



**VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY  
STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION**

**BILL 21-01**

A BILL to amend the Student Government Association Code of Conduct to include a new section outlining the process of the "Senator Success Program" as well as the overall academic standards for the Student Government Association.

**AUTHORED BY:** Senator Harold Taylor, Senator Angelica Pinkney, Parliamentarian Justin Carter, and Director Laura Northup.

**SPONSORED BY:** Senator Hailey Wilkinson, Senator Alexis Smith, Senator Madison Meeker, Senator Allison Carr, Director Tia Brown, Senator Lauren Canady, Senator Demetrius Bidot-Miles, Senator Darius Guinyard, Senator Vanessa Okojie, Senator Anthony Reid, and Senator Bob Greenbaum.

**WHEREAS,** the current governing documents lack clear guidelines or expectations of academic standards for those actively serving the Student Government Association.

**WHEREAS,** the clarification and inclusion of these academic standards will increase the success of the Senate's academics overall.

**WHEREAS,** the Valdosta State University Student Government Association commits to the academic success of all of its Senators and is dedicated to providing equal opportunities for academic enhancement.

**WHEREAS,** the implementation of a program for Senators in their first year who fall below the academic standards will provide opportunities for Senators in their first year to improve upon their academic habits under the mentorship and fellowship of other members of the Student Government Association.

**WHEREAS,** the implementation of a new section within the Code of Conduct will provide both the academic standards for the Student Government Association as well as an academic program titled the "Senator Success Program" that serves to encourage academic excellence, exclusively for Senators in their first year.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** that the following new section of language be added to the Code of Conduct as "Section B" (with all of the proceeding sections shifting to the next letter). This section would read as follows:

B. The following expectations regarding academics apply to all Senate and Executive Board Members of the Valdosta State University Student Government Association.

- a. Senators must maintain a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale and Executive members must maintain a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.7 on a 4.0 scale throughout their elected term.
  - i. Senators in their first year who fall below the minimum cumulative GPA during their term will be required to participate in the Senator Success Program.
- b. The Senator Success Program (SSP) exists for Senators in their first year who have fallen below the minimum cumulative GPA requirements during their term. They will have to fulfill the following requirements:
  - i. Senators will be asked to complete two study hours per week for the duration of the semester. These hours will be coordinated between the Senator, Vice President, and Director of Academic Affairs.
    - 1. An opportunity can be provided one hour before Committee and General meetings to complete one of these two study hours.
    - 2. During the study hours, an Executive member will briefly meet to discuss the Senator's academic progress.
  - ii. Senators will meet once for an extended meeting regarding the state of their academics after all of the Senator's midterms have been completed. This meeting will be held during one of the two designated study hours the week after the Senator takes their final midterm.
  - iii. The Senators are responsible for personally logging their study hours with the Vice President or the Director of Academic Affairs.
- c. If Senators do not fulfill the requirements of the Senator Success Program, the following actions will be taken:
  - i. The Director of Academic Affairs and the Vice President will meet with the Senator in question and provide a verbal warning.
  - ii. If changes are not made, the Senator in question will be directed to the Standards Review Committee.
- d. As part of the Senator Success Program, the Director of Academic Affairs will provide the members of the program with classwork management materials and tools to encourage healthy academic practices.
- e. The Director of Academic Affairs and the Vice President are responsible for maintaining the Senator Success Program, from conducting study hours to meeting with the Senators regularly regarding their academic status.
- f. If Senators choose not to participate in the Senator Success Program, they will be asked to resign their position in the Student Government Association.

**THEREFORE, BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED,** upon passage of this bill, the above revisions will be immediately put into effect, and a copy of the revised Student Government Association Code of Conduct will be uploaded to the Student Government Association website.

For: 23 Against: 0 Abstain: 1

Primary Mover: Senator Guinyard Secondary Mover: Senator Katen

APPROVED DENIED VETOED Date: 4/28/2021

Melissa Wolgast, Student Government President