

Constitution
Student Council of the Wesley Foundation
Stephen F. Austin State University, Nacogdoches, Texas

ARTICLE I NAME

The name of this body shall be the Student Council of the Wesley Foundation at SFASU.

ARTICLE II AUTHORITY AND PURPOSE

The Student Council is authorized by the Board of Directors of the Wesley Foundation to plan and implement the programs and activities of the Wesley Foundation with the counsel and under the direction of the campus minister. The *Book of Discipline* and the Constitution of the Board of Directors will have precedence over anything written in this Constitution.

The purpose of the Student Council is to support and strengthen campus ministry at Stephen F. Austin State University (SFA). This Council will

- 1) plan the programs and activities;
- 2) serve the students at the Wesley Foundation;
- 3) promote the Wesley Foundation in the churches of the Texas Annual Conference, particularly those churches in the Nacogdoches District; and
- 4) be spiritual and moral leaders.

The campus minister will have the authority to remove any member from the Student Council. The minister may remove a student only after discussion with the Chairperson of the the Student Council, or the Vice-Chairperson, if the Chairperson is to be removed. After discussion, even if there is no agreement, the campus minister may still choose to remove the member.

ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. – Elected Membership – Elected students will be composed of those students who are registered at Stephen F. Austin State University of Angelina College. While holding office, an undergrad must be registered for at least 9 hours, and a graduate student for at least 6 hours. Elected members will be composed of standing positions and At-Large positions.

Section 2. – Appointed Membership -- The campus minister can appoint up to two students to At-Large positions on the Council.

Section 3. – Freshman and Transfer Membership – Three positions will be reserved for freshman and/or transfer students each fall. These students will serve as Assistant Chairpersons to the Standing positions Outreach, Fellowship, and Worship.

ARTICLE IV ORGANIZATION

Section 1. Standing Positions -- The Council shall be composed of six standing positions. These teams are Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Outreach, Service, Worship, and Fellowship.

Section 2. At-Large Positions – There shall be three elected At-Large positions and up to two At-Large positions appointed by the campus minister. Each elected student will decide his or her own area of ministry under the guidance of the campus minister and Student Council.

Section 3. Elections and Tenure – With the exception of the Assistant Chairs, elections shall be held at the end of the spring semester. For Assistant Chairs, elections shall be held between the fourth and eighth week of the fall semester. Nomination Applications shall be available for one to four weeks prior to the election.

Each person who accepts their nomination will be placed upon a written ballot. The entire student body of the Wesley Foundation will have an opportunity to vote by secret ballot. The election must last at least three consecutive days, including the day of the primary worship service.

All elected students (excluding freshman/transfer students elected in fall) shall take office on the last Council meeting of the spring semester. The term shall be for one year. Specific election procedures are described in the Bylaws.

Section 4. Meetings -- The Student Council shall meet at least twice a month during the spring and fall semesters. The regular meetings shall be for the purpose of reviewing and planning activities, programs, and any other matters related to the ministry of the Wesley Foundation. Meetings may be called by the Chairperson or the Campus Minister. Business at called meetings shall deal only with the matter, or matters, for which the meeting was called. Members shall be notified at least seven days prior to the time of each meeting.

Section 5. Executive Committee -- There shall be an Executive Committee composed of the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, and the Campus Minister. The Executive Committee will have the authority to make decisions on behalf of the Council in between meetings.

Section 6. Voting -- Each member shall be entitled to one vote. When necessary, or when specifically requested by any member, *Robert's Rules of Order* shall govern the conduct of any meeting except that in all cases the Council members present and voting at a regular or called meeting shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE V PROGRAM

Under the direction and supervision of the campus minister, the Student Council is empowered to develop the programs and activities of the Wesley Foundation at SFA, consistent with the policy of the Board of Directors and the *Book of Discipline*.

ARTICLE VI RATIFICATION

This Constitution shall become operative when approved by majority vote of the Student Council. It may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the entire student body of the Wesley Foundation.

Bylaws or other actions to implement the intent of this Constitution may be adopted by a two-thirds majority of the Student Council of the Wesley Foundation. Bylaws may be amended in the same manner.

New Bylaws, amendments to the Constitution, or amendments to the Bylaws may be vetoed by the campus minister; however, only the voting process may be used to change the Constitution.

This Constitution and Bylaws supercedes any and all other Constitutions or Bylaws that may currently be in effect.

BYLAWS:

1. The Chairperson may, on recommendation of the Student Council, appoint such standing committees, ad hoc committees, or task groups as may be deemed necessary to implement the program and activities of the Wesley Foundation.
2. The Executive Committee shall fill any vacancies that may occur.
3. Elections of the Standing Positions shall be held first. Anyone nominated but not elected to a standing position is automatically nominated for an At-Large position. Nominations and elections for At-Large positions shall be held following the elections for the Standing Positions. Any student running for a Standing Position and obtaining over half (50% plus one) of the votes cast is elected. Elections for the Assistant Chairpersons shall follow the same process as for Standing Positions.
4. There shall be a written document stating the requirements and/or expectations of members on the Student Council. The reading and agreement with this document is necessary to accept any nomination.

All the students nominated for an At-Large Position shall be placed on a single ballot. Each voting student may cast three votes, with no more than one vote per nominee. The three students with the most votes shall be elected (by plurality). A majority is not needed.

This Constitution was adopted by the Student Council on _____

Chairperson of the Council _____