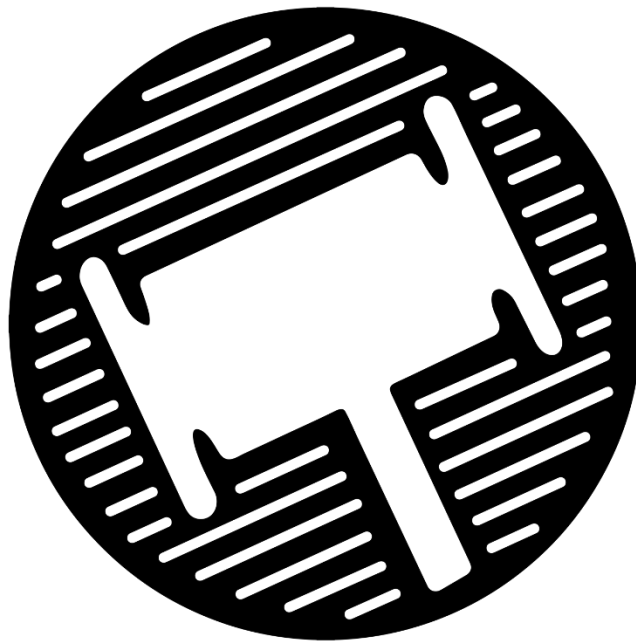

Constitution of the Stout Student Association



Ratified April 20th, 2021

ARTICLE I: PREAMBLE

We, the students of the University of Wisconsin-Stout, ordain and establish this Constitution of the Stout Student Association to pursue our mission of elevating student voices through participation in university policy development and decision making, student democracy, and promotion of campus justice for all.

ARTICLE II: AUTHORITY

The Stout Student Association has authority and responsibility granted by other entities. These include, but are not limited to:

- The Stout Student Association exercises all powers and authority granted by Wisconsin State Statute §36.09(5) to the students of the University of Wisconsin-Stout.
- The Stout Student Association asserts our authority as the Segregated University Fee Allocation Committee, as laid out Regent Policy 30-5. In addition, the Stout Student Association has the authority to represent the students in the allocation of tuition differentials and other fees.
- The Stout Student Association is responsible for the oversight and approval of the recognized student organizations at the University of Wisconsin-Stout.
- The Stout Student Association has the authority to appoint students to shared governance groups and participate in policy development at the University of Wisconsin-Stout.

ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP

The membership of the Stout Student Association shall consist of all students enrolled at the University of Wisconsin Stout. Members of the Stout Student Association in the fall and spring semester will retain their membership over the winter and summer months, respectively.

ARTICLE IV: STUDENT RIGHTS

The Stout Student Association recognizes the importance of the rights the students of the University of Wisconsin-Stout hold. The rights include but are not limited to those enumerated below.

Section 4.01: Nondiscrimination

The Stout Student Association, nor any of its elected or appointed officials, shall not discriminate on the basis or intersection of race, color, ethnicity, creed, religion, gender identity, sexual orientation, physical or mental ability, marital status, national origin, political ideology, or age, except when pursuant to local, state, or federal law.

Section 4.02: Open Meetings and Record Access

In recognition of the importance of public access to governmental agencies' meetings and records, the Stout Student Association and its various subgroups will adhere to the State of Wisconsin's open meetings law and open records law.

Section 4.03: Selection of Representatives

Members of the Stout Student Association shall have the right to participate in University-wide elections and shall have the right to recall elected officials. The University Student Senate shall determine how positions are to be filled and reserves the right to establish appointed positions should it choose to do so. The University Student Senate shall also determine the process through which elections and recalls are conducted.

ARTICLE V: UNIVERSITY STUDENT SENATE

All legislative power of the Stout Student Association shall be vested in a body known as the University Student Senate. The University Student Senate will act as representative voice of the student body of the University of Wisconsin-Stout.

Section 5.01: Roles and Responsibilities

The University Student Senate shall:

- Enact legislation and pass resolutions for the benefit of the Stout Student Association's membership.
- Establish and maintain bylaws that govern the structure, method, and procedure of the University Student Senate's business.
- Recognize all student organizations and to establish appropriate requirements for recognition as a student organization.
- Appoint diverse student representation to all university committees, including but not limited to shared governance committees, policy development committees, and search and screen committees.
- Ensure a diverse set of experiences and backgrounds are present in all places where the Stout Student Association exerts influence or power.
- Exercise all responsibilities and authorities granted to the Stout Student Association except those which are delegated elsewhere by this Constitution.

Section 5.02: Membership

The membership of the University Student Senate shall be made up of appointed and elected officials whose roles and responsibilities are determined by the University Student Senate. If the University Student Senate removes an elected official's position, the removal

may not go into effect until the elected official's term expires or the representative vacates the position.

ARTICLE VI: THE JUDICIAL BRANCH

The purpose of the Judicial Branch of the Stout Student Association is to maintain established standards of organizational conduct through enforcement of university guidelines. In addition, the Judicial Branch of the Stout Student Association shall have the final authority in resolving all cases and controversies regarding the interpretation of governing documents and policies of the Stout Student Association and recognized student organizations at the University of Wisconsin-Stout.

Section 6.01: Committee for Organizational Conduct Oversight

The purpose of the Committee for Organizational Conduct Oversight is to investigate alleged violations of the Student Organizational Code of Conduct. The membership and appointment procedure of the Committee for Organizational Conduct Oversight shall be determined by the University Student Senate.

The Committee for Organizational Conduct Oversight shall:

- Be knowledgeable of University policies and procedures, judicial policies and procedures, and standards of behavior for recognized student organizations.
- Be objective, confidential, and unbiased in the execution of its responsibilities.
- Present formal Statements of Charges to the University Court when there is evidence to substantiate allegations.

Section 6.02: The University Court

The purpose of the University Court is to provide student organizations with an opportunity to be judged by a jury of their peers by reviewing and evaluating Statements of Charges presented by the Committee for Organizational Conduct Oversight and applying appropriate disciplinary actions, when applicable. In addition, the University Court acts as the interpreting body of the governing documents and policies of the Stout Student Association and all recognized student organizations. The membership and appointment procedure of the University Court shall be determined by the University Student Senate.

The University Court shall:

- Establish and maintain bylaws that describe how the University Court will hear cases and controversies regarding the interpretation of governing documents and policies of the Stout Student Association and recognized student organizations.
- Be objective, confidential, and unbiased in the execution of its responsibilities.
- Review and evaluate a Statement of Charges when presented by the Committee for Organizational Conduct Oversight.

- Issue rulings on Statements of Charges and apply disciplinary actions as applicable.

ARTICLE VII: AMENDMENTS

To ensure this Constitution remains a living document that matches the interests and will of the students, amendments may be made to this Constitution after being proposed to University Student Senate and receiving ratification.

Section 7.01: Proposing Amendments

Amendments to this Constitution may be proposed to the University Student Senate by any voting member of the University Student Senate or upon a written petition signed by at least 100 members of the Stout Student Association's membership.

Section 7.02: Ratification of Amendments

After proposal, amendments to the Constitution will be presented to the University Student Senate for discussion and deliberation. Those amendments that have been presented to University Student Senate may be ratified no earlier than three weeks after being proposed.

For a Constitution amendment to be ratified, it must be approved by a $\frac{3}{4}$ majority vote of University Student Senate or approved by a $\frac{2}{3}$ majority vote of the student body in a university-wide referendum.