

Constitution



*of the Yeshiva University
Undergraduate Student
Government*

Preamble

We, the undergraduate male students of Yeshiva University, in order to further the interests and provide for the general welfare of the Student Body, cooperate with Yeshiva University administrators and faculty in handling problems concerning the Student Body, provide for the management of student activities, maintain cooperative exchange of ideas with Student Bodies of other institutions, and enrich the religious atmosphere on campus, do hereby establish this Student Government Constitution.

Article I

Name and Purpose

Section 1

- (1) The Student Government shall represent the undergraduate male students of Yeshiva University in all their collective dealings with the administration and faculty of Yeshiva University, and with similar organizations in other institutions, and shall determine policy for the Student Body for all student affairs.
- (2) The Student Government shall endeavor to improve the quality of life for all undergraduate male students, and shall utilize its resources for this purpose alone.

Article II

Membership

Section 1

- (1) The Student Government shall consist of the Yeshiva Student Union (YSU), the Yeshiva College Student Association (YCSA), the Syms Student Council (SYMSSC), and the Student Organization of Yeshiva (SOY).

Section 2

- (1) The representative organ for the undergraduate male students of Yeshiva University shall be the Yeshiva Student Union (YSU).
- (2) The Yeshiva Student Union Council shall comprise of the Yeshiva Student Union President, the Student Union Vice President of Clubs, and the Student Union Vice President of Class Affairs.
- (3) The YSU President must be a senior in good standing and a full-time student.
- (4) The YSU President shall preside over all meetings of the Yeshiva Student Union, shall prepare an agenda before all such meetings, shall appoint all members of standing and special committees that serve under the auspices of the Yeshiva Student Union, shall call meetings of the entire Student Body when necessary, shall be an ex-officio member of all committees and clubs under their auspices, and shall act as a representative of the Student Body at all official functions and meetings with the administration and faculty.
- (5) If for any reason the YSU President temporarily cannot perform his duties, the Student Union Vice President of Class Affairs shall serve as Acting YSU President. If the YSU President is permanently unable to perform his duties or is removed from office before March 1, the YSU Vice President of Class Affairs shall succeed to the YSU Presidency, and an election for a new YSU Vice President of Class Affairs shall be held within two weeks. If the vacancy occurs after March 1, the YSU Vice

President of Class Affairs shall succeed to the YSU Presidency and shall appoint a Vice President of Class Affairs, with the approval of a majority of the Student Union Executive Council.

Section 3

- (1) The YSU Vice President of Clubs must be a senior or junior in good standing and a full-time student.
- (2) The YSU Vice President of Clubs shall assist the YSU President in the performance of his duties.
- (3) The YSU Vice President of Clubs shall be an ex-officio member of all clubs, and shall receive and act upon all student complaints.
- (4) The YSU Vice President of Clubs shall maintain a record of all receipts and expenditures of the Student Union and shall retain the right to audit and monitor the finances of all Student Union extensions, clubs and societies.
- (5) The YSU Vice President of Clubs, along with the YSU President, shall coordinate all major fund raising activities and be responsible for raising necessary revenues.
- (6) If for any reason the YSU Vice President of Clubs temporarily cannot perform his duties, the YSU President shall appoint a temporary replacement with the approval of a majority of the YSU Executive Council. If the YSU Vice President of Clubs is permanently unable to perform his duties or is removed from office before March 1, an election for a new YSU President of Clubs shall be held within two weeks. If the vacancy occurs after March 1, the YSU shall appoint a replacement with the approval of a majority of the YSU.

