

PVAMU Student Government Association is holding a referendum next week to make changes to their Constitution. The changes are as follow:

1. Article 3.4 In the Constitution states; “There shall exist for each branch bylaws regulating its internal business, subject to the approval of the Student Senate”
 - a. Article 3.4 be changed and amended to state; “There shall exist for each branch bylaws or codes regulating its internal business, subject to the approval of the Student Senate.
2. That article 4.2.1 under Executive Branch be changed and amended to state” In the event that President and Executive Vice-President shall fail to meet any of these requirements or is placed on conduct probation or determined to have acted contrary to the provisions of the Constitution and or Bylaws, the Student Senate shall begin proceedings to remove any of these officers with the Chief Justice presiding in any of these cases. The Student Senate shall cause the ~~Chief Justice to set up a panel of inquiry of five justices including the Chief Justice to~~ **Judicial Court** to investigate allegations against the officers and make a recommendation to the Student Senate for necessary action. The Student Senate can accept or reject the recommendation of the ~~panel~~ **Court** by two-thirds (2/3) of senators sitting in quorum at a normal sitting. The Student Government Association Advisor shall enforce the decision of the Senate immediately. All incumbent powers or responsibilities bestowed upon the President or Executive Vice-President is declared null and void upon the conclusion of the impeachment proceedings, as described in the Senate Bylaws. The individual has the right of due process of law as outlined in the current Prairie View A & M University Student Handbook and current University Catalog
3. That article 4.2.2 under Executive Branch be changed and amended to state” In the event of the inability of the President to fulfill the duties of the office, or upon his\her removal or resignation from office, the Executive Vice-President shall assume the office of the President subject to a vote of confidence by two-thirds (2/3) of the Senate present and voting at an announced sitting. Upon failure of Executive Vice-President to receive this vote of confidence, ~~the Senate will proceed to elect a delegate for the position from within the Student Senate. The elected delegate shall be known as the Interim President and shall serve until the term of the removed President expires~~ **the next in the Line of Presidential Succession, stated in the Senate By-Laws, shall take the office of the President subject to a vote of confidence by two-thirds (2/3) of the Senate present and voting at an announced sitting. Upon failure of any person in the Line of Presidential Success, to receive the vote of confidence, or are not able or willing to take the title, the Senate will proceed to elect a delegate for the position from within the Student Senate. The elected delegate shall be known as the Interim President and shall serve until the term of the removed President expires.**
 1. **The line of succession shall follow in the descending order of: Executive Vice President, Senate Pro-Tempore, Rules and Administration Chair, Comptroller, Chief of Staff.**
4. That article 4.4 stating “The term of office for the Student Government Association officials shall commence the Monday after graduation, at the end of the spring semester

provided there has been accurate certification of all election results and they have been sworn in by an oath administered by the University President or his/her designee. Be removed altogether from the Constitution of The Student Government Association;

