

**CONSTITUTION OF THE KRESGE STUDENT PARLIAMENT  
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA CRUZ**

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**ARTICLE I: FUNCTIONS OF PARLIAMENT**

Section I: The Kresge Student Parliament (hereafter referred to as “Parliament”) shall serve as the official voice of the Kresge College student community. It is the responsibility of Parliament members to be open and courteous to the ideas and people that come before them in an attempt to best represent the community and the Kresge Statement of Ethics.

Section II: Parliament shall:

- A: Serve as a forum for the discussion of topics that directly affect the Kresge community and that are presented to Parliament by students, faculty and staff.
- B: Work together to formulate a unified stance that accurately reflects the Kresge student body and vote accordingly.
- C: Elect Officials within Parliament to assist in the operation of Parliament.
- D: Elect members to represent the Kresge student body.
- E: Allocate funds of Parliament.

**ARTICLE II: MEMBERSHIP IN PARLIAMENT**

Section I: Membership in Parliament is limited to registered and enrolled students of the University of California, Santa Cruz who are affiliated with Kresge College.

Section II: All Kresge College students are eligible to become voting members in Parliament.

- A: Voting rights are granted at the attendance of two consecutive Parliament meetings.
- B: A student’s voting rights are withdrawn when they miss four consecutive meetings during an academic school year. Voting rights may be regained.

C: Returning members regain voting rights at the first meeting of fall quarter.

Section III: If a member of Parliament exhibits behavior that is unprofessional, unproductive, or working against the functions of Parliament they shall be subject to the following, in order, until they are not.

A: An initial warning to improve their behavior from the Chair.

B: A meeting with the Chair to discuss the behavior

C: A discussion among all other members of Parliament to review the member's status, during which Parliament may choose to revoke the member's voting rights and therefore positions with a unanimous vote

Section IV: If a student's voting rights are revoked, they must wait ten weeks before they are eligible to regain voting rights.

Section V: All students affiliated with Kresge College, regardless of voting status, have the right to speak and attend Parliament.

### **ARTICLE III: OFFICIALS OF PARLIAMENT**

Section I: Parliament shall elect the following Executives:

A: Chair who is responsible for: coordinating and distributing the agenda for each meeting to the membership and the advisor, no later than 24 hours before the meeting is scheduled; facilitating the deliberations of Parliament, and ensuring the voting process. The Chair should participate, in some way, in all Parliament-sponsored philanthropic drives. It is recommended, but not required, that the Chair serve two full quarters on Parliament before being elected to the position. It is recommended that the Chair fill vacant campus-wide representative positions. The Chair is not the official voice of Parliament.

B: Vice Chair who is responsible for: filling in for any absent officials during meetings of Parliament, including serving as the temporary Chair in the absence of the official Chair, ensuring that all activities of Parliament are constitutional via declaring all unconstitutional activities as such, being able to provide copies of this constitution for all members and guests of Parliament, and assisting the Chair whenever possible. The Vice Chair may also convene a Constitutional Congress. It is recommended, but not required, that the Vice Chair has served two full quarters on Parliament before being elected to the position.

Section II: Parliament shall elect the following Officers:

A: Treasurer who is responsible for attending to the finances of Parliament; answering all non-confidential questions regarding the finances of Parliament; maintaining the official financial ledger of Parliament; reporting to Parliament regarding these finances; notifying

the organizations of the outcome of their funding requests; and serving as the temporary Chair in the absence of both executives.

- B: Secretary who is responsible for: recording the proceedings of Parliament; posting these minutes online; distributing copies of the minutes to the Chair and Advisor.
- C: Outreach Officer (1-2 positions) who is responsible for: publicly displaying the agenda for the upcoming meeting no later than 24 hours before the meeting is scheduled; controlling all online outreach efforts made by Parliament, creating and publicly displaying materials to help increase membership and to make the community more aware of Parliament's activities.
- D: Transfer Community Representative who is responsible for: accurately representing the voice the Kresge Transfer Students living in the Transfer Community at Porter College and elsewhere on and off campus: expressing their collective ideas, thoughts and concerns. It is recommended, but not required, that the Transfer Community Representative either currently live in the transfer community or be a Transfer Student themselves. The Transfer Community Representative must actively reach out to Kresge Transfer Students for input quarterly.
- E: Residential Assistants Liaison to coordinate with Kresge's Residential Assistants when necessary. It is recommended, but not required, that the Residential Assistant Liaison be a Residential Assistant.