Section 4

- (1) The YSU Vice President of Class Affairs must be a senior in good standing and a full-time student.
- (2) The YSU Vice President of Class Affairs shall assist the YSU President in the performance of his duties.
- (3) The YSU Vice President of Class Affairs shall serve as the Government Assembly liaison to all class officers and assist them in coordinating class activities.
 - (a) The YSU Vice President of Class Affairs shall preside over a subcommittee consisting of four representatives from each undergraduate class of the university. All class Representatives must be members in good standing of their respective classes.
 - (b) The Vice President of Class Affairs and Representatives of each class shall represent their respective classes at all meetings of the Subcommittee on Class Affairs, shall hold class meetings at their discretion, and shall be responsible for all class functions, providing a minimum of two each semester.
 - (c) The Representative of each class shall record the minutes of all class meetings, shall maintain a file of all class correspondence and official documents, shall be responsible for all finances for class activities in cooperation with the Student Union Vice President of Clubs and shall keep a record of all receipts and expenditures.
 - (d) The Senior Class Representative shall be responsible for arrangements for the Senior Class Dinner, Senior Service Awards and for the production of Masmid, as described in Article VIII, Section 2 of this Constitution.
 - (e) If any class officer temporarily cannot perform his duties, the Vice President of Class Affairs shall appoint a replacement. If the vacancy is permanent, and occurs before March 1, an election shall be held within two weeks of the vacancy to fill the position. If a position is vacated after March 1, the Vice President shall appoint a new class Representative.

- (6) If for any reason the YSU Vice President of Class Affairs temporarily cannot perform his duties, the YSU President shall appoint a temporary replacement with the approval of a majority of the Government Assembly. If the YSU Vice President of Class Affairs is permanently unable to perform his duties or is removed from office before March 1, an election for a new YSU Vice President of Class Affairs shall be held within two weeks. If the vacancy occurs after March 1, the YSU President shall appoint a replacement with the approval of a majority of the Government Assembly.

If the above occurs, it is recommended that the Yeshiva Student Union President give priority towards the appointment of a member of the Class Subcommittee prior to finding an outsider.

Section 5

- (1) The YCSA shall serve the students of Yeshiva College, and shall be the representative organ of Yeshiva College students in all matters of specific interest to these students.
- (2) The YCSA will act as the liaison for any matters for the student body to the faculty and administration at Yeshiva College. This includes all academic matters and any other matters that affect the student body.
- (3) The YCSA shall consist of a President, a Vice President, and a Secretary/Treasurer.
- (4) The YCSA President must be a senior in good standing and a full-time student of the Yeshiva College for at least two semesters prior to taking office.
- (5) The YCSA President may appoint standing committees as he sees fit, including the Yeshiva College Academic Standards Committee and the Yeshiva College Curriculum Committee"
- (6) The YCSA Vice President must be a junior or senior in good standing and a full-time student of the Yeshiva College for at least two semesters prior to taking office.
- (7) The YCSA Secretary/Treasurer must be at least a junior in good standing and a full-time student of the Yeshiva College for at least one semester prior to taking office.
- (8) If any YCSA officer temporarily cannot perform his duties, the officer below him in rank shall fill the position.
- (9) If the YCSA President is permanently unable to perform his duties or is removed from office before March 1, the YCSA Vice President shall succeed to the YCSA Presidency, and an election for a new Student Union Vice President shall be held within two weeks. If the vacancy occurs after March 1, the YCSA Vice President shall succeed to the YCSA Presidency and shall appoint a Vice President.
- (10) If any other YCSA officer is permanently unable to perform his duties or is removed from office before March 1, an election shall be held within two weeks to fill the position. If the vacancy occurs after March 1, the YCSA President shall appoint a replacement.

Section 6

- (1) The SYMSSC shall serve the students of Sy Syms School of Business on Yeshiva University's uptown campus, and shall be the representative organ of Sy Syms School of Business students in all matters of specific interest to these students.
- (2) The SYMSSC shall consist of a President, a Vice President, and a Secretary/Treasurer.
- (3) The SYMSSC President must be a senior in good standing and a full-time student of the Sy Syms School of Business for at least two semesters prior to taking office.
- (4) The SYMSSC Vice President must be a junior senior in good standing and a full-time student of the Sy Syms School of Business for at least two semesters prior to taking office.

- (5) The SYMSSC Secretary/Treasurer must be at least a junior in good standing and a full-time student of the Sy Syms School of Business for at least one semester prior to taking office.
- (6) If any SYMSSC officer temporarily cannot perform his duties, the officer below him in rank shall fill the position.
- (7) If the SYMSSC President is permanently unable to perform his duties or is removed from office before March 1, the SYMSSC Vice President shall succeed to the SYMSSC Presidency, and an election for a new Student Union Vice President shall be held within two weeks. If the vacancy occurs after March 1, the SYMSSC Vice President shall succeed to the SYMSSC Presidency and shall appoint a Vice President.
- (8) If any other SYMSSC officer is permanently unable to perform his duties or is removed from office before March 1, an election shall be held within two weeks to fill the position. If the vacancy occurs after March 1, the SYMSSC President shall appoint a replacement.

