

**Student Government Association Senate
of the University of Arkansas at Monticello**

BILL BOOK

*for General Meeting VIII to be held on Wednesday,
February 25, 2009 at 4:00 PM in the Caucus Room,
Gibson University Center (UC) at the University of
Arkansas at Monticello.*

Yvonne Hinshaw, UAM SGA Senate Secretary

1 **THE CONSTITUTION OF THE**
2 **STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION OF THE**
3 **UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS AT MONTICELLO**

4
5 *Proposed by the UAM SGA Constitutional Conference, Spring 2009*
6

7 **Preamble**

8
9 It is the established purpose of the Student Government Association of the University of
10 Arkansas at Monticello to promote the interests and opinions of the students on matters
11 that affect them. To establish and promote projects that are beneficial to the student body,
12 and to be the official voice of the students on matters of policy and its implementation. In
13 order to better fulfill these purposes, to be more effective in our duties, and to be more
14 accountable for our performance, WE, THE STUDENTS of the University of Arkansas at
15 Monticello, do hereby establish this constitution of the Student Government Association.
16

17 **Article I. STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION**

18
19 **SECTION 1. TITLE**

20
21 This organization shall be known as the Student Government Association of the
22 University of Arkansas at Monticello.
23

24 **SECTION 2. STRUCTURE**

25
26 (a) The Student Government Association structure shall consist of: (1) an Executive
27 Branch, the Cabinet; (2) the Legislative Branch, the Senate; (3) the Judicial Branch, the
28 Supreme Court; and (3) the Student Activities Board; all of which who's respective
29 powers, constraints, duties, and leadership shall be laid out in this Constitution.
30

31 (b) The Cabinet, the Senate, the Supreme Court, and the Student Activities Board shall
32 collectively by known as the Student Government Association.
33

34 **SECTION 3. MEMBERSHIP**

35
36 Membership in the Student Government Association shall consist of all University of
37 Arkansas at Monticello Students, as currently enrolled with the Office of the Registrar.
38 The Student Government Association will not discriminate on the basis of gender, race,
39 ethnicity, national origin, religion, age, physical handicap, socioeconomic status, or
40 sexual orientation.
41

42 **SECTION 4. OATH OF OFFICE**

43
44 Before the execution of their respective office, all Student Government Association
45 Officers and Senators must take the following Oath or Affirmation of Office delivered by
46 the Chancellor of the University of Arkansas at Monticello:
47

1 “I do hereby solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will uphold and support the Constitution
2 and the interests of the Student Government Association of the University of Arkansas at
3 Monticello. To serve as the official voice of the student body and to promote the interests
4 and opinions of the students I represent. I will, to the best of my ability, perform the
5 duties of my office, and that I will promote the worth and value of the University of
6 Arkansas at Monticello.”
7

8 **SECTION 5. DUTIES** 9

10 The duties of the Student Government Association shall be:

11
12 *i.* To serve as the governing body of the student body of the University of
13 Arkansas at Monticello.

14
15 *ii.* To actively establish and execute programs and projects that are beneficial to
16 the students

17
18 *iii.* To serve as the official channel of communication with the faculty and
19 administration, and with all levels of government with respect to the needs,
20 wishes and opinions of the student body.

21
22 *iv.* To ensure fair and active representation in the various decision making
23 functions of our campus by appointing qualified students to faculty-student and
24 administrative committees, and to the UAM Assembly committees, subject to
25 administrative approval.

26
27 *v.* To establish committees, outside of the appointments in Article II, sections, to
28 address issues around campus that affect the entire student body.

29
30 *vi.* To promote and improve relations between the community of Monticello,
31 Arkansas and the students of the University of Arkansas at Monticello.

32
33 *vii.* To exclusively supervise, conduct, and publicize all campus wide student
34 elections.
35

36 **Article II. EXECUTIVE BRANCH** 37

38 **SECTION 1. THE CABINET** 39

40 (a) The Executive Branch of the University of Arkansas at Monticello Student
41 Government Association shall consist of the Cabinet. The Cabinet’s members shall be
42 four officers elected by the student body at-large in Spring elections, as described in this
43 Constitution; namely the President of the University of Arkansas at Monticello Student
44 Government Association, Vice-President of the University of Arkansas at Monticello
45 Student Government Association, Secretary of the University of Arkansas at Monticello
46 Student Government Association, and Treasurer of the University of Arkansas at
47 Monticello Student Government Association.
48

1 (b) The primary purpose of the Cabinet is to aid and assist the Student Government
2 Association Senate in the establishment of policies and programs and to assist in the
3 execution of the University of Arkansas at Monticello Student Government Association
4 functions.
5

6 (c) The Cabinet must hold a meeting within ten days of the first day of classes (excluding
7 Saturday & Sunday) and at least one meeting per month thereafter for the remainder of
8 the semester, in which all students are allowed to attend. The Cabinet shall meet at the
9 call of the President.
10