5. That article 4.5.10 be added to The SGA Constitution stating The President shall: “Be required to hold a “State of the Hill” address within three (3) weeks of the beginning of the Spring semester. Here all progress will be stated, as well as goals for the remainder of the President’s term”;
6. That Article 5.2 stating “The Student Government Association Student Senate shall assemble at least twice a month as designated by the Senate leaders. The President of the Student Government Association and /or the President of the Student Senate are empowered to call additional meetings at any time he/she deems necessary in line with the provisions of the Senate Bylaws, and these shall constitute officially recognized sittings provided a quorum exists.” Become Article 5.2.1 and Article 5.2 will state “The Legislative Branch voting members must be a student of Prairie View A & M University and have completed at least thirty (30) semester hours in residence at Prairie View A & M University prior to assuming office, with exception to the incoming Freshman Class President. Members of the Legislative Branch must be full-time students, have at least a 2.50 grade point average from the previous semester prior to assuming office and must have a 2.50 cumulative grade point average. While holding office Legislative Branch members must maintain at least a 2.50 cumulative grade point average, a 2.50 semester grade point average, must not be on disciplinary or scholastic probation, and must be in good standing (academic, fiscal, and moral conduct) with the University.;
7. That Article 6.9 will state “The Judicial Branch shall be the official keeper of the Student Government Association Archives. They shall keep and file all Student Government Association documents and paper work. They shall officially be the branch to update, clarify, and distribute The Constitution, Election Code, Senate By-Laws, Judicial By-Laws, and the E-Board Code for public and SGA use. “
8. That Article 6.5 will state “The Judicial Branch shall be formally referred to as the Judicial ~~Panel~~ Court or the Student Court and shall be guided in by the provisions of the Judicial Bylaws. “
9. That Article 6.4 will state “The Chief Justice shall be appointed by the newly Elected President of the Student Government Association at the ~~beginning~~ end of the Fall Spring Semester for a one year term and must be approved by (2/3) two-thirds of the Student Senate majority. The Student Senate may interview the person in question at the time of voting for up to twenty (20) minutes. If the Senate finds the person is not applicable for the job, by a majority vote, they may request that the President nominate a new candidate.

10. That Article 6.3 will state “There shall be ~~(4) four~~ **six (6)** associate justices: one **(1)** Freshman Class Justices, Sophomore Class Justices, Junior Class Justices, and Senior Class Justices. Each class shall elect their Associate Justice during Fall Semester Elections. **There shall also be two (2) Associate justices appointed jointly with the Chief Justice in the spring by the newly Elected President, and approved by a simple majority vote of the Student Senate. These two (2) associate justices may be of any class with at least thirty (30) semester hours in residence at Prairie View A & M University prior to assuming office.**
11. That Article 6.2 will state “**A candidate for Chief Justice must be a student of Prairie View A & M University and have completed at least sixty (45) semester hours in residence at Prairie View A&M University and a minimum of one year active experience in the Student Government Association Judicial Branch the year prior to assuming office. Candidates for Chief Justice must be full-time students, have a least a 2.70 grade point average from the previous semester prior to assuming office. While holding office the Chief Justice must maintain at least a 2.70 cumulative grade point average, a 2.70 semester grade point average, must not be on disciplinary or scholastic probation, and must be in good standing (academic, fiscal, and moral conduct) with the University.**” And Article 6.2.1 will state “The Judicial Branch members must be a student of Prairie View A & M University and have completed at least thirty (30) semester hours in residence at Prairie View A & M University prior to assuming office, with the exception of the incoming Freshman Class Justice. Members of the Judicial Branch must be full-time students, have at least a ~~2.50~~ **2.50** grade point average from the previous semester prior to assuming office and must have a ~~2.50~~ **2.50** cumulative grade point average. While holding office Judicial Branch members must maintain at least a ~~2.50~~ **2.50** cumulative grade point average, a ~~2.50~~ **2.50** semester grade point average, must not be on disciplinary or scholastic probation, and must be in good standing (academic, fiscal, and moral conduct) with the University.;
12. That Article 6.1 will state” The Judicial Branch shall consist of ~~(5) five~~ **seven (7)** justices. There shall be (1) one chief justice and ~~(4) four~~ **six (6)** associate justices. ; and
13. That Article 5.3 will state” The student senate shall be composed of both elected and appointed positions: Two thirds (2/3) of the members of the Student Senate shall be elected by the senator’s constituency in the fall or spring general student body elections. One third (1/3) shall be non-constituent positions and shall be appointed by the newly elected Vice President within five (5) class days of being sworn in. These appointees shall subsequently be approved at the following senate meeting by the old senate. If these positions are not filled within the allotted time frame, they will be declared vacant and submitted to the internal affairs committee to be filled after Fall General Elections.” ;