Section 7

- (1) The SOY shall serve the undergraduate students of the Yeshiva Program/Mazer School of Talmudic Studies (MYP), Irving I. Stone Beit Midrash Program (SBMP), Isaac Breuer College, (IBC), James Striar School of General Jewish Studies (JSS) and shall be the representative organ of all religious and spiritual life on the Wilf Campus.
- (2) The SOY board shall consist of a President, a Vice President, and a representative from MYP, SBMP, IBC and JSS.
- (3) The SOY President must be a senior or upper junior in good standing, and enrolled in the Judaic Studies morning program with the largest student population.
- (4) The SOY Vice President may be either a Senior or Junior from any Judaic Studies morning program.
- (5) The MYP, SBMP, IBC and JSS Representatives shall represent the interests of their respective Judaic Studies morning programs to the SOY Council.
- (6) The MYP, SBMP, IBC and JSS Representatives shall assist the SOY President and Vice President in the performance of their duties.
- (7) If the SOY President is permanently unable to perform his duties or is removed from office before March 1, the SOY Vice President shall succeed to the SOY Presidency, and an election for a new Student Union Vice President shall be held within two weeks. If the vacancy occurs after March 1, the SOY Vice President shall succeed to the SOY Presidency and shall appoint a Vice President.
- (8) If any other SOY officer is permanently unable to perform his duties or is removed from office before March 1, an election shall be held within two weeks to fill the position. If the vacancy occurs after March 1, the SOY President shall appoint a replacement.

Section 8

- (1) The General Assembly shall consist of five voting members, including the Presidents of the YSU, YCSA, SYMSSC, and SOY, as well as the Senior co-chair of the Student Life Committee.
- (2) The four class Representatives shall serve as non-voting members of the General Assembly.

Section 9

- (1) The Student Government Parliamentarian shall be nominated by the YSU President, and shall be confirmed by a majority vote of the General Assembly.
- (2) The Parliamentarian shall serve as an advisor to the General Assembly on Constitutional and parliamentary matters.

- (3) The Parliamentarian may not serve as an elected member of YSU.

Section 10

- (1) No student may be a member of the General Assembly while holding a position on the Governing Boards of The Commentator, Dramatics Society, or WYUR, nor while holding the position of Editor-in-Chief of Masmid or serving as a Justice on Student Court, a Student Senator, or a Resident Advisor.
- (2) No student may be a member of the General Assembly while holding the position of Editor-in-Chief of The Commentator, Editor-in-Chief of Masmid, or Station Manager of WYUR, nor while serving as a Justice on the Student Court, a Student Senator, or a Head Resident Advisor.
- (3) No student may hold more than one elected position on the General Assembly simultaneously.
- (4) For any positions with qualifications based on class standing, the class standing of candidates or officers shall be determined by the Office of the Registrar and verified by the Canvassing Committee, through the Office of the Dean of Students.
- (5) The Student Court shall verify the qualifications, as defined in Article II, of each elected officer during the first academic week of the school year. Ineligible officers shall be immediately removed from office.