11 (d) All executive officers, before he/she enters on the execution of respective office,
12 he/she must be certified by the Election Commission under the rules of this Constitution
13 and must take the Oath, or Affirmation, of Office, as described in this Constitution.
14

15 **SECTION 2. THE PRESIDENT**

16

17 (a) The President of the University of Arkansas at Monticello Student Government
18 Association shall hold his/her office for one year term, for the same term period as all
19 other executive officers; and be elected with the Vice-President as one ticket.
20

21 (b) To be eligible for the Office of President a student must be enrolled as, and maintain,
22 full time student status, as set by the Office of the Registrar, must have completed a
23 minimum of thirty-six semester hours prior to election to office, must attend at least ten
24 Student Government Association meetings (included but not limited to: Executive Board
25 meetings, Student Activities Board meetings, Senate meetings, etc.) per semester for two
26 semesters concurring, prior to election to office, and must have, and maintain while
27 serving, a cumulative grade point average of a 2.75.
28

29 (c) The President shall have power:
30

31 *i.* To veto any legislation of the Senate by returning it to the Senate with a
32 statement of the President's Objectives. If any legislation shall not be returned by
33 the President within ten class days (excluding Saturdays & Sundays) after it shall
34 have been presented to him/her, the same shall be a law, in like manner as if
35 he/she had signed it, unless the Senate by their adjournment, for the end of the
36 semester, prevent its return, in which case it shall not be law.
37

38 *ii.* To appoint student members to UAM Assembly Committees in compliance to
39 Assembly By-Laws; with the majority approval of the Cabinet.
40

41 *iii.* To appoint vacancies in the Senate, with the consent of the majority of the
42 Senate.
43

44 *iv.* To appoint student members to the University Judicial Board in compliance to
45 the University of Arkansas at Monticello Student Handbook, with the majority
46 approval of the Cabinet.
47

1 v. To appoint vacancies in the Secretary and Treasurer positions of the Cabinet,
2 with the consent of the majority of the Senate.

3
4 vi. To appoint one third of the Supreme Court, with the majority approval of the
5 Cabinet.

6
7 vii. To appoint three Senate members to the Student Activities Board, with the
8 consent of the majority of the Senate.

9
10 (d) The duties of the President shall be:

11
12 i. To carry out the legislative intent of the Senate.

13
14 ii. To be the official Student Government Association representative at all
15 University and other official functions, and to maintain relations with other
16 student governments.

17
18 iii. To work with the Treasurer concerning the Student Government Association
19 finances.

20
21 iv. To ensure that the Student Government Association Constitution is enforced,
22 upheld, and strictly followed.

23
24 v. To perform all other duties normally executed by the President of any
25 organization in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order, newly revised.

26
27 vi. To recommend and initiate legislation before the Senate. The president does
28 not have an official vote on legislative amendments.

29
30 **SECTION 3. THE VICE-PRESIDENT**

31
32 (a) The Vice-President of the University of Arkansas at Monticello Student Government
33 Association shall hold his/her office for one year term, and be for the same term period as
34 all other executive officers; and be elected with the President as one ticket.

35
36 (b) To be eligible for the Office of Vice-President a student must be enrolled as, and
37 maintain, full time student status, as set by the Office of the Registrar, must have
38 completed a minimum of thirty-six semester hours prior to election to office, must attend
39 at least ten Student Government Association meetings (included but not limited to:
40 Executive Board meetings, Student Activities Board meetings, Senate meetings, etc.) per
41 semester for two semesters concurring, prior to election to office, and must have, and
42 maintain while serving, a cumulative grade point average of a 2.75.

43
44 (c) The Vice-President shall have power:

45
46 i. To fill the office of the President in the President's absence.

47
48 ii. To have one vote in the Senate, only when a tie has occurred.

1
2 (d) The duties of the Vice-President shall be:

3
4 i. To replace the President in the event that the President is unable to complete
5 his/her term.

6
7 ii. To be responsible for the publicizing of all Student Government Association
8 events through the establishment of a publicity committee.

9
10 iii. To perform other duties as assigned by the President.

11
12 **SECTION 4. THE SECRETARY**

13
14 (a) The Secretary of the University of Arkansas at Monticello Student Government
15 Association shall hold his/her office for one year term, and be for the same term period as
16 all other executive officers.

17
18 (b) To be eligible for the Office of Secretary a student must be enrolled as, and maintain,
19 full time student status, as set by the Office of the Registrar, must have completed a
20 minimum of thirty-six semester hours prior to election to office, must attend at least ten
21 Student Government Association meetings (included but not limited to: Executive Board
22 meetings, Student Activities Board meetings, Senate meetings, etc.) per semester for two
23 semesters concurring, prior to election to office, and must have, and maintain while
24 serving, a cumulative grade point average of a 2.75.

25
26 (c) The duties of the Secretary shall be:

27
28 i. To maintain accurate and complete records for the Student Government
29 Association meetings, including attendance records.

