

BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE OF THE CARIBBEAN

2016 Student Body Constitution

The Baptist Bible College of the Caribbean (BBCC) Student Body Constitution was ratified by the Board on 12 May 2016.

Preamble

We, the students of BBCC, adopt this Constitution in order to establish our government that we might better contribute to the maintenance and growth of the BBCC Community. We commit ourselves to respect, encourage, and support one another in our academic and community lives. Every student body member shall adhere to these provisions and applicable BBCC policies.

Article I. Student Body Membership

Any student currently enrolled at BBCC and paying Student Body Fees shall be considered a member of the BBCC Student Body and, except as explicitly stated within this constitution, shall be entitled to all the rights and privileges and charged with the maintenance of all responsibilities of a member of the BBCC Student Body.

Article II. The Student Body Council

Section 1. Function

A. The Student Body Council shall be the representative body of the BBCC Student Body for all its legislative, executive, and judicial purposes, and shall represent the interests of the Student Body to the Faculty, the Administration, and the Trustees of BBCC.

B. The Student Body Council shall establish policies and adopt bylaws, to which it shall conform in the discharge of all its responsibilities. The Council shall authorize and, when necessary, organize and control student activities; supervise Council boards and committees and recognized student organizations; allocate, distribute, and supervise Student Body funds; appoint student members of committees; and take such other actions as it judges necessary for the welfare of the student body.

Section 2. Composition and Size

A. The number of Senators may vary in number from five to fifteen, as established in the Council Bylaws, depending on the needs of the Council.

B. Quorum shall consist of two thirds of the full voting membership of the Council. For purposes of quorum, the presiding officer shall count as a voting member of the Council.

Section 3. Officers

A. Student body officers are students who have been chosen by the entire student body and recommended by the faculty and staff. Only upper classmen with a good, consistent testimony will be allowed to hold an

office. The offices are president, vice president, chaplain, secretary, and song leader. The Senators, President, and Vice President of the Student Body shall be elected by the Student Body in a valid election as set forth in Article III of this Constitution. The President and Vice President of the Student Body so elected shall serve as Senators.

B. The presiding officer of the Council shall be the Student Body President, who shall vote only to make or break a tie.

C. The Council shall select a Secretary from the Student Body who shall keep minutes at all Council meetings.

D. The Council shall select a Treasurer and an Assistant Treasurer from the Student Body, who shall be ex-officio, non-voting members of the Council, and who shall administer and enforce the Council Financial Policy specified in the Council Bylaws.

E. Each Council office shall be held by only one individual.

Section 4. Other Members

Former Student Body Presidents, except for those who have been recalled by the procedures of Article IV, shall be ex-officio non-voting members of the Council while they remain members of the Student Body.

Section 5. Meetings

The Council shall hold open meetings not less than once every four weeks during the regular academic year.

Section 6. Decisions

Decision by the Council shall be by majority vote of at least a quorum of the Council, unless a supermajority is called for by the Student Body Constitution, or the Student Body Council Bylaws.

Article III. Voting

Section 1.

All BBCC Student Body elections shall be held by secret ballot and shall take place in accordance with the BBCC Student Body Council Bylaws and the BBCC Student Body Elections Code.

Section 2.

A quorum of the Student Body in all regular elections, initiatives, referenda, and balloting on amendments to the BBCC Student Body Constitution shall be defined as twenty-five percent of the Student Body as defined in Article I of this Constitution, except as otherwise specified in the BBCC Constitution, the Student Body Senate Bylaws, or the BBCC Student Body Elections Code.

Section 3.

The elected representatives of the BBCC Student Body are the President, the Vice President, and the Senators. The Presidential, Vice-Presidential, and Senatorial terms shall be one year.

Article IV. Recall

Section 1.

All elected officials of the Student Body may be recalled in the following manner:

A. Twenty percent of the enrolled Student Body may file a petition for the recall of elected officials.

Copies of this petition shall be submitted to the Student Body President, the Student Body Vice President, and the Dean of Student Services.

B. The Student Council shall call a special recall election to take place within one week of the receipt of such a petition according to the procedures provided in the BBCC Student Body Elections Code.

C. Such persons shall be immediately recalled if at least thirty-five percent of the entire Student Body votes to recall in the special election. Replacement procedure shall be provided in the BBCC Student Body Council Bylaws.

D. Any persons recalled may run for re-election to office from which they have been recalled at the next election for that office.

E. Any student body officer who accumulates up to 50 demerits in a semester must step down from the position he or she holds.

Article V. Boards and Committees

Section 1.

The Council shall have the power to create and dissolve such standing and temporary boards or committees as are required to investigate the necessity for legislation, administer new functions of the Council or aid the Council in the discharge of its responsibilities.

Section 2.

The Council shall have the power to join with the Faculty and Administration of BBCC to create and dissolve such standing and temporary joint boards or committees as are considered advantageous for the functioning of the College and the community.

Section 3.

All such committees and boards created as set forth in sections 1 and 2 shall report to the Council at the behest of the Council.

Article VI. Judicial Procedures

Section 1. Student Judicial Board

A. The Student Judicial Board shall be appointed by the Student Council as specified in the Student Council Bylaws. The members of the Judicial Board shall choose a chair of the Judicial Board from among themselves.

B. The Student Judicial Board shall function as set forth in the Student Council Bylaws and the Student Judicial Board Code.

Section 2. The Appeals Board

A. There shall be an Appeals Board which shall review the results of Honor Case proceedings which a party to the case has appealed.

B. Decisions of the Appeals Board shall take the form of recommendations to the Administrator of the College, and shall be reported to the Academic Dean.

C. The Appeals Board shall be constituted as set forth in the Student Judicial Board Code.

Section 3. The Honor Council

The Student Council shall nominate the student members of the Honor Council as specified.

Article VII. Referendum and Initiative

Section 1. Referendum

Subject to the provisions of the BBCC Constitution, legislation may be approved by a majority of the Student Body voting on any legislation, by-law, or amendment to the Student Body Constitution referred to it by the Council at any regular or general election.

Section 2. Initiative

The Student Body has the right to propose any item for referendum by submitting a petition to the Student Body President with the signatures of at least twenty percent of the enrolled Student Body and an explanation of the item to be proposed for referendum.

Article VIII. Amendment

Section 1. The members of the Student Body may amend this constitution in the manner described in Article VII of this document, subject to approval by the Faculty, Administrator, and Board of Trustees, as set forth in the BBCC Constitution.

Section 2. The Council may propose amendments to this constitution which must be approved by a majority of the Student Body voting in a valid election, the Faculty, the Administrator, and the Board of Trustees.

Article IX. Adoption

This constitution shall become the instrument of the BBCC Student Body insofar as it is consistent with the Constitution and Bylaws of BBCC and other operating policies of BBCC. This constitution shall take effect immediately upon its approval by a majority of the Student Body and a majority of the resident Faculty, a quorum existing in each case, approval by the Administrator and the Board of Trustees, and the election of the Council.

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