



What is SGA:

Student Government 101

South Louisiana Community College Student Government Training

Dave Kelly | America's Student Leadership Trainersm

Student governments (SGA) are the organizations on college campuses that _____ students, serve as their voice, and exists to enhance the educational experience for everyone that attends their college or university.

SGA is not something to be _____ by, but to be _____ in.

SGA is the first line of _____ against proposals and items that students would not want, and also the first line of _____ for things that they do.

Governing Documents

The Constitution defines the _____ and principles of the organization. It provides a _____ and framework for the organization such as _____ of government, line of succession, and creation of the _____.

The Bylaws are the document that sets forth _____, policies, regulations, _____ and responsibilities, and duties of officers, the executive board, and the Student Assembly.

_____ Rules and/or Policies and Procedures defines procedures, traditions, and decorum. Could include items such as:

1. _____ code
2. _____ hours
3. _____ and other compensation
4. Travel _____
5. Other?

Roberts Rules of Order, Newly Revised is typically defined as the resource for anything _____ in the governing documents.

South Louisiana Community College SGA

Mission Statement

The Student Government Association _____ the mission of the college and is composed of elected representatives from the student body. Collectively, they are the _____ of the students and promote student life that _____ the intellectual, physical, social, and cultural _____ of SLCC. This is done by providing vital _____ activities that also enhances individual student _____.

Purpose

- To enhance student _____.
- To provide for the students of this institution with a _____ body that will hear and appropriately act on _____ expressed by the student.
- To _____ greater understanding between the students, faculty, and administration.
- To provide effective leadership for the student body through community _____.
- To ensure _____ representation for students.
- To provide a better social, cultural, and _____ life on campus.
- To promote the high _____ of education offered at South Louisiana Community College.

Benefits of Serving on the SGA

- Participate in _____ trainings
- Express your voice in college _____

- Provide _____ to fellow students
- _____ by assisting in the planning and implementation of many SLCC traditions and activities

_____ !!

Committees

Per Robert’s Rules of Order, committees are bodies that are often, but not necessarily very small and are subordinate to a higher authority. Most parliamentary rules apply, but greater flexibility and informality are commonly allowed. Committees are where boards and assemblies get the _____ of the organization done. They can give more attention and detail to tasks than is possible in a larger body.

There are two types of committees:

1. _____: These committees continue from year to year and perform continuing functions.
2. _____ or _____: This is a committee that is appointed, as the need arises, to carry out a specific task. At the completion of the task, the special or ad-hoc committee ceases to exist. Robert’s Rules indicates that these types of committees cannot be appointed to perform a task that falls within the assigned function(s) of an existing special committee.

Importance of Committees

1. Opportunity for various aspects of the college community to come _____ (students, faculty, staff, and administration)
2. The voice of students matters – _____, implemented through committees, gives a platform to that voice.
3. Committees give students a chance to _____ their leadership skills.
4. A chance for students to _____ with faculty and see the inner workings of the college.

5. Students will grow as people, leaders, and be more _____ to the college.
6. Can serve as a _____ for future SGA executive officers, Senators, class reps, etc.
7. Gets students involved!!!

Successful Committees

1. Are organized.
2. Have an agenda.
3. Seek and include participation from all members.
4. Engage through coaching and asking questions.
5. Make everyone feel comfortable in the committee space – all are on a level playing field.

Important Issues and Needs on Campus

Advocacy is a _____ by an individual or group which aims to influence public-policy and resource allocation decisions within _____, _____, and social systems and institutions. Advocacy may be motivated from moral, ethical or faith principles or simply a desire to protect an asset of interest. *(Source: Wikipedia.com)*

Activism consists of efforts to _____, _____, or _____ social, political, economic, or environmental change. Activism can take a wide range of forms. *(Source: Wikipedia.com)*

Civil Discourse

1. Requires _____ of the other participants
2. Does not diminish the other's _____ worth nor questions their good _____
3. Avoids _____, direct _____, or excessive _____
4. Requires _____ and an appreciation of the other participant's _____
5. Keep _____ in check and _____!

Influencing Decision Makers

What to Do

1. Know what your position is, _____, and support it with facts, _____ evidence, and data. Be concise and focused.
2. _____ with members of the opposition is of little benefit: they have their constituencies to represent, just as you do. Learn their positions so you can _____ them, but don't hope to sway them to your side.
3. Work your side, but be _____ of those on the other. Your adversary on one issue may be your _____ on another.
4. If someone on the opposition side chooses to make a _____ of themselves, get out of their way and let them!
5. Just because your side did not _____ does not mean you were not heard. Take defeat _____ to preserve relationships for future issues.

What Not to Do

1. Never _____. Integrity is all you have. Know your _____ and support and promote it even in the face of _____ from a decision maker.
2. Don't _____, _____, or lose your _____ with decision makers! They have the power to get you what you _____!
3. Calling _____ is never _____ or _____!