30
31 ii. To prepare and publish the minutes and agenda, after approval by the Student
32 Government Association executive meeting, and to file a copy in the Student
33 Government office.

34
35 iii. To assist the Director of Student Programs and Activities to ensure all Student
36 Organizations are in compliance with updated rosters and forms. All paperwork
37 for each organization must be on file with the Student Programs and Activities
38 Office.

39
40 iv. To operate the Student Government office as directed by the President.

41
42 v. to perform other duties assigned by the President.

43
44 **SECTION 5. THE TREASURER**

45
46 (a) The Treasurer of the University of Arkansas at Monticello Student Government
47 Association shall hold his/her office for one year term, and be for the same term period as
48 all other executive officers.

1
2 (b) To be eligible for the Office of Treasurer a student must be enrolled as, and maintain,
3 full time student status, as set by the Office of the Registrar, must have completed a
4 minimum of thirty-six semester hours prior to election to office, must attend at least ten
5 Student Government Association meetings (included but not limited to: Executive Board
6 meetings, Student Activities Board meetings, Senate meetings, etc.) per semester for two
7 semesters concurring, prior to election to office, and must have, and maintain while
8 serving, a cumulative grade point average of a 2.75.
9

10 (c) The duties of the Treasurer shall be:

11
12 *i.* To work with the President in handling and recording financial expenditures,
13 and reporting to the Student Senate on the financial status of the Student
14 Government Association at least once a month.

15
16 *ii.* To work with the Student Activities Board in handling and recording financial
17 expenditures, and reporting to the Student Senate on the Financial status of the
18 Student Activities Board; or as deemed necessary by the Student Activities Board
19 Chairperson.

20
21 *iii.* To prepare a budget in which to be approved by the Cabinet and the Senate for
22 each semester.

23
24 *iv.* To sign all budgetary documents.

25
26 *v.* To perform other duties assigned by the President.
27

28 **SECTION 6. OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS**

29
30 The President may nominate and with the approval of the Cabinet and the Senate by a
31 majority of the vote of both bodies respectfully, may appoint, other administrative
32 officers for the current Administration, to assist in the administration of Student
33 Government Association programs and in the operation of the Student Government
34 office. The nomination of any person to such a position must be accompanied by a job
35 description.
36

37 **SECTION 7. VOTING**

38
39 The Cabinet shall have only four regular members, namely the executive officers, named
40 in Article II, Section 1 of this Constitution, each member receiving one vote. However, in
41 the event of a tie, the Chairperson of the Student Activities Board shall have one vote, in
42 that single occurrence.
43

44 **Article III. LEGISLATIVE BRANCH**

45 **SECTION 1. THE SENATE**

1 (a) The Legislative Branch of the University of Arkansas at Monticello Student
2 Government Association shall consist of the Senate.

3
4 (b) The Senate shall be composed of two Senators elected from each department (a
5 Position I and a Position II) within in University; with Position I being elected in the Fall
6 election, as described in this Constitution, and Position II, being elected in the Spring
7 election, as described in this Constitution. There shall be also five Senators elected by the
8 student body at-large (a Position I, II, III, IV, V); with Position I and II being elected in
9 the Fall election, as described in this Constitution, and Position II, IV, V being elected in
10 the Spring election, as described in this Constitution. A Senate term shall consist of a
11 one-year period following Senator's respective election to office.
12

13 (c) The primary purpose of the Senate is to initiate legislation in the Student Government
14 Association, aid and assist the Cabinet and Student Activities Board in the establishment
15 of policies and programs and to act as the voice of the student in the Student Government
16 Association.
17

18 (d) The Senate must hold a meeting within ten class days of the first day of classes and at
19 least one meeting per month thereafter for the remainder of the semester, in which all
20 students are allowed to attend. Regular meetings must be scheduled at the first meeting of
21 a semester, and notification must be made to all students before the next regular meeting.
22

23 (e) The Senate at its first meeting must elect, from its members, a President Pro-Tempore
24 of the University of Arkansas at Monticello Student Government Association Senate, a
25 Secretary of the University of Arkansas at Monticello Student Government Association
26 Senate, a Clerk of the University of Arkansas at Monticello Student Government
27 Association Senate, and a Parliamentarian of the University of Arkansas at Monticello
28 Student Government Association Senate.
29

30 (f) All Senators, before he/she enters on the execution of respective Office, he/she must
31 be certified by the Election Commission under the rules of this Constitution and must
32 take the Oath, or Affirmation, of Office, as described in this Constitution.
33

34 (g) The Senate may adopt a set of By-laws in which shall deal exclusively with the
35 functions and structure of the Senate as not expressly stated in this Constitution, and not
36 in contradiction to this Constitution.
37

