THE SCHOOL OF HEALTH RELATED PROFESSIONS STUDENT ASSOCIATION
UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA AT BIRMINGHAM
ADOPTED MAY 14, 1984
REVISED AND ADOPTED FEB, 2001

We, the students of the School of Health Related Professions of the University of Alabama at Birmingham, in order to realize the fullest opportunity, responsibility and power of self-government consistent with the constitution and laws of the State of Alabama and the policies of the administration of this University including any policies hereinafter established, do hereby establish this constitution for a student association.

Article I. General Objectives

Section 1. The name of this organization shall be the School of Health-Related Professions Student Association.

Section 2. The purpose of this organization shall be to serve as a governing body for the School of Health Related Professions students, to facilitate interaction among the School’s programs and with other university and community groups, and to serve as liaison between the School of Health Related Professions student body and faculty, as well as the administration of the School and UAB.

Section 3. The membership of this organization shall include all students enrolled in and paying an activity fee to the School of Health Related Professions.

Section 4. In the fall term of each year, each of the academic programs in the School of Health Related Professions shall select student senators, as herein provided, to constitute the Senate of the School of Health Related Professions Student Association.

Section 5. In the spring term of each year, the Senate shall appoint an Interim Committee to act in its behalf after the Senate adjourns for the summer and to supervise the reorganization of the Senate at the beginning of the academic year in the fall term.

Section 6. The Senate shall carry on its business according to bylaws of its own choosing, which may be adopted as herein provided.

Article II. Membership of the Senate

Section 1. The membership of the Senate shall consist of all senators selected by classes within the academic programs in the School of Health Related Professions, certified as members of the School of Health Related Professions Student Association, and currently on the roll and mailing list of the Senate, as herein provided.

Section 2. All academic programs in the School of Health Related Professions shall be included. New programs developed within the School are also entitled to the same representation.

Section 3. The number of senators from each program shall be based on the following apportionment:

1. Classes with less than fifteen students shall be entitled to one senator.
2. Classes having fifteen or more students shall be entitled to two senators.

Programs having more than one enrolled class shall be entitled to the above apportionment for each class. The number of students in any one class shall be determined by the Interim Committee from the fall registration records, as reported by the Director of the School of Health Related Professions Student Services.
Section 4. Selection of senators shall be made on or before the first Monday of October of each academic year. While each program is free to select its senators in the manner it sees fit, a democratic process is encouraged. Programs are cautioned to consider the roles of part-time students in the process of selecting senators.

Section 5. All senators shall have an equal status and an equal vote as members of the Senate, except for the President of the Senate, who expresses a vote only in case of a tie.

Section 6. A member of the Senate may be dismissed for just cause by affirmative vote of two-thirds of the senators present and voting.

Section 7. A member of the Senate may be recalled by the class represented.

Section 8. Vacancies shall be declared by the President of the Senate upon notification of the death of a senator, or upon receipt of a letter of resignation, or upon expulsion of a senator by his constituents. The President shall then remove the name of the senator from the roll and mailing list of the Senate.

Section 9. A class may fill vacancies in its representation at any time by selecting and having certified a senator as herein provided.

Section 10. Each senator shall serve as the liaison between the program represented and the Senate and shall participate in the activities and projects of the School of Health Related Professions Student Association.

Section 11. The Dean of the School of Health Related Professions shall appoint a faculty advisor to the Senate of the School of Health Related Professions Student Association.

Article III. Officers of the Senate

Section 1. There shall be three elected officers of the Senate: President, Vice President and Secretary-Treasurer. The officers shall be nominated and elected by the Senate from among its members at the first regular meeting of the academic year in the fall term. Voting shall be by secret ballot, and a majority of votes cast shall be required to elect.

Section 2. It shall be the responsibility of the President to represent the SSA to the School of Health Related Professions and the University administration and to the public and to serve as the chief administrative and executive officer of the SSA. The President shall preside over all meetings of the Senate and perform all other duties as prescribed herein and as may be prescribed in the bylaws.

Section 3. It shall be the responsibility of the Vice President to coordinate a calendar of activities and serve as liaison to each of the SSA standing committees. The Vice President shall perform the duties of the President in the absence of the President. In case of a vacancy in the unexpired term of the office of President, the Vice President shall become President.

Section 4. It shall be the responsibility of the Secretary-Treasurer to maintain a meeting attendance record, the minutes of each meeting and a record of SSA expenditures.

