



You Can Be the Change

SGA Election Information Session





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Review of Session

- ◆ What is SGA?
- ◆ Duties of SGA Positions
- ◆ Qualifications for Office
- ◆ Positions Open for Election
- ◆ The Process of Election
- ◆ Campaigning
- ◆ Infractions



What is SGA?



- ◆ The Wichita State University Student Government Association was started in 1912.
- ◆ SGA is divided into three co-equal branches, Legislative, Executive and Judicial.
- ◆ SGA serves as the voice of students to the University and College Administration, manages the allocation of over \$10.5 million dollars and represents WSU students at all level of government, local, state and federal.
- ◆ SGA approves all recognized student organizations, provides funding to student groups and individuals, as well as awards several thousands of dollars in scholarships annually
- ◆ SGA's motto is "Students Come First"



SGA Officers and Duties



Student Body President

- ◆ To enforce the Statutes and administer the Resolutions of the Association;
- ◆ To execute the policies of the Senate and the decisions of the Court;
- ◆ To act as the official spokesperson for the Association;
- ◆ To appoint the Court Justices and Association members to positions
- ◆ To recommend to the Senate any policy, which the individual considers to be in pursuit of the purposes of the Association;
- ◆ To veto and invalidate any action of the Senate
- ◆ Other duties as specified in the Association's Bylaws.



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Student Body Vice-President

- ◆ To assume all duties of the President in that individual's absence;
- ◆ To preside over all meetings of the Senate
- ◆ Other duties as specified in the Association's Bylaws.



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Student Senator

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- ◆ To understand the Association's Constitution, Statutes, and Bylaws.



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- ◆ To perform the committee work to which they are assigned;
- ◆ To understand the Association's Constitution, Statutes, and Bylaws;
- ◆ To take action, which is in harmony and pursuant to the duties of the Association;
- ◆ To recognize organizations;
- ◆ To approve all allocations of Association and Student Fee monies;



Qualifications for Office



In order to declare for...

- ◆ Student Body President or Student Body Vice President
 - ◆ You must be a junior by the start of the fall session and have and maintain a 2.5 cumulative GPA
- ◆ Student Senator
 - ◆ You must be enrolled in your specific College by the start of the fall session and have and maintain a 2.5 cumulative GPA



Positions for Election



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Executive Branch

- ◆ Student Body President and Student Body Vice President



Legislative Branch

- ◆ Applied Studies Senators: 4 positions
- ◆ Engineering Senators: 4 positions
- ◆ Liberal Arts and Sciences Senators: 4 positions
- ◆ Fine Arts Senators: 2 positions
- ◆ Health Professions Senators: 4 positions
- ◆ Business Senators: 4 positions
- ◆ Honors College Senators: 2 positions
- ◆ Graduate School Senators: 3 positions
- ◆ Out-of-State Senators: 2 positions
- ◆ At-Large Senators: 16 positions
- ◆ Veterans Senator: 1 position
- ◆ International Senator: 2 positions
- ◆ Returning Adults Senators: 3 positions
- ◆ Underserved Senators: 8 positions



The Process of Election



How to Run For Office

1. Why Are You Running?

If you considering running for office, think about why?

- ◆ What do you want to accomplish?
- ◆ How do you plan on accomplishing those goals?
- ◆ What legacy do you want to leave behind?
- ◆ Why are you running?
 - ◆ Do not run to just have a line on your resume, we promise you it will not be worth it
- ◆ For Presidential/Vice-Presidential tickets:
 - ◆ Who do you want to run with?
 - ◆ What does this person bring to your campaign?



How to Run For Office

2. Declare for Candidacy

If you are ready and feel up for running for office, in order to formally declare for office, you must complete the Declaration of Candidacy form.

- ◆ The form asks you for basic information
 - ◆ Name, GPA, position you are seeking, major, etc.
 - ◆ Campaign Budget
 - ◆ Verification for Release of Grades
 - ◆ Acceptance of Rules and Regulations



How to Run For Office

3. Consider your Budget

Running a campaign for SGA office may or may not cost you money.