38 **SECTION 2. SENATOR QUALIFICATIONS**

39
40 To be eligible for a position as a Senator a student must be enrolled as, and maintain, a
41 full time student status, as set by the Office of the Registrar, must have completed a
42 minimum of twenty-four semester hours prior to election to office, must attend at least
43 five Student Government Association meetings (including but not limited to: Executive
44 Board meetings, Student Activities Board meetings, Senate meetings, etc.) per semester
45 for two semesters concurring, prior to election to office, and must have, and maintain
46 while serving, a cumulative grade point average of a 2.50.
47

48 **SECTION 3. VACANCIES**

1
2 In the event that a Senator is unable to complete his/her term, the President of the Student
3 Government Association shall appoint a replacement with majority approval of the
4 Senate. The President's Senate appointees must qualify to be a Senator, as described in
5 this Constitution.
6

7 **SECTION 4. THE PRESIDENT PRO-TEMPORE**

8

9 (a) The President Pro-Tempore of the University of Arkansas at Monticello Student
10 Government Association Senate shall hold his/her office for one semester term.
11

12 (b) The President Pro-Tempore shall have power

13 *i.* To preside over the Senate

14 *ii.* To appoint committee members and chairs in the Senate

15 *iii.* To fill the office of the Vice-President in the Vice President's absence
16
17

18 (c) The duties of the President Pro-Tempore shall be:
19

20 *i.* To set the legislative agenda

21 *ii.* To represent the Senate at functions and events

22 *iii.* To work with the Student Activities Board and the Cabinet in financial and
23 legislative matters
24
25

26 **SECTION 5. OTHER OFFICERS**

27
28

29 The Senate may create other offices within the Senate. The powers and duties of all other
30 offices not included in the Constitution must be included in the Senate By-laws but may
31 not contradict this Constitution.
32
33

34 **SECTION 6. LEGISLATION**

35

36 (a) The Senate shall have the power to pass, with majority vote of the Senate and
37 approval of the President: Enactments, Resolutions, and Petitions
38

39 *i.* Enactments shall deal with legislative proposals that do not need to be
40 sanctioned by any other authority other than the Student Government Association,
41 (which include but are not limited to: budgets, creation programs, initiations of
42 actions, etc).
43

44 *ii.* Resolutions shall deal with any subject that the Student Government wishes to
45 address and make public as its opinion
46
47

1 *iii.* Petitions shall deal with matters upon which the Student Government
2 Association wishes to express its views and that require action or support of a
3 higher authority (i.e., Vice-Chancellor of Student Affairs, Provost, Chancellor,
4 UAM Assembly, etc.)
5

6 (b) All legislation for raising or spending of Student Government Association funds shall
7 originate in the Senate
8

9 (c) Every Bill which shall have passed in the Senate, shall before it becomes Law, be
10 presented to the President of the Student Government Association. If the President
11 approves of the legislation he/she shall sign it, but if not, the President may veto the
12 legislation
13

14 (d) To veto any legislation of the Senate, the President may, return it to the Senate with a
15 statement of the Presidents Objectives. If any legislation shall not be returned by the
16 President within ten class days after it shall have been presented to him/her, the same
17 shall be a Law, in like manner as if he had signed it, unless the Senate by their
18 adjournment, for the end of the semester, prevent it's return in which case it shall not be a
19 law.
20

21 (e) The Senate shall have power to override a President's veto, with two-thirds vote of the
22 entire membership of the Senate.
23

24 (f) In the event of a tie vote on legislation in the Senate, the Vice-President shall be given
25 one vote, only in that occurrence.
26

27 **SECTION 7. OTHER POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE SENATE**

28

29 (a) The Senate shall have power:
30

31 *i.* To approve all Budgetary matters of the Student Government Association
32

33 *ii.* To appoint one third of the Student Activities Board.
34

35 *iii.* To approve all Presidential appointments to the Senate and the Cabinet
36

37 *iv.* To initiate legislation in the Student Government Association
38

39 **Article IV. JUDICIAL BRANCH**

40

41 **SECTION 1. SUPREME COURT**

42

43 (a) The Judicial Branch of the University of Arkansas at Monticello Student Government
44 Association shall consist of the Supreme Court.
45

46 (b) The Supreme Court shall consist of the two students members and one faculty
47 member appointed from each of the other branches of the Student Government
48 Association (i.e., the Cabinet, the Senate, and the Student Activities Board), respectively.

1
2 (c) The primary purpose of the Supreme Court is to ensure that officers, Senators, and
3 Student Activities Board members are committed to their task, and to see that their duties
4 are carried out to the best of their abilities.
5

6 (d) The Supreme Court must hold a meeting within ten class days of the first day of
7 classes (excluding Saturdays & Sundays) and at least one meeting per month thereafter
8 for the remainder of the semester, in which all students are allowed to attend. The
9 Supreme Court shall meet at the call of the Chief Justice.
10

11 **SECTION 2. CHIEF JUSTICE**

12

13 (a) The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court shall hold his/her office for one year term, be
14 elected by the members of the Supreme Court in the Spring before the first day in May.
15

16 (b) The Chief Justice duties shall be:
17

18 *i.* To file and organize hearings.

