An Amendment to be Entitled
Constitutional Revisions

WHEREAS the University of Alabama at Birmingham Undergraduate Student Government Association has the honor and responsibility of representing the entire undergraduate student voice; and

WHEREAS it is the duty of the USGA to lead the undergraduate student body toward positive and relevant changes; and

WHEREAS updating the Constitution is a positive and relevant change that helps USGA better carry out its role as a governing body;

WHEREAS the authors of this amendment recommend changing the numbering of Article III Section 2 to fix the formatting of the Constitution; and

WHEREAS the authors of this amendment recommend deleting the clause "or not sign" from Article III Section 2 (4) to reduce redundancy; and

WHEREAS the authors of this amendment recommend changing Article III Section 3 (2) from "To assume the office of President of the USGA in the event the President is unable to perform his duties." to "To assume the office of President of the USGA in the event the President is unable to perform their duties." to reflect wording that is more inclusive of different genders; and

WHEREAS the authors of this amendment recommend changing the numbering of Article III Section 4 to fix the formatting of the Constitution; and

WHEREAS the authors of this amendment recommend deleting the Article III Section 4 (3) clause "To keep an accurate and permanent record of the minutes of the meetings of the Executive Branch and Senate." to reflect a more efficient delegation of power and responsibilities; and

WHEREAS the authors of this amendment recommend changing the numbering of Article III Section 6 to fix the formatting of the Constitution; and

WHEREAS the authors of this amendment recommend deleting the Article IV Section 1 clause "It may take such rules and regulations as may seem necessary for the accomplishment of these purposes.” to reduce redundancy and ambiguity; and

WHEREAS the authors of this amendment recommend changing Article IV Section 2 (1) from "The Legislative Branch shall consist of the USGA Executive Vice President, Senators, Freshman Forum, and the Internship Program." to "The Legislative Branch may consist of the USGA Executive Vice President, Senators, Freshman Forum, and the Internship Program." to leave the possibility of the Internship Program without mandating it; and

WHEREAS the authors of this amendment recommend changing Article IV Section 2 (2) from "Representatives are elected from each of the academic schools, by the undergraduate students enrolled in that school, and in proportion to the number of students in each unit." to “Representatives are elected from each of the academic schools, by the undergraduate students enrolled in that school, and in proportion to the number of students in each academic college.” to reduce ambiguity; and

WHEREAS the authors of this amendment recommend changing Article IV Section 2 (2) b from “Each academic unit shall be entitled to at least two members of the Senate. Each school shall be awarded one
[1] additional Senate position for every 500 students enrolled in that Undergraduate Student Body.” to reduce ambiguity; and

WHEREAS the authors of this amendment recommend changing Article IV Section 2 (3) from “The Chairperson of the Senate shall be the Executive Vice President of the USGA Executive Branch,” to “The Executive Vice President of the USGA Executive Branch shall be the Chairperson of the Senate,” to ensure that being Executive Vice President is a sufficient condition for being Chairperson and not the other way around; and

WHEREAS the authors of this amendment recommend changing Article IV Section 5 to Article IV Section 3 to fix the formatting of the Constitution; and

WHEREAS the authors of this amendment recommend deleting the Article V Section 2 (2) clause “Justices may serve a maximum term of one academic year, or twelve months from the time of appointment, unless they resign, graduate, or are removed from office.” to reflect USGA precedent and current attitudes, especially as it does not serve USGA or the Judicial Branch to have inexperienced justices, and no other USGA branch has this limitation; and

WHEREAS the authors of this amendment recommend adding the statement “at least” to the Article V Section 3 clause “The Student Court shall meet once a month during the regular school year. A special meeting of the Student Court may be called by the Chief Justice with 2 days advance notice.” so that it reads as “The Student Court shall meet at least once a month during the regular school year. A special meeting of the Student Court may be called by the Chief Justice with at least 2 days advance notice.” to be more precise; and

WHEREAS the authors of this amendment recommend changing Article VI Section 1 (2) clause “Must have a GPA of 2.5 to be eligible to run.” so that it reads as “Must have at least a GPA of 2.5 to be eligible to run.” to clarify meaning; and