Article III

Elections and Installations

Section 1

- (1) The Canvassing Committee shall be responsible for all elections, and shall be responsible for ensuring that all candidates meet all qualifications for their respective positions as defined in Article II of this Constitution.
- (2) The Chairman of the Canvassing Committee, who may not be an elected member of the YSU, shall be nominated by the Yeshiva Student Union President, and shall be approved by a majority vote of the Executive Council.
- (3) The Presidents of YSU, YCSA, SYMSSC and SOY, shall each serve as a member of the Canvassing Committee, or may appoint another student from their respective schools to represent their schools on the Canvassing Committee and assist in matters deemed necessary by the Chairman of the Canvassing Committee. In the event that any one of the aforementioned officials shall be running for any Student Union position, or shall be involved in any other conflict of interest, he shall be required to appoint another student from his school to serve on the Canvassing Committee in his place.
- (4) The Chairman shall select two other students, neither of whom may be elected members of YSU to complete the committee of nine members, each of whom shall have a vote on the Canvassing Committee. Any voting member of the Canvassing Committee, with the approval of the Chairman, may appoint additional non-voting members, as he shall deem necessary.
- (5) The Canvassing Committee shall have jurisdiction over the regulation of campaign spending limits, campaign advertisement limits, and the types of paraphernalia that candidates may distribute, and shall disqualify all candidates who violate election rules or fail to meet the applicable requirements.
- (6) The Canvassing Committee shall be responsible for posting a public notification of all election rules and requirements at least two weeks prior to elections, and shall be responsible for publicizing the Executive Council debates at least three days prior to the event.

- (7) The Canvassing Committee shall conduct elections through a secret/closed written ballot in a manner that ensures that the elections are held in as objective a fashion as possible, and shall be responsible for the tallying of votes.
- (8) The Canvassing Committee shall publicize election results as soon as possible.
- (9) In the event of a conflict between this Constitution and the rules set forth by the Canvassing Committee, this Constitution shall remain supreme.

Section 2

- (1) Elections for the following year's YSU, excluding the Freshman and Sophomore Class Representatives, shall be held no earlier than the second week in March and no later than the first week in May.
- (2) Elections for the Freshman and Sophomore Class councils shall be held between the third and sixth academic week of the Fall semester.
- (3) Any candidate may run for only one office per election period.

Section 3

- (1) The Canvassing Committee shall post a public notification of all available positions at least five days prior to the stated deadline for declaration of candidacy.
- (2) All rules governing the elections shall be clearly outlined by the Canvassing Committee for the candidates at an official meeting to be convened after the deadline for declaration of candidacy.
- (3) Following the official meeting, the Canvassing Committee must allow candidates at least five days to submit a petition signed by one-third of the body they wish to represent or five hundred students, whichever is less. Only candidates who submit valid petitions may have their names printed on the ballots.
- (4) Following the deadline for the submission of petitions, candidates may start to campaign at the time set forth by the Canvassing Committee, according to the rules set forth by the Canvassing Committee.
- (5) Failure to adhere to the rules set forth by this Constitution and the Canvassing Committee may result in a disqualification of the candidate by the Canvassing Committee.
- (6) No candidate may run on a ticket or otherwise campaign jointly with any other candidate for any Student Government position.

Section 4

- (1) All students may vote in the election for YSU President, YSU Vice President of Class Affairs, and YSU Vice President of Clubs
- (2) Only students of Yeshiva College may vote for the YCSA.
- (3) Only students of Sy Syms School of Business may vote for the SYMSSC.
- (4) All students may vote in the election for the SOY President and Vice President. Students of MYP, IBC, JSS, and SBMP may only vote for the Representatives of their respective Judaic Studies morning programs.
- (5) All students who are members of a particular class at the time of an election may vote for all officers of that class for the following year.

Section 5

- (1) All officers shall be elected by a plurality of the votes cast, excluding blanks, the elections to be conducted by the Canvassing Committee.

- (2) In the event of a tie, the Student Government shall vote from amongst the candidates who have tied, and a majority vote of the Student Government shall be required to elect a candidate.
- (3) All students running as a write in must receive a minimum of 20 votes to win that position. Any position not filled during the election will be elected in fall elections.

Section 6

- (1) All elected members of the Student Union shall be inducted by the outgoing Student Union President in the presence of the outgoing Executive Council, excluding the Freshman and Sophomore Class Representatives, who shall be inducted in the fall.
- (2) Official duties of the incoming officers shall be assumed upon graduation day of the outgoing senior class, but incoming officers may begin work from the date of their election.
- (3) Prior to taking office, each newly elected officer must sign an affirmation stating that he will strive protect the integrity of the Constitution, unify the Student Body, and maintain the religious atmosphere on campus.
- (4) All newly elected officers must meet all qualifications for their position, as defined in Article II of this Constitution, at the time they take office, and at all times during which they hold office, to be determined by the Canvassing Committee.

