CONSTITUTION

PREAMBLE
We, the students of Indiana University East, in order to promote student interests, needs and welfare within the University community; to foster relationships between the learners, the faculty, and the administration; to ensure a positive campus environment; to provide for the expression of student opinion and interests to the community at large on issues affecting student life; to provide a unified voice for the Student Body; and to provide a physical and social environment in which to achieve the above objectives in accordance with the educational and cultural standards of the University, do affirm and establish the Constitution of the Students of Indiana University East.

ARTICLE I- NAME
The name of the student government at Indiana University East, hereafter referred to as IUE, shall be “IUE Student Government Association,” hereafter referred to as “IUESGA” and “SGA”.

ARTICLE II- PURPOSE
The purpose of SGA is to promote self-government and leadership at IUE and to enhance the educational, social, and cultural experience of the students by:
· Allowing and promoting the expression of students’ views and interests,
· Fostering the recognition of student rights and responsibilities,
· Serving as student representatives and advising faculty of the student body including the chancellor, vice chancellors, deans, directors, and professors of the student body,
· Serving as a means by which the students concerns may be voiced,
· Evaluate funding requests made by registered student organizations,
· Assisting in developing programs to enhance the students’ experiences and the reputation of the campus
· Providing a mechanism for the enhancement of student activities, and
· Representing the student body in any dealing with other elements of the university and in non-university affairs.

ARTICLE III- MEMBERSHIP
Section 1. Representatives
A. All registered students of IUE enrolled in one or more credit hours, and only such persons, shall be members of the IUE student body. As members they shall be entitled to vote, to hold office in the Student Government (if qualifications for candidacy are met), and to exercise the various rights and privileges of membership.

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B. Three (3) students from each school shall be elected to serve on the Student Government Association. “Schools” refers to all IUE academic schools and the Purdue College of Technology.

Section 2. Vacancy
A. Should a position become vacant within the SGA due to a representative being unable to complete his or her term in office, a representative from that school may be appointed by the dean. Appointment may also occur upon the removal of the member from his or her position by the SGA.

ARTICLE IV- EXECUTIVE
Section 1. Names
The officers of the SGA shall be President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Section 2. Term of Office
A. The terms of office of the officers shall be one (1) year from the first Monday after IUE’s commencement to the first Monday at noon after commencement the following year.
B. Officers shall be elected by SGA members at the last meeting of the year.

Section 3. Succession
A. Should the office of the President be vacant for any reason, the Vice President shall be successor.
B. Should the office of the Vice President, Secretary, or Treasurer be vacant for any reason, a replacement shall be elected among the membership.
C. All successions shall be effective until the end of that term.

Section 4. Powers and Duties of the Office of the President
A. The President shall serve as the official head of the SGA, and shall perform all official and social functions pertaining to this office.
B. The President shall create any special committees, which are deemed necessary, with written instruction as to their goal(s), and appoint their Chair. The Chair, working with the President and SGA members, shall be responsible for recruiting a minimum of two (2) members to serve on that committee.
C. The President may require opinions, in writing, of the Chair of each standing or temporary committee on any subject relating to the duties of their respective committees.

ARTICLE V- ELECTIONS
Section 1. Election Committee
A. Members shall serve a one (1) year term, which will begin on the first Monday after IUE’s commencement to the first Monday at noon after commencement the following year;
B. Members shall not run for office during the current election.
C. The Committee shall have the responsibility for all election campaign procedures.
D. The Committee shall review all reported election and campaign violations and ensure they have been properly filed according to SGA election rules.
E. Results of the Committee’s hearings and actions shall be rendered in writing and shall include findings of facts, conclusions, recommendations, and decisions as appropriate.

Section 2. Election Procedures
A. Members shall be elected in the Spring.
B. Students may be nominated for SGA by students, faculty and staff. Upon acceptance of nominations, candidates’ information will be posted online. Student online voting will take place, and the top three in each school receiving the most votes shall represent their school on the SGA.
C. Officer elections shall not be held before the general membership question for the pending term has been resolved, and those members have been summoned to vote on the question of officer elections.
D. Officer elections shall be decided by the votes of both the outgoing and incoming SGA membership.
E. Those seeking office of the President must have been an active, participating member of SGA the prior year, unless only one member with prior experience wishes to run for that office, leaving them unopposed, at which time, any student meeting SGA election protocols shall be permitted to run for office. In the resulting event of the election of an inexperienced candidate, it shall be the responsibility of the outgoing president or SGA advisor(s) to educate the incoming president on the duties and responsibilities of that office.

Section 3. Eligibility for Voting
Any person who is taking one (1) credit hour or more at IUE shall be able to vote during the semester of classes taken.