Section IV: To hold an Executive, Officer, or Representative position in Parliament, one must be a voting member of Parliament and be elected by a plurality of the voting members in attendance, each member being allowed one vote.

Section V: Official positions will be filled as follows:

- A: The Executives will be elected during the spring quarter no later than the second-to-last meeting of the year.
- B: The Officers, for the current academic year, will be elected at the second meeting of each fall quarter, along with any and all representatives for Kresge College and campus-wide committees.

Section VI: Officials of Parliament may be challenged at any time by a voting member provided more than two-thirds of the voting members present support an election. There must be an explanation of the challenge and deliberation before motioning for a vote. The election between the challenged official and challenger(s) will take place at the following meeting.

Section VII: Any Executive, Officer, or Representative may step down from their position for any reason, at any time. An election to fill the newly vacated position will be held at the following meeting.

Section VIII: If either of the executive positions cannot be filled in accordance with Article III, Section V, the most senior member of Parliament willing to fill that position is appointed in the interim until a long-term candidate is found and elected. Priority is given to filling the Chair over Vice Chair. If there is more than one interim candidate, hold an election between them.

Section IX: Any officer position that cannot be filled, will be filled in the interim by an election. If there are no viable candidates for the position, the duties fall to the Vice Chair until another candidate for the position can be found and elected.

#### **ARTICLE IV: CAMPUS-WIDE REPRESENTATIVES OF PARLIAMENT**

Section I: Each campus representative must be elected by Parliament in accordance with Article III, Sections IV, VI, and VII. Each is responsible for representing the needs, concerns and values of Kresge College. They are to vote and act in accordance with official decisions and opinions of the Kresge community as voiced through Parliament and are to report back to Parliament on a regular basis.

Section II: Parliament shall elect representatives to the following:

- A: Two (2) representatives to Student Union Assembly (SUA). Parliament may also appoint the community-elected SUA representative if necessary.
- B: One (1) representative to Student Organization Funding Advisory (SOFA). They are strongly recommended to also be a SUA representative.
- C: One (1) representative to University Core Council.
- D: One (1) representative to Academic Senate (AS).
- E: One (1) representative to Student Academic Senate (SAS).
- F: One (1) representative to Student Committee on Committees (SCOC).
- G: One (1) representative to Student Union Governance Board (SUGB).
- H: One (1) Elections Commissioner for Spring Elections.

Section III: Parliament should appoint members to any future campus wide organizations requesting Kresge representation, or any organization which Kresge wishes to be represented if feasible.

Section IV: Parliament may appoint alternates to any of the preceding positions or appoint a voting member to fulfill the position in an emergency situation.

#### **ARTICLE V: PROCEDURES FOR PARLIAMENT**

Section I: Parliament shall meet weekly throughout each quarter of the academic year with the exception of finals week, at which time Parliament may elect to have a meeting. Parliament may vote to cancel any future meetings.

Section II: A quorum of Parliament, consisting of no less than six voting members, must exist at all times in order to conduct official business.

Section III: Parliament may establish such committees as deemed necessary to effectively conduct their affairs.

Section IV: Official guests recognized by Parliament shall have the right to speak.

Section V: All proposals shall be given adequate time for presentation and questioning prior to any deliberations or voting.

Section VI: Non-Kresge students may be present for proposal presentations and initial questioning but shall be required to leave for the deliberations and voting if their presence is detrimental as determined by the current membership.

Section VII: Each proposal placed before Parliament shall be discussed individually. After the Chair has made a call for discussion of the proposal at hand, a motion may be offered by any voting member of Parliament. Once a motion has been placed before Parliament by a voting member, the Chair shall call for a second by a like member. Once a motion has been made, the Chair shall call for a vote in accordance with Article V, Section VIII. If the motion is approved, it becomes the official position of Parliament. If the motion is denied, another motion may be offered in a like manner as the first.