Article IV Meetings

Section 1

- (1) The General Assembly shall meet either upon the discretion of the YSU President or upon petition to the YSU President by at least three voting members of the General Assembly within the time requested by the petition.
- (2) A majority of the voting members of the General Assembly shall constitute a quorum for General Assembly meetings.
- (3) All meetings of the General Assembly shall be open meetings unless a closed meeting is called by the YSU President or by petition of a majority of the voting members of the General Assembly. Once an open meeting is in progress, it may be closed only by a vote of a majority of the voting members of the General Assembly.
- (4) At open meetings of the General Assembly, all students may participate in debate upon recognition by the YSU President, but only the General Assembly shall have parliamentary power.
- (5) Only voting members of the General Assembly shall be allowed to vote at General Assembly meetings.
- (6) In the event of a tie in the General Assembly, the YSU President's vote shall be counted twice.

Section 2

- (1) Two written proxies on agenda matters will be accepted per semester for each member of the General Assembly to be used at meetings of the General Assembly.
- (2) The rules contained in Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the meetings of the General Assembly in all cases in which they are applicable and in which they are consistent with this Constitution and its By-laws.
- (3) At each meeting of the General Assembly, the senior SLC co-chair shall have with him a copy of this Constitution and a copy of Robert's Rules of Order.

Section 3

- (1) The YSU President may appoint a Sergeant-at-Arms to help keep decorum for all meetings of the General Assembly.

Article V

Powers of the Student Government and the Student Body

Section 1

- (1) The Student Government shall have the power to:
 - a. Be the representative, self-governing body of the undergraduate male students of Yeshiva University and have precedence over all other organized and duly established undergraduate male student organizations.
 - b. Represent student opinion in all student-faculty and student-administration relations.
 - c. Coordinate all duly chartered and recognized student organizations and their activities.
 - d. Regulate all student elections through the Canvassing Committee.
 - e. Provide for the preparation and publication of all student publications.
 - f. Authorize all student social functions.
 - g. Sponsor a moneymaking project for any charity it sees fit.
 - h. Receive any recall, initiative, or referendum petitions pertaining to the Student Government or the Student Body. Within two weeks of the receipt of such petitions, an election on the matter shall be held.
 - i. Grant or revoke the charter of any student organization.
 - j. Regulate the use of University facilities by undergraduate male students of Yeshiva University.

Section 2

- (1) The General Assembly shall have the power to:
 - a. Exercise legislative authority in all General Assembly matters.
 - b. Impose sanctions upon any student organization for infraction of this Constitution, its By Laws, or any regulations passed by General Assembly.
 - c. Affiliate or disaffiliate with recognized regional, national, or international student organizations and their activities.
 - d. Exercise authority as delegated elsewhere in this Constitution.

Section 3

- (1) The Student Body shall have the power to:
 - a. Elect all members of the Student Government.
 - b. Submit petitions to members of the Student Government.
 - c. Submit petitions of initiative and referendum by no less than a two-thirds of the Student Body.
 - d. Pass petitions of initiative and referendum by no less than half of the entire Student Body.
 - e. Submit petitions of recall by no less than a two-thirds of the represented Student Body.
 - f. Pass petitions of recall by no less than half of the represented Student Body.
 - g. Exercise authority as delegated elsewhere in this Constitution.

Article VI Impeachment

Section 1

- (1) Impeachment proceedings may be brought against any member of the Student Government by a majority of the General Assembly or by a petition signed by at least two-thirds of the Student Body.
- (2) Upon reception for a petition for impeachment, a procedural motion for investigation of the charges against any member of the Student Government must be passed, by a majority of the General Assembly, whereupon the YSU President shall appoint an investigative committee, composed of elected Student Government officials and other members of the Student Body, to secure the facts involved.
- (3) The accused shall be tried at an open meeting of the General Assembly as soon as possible, whereupon the General Assembly shall discuss the case, the accused being given every reasonable opportunity to present his defense.
- (4) Conviction and removal of the accused from office shall require a two-thirds vote of the General Assembly, counting the YSU President's vote in the whole.
- (5) The accused shall not vote and shall not be included in the two-thirds tabulation.