Section 5. In the event of a vacancy in the unexpired term of the office of Vice President or the office of Secretary-Treasurer, written notice shall be given to the membership two weeks in advance and an election shall be held at the next regular meeting of the Senate.

Article IV. Committees

Section 1. The standing committees shall be the Community Affairs Committee, Entertainment and Student Activities Committee, Public Relations Committee and Student Affairs Committee.

Section 2. Each senator shall be a member of one of the standing SSA committees.
Section 3. A chairman and co-chairman shall be selected for each standing committee by the committee membership at the first regular meeting of the academic year in the fall term.

Section 4. The standing committees shall be responsible for planning, organizing and coordinating the activities and projects of the SSA for the academic year.

Section 5. The chairman shall be responsible for scheduling and conducting committee meetings and for coordinating and monitoring the projects and activities of each committee.

Section 6. The co-chairman shall be responsible for assisting the chairman in the performance of committee duties and shall assume the duties of chairman in the absence of the chairman.

Section 7. Special ad hoc committees may be appointed by the President as may be necessary.

Section 8. Senators may be appointed by the President to serve on University-wide or School of Health Related Professions committees.

Article V. Executive Council

Section 1. The Executive Council shall be comprised of the three elected officers and the chairman of each standing committee. The SSA faculty advisor shall serve as an ex-officio member of the Executive Council.

Section 2. The Executive Council shall serve as the coordinating body of the Senate.

Section 3. Meetings of the Executive Council shall be held as called by the President of the School of Health Related Professions Student Association.

Article VI. Meetings

Section 1. The Senate shall meet at times and places as provided in its bylaws or as called by the President of the Senate, or as mandated by the members of the Senate. A "regular" meeting is one for which all senators are notified in writing of the time and place two weeks in advance of the meeting. The place of regular meetings must be at or near the main UAB campus. All other meetings are "special" meetings.

Section 2. A quorum shall consist of a simple majority of the total current senators on roll. In the absence of a quorum at a regular meeting, the senators may, by two-thirds vote of those present, suspend the requirement for a quorum in order to carry out business. At a special meeting, business may not be transacted without a quorum.

Article VII. The Interim Committee

Section 1. The Interim Committee shall consist of not less than three members, including a chairperson, appointed by the Senate. Members of the Interim Committee must be members of the School of Health Related Professions Student Association, but not necessarily senators, who shall continue to be enrolled during the summer and fall terms following adjournment of the Senate.

Section 2. The chairperson of the Interim Committee shall serve as President Protem of the Senate during the summer adjournment of the Senate.

Section 3. The Interim committee shall be empowered to allocate and spend money within the limits prescribed by the Senate. The absence of prescribed limits shall constitute an absolute prohibition on new expenditures. The Interim Committee in prohibited from spending or committing the expenditure of monies raised from activity fees in the fall term of the new academic year.

Section 4. The Interim Committee shall carry on the business of the School of Health Related Professions Student Association in the manner it deems suitable, except as prescribed in Section 3 and as it may be expressly constrained by the Senate.
Section 5. As part of the student orientation programs in the fall term, the Interim Committee shall inform the students of the School of Health Related Professions of the structure, activities and funding of the School of Health Related Professions Student Association.

Section 6. At the beginning of the fall term, the Interim Committee shall provide a current copy of the School of Health Related Professions Student Association constitution and bylaws to each academic program in the School. It shall also assist each program, as needed, in the selection of new senators.

Section 7. The Interim Committee will verify that each senator selected to serve is indeed eligible, and the chairperson shall maintain, as President Protempore of the Senate, a role and mailing list of all senators so certified.

Section 8. The Interim Committee will organize and provide leadership for activities pursuant to the reorganization of the Senate.

Section 9. The term of the Interim Committee begins with the adjournment of the Senate in the spring term (not earlier than May 1) and ends with the election of a President of the Senate in the fall term (not later than October 31).

Article VIII. Amendments to the Constitution; Bylaws

Section 1. The constitution may be amended at any regular business meeting of the Senate by a two-thirds vote of those present and eligible to vote and voting, provided that written notice of the proposed amendment has been distributed to all senators of the Senate at least two weeks previous.

Section 2. Bylaws of the School of Health Related Professions Student Association may be adopted, amended, or suspended at any business meeting of the Senate by a two-thirds vote of those present and eligible to vote and voting. No previous notice is required.

Section 3. The President of the Senate shall notify all members of the Senate in writing of all changes in the constitution and in the bylaws.