Section VIII: In deliberating a motion, a voting member of Parliament may act in one of the following ways:

- A: In favor of the motion, supporting the passage of the motion.
- B: In opposition to the motion, not supporting the passage of the motion.
- C: Abstaining, in which case the member voices neither approval or disapproval of the motion, yet is allowing the motion to pass by remaining in quorum.
- D: Standing aside from the vote in which case the member is extracting themselves from quorum for the vote at hand.

Section IX: At any point during a discussion, a voting member may make a motion to table the discussion until the following meeting; any matter tabled by Parliament is subject to a majority vote after discussion has concluded.

Section X: If any matter brought before Parliament ends in a tie vote:

- A: The Chair will cast the tiebreaker vote, provided that the Chair has not already cast a vote in favor of or in opposition to the motion at hand
- B: The Advisor will cast the tiebreaker vote if the Chair has already cast a vote in favor of or in opposition to the motion at hand.

Section XI: This constitution shall be made available to all members of the Kresge community at any time for review, discussion or alteration.

## **ARTICLE VI: FUNDING AND FINANCIAL ALLOCATION**

Section I: Allocated funds should be for the promotion and benefit of the Kresge community with priority given to events held at Kresge or supporting events organized by the students or staff of Kresge. All events sponsored by Kresge Parliament should be oriented towards building community, whether local or global, promoting multicultural awareness, community outreach or education.

Section II: Parliament will fund the following:

- A: College Programs Office
- B: Parliament Development – to participate in Parliament Development a student must attend at least six meetings throughout the academic school year.

Section IV: Kresge Parliament feels strongly that the following events and activities are beyond the responsibility of Parliament in regards to funding:

- A: Activities and events sponsored by the Kresge Residential Life Office that fall within the realm of exclusive residential programming.
- B: Senior projects that have not first gone to the Kresge Provost for funding and do not directly benefit the students of Kresge.
- C: All allocations concerning the Kresge Core Course.

Section V: Certain guidelines have been deemed necessary by Parliament in an effort to remain consistent and content neutral with regard to allocating funds. The following shall be taken into consideration when deliberating specific funding requests:

- A. The specific benefit to Kresge students that these funds will provide.
- B. The clarity, organization, and overall professionalism of the organization.
- C. The current availability of funds.
- D. Significant conflict of interest among Parliament.

Section VI: At the end of spring quarter, Parliament shall pass a temporary budget, using remaining funds, to be spent buying items such as: new member swag, outreach materials, posters, or anything else that Parliament deems necessary to be bought prior to the start of the year. This budget should be spent only on Parliament development and should be added to the carry forward at the first meeting of fall quarter. Spending the funds must be approved by both the Chair and Vice Chair.

## **ARTICLE VII: AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION**

Section I: If there is any amendment which fifty percent of Parliament or no less than forty members of the Kresge student community wish to place before Parliament or the community at-large, they may do so at any time.

Section II: If so presented, such proposals must be approved by at least three quarters of the voting members in attendance or by a simple majority of Kresge students; a minimum of twenty percent of the entire population voting being necessary to bind Parliament to the outcome of the vote.

## **ARTICLE VIII: STANDING SUBCOMMITTEES OF PARLIAMENT**

Section I: The Constitutional Congress

- A: The Vice Chair shall have the option of convening a Constitutional Congress when they feel the Constitution must be amended for efficiency and/or clarity.
- B: The Constitutional Congress will be chaired by the current Vice Chair of Parliament and will be filled by two-to-four additional members of Parliament, which will be selected by the Vice Chair and approved by the Chair.
- C: The Constitutional Congress must meet at least twice to discuss possible changes to the Parliament Constitution.
- D: The Constitutional Congress will present their proposed alterations no later than the third-to-last meeting of Parliament for discussion and deliberation; if no alterations are to be proposed, the Constitutional Congress will say so at that time.

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