Article VII Extensions

Section 1

- (1) The Yeshiva College Dramatics Society shall produce dramatic presentations for the enjoyment of the Student Body, faculty, and administration of Yeshiva University.
- (2) The Dramatics Society shall choose a Faculty Advisor for each academic year.
- (3) The outgoing Dramatics Society President shall appoint the Dramatics Society President for the following year, who shall, in turn, appoint the other officers for the following year, with the approval of the YSU Vice President of Clubs, before the end of the previous academic year.
- (4) The incoming Dramatics Society President shall appoint the other officers for the following year, shall choose a Governing Board from among the newly appointed officers, and shall submit a list of the Governing Board to the YSU Vice President of Clubs.
- (5) All presentations to be produced shall be selected jointly by the Governing Board of the Dramatics Society and the Faculty Advisor. The Dramatics Society must produce at least one presentation each semester.
- (6) The YSU must allocate funds for at least one Dramatics Society production each academic year.

Section 2

- (1) The Radio Station of Yeshiva University shall be WYUR, which shall broadcast during hours determined by the Governing Board of WYUR.
- (2) WYUR shall have one Faculty Advisor, who shall be selected by the Governing Board of WYUR, with the approval of the previous year's Faculty Advisor.
- (3) The outgoing WYUR Station Manager shall appoint the Station Manager for the following year, who shall, in turn, appoint the other officers for the following year, with the approval of the YSU Vice President of Clubs, before the end of the previous academic year.
- (4) The incoming Station Manager shall choose a Governing Board from among the newly appointed officers, and shall submit a list of the Governing Board to the YSU Vice President of Clubs

- (5) The Governing Board of WYUR shall determine the editorial policy of WYUR.
- (6) WYUR shall broadcast publicity announcements for the Student Union, and any other information requested by the Student Government.
- (7) Funds for the operation of WYUR shall be obtained by allocation in the annual budget by the YSU, and by advertisements, as the Governing Board and the YSU feel necessary.

Article VIII Publications

Section 1

- (1) The official undergraduate newspaper of Yeshiva College shall be The Commentator, which shall be published every month, subject to the discretion of the Governing Board.
- (2) The bylaws of the Commentator shall be written by the Board of Directors and must be made physically available in the Office of Student Life, and digitally available on the Commentator Website.
- (3) The Commentator shall have no Faculty Advisor.
- (4) The outgoing Governing Board of The Commentator shall elect the next year's Governing Board at the end of the academic year, subject to approval of the outgoing YSU.
- (5) The Governing Board of The Commentator alone shall determine the editorial policies of the newspaper and shall be responsible for its content.
- (6) The YSU President may sit in on all meetings of the Governing Board of The Commentator.

Section 2

- (1) The official senior yearbook of the undergraduate male students of Yeshiva University shall be Masmid.
- (2) The Editor-in-Chief of Masmid shall be a senior chosen at the end of his junior year by the incoming Senior Class Representative
- (3) The Editor-in-Chief of Masmid shall choose his own staff, the Governing Board to be approved by the Senior Class Representative.
- (4) The Senior Class Representative may attend all meetings of the Governing Board of Masmid.
- (5) Funds for the publication of Masmid shall be obtained by allocation in the annual budget by the YSU, and any moneymaking projects the Governing Board deems necessary, with the approval of the YSU and the Senior Class Representative.

Article IX Committees

Section 1

- (1) All committees that serve the entire Student Body shall be under the auspices of the General Assembly.
- (2) All committee chairmen shall be appointed by the YSU President with the approval of a majority of the General Assembly, with the exception of committees under the auspices of the YCSA, SYMSSC, and SOY.
- (3) The committee chairmen of the YCSA, SYMSSC, and SOY shall be each appointed by the President of the Association or Council under the auspices of which he shall serve.

- (4) All committee members shall be nominated by the committee chairmen and shall be approved by a majority of the General Assembly, with the exception of committees under the auspices of the YCSA, SYMSSC and SOY.
- (5) All YCSA, SYMSSC, and SOY committee members shall be nominated by the committee chairmen and shall be approved by a majority of the Association or Council under the auspices of which they shall serve.
- (6) Special committees may be appointed as the YSU President shall see fit with the approval of the General Assembly.
- (7) Special committees may be appointed as the Presidents of YCSA, SYMSSC, SOY, shall see fit with the approval of the Association or Council under the auspices of which they shall serve.
- (8) YCSA, SYMSSC, and SOY may not appoint a committee with the same name or purpose as a committee under the auspices of the General Assembly, unless approved by a majority of the General Assembly.