19 *ii.* To inform other branches of the Student Government Association of judgment.
20

21 *iii.* To insure the procedure of the Supreme Court is conducted in a fair and
22 nondiscriminatory manner.
23
24

25 **SECTION 3. CLAIM AGAINST OFFICIALS**

26

27 (a) Any Student Government Association official who shall be accused of conduct
28 inconsistent with just and equitable principles or of misconduct or of willfully violating
29 the Student Government Association Constitution, the By-laws of the respective branch,
30 or UAM Student Handbook, or any other rules of the University may have charges made
31 against them through the Supreme Court procedure laid out in this constitution.
32

33 (b) If a complaint is made against a Student Government Association official, it must be
34 addressed to the Supreme Court, specifying the particular act complained of together with
35 all the documentary evidence bearing on the case, and signed. If a student is filing a
36 complaint against an Student Government Association official, the complaint must be
37 signed by at least five Student Government Association officials and ten students; if a
38 Student Government Association official is filing against another official the complaint
39 must be signed by at least ten students; each signature must be accompanied by a
40 paragraph statement of support and a swearing to testify in a public hearing. Once the
41 complaint has been filed with the Chief Justice the case must be signed by three justices
42 (two being students and one being faculty; and each justices not being appointed from the
43 same branch). After the case being signed by three justices of appropriate qualifications,
44 the Chief Justice shall cause copies of the complaint to be served on the member
45 complained of; and it shall be the duty of said member, within ten days (excluding
46 Saturdays & Sundays) of the receipt of the same, to return them to the Supreme Court
47 with his/her written answer to the complaint, and all documents bearing on the case in
48 his/her possession, with the names of witnesses whom he/she desires shall be summoned.

1 The Chief Justice shall, as soon as expedient, after receipt of said answer, or if no answer
2 is received after the expiration of ten days (excluding Saturdays & Sundays) from the
3 service of the copies of complaint, notify both parties and the witnesses named of the
4 time and place at which the signed Justices will hold a hearing to act on said case. If, after
5 the examination, signed Justices deem the charges substantiated, they shall so report their
6 judgment to the member complained of's respective body and deliver to the Director of
7 Student Programs and Activities all documents relating thereto. The Director of Student
8 Programs and Activities will carry out all action of herein nature.
9

10 **SECTION 4. JUDGMENT**

11
12 Judgment in all cases shall not extend further than removal or suspension from office,
13 and disqualification to hold and enjoy any office of honor, trust or profit under the
14 Student Government Association: but the official convicted shall nevertheless be liable
15 and subject to indictment, trial, judgment and punishment, according to policy of the
16 University of Arkansas at Monticello.
17

18 **SECTION 5. DEMERITS**

19
20 (a) To insure proper conduct of all Student Government Association officials, a demerit
21 system will be established.
22

23 (b) Demerits will be collected by an official designated by each respective branch of the
24 Student Government Association (i.e., the Cabinet, the Senate, and the Student Activities
25 Board). After an official collects seven demerits the branch will report to the Supreme
26 Court and file a complaint against that official without having to collect signatures. At the
27 end of each term an official's demerits will be forgiven.
28

29 (c) Demerits shall be awarded based on the following guidelines:
30

31 *i.* One demerit for tardiness (i.e., attending a meeting but not being present at the
32 Call of Roll).
33

34 *ii.* One demerit for missing a committee meeting.
35

36 *iii.* One demerit for disrespect to another Student Government Association
37 officials or University official.
38

39 *iv.* Two demerits for attending less than twenty minutes of a general meeting.
40

41 *v.* One demerit for failing to assist or attend a Student Government Association
42 sponsored event.
43

44 *vi.* Three demerits for an unexcused absence.
45

46 (d) All Student Government Association officials shall have right to appeal demerits
47 awarded, in a complaint to the Supreme Court against the official in charge of
48 designating demerits for his/her respective body.

1
2 (e) The Student Government Association shall define disrespect as: “the lack of holding
3 someone or something in high or special regard; or not recognizing a person’s or object’s
4 quality of self worth.” (Merriam-Webster: accessed 02/25/09)
5

6 **SECTION 6. APPEALS**
7

8 All Student Government Association officials that are suspended or expelled from their
9 respective body for any reason, they may appeal the decision of the Supreme Court by filling
10 an appeal with the Office of the Vice-Chancellor of Student Affairs via Director of Student
11 Programs and Activities.
12

13 **Article V. STUDENT ACTIVITIES BOARD**
14

15 **SECTION 1. THE BOARD**
16

17 (a) The Student Activities Board shall consist of the Chairperson of the Student Activities
18 Board, seven student members elected by the student body at-large, three President
19 appointed Senators, and the Director of Student Programs and Activities as an ex-officio
20 member
21