- ◆ For Student Body President/Vice President Ticket
 - ◆ The ticket cannot spend more than \$600 (including in-kind or donated items)
- ◆ For Senators
 - ◆ The ticket cannot spend more than \$100 (including in-kind or donated items)
- ◆ For At-Large Senators
 - ◆ The candidate cannot spend more than \$200 (including in-kind or donated items)



How to Run For Office

4. Attend the Rules and Regulations Meeting

A requirement for running, you must attend one of two meetings

- ◆ The Rules protect you to allow your campaign be fair and free from biasness
- ◆ The rules tell you what you can and cannot do, how to do things, and the expectations in which the Commission will enforce
- ◆ The rules layout the infraction process



How to Run For Office

5. Attend your assigned Town Hall or Debate

Based on which position you are running for

- ◆ The Town Halls will be joined by the College Dean
- ◆ For other positions, the Town Halls will be joined by Directors or Vice Presidents of certain areas
- ◆ For the Debate, it will feature the candidates for President and Vice President



How to Run For Office

5. VOTE

Based on which position you are running for

- ◆ Voting is done online via SimplyVoting. An email will go to every student's inbox on Monday, April 1st at 8:00am. Reminders will go out Tuesday and Wednesday.



Campaigning



Know Who You Are Representing

Most people don't have 100 friends on speed dial, so if you want to dedicate your time to representing your community, it's important you meet your classmates. By getting to know them, you'll better understand what kinds of issues affect or concern the campus as a whole.

Also, students will feel more comfortable supporting you as their representative if they know who you are. Just make sure to be genuine in your interactions. No one likes to feel like they're being played.



Get Creative

Another challenge for most students on the campaign trail is money so this is where it pays to be creative. Students usually make cheap promotional tools, such as posters, t-shirts, or buttons, during campaign season. It's best to keep things basic and avoid frills. There are low-budget, effective ways to campaign when you think outside the box.



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Fight Against Apathy

If you feel that one of the hardest aspects of running for office is simply finding classmates who care, you're not alone. This is partly due to the challenge of political and social apathy. This apathy is not isolated to our campus alone, but perhaps is more of a generational issue.



Public Relations

In order to run a good campaign, we definitely suggest you publicize yourself as *much* as possible - put your face *everywhere!* In hallways, bathrooms, classrooms, on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram - *everywhere!* It may be annoying, but it'll definitely win you some votes!



Campaign Slogan

Try to come up with some catchy slogans or phrases. If it's catchy, people will remember it! Think of "Ba-da-pa-pa... I'm lovin' it!" Who do you automatically think of? Or, "Just do it..." Obviously McDonalds and Nike!



Make Yourself Know

Face to face contact is the most important part. Let students know you care, that you are approachable, and that your door is *always* open. It also helps to hand out a quarter sheet with your name and information on it, just as a reminder for the students to get out there and VOTE!



Elevator Speech

How you structure your speech is entirely up to you, but the main components of your SGA election speech should include:

- A brief introduction of yourself, including your name and the position you're running for
- The reason why you're running for student government and what you've accomplished so far (qualifications)
- An explanation of your platform and why it's important
- An overview of steps you plan on taking to achieve your mission
- A conclusion – generally thanking your audience and reminding them of your slogan



Why Bother with Student Government?

Maybe you don't have your sights set on Capitol Hill, but that doesn't mean that you can't benefit from running for student government. Certain things you'll need to develop when running in a student government election — leadership, self-confidence, speaking talent and people skills, for example — are all useful for any job search and in any area of your life. More concrete tasks that may be a part of running in a student government election, like building a webpage, can also look great on your resume.



Infractionns



Accountability

Infractions may be submitted by any member of the Association, WSU Faculty or Staff or Department. The SGA Election Infraction Form can be found on the SGA Elections Page and must be submitted via ShockerSync. The SGA Election Infraction Form must include the following:

- ◆ Name of the person submitting the SGA Election Infraction Form and date submitted
- ◆ Place and date of Occurrence
- ◆ Person or Persons Involved
- ◆ A thorough description of the infraction that includes the specific Policy, Statute, or Constitution Article violated
- ◆ A pledge of honesty and the legal signature of the respondents

SGA ELECTION

2019

JANUARY 22 | **3 & 6 PM** Election Informational Workshop
3 pm - RSC 256, 6 pm - RSC 238

JANUARY 31 Declaration for Candidacy Opens
on ShockerSync

FEBRUARY 4 | **7 PM** Election Informational Workshop
Pike Room - RSC 266

FEBRUARY 22 Declaration for
Candidacy Closes

MARCH 25 | **30** Town Hall
Week

MARCH 29 | **6:30 PM** Presidential/ Vice
Presidential Debate

APRIL 13 Election
Dates

Please visit <https://wichita.edu/sgaelections> for more information.



Questions?

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www.wichita.edu/sgaelections