WHEREAS the authors of this amendment recommend changing the numbering of Article VI Section 1 (5) to fix the formatting of the Constitution; and

WHEREAS the authors of this amendment recommend changing Article VI Section 2 (3) from “To be elected for a senate office, candidates that garner the most votes possible will fill the available senate
seats" to "To be elected for a senate office, candidates that receive the majority of cast votes will fill the available senate seats." to remove ambiguity; and

WHEREAS the authors of this amendment recommend adding the statement "removed or" to the Article VI Section 3 (3) clause "All Executive Officers and Senators shall assume office at the USGA Banquet upon being sworn in and shall hold offices until successors are elected and assume office." so that it reads as "All Executive Officers and Senators shall assume office at the USGA Banquet upon being sworn in and shall hold offices until removed or successors are elected and assume office." to clarify meaning; and

WHEREAS the authors of this amendment recommend changing Article VII from "The President, Executive Vice President, Vice President of Communications, Vice President of Student Services and any other appointed positions designated by the Senate shall be eligible for a stipend, the amount of which shall be determined by the Senate through the normal legislative process." to "The President, Executive Vice President, Vice President of Communications, Vice President of Finance, Vice President of Student Services and any other appointed positions designated by the Senate shall be eligible for a stipend, the amount of which shall be approved by the Senate through the normal legislative process." to clarify the language of the Constitution and ensure that such language does not misrepresent the powers of the senate to do that which falls under the jurisdiction of the USGA Division of Finance; and

WHEREAS the authors of this amendment recommend changing Article VIII Section 1 (3) from "The Senate shall vote as to whether impeachment will take place. Impeachment shall require a three-fourths majority vote of the Senate." to "The Senate shall vote as to whether impeachment will take place. Impeachment shall require a three-fourths majority vote of the Senate." to fix incorrect wording; and

WHEREAS the authors of this amendment recommend removing the words "the number" from the Article IX Section 1 (2) clause "A petition signed by ten percent of the number of the Undergraduate Student Body." to remove ambiguity; and

WHEREAS the authors of this amendment recommend making the Article IX Section 2 (1) clause "Following proper approval from the Senate, the Constitution must be approved by the USGA Advisor." into its own clause of Article IX Section 2 (2) to improve clarity; and

WHEREAS the authors of this amendment recommend adding the statement "unless the amendment(s) was initiated by Article IX Section 1(1)" to the Article IX Section 2 (1) clause "The Senate must vote by 2/3 of members present to accept the proposed amendment(s)." so that it reads as "The Senate must vote by 2/3 of members present to accept the proposed amendment(s) unless the amendment(s) was initiated by Article IX Section 1(1)." to reduce redundancy; and

WHEREAS the authors of this amendment recommend changing Article IX Section 2 (2) from "Following proper approval from the Senate, the Constitution must be approved by the USGA Advisor in its entirety." to remove ambiguity; and

WHEREAS the authors of this amendment recommend changing Article IX Section 2 (5) from "The proposed amendment(s) shall be presented to the Student Body in a duly-authorized referendum. A majority of votes cast must be affirmative to pass the amendment(s)." to "The proposed amendment(s) shall be presented to the Student Body in a duly-authorized referendum. A majority of votes cast must be in favor to pass the amendment(s)." to reduce ambiguity; and

WHEREAS the authors of this amendment recommend changing Article IX Section 4 from "Editorial changes to this Constitution such as grammar, formatting, and non-substantive re-wording may be proposed by any member of the Senate at an official Senate meeting or Senate retreatconference and are approved and ratified by a two-thirds affirmative vote of the Senate members present and voting, without a vote by the Undergraduate Student Body." to "Editorial changes to this Constitution such as
grammar, formatting, and non-substantive re-wording may be proposed by any member of the Senate at an official Senate meeting or Senate retreat/conference and must be approved and ratified by a two-thirds affirmative vote of the Senate members present and voting, without a vote by the Undergraduate Student Body.” to reduce ambiguity;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the UAB USGA supports the above changes to the Constitution.

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