the Higher Education Act; Americans with Disabilities Act; and, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, the Board of Trustees of the Northeast Mississippi Community College has adopted this policy assuring that no one shall, on the grounds of race, color, age, national origin, or sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination in any program or activity of the College. Northeast Mississippi Community College adheres to the principle of equal educational and employment opportunity without regard to race, sex, age, color, creed, or national origin. This policy includes the qualified handicapped and extends to all programs and activities supported by the College.