22 (b) The primary purpose of the Student Activities Board is to create, coordinate, and/or
23 produce an environment in which quality, variety, and well coordinated activities may be
24 presented for student involvement at the University of Arkansas at Monticello, through
25 obtaining revenues from or for student activities.
26

27 (c) The Student Activities Board must hold a meeting within ten class days of the first
28 day of classes and at least one meeting per week thereafter for the remainder of the
29 semester, in which all students are allowed to attend. The Student Activities Board shall
30 meet at the call of the Chairperson.
31

32 (d) All Student Activities Board members, before he/she enters on the execution of
33 respective Office, he/she must be certified by the Election Commission under the rules of
34 this Constitution and must take the Oath, or Affirmation, of Office, as described in this
35 Constitution.
36

37 (e) The Student Activities Board may adopt a set of By-laws in which shall deal
38 exclusively with the functions and structure of the Student Activities Board as not
39 expressly stated in this Constitution, and not in contradiction to this Constitution.
40

41 **SECTION 2. THE CHAIRPERSON**
42

43 (a) The Chairperson of the Student Activities Board shall hold his/her office for one year
44 term, be elected by the student body at-large in the Spring election, as described in this
45 Constitution.
46

47 (b) To be eligible for the Office of Chairperson a student must be enrolled as, and
48 maintain, a full time student status as set by the Office of the Registrar, must have

1 completed a minimum of thirty-six semester hours prior to election to office, must attend
2 at least ten Student Government Association meetings (including but not limited to
3 Executive Board meetings, Student Activities Board meetings, Senate meetings etc.) per
4 semester for two semesters concurring, prior to the election to office, and must have and
5 maintain while serving, a cumulative grade point average of a 2.75.
6

7 (d) The Chairperson shall have power:
8

9 *i.* To preside over the Student Activities Board
10

11 *ii.* To have one vote in the Cabinet, only when a tie has occurred.
12

13 (e) The duties of the Chairperson shall be:
14

15 *i.* To work with the Director of Student Programs and Activities and Vice-
16 Chancellor of Student Affairs on matters of planning and scheduling activities on
17 campus.
18

19 *ii.* To insure quality, variety, and well-coordinated activities are presented for
20 student involvement on campus.
21

22 **SECTION 3. STUDENT MEMBERS**

23
24 To be eligible for a position as a student member of the Student Activities Board, a
25 student must be enrolled as, and maintain, a full time student status, as set by the Office
26 of the Registrar, must have completed a minimum of twenty-four semester hours prior to
27 election to office, must attend at least five Student Government Association meetings
28 (including but not limited to: Executive Board meetings, Student Activities Board
29 meetings, Senate meetings, etc.) per semester for two semesters concurring, prior to
30 election to office, and must have, and maintain while serving, a cumulative grade point
31 average of a 2.50.
32

33 **SECTION 4. ORGANIZATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES**

34
35 (a) Each active organization, as registered with the Office of Student Programs and
36 Activities, on campus may send an official Student Government Association
37 Representatives to be an ex-officio member of the Student Activities Board
38

39 (b) Student Government Association Representatives, as ex-officio members, shall be
40 given complete right to serve on Student Activities Board committees and to express their
41 opinion on matters of the Student Activities Board.
42

43 **SECTION 5. VACANCIES**

44
45 In the event there is a vacancy on the Student Activities Board, the remaining members of
46 the Student Activities Board shall take nominations to fulfill the position from one of the
47 Student Government Association Representatives. The Student Government Association
48 Representative elected by the majority vote of the Student Activities Board, must be

1 qualified to be a member of the Student Activities Board, as described in this
2 Constitution. Once elected as a member of the Student Activities Board, the student
3 Government Association Representative shall be given all privileges of a Student
4 Activities Board member; and the organization in which the Student Government
5 Association Representative represented must elect a new representative to the Student
6 Government Association.
7

8 **SECTION 6. COMMITTEES** 9

10 (a) The Student Activities Board shall have power to create and maintain committees to
11 assist in the creation, coordination, and/or production of student programs and the
12 functions of the Board.
13

14 (b) The Student Activities Board shall have, but not limited to, four standing committees,
15 namely:
16

17 *i.* A Standing Committee on Student Relations, to work with the Voice, UAM
18 Media Services, and other media entities to promote all Student Activities Board
19 programs and activities; and to work with other student organizations in the
20 creation, coordination, and/or production student programs and activities. The
21 Standing Committee on Student Relations shall have two Sub-committees: a
22 Standing Sub-committee on Advertising and a Standing Sub-committee on Public
23 Relations.
24

25 *ii.* A Standing Committee on Athletic Programs, to assist in the creation,
26 coordination, and/or production of programs and activities that increase student
27 involvement and awareness in UAM Athletics and Intramurals Sports.
28

29 *iii.* A Standing Committee on Research, to conduct research and information for
30 the creation, coordination, and/or production of student programs and activities.
31

32 *iv.* A Standing Committee on Special Events, to assist in the creation,
33 coordination, and/or production of film showings, travel programs, Homecoming,
34 Parents' Day, Weevil Welcome Day, Crawfish Boil, etc., and any other activities
35 that do not fall within another area of responsibility.
36

37 **Article VI. ELECTIONS** 38

39 **SECTION 1. ELECTION COMMISSION** 40

41 (a) All Student Government Association elections shall be managed by the Election
42 Commission.
43

44 (b) The Election Commission shall consist of five members chosen by the Senate and
45 who are not running for any elected office or two University professional staff members
46 appointed by the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, in the event no student commission
47 is put together. The Election Commission will be chaired by a Commissioner of Elections
48 to insure the duties of the Election Commission are carried out.