Article X

Clubs

Section 1

- (1) Within the first month of each semester, the YSU Vice President of Clubs shall designate and publicize a period of at least one week for the submission of petitions for new clubs.
- (2) Clubs may operate under the auspices of any appropriate Student Government Association or Council.
- (3) Any group of students wishing to form a club affiliated with the Student Government shall submit to the YSU Vice President of Clubs a petition to that effect containing the name of the proposed club, a statement of its purpose and goals, the specific Student Government Association or Council under whose auspices it seeks to operate, not less than twenty signatures of students in good standing, and the signature of a Faculty Advisor. The YSU Vice President of Clubs shall present the petition to the General Assembly at the following meeting. A signatory of the petition shall be present to answer questions regarding the proposed club.
- (4) A majority vote of the General Assembly shall be necessary to establish the club with full rights and privileges.
- (5) At the first meeting of the new club, the members of the club shall nominate and elect officers.

Section 2

- (1) Any student in good standing may join any club affiliated with the Student Government.
- (2) By November 15, and upon subsequent request by the YSU Vice President of Clubs, or the Association or Council under whose auspices it operates, the President of each club shall submit to the Vice President of the appropriate Student Government Association or Council a list of the members of that club.
- (3) Each club shall choose its own method for electing or appointing club officers, and shall inform the Vice President of the Student Government Association or Council under whose auspices it operates in writing of its election procedures and governing guidelines.

Section 3

- (1) In order for a club to be eligible for funding, it must present to the Vice President of the Student Government Association or Council under whose auspices it operates lists of its current board, current members, and proposed events and activities, as well as an itemized budget request.
- (2) YSU, YCSA, SYMSSC, and SOY shall each have full discretion over funding for clubs under their auspices, shall evaluate at the beginning of each semester the amount of funding to be delivered to each club, and may, at any time, add or deduct from the amount of funding to be delivered to each club.

Section 4

- (1) In order that a club need not reapply for affiliation with Student Government at the beginning of each academic year, it shall organize at least two events each year, and shall at all times have at least ten members, have a Faculty Advisor, and follow the regulations set forth by the General Assembly.
- (2) If a club does not meet these requirements, a majority vote of the General Assembly shall be required to dissolve the club.

Section 5

- (1) Any group wishing to sponsor a specific activity not within the program of existing recognized organizations may petition for recognition limited to the duration of the activity, providing that the members follow all established regulations for recognized organizations.

Article XI

Student Court

Section 1

- (1) The judicial powers of the Student Body shall, unless otherwise demarcated in this Constitution, be vested in the Student Court.
- (2) The Student Court shall consist of a Chief Justice, who must be a senior, and who shall preside over all Student Court meetings and cases tried before the bench, and write the Student Court Official Reports; four Justices, two of whom must be seniors, and two of whom must be juniors; and a Justice Pro-Tempore, who must be at least a sophomore, and who shall keep records of all proceedings, including minutes of all trials, but will not sit on the bench of the Student Court, unless required to under Section 3, paragraph 1 of this Article.
- (3) The YSU President shall nominate all Justices and the Justice Pro-Tempore at the first meeting of the new General Assembly, subject to approval by a majority of the General Assembly, to be voted upon at the first meeting of the General Assembly.
- (4) A four-fifths vote of the General Assembly shall be required to remove any justice from the Student Court.

Section 2

- (1) The Student Court shall have jurisdiction over disputes with regard to the interpretation of the Student Government Constitution or its By-Laws; the determination of the legitimate holder of Student Government positions, or other positions subject to Student Government oversight; all student activities sponsored by the Student Government; all Yeshiva University undergraduate male students as spectators at all Yeshiva University athletic events, both home and away; all Yeshiva

University undergraduate male students violating rules and/or regulations established by the Student Government or the administration concerning extracurricular activities; any formal charges of negligence, incompetence, or malfeasance brought against any Student Government official, or holder of another position subject to Student Government oversight; and appeals in any case involving suspension or expulsion.

