



Rules and Procedures Student Body Supreme Court

In order to more effectively and efficiently govern the Student Government of Florida Gulf Coast University, the members of the Student Body Supreme Court do hereby establish the following Rules and Procedures for the Florida Gulf Coast University Student Body Supreme Court.

1. Statement and Purpose

- 1.1 To mediate, adjudicate, and resolve conflicts within Student Government.
- 1.2 To hear and rule on the constitutionality of legislative and executive acts.
- 1.3 .? Is that the role of the SG Treasurer?
- 1.4 To interpret the Student Government Constitution and any acts of legislation created within Student Government at Florida Gulf Coast University.
- 1.5 .
- 1.6 To have the final authority on all conflicts of process within Student Government.

2. General Provisions

- 2.1 The Supreme Court is empowered by Article IV if the Student Government Constitution.

3. Supreme Court Officers and Their Duties

- 3.1 The Chief Justice shall:
 - 3.1.1 Be responsible for the setting of meeting times and location of the Supreme Court.
 - 3.1.2 be responsible for the Creation of an agenda for all Supreme Court

meetings.

- 3.1.3 be responsible for notifying all parties involved with regards to a regular business meeting or hearing.
- 3.1.4 have the power to convey the court and order an interpretation of legislation or an article of the constitution.
- 3.1.5 dismiss a compliant/interpretation request if the Supreme Court has no jurisdiction over the subject matter or the compliant/interpretation request was not filed properly.
- 3.1.6 have the authority to assign duties to the members of the Supreme Court that are necessary to meet its objectives, including ensuring minutes are recorded of all meetings and hearings.
- 3.1.7 assign a justice to write the Court's opinion after a hearing.
- 3.1.8 have the power to fill a Justice vacancy on the Supreme Court. Such appointment will expire or be made permanent once the appointment has been confirmed by the Senate.
- 3.1.9 have the right to put in place a temporary presiding officer to hear an interpretation or trial hearing if he or she cannot be present to preside over the case due to extreme circumstances. Such presiding officer must be an Associate Justice.
- 3.1.10 have the power to mandate any documents to be handed over to the Supreme Court.

3.2 The Associate Justice

- 3.2.1 An Associate Justice of the Supreme Court has the power to vote on all matters placed before the Supreme Court.

3.3 The Supervisor of Elections shall:

- 3.3.1 act as the chief officer in the planning, facilitation and proper execution of the Annual Student Body Elections at Florida Gulf Coast University, in accordance with the Florida Gulf Coast University Election Code.
- 3.4 All Supreme Court Justices are appointed, and their terms expire when they cease be enrolled at the university, resign or are removed from office, or is unable to serve in this role.
- 3.5 Any Supreme Court officer may run for another office within Student Government. Should a Supreme Court officer seek a position in an office of Student Government, they shall submit a formal resignation through to the Chief Justice. Such notification must be submitted no less than twenty-eight (28) days before the start of general campaigning or the date of appointment.

4. Meetings of the Student Body Supreme Court

4.1 Meetings

- 4.1.1 There shall be two (2) types of meetings: Regular business meetings and hearings. There shall be one (1) type of regular business meeting and there shall be three (3) types of hearings: Interpretation, Trial or Grievance.
- 4.1.2 The Supreme Court shall convene at least once per month during the fall and spring semesters, and at the discretion of the Chief Justice in order

to conduct regular business meetings or hearings.

4.2.3 Notice for all regular business meetings, interpretation hearings and trial hearings must be given no less than 48 hours in advance. Notice for all grievance hearings must be given no less than 12 hours in advance.

4.2.4 Quorum for all meetings shall be defined simple majority of all Associate Justices.

4.2 Attendance Policy

4.2.1 Each Supreme Court Justice shall attend all Supreme Court hearings and meetings.

4.2.2 A Justice automatically resigns if he or she missed two (2) meetings without an excused absence.

4.2.3 Any absence from a business meeting or hearing is automatically excused if the time scheduled for such matter interferes with an academic class meeting at the university. Proof of having the class during the scheduled meeting must be shown for the absence to be excused.

4.2.4 All other nature of absences will be determined excused or unexcused by the Chief Justice.

- 4.3 Regular Business Meetings
 - 4.3.1 Regular business meetings shall be held to conduct necessary business of the Supreme Court.
- 4.4 Interpretation Hearings
 - 4.4.1 An interpretation hearing shall be held when the Student Body Supreme Court is called upon to interpret any part of any governing document within Student Government.
 - 4.4.2 Only the Chief Justice and the Student Body President can order an interpretation of legislation or an article of the constitution. A student may order the interpretation of legislation or an article of the constitution with signatures from 5% of the Student Body.
- 4.5 Trial Hearings
 - 4.5.1 A Trial hearing shall be held when the Student Body Supreme Court is called upon to address a complaint filed against a Student Government official.
 - 4.5.2 Any student may file a request for a Trial hearing. All complaints against Student Government officials will be considered requests for a Trial hearing.
- 4.6 Grievance Hearings
 - 4.6.1 A Grievance hearing shall be held with the Student Body Supreme Court is called upon to address any issues that are directly involved with Student Government Elections.
 - 4.6.2 Any candidate running for an elected office may file a request for a Grievance Hearing. Only candidates seeking office in the current Election Cycle are eligible to file a request for a Grievance Hearing.
 - 4.6.3 The provisions of the Election Code do not preempt the remedies available under state and federal law. However, upholding the Election Code is the exclusive mandate of the Student Body Supreme Court.
 - 4.6.3 All Supreme Court officers may ask questions of anyone appearing before the court.
- 4.7 All regular business meetings and hearings are open to the public. However, the Chief Justice may have any individual removed from the hearing at any time for any given reasons, with the exception of a fellow Supreme Court officer.
- 4.8 All deliberations of the Supreme Court may be closed to the public if the Supreme Court sees fit. To meet the standard of the Sunshine Law, all deliberations shall be denoted into record in the form of minutes that the public may inspect.

5. The Oath of Office

5.1 The official Oath of Office given to any Student Government official shall be as follows: “I do solemnly swear (or affirm); that I will faithfully execute the office of the Student Government at Florida Gulf Coast University; and will to the best of My ability; uphold, protect and defend the Constitution of the Student Government.”

6. Amendments to the Judicial Branch Rules and Procedures

6.1 These Rules and Procedures may be amended by motion and second before the Student Government Supreme Court and upon passing with a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Justices present and voting. The effective date of the newly adopted document will be April 1 unless another date is proposed in the motion.