The Constitution of the
Student Government Association of
Middle Georgia State University
A. Preamble

We, the student body of Middle Georgia State University, believe that we have the right and the authority of self-governance. In order to preserve and further these aims; to promote understanding and involvement among all members of the university community; to represent, advocate, and legislate the interest of the student body; to serve as partners in the administrative processes of the university; to protect our right to govern ourselves; to be the official voice of students in academic, institutional and campus affairs; we do hereby establish this Constitution for the Middle Georgia State University Student Government Association (SGA).

ARTICLE I. NAME, MASCOT, COLORS, PURPOSES, MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Name: This organization shall be named the Student Government Association of Middle Georgia State University (MGA).
Section 2. Mascot: Duke the Knight
Section 3. Colors: Purple, Gray, and Black
Section 4. Purpose: The purpose of this organization shall be (a) to serve and represent students at our multi-campus institution, (b) to serve and work toward the betterment of our multi-campus institution, (c) to provide sound democratic student government, (d) to unify the students, faculty and administrative staff, (e) to promote student leadership, growth, and development, (f) to promote a sense of loyalty and school spirit at Middle Georgia State University, (g) to promote community service, (h) to boost morale, (i) to promote health and wellness, and (j) to promote cultural diversity.

Section 5. Membership: All students registered for courses at Middle Georgia are members of the student body with the right to vote in all the elections of officers and referendums. The entire student body will vote for the senators.

Section 6. The SGA shall have sole authority to act in the name of the student body as a whole and all students shall be subjected to the rules and regulations in this Constitution, its amendments, and legislation pursuant thereto.

ARTICLE II. ORGANIZATION OF STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

Section 1. Branches – The Student Government Association consists of two branches: The Executive and the Legislative.

Section 2. The Executive Branch consists of the President, Vice President of the Western District, Vice President of the Eastern District, and Secretary/Treasurer. This branch is responsible for the proposal of legislation to the Legislative branch (Senate) for its deliberation and to take action on recommended policies and procedures made by the Senate. The Executive Branch must meet at least twice a month when school is in session with the SGA advisor present. Vacancies in the Branch during a term will be filled by nominated and qualified elected SGA members through an internal SGA vote. In the event that there is not a candidate running for a position, the SGA will hold internal elections and vote to fill vacant positions as representatives of the student body, with the approval of the SGA Advisor(s) with the two/thirds vote by the Senate. An internal SGA vote will determine which Vice President will assume the presidency in the case of a vacancy in the position of President.
Section 3. The Legislative Branch consists of the SGA Senate. The Senate shall have fifteen members, three from the Macon campus, three from the Warner Robins campus, three from the Cochran campus, three from the Dublin campus, and three from the Eastman campus. Senators must be enrolled students at Middle Georgia State University and must be in good academic standing. Senators shall be nominated and selected by MGA’s student body. If each campus does not fill their three Senate seats, those seats may be used as overflow for larger campuses. The next potential candidate with the highest number of votes will fill the senate seat regardless of campus population.

**Senate Election**

All senators will be elected in the annual spring elections from the current student body. Senators must complete the application to continue with the election process. Senate vacancies occurring after the official spring elections shall be filled by SGA presidential appointment with approval of 2/3 of the Senate and SGA advisor(s). Duties of the Senate are to act on items proposed by the Executive Branch and any other items that originate within the Senate. The presiding officer of the Senate is the Vice Presidents of the SGA. The SGA secretary shall be appointed by the President of the SGA. The Senate will have 3 standing committees of 4 members each from the Western District and The Eastern District. Senators can serve on more than one standing committee if they desire. The names and duties of the standing committees are listed below:

- **Public Relations Committee** - This committee is responsible for ensuring that the student body and the Middle Georgia State University community are informed of the activities of the Student Government Association.
- **Event Planning Committee** - This committee is responsible for planning at least one student forum each semester. They coordinate any other events associated with the Student Government Association.
- **Facilities and Service Committee** - This committee is responsible for making reservations of facilities for SGA events. They will coordinate at least two community service opportunities for SGA to participate in.

The Western District Senate will utilize the Warner Robins and Macon Campuses to conduct meetings, if there are Senators from both campuses. The Eastern District Senate will utilize the Cochran, Dublin, and Eastman campuses to conduct meetings, if there are Senators from each of those campuses. The Vice President of the Western Campuses and the Vice President of the Eastern Campuses will have the responsibility of choosing the meeting times and dates. District meetings will be the week opposite of the Executive Branch meetings. There shall not be any business conducted or transacted by the Senate without quorum. Quorum shall consist of 2/3 of the senators. In case of tie votes in the Senate, the presiding officer may vote to break the tie. Otherwise, the presiding officer cannot vote.
ARTICLE III: OFFICERS OF THE SGA

Section 1. Elected Officers of the SGA
A. President
B. Vice President of Western District
C. Vice President of Eastern District
D. Secretary/Treasurer

Section 2. Elections of Officers- The election of SGA officers shall be held during the spring semester. The senators running for president must complete an application and go through an interview process. The president will be selected by the advisor and a committee. The Vice Presidents will be chosen through a secret ballot voting process by the senators. The two candidates that receive the largest number of votes will be elected. The Secretary/Treasurer will be appointed by the President.