- (2) The Student Court shall have the power to enforce its subpoenas by means of disciplinary action against those who fail to appear.

Section 3

- (1) A quorum of the Student Court, which is necessary for all case trials and meetings, shall consist of the five Justices of the Student Court, or, in the absence of any one Justice, the other four Justices with the Justice Pro-Tempore.
- (2) Upon reception of a suit filed, the Student Court must, by majority vote of the Justices, within 5 days, beginning with the day filed, decide whether to hear the case. Once the Student Court decides to hear the case, it must do so within 12 days from the day filed. The Justices shall meet privately and release a majority opinion, in writing, within 3 days after the case has been heard.
- (3) The opinion of the court shall be given to the defendant, and a copy shall be retained on record.
- (4) All trials of the Student Court shall be considered open unless a closed trial is requested either by the Chief Justice or the defendant. Public notification of each open trial shall be posted at least 2 days prior to the trial.
- (5) Minutes shall be kept on record, but shall be considered confidential with the exception of their release for counseling purposes, their release to the Student Court upon the request of the Student Court for internal or later trial purposes, their release to the public upon the request of the defendant, or their release to the public by unanimous vote of the Student Court or Executive Council.
- (6) The Student Court shall, in all cases, accept written briefs as it deems appropriate from external parties.
- (7) Either party may appeal if new evidence is found, whereupon the Chief Justice shall decide whether to hear the case, as delineated in paragraph 2 of this Section.

Section 4

- (1) The Student Court shall hold at least one non-trial meeting per semester to review any actions taken by the court since the last meeting and to produce and make public a Student Court Official Report that must contain a summation of any actions taken by the Student Court, and any rulings of the Student Court, including the opinions themselves and commentary on them.

Article XII

Debts and Contracts

Section 1

- (1) The Student Government shall have no right to levy any dues upon any of its members for any reason.
- (2) The Student Government may sponsor a moneymaking project for any charity it sees fit.

Article XIII Amendments

Section 1

- (1) The General Assembly shall establish a standing committee to deal with proposals for constitutional amendments, to be called the Amendments Committee.
- (2) The committee shall convene a Constitutional Amendments Convention each semester with the purpose of raising any potential amendments to the Student Government Constitution. All students shall have the opportunity to state opinions with regard to specifics of the Student Government Constitution, as well as to propose their own amendments.
- (3) The General Assembly shall vote upon final proposals for amendments at least one week prior to the General Student Body Amendment Vote. All amendments approved by a majority vote of the General Assembly shall be presented to the Student Body prior to or at the General Amendment Vote.
- (4) There shall be a General Student Body Amendment Votes held each semester, unless no amendments have been proposed. The fall semester vote must take place within the two weeks prior to Reading Week. The spring semester vote shall be incorporated into the General Election.
- (5) Ratification of amendments shall be by three-fifths of votes cast by the Student Body during the Amendment Vote, excluding blanks.
- (6) Any amendments to this Constitution shall not violate campus or University rules.

Section 2

- (1) The original body of this Constitution shall remain unedited and unchanged in any manner. All changes to the Constitution shall be addenda to the Constitution. As a notice of the amendment, an asterisk may be placed in the point of amendment. On any point of contradiction, the amended text shall supersede the original text.

Article XIV Ratification

Section 1

- (1) At the time of ratification of the amendments proposed above, the elected YSU Vice President, YSU Vice President, YSU Secretary and YSU Treasurer shall become the YSU President, YSU Vice President of Clubs, and YSU Vice President of Class Affairs. The elected Senior, Junior, Sophomore and Freshman Class Presidents shall become the YSU Class Representatives serving under the YSU Vice President of Class. The elected SOY Secretary, and the Presidents of the SBMPSC, IBCSC and JSSSC shall serve as the Representatives of MYP, SBMP, IBC and SBMP. The YCSA and SYMSSC serve as elected.
- (2) This Constitution shall be ratified by a three-fifths vote of the Student Body, and, upon such ratification, shall be binding upon the Student Body.