1
2 (c) The duties of the Election Commission shall be:

3
4 *i.* To establish the times and places of all elections according to the guidelines of
5 the Constitution.

6
7 *ii.* To provide for poll workers for the election and to ensure the security of ballots
8 and the ballot boxes.

9
10 *iii.* To count the votes of the election.

11
12 *iv.* To enforce all election rules and guidelines.

13
14 *v.* To hear and decide upon any and all protests and possible violations.

15
16 *vi.* To determine the consequences for election rules violations.

17
18 *vii.* To receive financial disclosures from all candidates, and to verify their
19 expenditures.

20
21 *viii.* To certify election results after all protests and violations have been resolved.

22
23 *ix.* To report to the Student Government Association on any and all election
24 matters.

25
26 **SECTION 2. FILING FOR OFFICE**

27
28 (a) In order to appear on the ballot, a candidate filing for executive office must obtain the
29 signature of fifty students on a form provided by the Election Commission. All
30 candidates must sign an agreement recognizing that the Election Commission is the
31 authority over Student Government Association elections, and the Commission's
32 decisions can be appealed to the Senate. In addition, a candidate filing for office must
33 sign an agreement acknowledging he/she has read Article VI of this Constitution
34 concerning the rules and regulations involved in the election process.

35
36 (b) Candidates must also agree to disclose their campaign expenditures, and make them
37 available for verification by the Commission.

38
39 (c) The filing period will close one week prior to the beginning of elections. An
40 acknowledgement of having read Article VI of this Constitution must be turned in the
41 Election Commission by candidates prior to the end of the filing period.

42
43 (d) If any office is not filled, the newly elected President will then fill the vacancy in
44 accordance with this Constitution.

45
46 **SECTION 3. VOTE REQUIRED FOR ELECTION**

1 (a) The candidate that receives the plurality of the ballots cast shall be elected to that
2 office.

3
4 (b) Ballots will be invalid if votes are cast for more than one candidate for each of the
5 offices.

6
7 (c) Write-in votes are permitted for any at-large office. However, write-in votes must
8 conform to the election rules set down by the Election Commission and this Constitution
9 and write-in candidates must fulfill all eligibility requirements noted elsewhere in this
10 Constitution in order to assume office.

11 12 **SECTION 4. ESTABLISHED ELECTION RULES**

13
14 (a) The election will take place over three consecutive days for students to cast their
15 ballots. For each of the three voting days the poll shall be at a different location.

16
17 (b) All students voting must present a valid UAM ID card.

18
19 (c) There shall be a limit of \$100.00 in personal expenditures and \$100.00 in
20 organizational donations per candidate. Each candidate shall fill out a campaign
21 expenditure form, and sign a release authorizing the election commission to verify all
22 expenditures and amounts. If a candidate receives any free goods or services to which the
23 others in that race do not have access, the values of those goods and/or services will be
24 counted against his/her campaign limit.

25
26 *i.* Organizational donations shall be defined as any funds, goods and/or service
27 collected by a registered candidate from an active organization, as registered with
28 the Office of Student Programs and Activities, on campus.

29
30 *ii.* Personal expenditures shall be defined as any funds, goods and/or service
31 collected by a registered candidate from a single person or the candidate
32 themselves.

33
34 (d) Any candidate found campaigning in an academic class will be removed from the
35 ballot and will be ineligible for any office in that election.

36
37 *i.* Campaigning shall be defined as any method of actively soliciting votes such as
38 making speeches, and distributing literature, fliers, cards, posters, electronic
39 communication and social networking mediums, or other campaign paraphernalia.

40
41 (e) No campaigning is allowed within a fifty foot vicinity of the polls during the election.
42 Poll workers may not wear or display any campaign paraphernalia or actively campaign
43 for candidates while working at the polls. Voters will be asked to remove campaign
44 paraphernalia while voting.