Section 3. Qualifications of Officers- Candidates for President must be currently enrolled at Middle Georgia State University, have at least a 2.5 cumulative grade point average, and have completed at least 2 semesters at Middle Georgia State University. Remaining officers must be enrolled at Middle Georgia State University and have at least a 2.5 cumulative grade point average. The candidates must be in good student conduct standings.

Section 4. Nominations and Election of Officers- A student who wishes to become a nominee for an office must obtain and complete a student election application. When it has been verified that the student is in good academic and student conduct standings, and meet the other qualifications for nomination, the SGA advisor will notify the student that he or she will be placed on the ballot.

Section 5. Powers, Duties, and Responsibilities of Elected Officers
A. President
   a. To preside at all meetings, to institute parliamentary procedure for all the Executive Board meetings
   b. To cooperate and coordinate all SGA activities with the SGA Advisor(s)
   c. To take under advisement policies and actions approved by the Senate and take appropriate action on them
   d. To represent and to counsel with the students on matters concerning student’s actions and those issues pertaining to students as represented within the framework of the SGA
   e. To be the official spokesperson of SGA
B. District Vice Presidents
   a. To assume all responsibilities of the SGA President if he/she is absent
   b. To conduct a special meeting of the Senate
   c. To serve as a liaison to other campus RSO’s as delegated by the president, without authority over them
   d. To run for President of the SGA in order to assume the position of president in case the current President of the SGA is unable to perform his/her duties
e. To fulfill and perform any duties or responsibilities as delegated by the president

C. Secretary/Treasurer
   a. To maintain all official minutes and records of the SGA
   b. To publicize records of SGA to the students at authorized places on the campuses
   c. To assist the president and district vice presidents of the SGA with all official correspondence and communications
   d. To present to the SGA and the SGA advisor(s) records of all SGA meetings which are held
   e. To maintain public record, an accurate account of all the organization funds and to maintain all financial correspondence of the organization
   f. To assist in all other areas related to financial matters as deemed necessary by the Executive Branch to meet the organization’s purposes
   g. To assist and cooperate with the President of the SGA

Terms of Office- All elected officials of the Executive Branch shall assume office at the beginning of the summer semester and shall serve until the end of the subsequent spring semester. No elected officer can succeed himself in any subsequent year.

ARTICLE IV: REMOVAL FROM OFFICE

Section 1. Reason and procedures for removal- Any elected or appointed official of the SGA may be removed from office for the following reasons:

A. Violation of the constitution. Any student may present an allegation of violation of the constitution by an officer of the SGA. The procedure is:

   a. The allegation must be presented in writing to the presiding officer of the Senate and must contain the unduplicated signatures of twenty presently enrolled students.

   b. The person subject to removal shall be notified in writing by the presiding officer of the Senate no later than one calendar week prior to the meeting of the Senate to consider the allegation. The person charged must be present at the Senate to respond to the allegations. A ¾ vote of the Senate is required to sustain an allegation and subsequent removal of the person from office. An officer may, if he/she desires, appeal the action of the Senate to the University’s administration.

   c. A student may be removed from office if, and when placed on disciplinary probation, suspension or dismissal as a result of violations of the student conduct code as spelled out in the Student Handbook.
d. A student may be removed from SGA Office if, and when, placed on academic probation.

e. A student could be removed from SGA Office if, there are excessive absences from scheduled meetings or otherwise failure to properly participate in SGA activities. Four absences from scheduled meetings without valid excuses are considered to be excessive.

**ARTICLE V: STUDENT REDRESS**

Section 1. **Individual Student Participation**- Any students who wishes to express his views to any of the two branches of the SGA may do so at meetings of the appropriate body; however, the student should first consult with the presiding officer of that Branch regarding the particulars he/she intends to discuss. The presiding officer shall not recognize the student's request during a meeting unless the aforementioned is followed.

**ARTICLE VI: METHOD OF AMENDMENT**

Section 1. All amendments to this constitution must be proposed by the following methods:

A. Constitutional Convention

B. A petition presented in writing to the President of the SGA carrying the signatures of ½ percent of the membership of the SGA

Section 2. Proposed amendments to this constitution must be posted or published in the College's official means of communication on which a vote is taken by members of the SGA in the convention.

Section 3. All proposed amendments to this constitution must be approved by the Vice President of Student Affairs of Middle Georgia State University.

SGA President:

[Signature]

President of Middle Georgia State University:

[Signature]

SGA Vice President of Eastern District:

[Signature]

Vice President of Student Affairs:

[Signature]

SGA Vice President of Western District:

[Signature]

Date:

[Signature]

February 28th, 2017