



FALL 2016 FRESHMAN ELECTIONS PACKET

SENATE

THIS COMPLETED ELECTIONS PACKET, INCLUDING ALL SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION OUTLINED MUST BE TURNED INTO THE DEAN OF STUDENTS OFFICE NO LATER THAN 12:30 P.M. ON, 8/26.

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Date Received _____ Time Received _____ am / pm

Received By _____ **please print**



VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

Dear Candidate:

Thank you for your interest in the Student Government Association (SGA) at Valdosta State University (VSU). SGA is the organized voice for each student at VSU. SGA strives to protect the students' rights and to advocate on behalf of the students' welfare in the university community. The organization also serves as a liaison between the students, faculty, and the administration on campus.

Enclosed in this packet, you will find the information and documents required to participate in the elections process. Please be sure to read the elections code, which can be found on the "Governing Documents" tab of our website, in its entirety to ensure that you are campaigning within the regulations set forth by the elections committee.

Your involvement with SGA can have a significant impact on the student body. If you have any further questions related to elections, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Best wishes!

Sincerely,

Maya Mapp
President
mamapp@valdosta.edu

Othellious Cato
Vice President
ozcato@valdosta.edu

Dean Nikki Turley
Associate Dean of Students
nwturley@valdosta.edu

Dr. Vincent A. Miller
VP Student Affairs/Dean of Students
vincemiller@valdosta.edu

TABLE OF CONTENTS & PACKET COMPLETION CHECKLIST

- Statement of Intent
- Position Description
- Elections Calendar
- Application Questions
- Petition of Student Signatures

STATEMENT OF INTENT

I, _____ (print full name), hereby agree to participate as an official Student Government Association Senator candidate.

While conducting my campaign, I hereby agree to abide by the Student Government Association Constitution, By-Laws and Statutes, and Elections Code of Ethics, in addition to the rulings of the Student Government Association Judicial Council. I agree to release my academic performance to the Elections committee to verify my eligibility to participate.

If elected, I will serve the Student Government Association and the Valdosta State University's student body to the best of my ability. In order to complete my duty, I will be fully aware of the current problems facing VSU's student body. In addition, I will work with the student government and the entire Valdosta State University community to improve and better the campus.

Respectfully submitted,

Candidate Signature

Date

SENATOR

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Senators compose the Legislative Branch of the Student Government Association. Individuals are elected to represent various constituencies with VSU's student body. Senators are elected for a one academic school year term.

Communicating with the Student Body

Senators are tasked with developing relationship with their constituents, the students, in order to respond to their needs and concerns. Senators are expected to abide by the expectations set forth of the executive branch and advisors in order to fulfill the vision, mission, goals, and objectives of this body.

Initiating Action to Improve Student Experience

In listening to the needs and concerns of the student body, senators should be actively working together to develop ideas and plans to improve Valdosta State. There are opportunities available to work with a number of SGA and Faculty Senate committees including Elections & Rules, Student Affairs, Judiciary, Health Services, Parking & Transportation, Public Relations, and Finance. From this work, senators can bring forth legislation to the Senate body to formally establish SGA support on an issue.

Active Engagement in the Legislative Process

Senators are expected to be active participants during Senate and committee meetings. As a number of issues are brought before the body, Senators should be well-informed about the topic and be able to discuss and inquire where needed. It is imperative that Senators be knowledgeable of the governing documents of SGA—Constitution, By-laws and Statutes, and the Student Handbook. It is important that members of Senate participate in a civil and respectful way towards students, colleagues, and guests.

Participating in SGA Initiatives, Programs, and Activities

Senators are expected to work with members of other committees and branches within SGA to contribute to positive changes on campus. Senators will act as role models to the campus community by abiding by the Student Code of Conduct and advocate effectively to their constituency the initiatives of SGA. Senators are required to attend all Senate meetings, which are held every Monday evening. Additionally, senators are expected to attend mandatory events and committee meetings set forth by the executive branch during their term.

FALL 2016 ELECTIONS TIMELINE

Elections Paperwork Released	8/10/2016
Completed Elections Packets Due to Dean of Students Office	8/26/2016 by 12:30 p.m.
Candidate Seminar*	08/22/2016 @ 6:30 p.m.
Campaign Materials Posting Begins (Social Media)	08/28/2016 @ 11:59 p.m.
Passive Campaigning	08/28/2016 @ 11:59 pm
Active Campaigning	09/03/2016 @ 12:01 pm
Campaign Materials Removal Deadline	09/09/2016 @ 11:59 pm
Voting Begins via VSU Website Homepage	09/08/2016 @ 12:01 pm
Voting Ends	09/09/2016 @ 11:59 pm
Elections Violations/Complaints Deadline	09/08/2016 @ 11:59 pm
Results Announced Via VSU Student Activities Special Announcement Bulletin	09/12/2016 @ 6:30 pm
Run-off Campaign	09/12/2016 @ 11:59 pm
Run-off Voting Begins	09/13/2016 @ 11:59 pm
Run-off Voting Ends	09/15/2016 @ 11:59 pm
First Required Senate Meeting	09/12/2016 @ 8:00pm

*MANDATORY attendance for all candidates

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION PETITION FOR NOMINATION OF ELECTED POSITION

Legal Name (PRINT): _____

Local Mailing Address: _____

VSUE-mail Address: _____

VSU Student ID Number: _____

Phone Number: _____ # of Completed Hours: _____

Classification: _____ Cumulative GPA: _____

Academic Major: _____

Anticipated Graduation (Semester/Year): _____

SGA Experience: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Polo Size: _____ Position Desired: Senator

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PLEASE DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE BELOW.

CERTIFICATION AND VERIFICATION OF NOMINATION BY THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

Academic Standing: _____

_____ Verified Cumulative GPA

_____ Statement of Intent

_____ Nomination Petition Completed

_____ Application Questions

Elections Committee Approval Signature: _____

3. What specific and unique qualities will you bring to SGA and how will you utilize these qualities to serve the VSU community?

4. Identify a personal issue facing the students in your specific classification or major. If you were a part of SGA how would you deal with this issue?

5. Describe a time when you had to take a role as a leader. What were the circumstances? What was the outcome?

PETITION FOR NOMINATION

The following list includes the petition of one hundred (100) student signatures who support the nomination of: _____ for the position of SGA Senator.
print name

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