45
46 (f) Campaigning will begin no earlier than ten days (excluding Saturdays & Sundays)
47 prior to the election. The specific date will be declared by the Election Commission.
48

1 (g) Candidates may not place any literature (fliers, cards, posters, etc.) inside classrooms,
2 on automobiles (except for their own), utility poles, trees, entrance doors to University
3 facilities, or any other area deemed inappropriate by the Director of Student Programs
4 and Activities or the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs.
5

6 (h) In the event of a tie in an election race the two candidates in which received the
7 highest and same number of votes, shall meet in a location decided by the Director of
8 Student Programs and Activities. In the event of a tie in an election, the tie will be broken
9 by the toss of a coin conducted by the Director of Student Programs and Activities.
10

11 (i) Elections must be held at least ten class days (excluding Saturdays & Sundays) before
12 the last day of class per semester.
13

14 **SECTION 5. COMPLAINTS**

15
16 (a) All complaints, disputes, and official protests will be handled by the Director of
17 Student Programs and Activities. All contests of the election must be received in writing
18 prior to the election results being certified by the Vice-Chancellor for Student Affairs or
19 his/her designee.
20

21 (b) Should an election commission be established through the Student Senate they must
22 follow the following guidelines: After the filing of a complaint or discovery of a
23 violation, the Commission shall schedule a hearing according to the Senate Bylaws. All
24 interested parties, and all involved parties, will be notified of the time and place for the
25 hearing. Decisions of the commission will be made by a majority vote. There must be at
26 least three members of the commission present and voting for any decision to be valid.
27 The following sanctions are available to the commission:
28

29 *i.* Formal reprimand, for violations of non-serious nature.

30 *ii.* Invalidation of the election and the ordering of a new election for major
31 violations and for problems pertaining to the administration of the election that
32 potentially could alter the outcome.
33

34 *iii.* Removal of the candidate from the ballot or elected position, for major
35 violations, which have occurred during the election process.
36

37 *iv.* Any combination of the above sanctions that the election commission may
38 desire to impose.
39

40 (c) The decision of the election commission will be upheld or overturned by majority
41 vote in the Senate of the members present and voting.
42

43 **Article VII. STUDENT PETITIONS AND REFERENDUMS**

44 **SECTION 1. PETITIONS**

45
46

1 (a) Students of the University of Arkansas at Monticello shall have full right to petition
2 the Student Government Association, UAM Assembly, or any other body, only via a
3 certified petition.
4

5 (b) A petition may be certified with majority signatures of the Election Commission. The
6 Election Commission shall not certify any petition that does not include: a specific stated
7 situation or problem to be brought to the attention of the body petitioning; and a logical
8 recommendation(s) for the body petitioning to address. A petition of the Senate shall not
9 need certification by the Election Commission.
10

11 **SECTION 2. REFERENDUMS**

12
13 (a) Students of the University of Arkansas at Monticello shall have full right to amend
14 this constitution and pass other Student Government Association legislation via a
15 referendum.
16

17 (b) To file a referendum, students must submit the proposed legislation to the Election
18 Commission and file for a certified petition, signed by one-third of the student body if a
19 proposed amendment, to call for referendum. The student must then obtain the signatures
20 of fifty students on a form provided by the Election Commission.
21

22 (c) Referendums shall be passed by only the student body by majority of votes cast. If the
23 referendum is a proposed amendment to this Constitution, said proposed amendment
24 shall have to be approved by the UAM Assembly and the University of Arkansas Board
25 of Trustees.
26

27 **Article VIII. RATIFICATION AND AMENDMENTS**

28 **SECTION 1. RATIFICATION**

29
30
31 This Constitution shall take effect immediately after the student body ratification by
32 majority of the students voting, approval of the UAM Assembly, and approval by the
33 University of Arkansas Board Of Trustees.
34

35 **SECTION 2. AMENDMENTS**

36
37 An amendment to this constitution may be proposed in two manners: (1) by a majority
38 vote of the Senate; or (2) by referendum by petition of one-third of the student body.
39 Amendments proposed by referendum must be submitted to the Senate in writing one
40 week prior to any vote. After the proposal has been completed and verified through the
41 Senate, the proposed amendment must be ratified b a majority vote of the student body
42 voting and approved by the UAM Assembly and the University of Arkansas Board of
43 Trustees.
44

1 This proposed Constitution was passed in Conference by Unanimous Consent of the members
2 present the twenty-sixth day of February in the year of our Lord two thousand nine, and the
3 institution of the University of Arkansas at Monticello the one hundredth. Let it be known that
4 this proposed Constitution shall be sent for approval of the University of Arkansas at Monticello
5 Student Government Association Senate, University of Arkansas at Monticello Student
6 Government Association President, student body of the University of Arkansas at Monticello, the
7 University of Arkansas at Monticello Assembly, the Chancellor of the University of Arkansas at
8 Monticello, and finally the University of Arkansas Board of Trustees.

9
10 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto subscribed our Names:

- 11 Zack A. Tucker, Chairperson
- 12 Yvonne Hinshaw, Clerk
- 13 Eric Bell
- 14 Ronald Forte, Jr.
- 15 Hunter Gillum
- 16 Errin James
- 17 Lauren Raynor
- 18 Tiffany Reed

19
20
21
22 ###

23 President Pro-tempore _____ Date _____

24 Approved Failed by _____ - _____ Clerk _____