14. That Article 5.2 stating “The Student Government Association Student Senate shall assemble at least twice a month as designated by the Senate leaders. The President of the Student Government Association and /or the President of the Student Senate are empowered to call additional meetings at any time he/she deems necessary in line with the provisions of the Senate Bylaws, and these shall constitute officially recognized sittings provided a quorum exists.” Become Article 5.2.1 and Article 5.2 will state “**The Legislative Branch voting members must be a student of Prairie View A & M University and have completed at least thirty (30) semester hours in residence at Prairie View A & M University prior to assuming office, with exception to the incoming Freshman Class President and graduate students. The provisions for graduate students shall be explained in Article 5.2.2. Members of the Legislative Branch must be full-time students, have at least a 2.50 grade point average from the previous semester prior to assuming office and must have a 2.50 cumulative grade point average. While holding office Legislative Branch members must maintain at least a 2.50 cumulative grade point average, a 2.50 semester grade point average, must not be on disciplinary or scholastic probation, and must be in good standing (academic, fiscal, and moral conduct) with the University.; and**
15. That Article 5.2.2 states “**Graduate Students wishing to apply for a position in Student senate must have at least (12) semester hours in residence at Prairie View prior to assuming office, whether they are undergraduate or graduate hours.**”
16. Article 7.3 be changed and amended to state; “No member of the **Student Government Association** shall be on conduct probation with the university. All executive, senatorial, and judicial members may be removed for such acts as not coming to meetings, insubordination, or not fulfilling one’s responsibilities. **All non-voting and office positions,** shall maintain a minimum 2.50 cumulative G.P.A. as well as maintain a minimum 2.50 for every semester (spring, summer, and fall) while in office. **The bureaucratic/presidential committee members are excluded from maintaining a minimum 2.50 for every semester but they must maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.50.** Refer to the University Handbook regarding disciplinary procedures, rights, and privileges.”
17. That Article 7.4 will state” In the case where no Judicial ~~Panel~~ **Court** is present, removal of the President or Executive Vice-President shall be done in line with the provisions as stated in the Senate Bylaws.”
18. That Article 9.2 will state” The President and Executive Vice-President, **in consultation with the Chief Justice,** shall immediately, after the ratification of the Constitution, take steps to bring all the activities of the Student Government Association in line with the relevant provisions of the Constitution.”

19. Article 11.7 be changed and amended to state; “Every elected and appointed voting official of the Student Government Association, before entering upon the execution of his/her duties of office shall take the following oath or affirmation.”

20. Article 11.8 be added and state; “The term of office for all Student Government Association members, voting and non-voting positions, shall commence the Monday after the spring graduation. If sworn in at an earlier time, in the case of newly elected or appointed positions, the term ends at the time of the newly sworn positions.”

21. That Article 12.7 will state “Every elected and appointed voting official of the Student Government Association, before entering upon the execution of his/her duties of office shall take the following oath or affirmation.”

"I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute to the best of my ability, the office of (title of office) for the Prairie View A & M University Student Government Association, and at all times protect the welfare of the student body and to promote good relations between the students and those concerned with the University."

22. That Article 12.11 will state “The term of office for all Student Government Association members, voting and non-voting positions, shall commence the Monday after the spring graduation. If sworn in at an earlier time, in the case of newly elected or appointed positions, the term ends at the time of the newly sworn positions.” ;

23. That Article 12.8 will state “The summer session of Prairie View A&M University shall be considered a regular session only for those Executive Officers, Senators, Justices and Members of the Student Government Association enrolled in summer school. All action taken by the Legislative body during the summer session shall be subject to approval by the legislative body at its first meeting of fall semester.;

24. That Article 13 will state:

This Student Government Association Constitution stands

Approved by the vote of the Student Senate

January 25, 2012

Approved Date

Ratified by the vote of the Student Body

February 9, 2012

Ratification Date

Nicholas Hallman
President of the Student Senate

Jarren Small
President of the Student Government

Darius Kelly
Chief Justice of the Student Court

Steve Ransom
Student Government Association Advisor

Dr. George C. Wright
University President
Prairie View A & M University; and