ARTICLE VI- IMPEACHMENT & REMOVAL
A hearing must be conducted before any vote(s) may be taken.

Section 1.
A. Any elected officer may be removed from office for conviction of a violation of the IUE Student Code of Ethics, a violation of the SGA Constitution, conviction of a felony during their term in office, or dereliction of duty.
B. Articles of Impeachment will be brought before the SGA if and when a petition signed by one third (1/3) of the total SGA members has been presented to the President, together with witnesses and/or verifiable evidence of an offense. Evidence must always accompany the accusation.
C. Impeachment shall be effected upon a two thirds (2/3) vote of the total membership and should the charges be valid, the Officer shall be removed from office immediately.

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ARTICLE VII- AMENDMENTS
A. Proposals to amend this Constitution shall originate by a vote of three fourths (3/4) of the SGA. If this proposal receives a majority of the votes, the Constitution of SGA shall be declared amended.
B. It shall be the policy of SGA to consider and evaluate funding proposals and pending their approval by SGA, to fund these proposals using funds generated by student activity fees, so long as those events demonstrate a compelling cause for student interest and those events are to be held on the IU-East campus, or at any IU-affiliated institution.

Section 2.
If an event is not held on the IU-East campus or at any other IU affiliated institution, their funding proposals shall not merit consideration, and the SGA funding process shall subsequently be closed to said group for that activity.

Section 3.
Members of SGA may vote on all funding proposals brought forward for SGA’s consideration, regardless of their affiliation with the Registered Student Organization requesting funds. Thus if SGA representatives are members of the student organization requesting funds from SGA, they shall still be eligible to cast a vote.

ARTICLE VIII- BYLAWS
Bylaws shall be established to include the rules of the SGA and the duties of the SGA Officers, Members, and Committees.

ARTICLE IX- ENACTMENT
This Constitution shall have full force and effect following passage by a majority vote of the SGA by a majority of those voting in a campus-wide election. The Constitution shall supersede and replace all previous SGA Constitutions and Bylaws.

ARTICLE X- ATTENDANCE
Section 1- Officer
If the President is unable to attend a meeting, the vice president shall be successor. At least 1 week notice to person who is taking charge, except in rare instances of emergency where the timeframe cannot be met.
If the Vice President, Secretary, or Treasurer is unable to attend a meeting, another officer or member shall be pre-arranged to perform their duties and/or give their report.

Section 2- Membership
Absences will be determined by the failure of the attendance record and roll call to show the presence of a member. If a member is shown in the records not to be present when roll call is taken at the end of the meeting, the member will be counted absent for that meeting.
It will be the duty of the Secretary to take roll at the end of each meeting.

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In the event the Secretary is unable to attend a meeting, the Treasurer will fulfill the duties for the meeting.
A written notice, from the president, shall be issued to members failing to attend two (2) meetings in one semester. After a member has failed to attend three (3) meetings in one semester, and after the written warning has been given, the group as a whole must vote on the conditions of the member’s absence in order to determine if the representative will be removed from the association. The group will have one (1) week to determine the member’s consequences.
The absence(s) of the member in question can be expunged by a two-thirds affirmative vote by all members present.

Section 3- Quorum
General meeting quorum shall be defined as a majority of the total membership present. Should quorum not be met, the meeting and/or decision making shall be postponed until a later date.

Section 4- Executive Officers Meeting
Regular meetings between Executive Officers shall be held at the discretion of the President, upon a fourteen (14) days notification to the Executive Council. Meeting times will be determined by consensus of the Executive Council.

Section 5- General Meetings
General Meetings shall be held at least twice a month during the fall and spring academic semesters. Normal meeting times will be determined by the quorum.

Section 6- Special Meetings
Special meetings may be called with the consensus of the Executive Council or by the Chancellor as deemed necessary. Special meetings requiring the presence of the General Council (Senate) must be preceded by written notification to all members seven (7) days in advance of the meeting date. The agenda must be given to all council members at least twenty-four (24) hours in advance. Meeting times will be determined by the quorum.

Section 7- Event Participation
All SGA members are obligated to be present at a minimum of three (3) SGA sponsored events per semester, excluding summer terms. Attendance by an SGA member of these events shall not constitute attendance which fulfills this requirement if the SGA member in question is:
1. Involved in another organization participating in the event.
2. The event is a regularly scheduled SGA business meeting.

ARTICLE XI- COMMITTEES

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A. The SGA shall have the authority to establish various committees, either standing or ad hoc, at its discretion.
B. Size and membership of the committees shall be determined by the SGA members.
C. A chairperson for each committee shall be selected or be appointed by the president to oversee committee business.