

THE FLORIDA POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

FPU 3.002 Student Government and Student Organizations

(1) Student Government.

- (a) The Florida Polytechnic University Student Government is established on the main campus of Florida Polytechnic University. The Student Government shall be maintained by the students in accordance with law and regulation, including Florida Statutes Section 1004.26 University student governments and Board of Governors regulation 6.014 Student Governments.
- (b) The Student Government is recognized as the official representative of and governing organization of the student body.
- (c) The Student Government is authorized to make recommendations to or through the Provost or designee concerning University policies, regulations and operating procedures that significantly affect students.
- (d) The Student Government shall adopt internal procedures which must be approved by the University President. The Student Government's constitution and by-laws, and any amendments thereto, must be approved by the University President.
- (e) The Student Government's internal procedures shall include, but not be limited to, procedures on the following:
 - (i) The operation and administration of Student Government,
 - (ii) The elections and returns, the appointments, and the suspension, removal and discipline of elected and appointed Student Government officers. Suspension and removal procedures must address suspension and removal of an elected or appointed officer convicted of a felony.
 - (iii) The process by which students may petition for referendum to remove from office an elected or appointed Student Government officer only for the following reasons: malfeasance, misfeasance, neglect of duty, incompetence, permanent inability to perform official duties, or conviction of a felony.
 - (iv) The minimum qualifications a student must have to seek office and to continue to serve in office shall include the following university standards:
 1. The student must be in good academic standing at the University;
 2. The student must be currently enrolled in a degree-seeking program and pay Activity and Service ("A&S") fees during the term(s) of the position;
 3. Undergraduate students must be registered for at least nine (9) credit hours in each semester, not including summer semesters, and maintain a minimum 2.5 cumulative GPA at the University;
 4. Graduate and professional students must be registered for at least six (6) credits in each semester, not including summer semesters, and maintain a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA at the University;
 5. The student must be in good standing with the Student Code of Conduct and must not have a delinquent obligation to the University for tuition and fees;
 6. A student in his/her last semester before graduation is eligible to hold a leadership position if the student is enrolled for the required number of credits needed for graduation that term or the appropriate number of credit hours as provided in (1)(e)(iv)3 or 4 above, whichever is less, and maintains the required GPA;
 7. A student who is currently in a leadership position must meet these minimum

requirements to continue holding a leadership position. A student not meeting the eligibility requirements as outlined in this regulation will be required to relinquish the office. However, a student may submit a written appeal to remain in the office until the end of the semester to the Office of Student Affairs. The Provost or designee will review the appeal and determine whether the student may remain in that position for the remainder of the semester;

8. Students who otherwise meet the requirements of this subsection, but have received approval to have a reduced course load due to a registered disability, are eligible to seek and hold leadership positions.

- (f) Student Government is established on the main campus of Florida Polytechnic University. The Student Government shall be maintained by the students in accordance with law and regulation, including Florida Statutes Section 1004.26 University student governments and Board of Governors regulations 6.014 Student Governments.
- (g) Student Government shall allocate A&S fees for lawful purposes to benefit the student body in general, subject to the veto power of the University President or designee in accordance with Florida Statutes Section 1009.24. Student Government shall expend A&S fees in accordance with the final Student Government budget and applicable statutes, rules and policies.
- (h) Student Government shall follow all University regulations, policies and procedures when entering into contracts or making purchases of goods or services.
- (i) Student Government shall audit all accounts which receive and/or expend Activity and Services Fees.
- (j) Members of Student Government are expected to adhere to the Student Code of Conduct. If a member violates the Student Code of Conduct, the member may receive Student Government organizational charges, as well as being charged with a violation of the Student Code of Conduct.

(2) Student Organizations.

- (a) Any student association, group, club or organization (“student organization”) other than Student Government is eligible for active registration as a Registered Student Organization. Registration as a Registered Student Organization is contingent upon the student organization complying with all registration requirements and obtaining the approvals of the Student Government and the Provost or designee, and continuously complying with applicable regulations, policies and procedures.
- (b) The University’s registration of a student organization shall not imply support for any student organization’s purpose, philosophy, or activities. To be considered for recognition as a Registered Student Organization, a student organization must submit, in writing, to the Office of Student Affairs a list of its University student members and each student’s university identification number, the names and signatures of all of the officers of the organization, the names of the organization’s faculty/staff advisor(s) to the organization, and the organization’s constitution. Proposed Registered Student Organizations must have a minimum of ten (10) University student members. A proposed Registered Student Organization with a mission or purpose that appears to duplicate that of an existing Registered Student Organization may or may not be recognized. No Registered Student Organization may be set up or operated in a manner that an individual

benefits monetarily from its existence. In seeking, securing and maintaining the privilege to be registered as a Registered Student Organization, each student organization must agree in writing to abide by all University policies, procedures, and regulations and Student Government policies and procedures and to hold harmless the University for any of the student organization's actions or activities.

- (c) Student organizations which violate any law, University regulation or policy, or Student Government policy are subject to disciplinary action pursuant to the Student Code of Conduct.
- (d) Membership in any Registered Student Organization is limited to students enrolled in the University as undergraduate, graduate, or postgraduate students
- (e) The minimum qualifications for students seeking and holding elected or appointed positions in a Registered Student Organization are the same as the minimum qualifications for Student Government leaders described in section (1)(e)(iv) above.
- (f) All Registered Student Organizations must have at least one full-time Florida Polytechnic University faculty or staff advisor in order to be registered and to be eligible to receive A&S funding. While faculty and staff members of the University serve in advisory capacities to student organizations, it is presumed that students of legal adult age are accountable for their decisions and behaviors as individuals and as members of student organizations.
- (g) Students or student organizations do not have the authority to bind the University for any purpose; therefore students or student organizations shall not enter into contracts which purport to bind the University.
- (h) With the exception of Student Government, student organizations (whether they are registered or not) are entities independent of the University; the University assumes no legal liability for any student organization.
- (i) Registered Student Organizations may receive disbursements for operating and programming from A&S funds through the process established by Student Government.

(3) Non-Discrimination.

It is the policy of the University that Registered Student Organizations and Student Government must be in full compliance with all Federal and State nondiscrimination and equal opportunity laws, orders and regulations. Neither Student Government nor Registered Student Organizations shall discriminate against an officer, member or prospective member on the basis of race, color, national origin, marital status, sex, religion, age, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or veteran status or any other legally protected class or basis under applicable federal and/or state laws.

Authority: FBOG regulations 1.001(4)(a)(6), 6.010, 6.014; Florida Statutes sections 1004.26, 1009.24

History: New: 7.29.14, Amended: 6.22.17