



Bill B-07-22
The University of Alabama
26th Senate 2021-2022

Authors: Councilor Sneha Subramani and Councilor Gabrielle Kirk

Sponsors: Senator Justin McCleskey, Senator John Richardson, Councilor Megan O'Donovan, Councilor Savannah Ichikawa, Councilor Erin Hidalgo, Councilor Chaney McCorquodale, Councilor Antonio Fox

Endorsements:

A BILL ESTABLISHING A FIRST YEAR COUNCIL OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Be it enacted by the First Year Council of the Student Government Association assembled.

Section 1. Findings:

- A. As per the Capstone Creed, members of First Year Council and First Year Council as a whole must pursue knowledge; act with fairness, integrity, and respect; promote equity and inclusion; foster individual and civic responsibility; and strive for excellence in all that they do.
- B. According to the Mission Statement of the University of Alabama Student Government Association, "The mission of The University of Alabama Student Government Association is to serve the common interests of students..."
- C. In order to serve the common interests of students, it is imperative that the bodies which comprise SGA seek out applications from exceptional students from all walks of life on campus.
- D. Of current First Council Members, 70% are known Greek Life affiliates. However, only 35% of UA are members of Greek-lettered organizations.
- E. Of responses recorded in a survey sent to current First Year Councilors, 80% of current First Year Council members only learned how to apply to First Council through their fraternity or sorority.

- F. Of those students who are not Greek, survey shows they heard about First Year Council through social media
- G. In order to fulfill the duties of FYC as prescribed by the code of laws, First Year Council should strive to reach as many incoming freshmen as possible, including Bama Bound Sessions.

Section 2. Legislation: changes in red

Chapter 902 Powers and Duties of the First Year Council

Chapter 902.1 The First Year Council shall develop and pass legislation on the behalf of students of the University of Alabama, particularly students of the first-year class.

Chapter 902.2 The First Year Council committees shall be the Rules Committee, Student Affairs Committee, External Affairs Committee, Academic Affairs Committee, Financial Affairs Committee, Internal Affairs Committee, Ethics Committee, **Outreach Committee**

Chapter 902.2.1 The Rules Committee's responsibilities shall include, but are not limited

Chapter 902.2.1.1 Enforcing and monitoring the standing rules of the First Year Council.

Chapter 902.2.1.2 Enforcing the attendance policy of the First Year Council.

Chapter 902.2.1.2.1 The Committee shall receive attendance records, upon request, from the Secretary of the First Year Council

Chapter 902.2.1.2.2 The Committee will enforce this policy with recommendations from the First Year Council Director.

Chapter 902.2.1.3 Reviewing and recommending bills to set standards, guidelines, and rules for the First Year Council.

Chapter 902.2.1.3.1 This responsibility includes, but is not limited to, the review of legislation that establishes committees and other deviations from the Code of Laws

Chapter 902.2.2 The Student Affairs Committee's responsibilities shall include, but are not limited to:

Chapter 902.2.2.1 Dealing with issues that encourage student development outside of the classroom, but within the University, and support the Academic mission of The University of Alabama.

Chapter 902.2.2.2 Student Policy, Student Opinion, Student Relations, and concerns dealing with life outside of academics.

Chapter 902.2.3 The External Affairs Committee's responsibilities shall include, but are not limited to:

Chapter 902.2.3.1 Handling issues that pertain to matters outside of The University of Alabama.

Chapter 902.2.3.2 Receive and analyze First Year Council legislation regarding external affairs.

Chapter 902.2.3.3 Represent the University of Alabama first year students in external affairs.

Chapter 902.2.4 The Academic Affairs Committee's responsibilities shall include, but are not limited to:

Chapter 902.2.4.1 Represent The University of Alabama first year students in academic affairs.

Chapter 902.2.4.2 Seek opinions from the student body, faculty, and administration regarding issues of academic policy.

Chapter 902.2.4.3 Receive and analyze First Year Council legislation regarding academic affairs.

Chapter 902.2.4.4 Make recommendations to the First Year Council regarding policy legislation.

Chapter 902.2.5 The Financial Affairs Committee's responsibilities shall include, but are not limited to:

Chapter 902.2.5.1 The review of legislation pertaining to the petition of funding from the Student Government Association or Financial Affairs Committee.

Chapter 902.2.5.2 The review of any legislation brought to the committee by the Speaker of the First Year Council.

Chapter 902.2.5.3 The dealing with any other financial issues so designated by the Student Government Association.

Chapter 902.2.6 The Internal Affairs Committee's responsibilities shall include, but are not limited to:

Chapter 902.2.6.1 Dealing with issues that pertain to matters within the First Year Council.

Chapter 902.2.6.1.1 This responsibility includes, but is not limited to, reviewing legislation that creates initiatives or programs within the First Year Council

Chapter 902.2.6.2 Reviewing legislation that is brought before the committee by the Speaker of the First Year Council.

Chapter 902.2.6.3 Making recommendations to the First Year Council regarding internal issues.

Chapter 902.2.7 The Ethics Committee's responsibilities shall include, but are not limited to:

Chapter 902.2.7.1 Hearing of any ethical issues which may arise due to the actions of First Year Council members.

Chapter 902.2.7.2 Issuing penalties to First Year Council members for ethical infractions, when necessary.

Chapter 902.2.7.2.1 Penalties shall be limited to reasonable increase in office hours per Infraction

Chapter 902.2.8 The Outreach Committee's responsibilities shall include, but are not limited to:

Chapter 902.2.8.1 Tasked with advertising the First Year Council to on campus organizations in order to promote diversity among applicants to the First Year Council.

Chapter 902.2.8.2 Working with other organizations in the University of Alabama in order to create a bridge between First Year Councilors and their constituents. This can include, but is not limited to, hosting informational sessions, public forums, etc.

Chapter 902.2.8.3 The authors of the legislation will ensure that the current First Year Council reaches out to First Year Experiences Organizations on campus to establish a relationship with said organizations.

Chapter 902.2.8.4 The First Year Council Outreach Committee shall reach out to First Year Experience Organizations during the First Year Council 2022-2023 year. In doing so, they must report back to the 2022-2023 First Year Council Director. If this is not fulfilled, the committee will be subject to penalization, which can be but not limited to, deduction of attendance points.

Chapter 902.2.9 Committees shall consist of at least five First Year Councilors.

Chapter 902.2.10 Committees may only conduct business when a quorum of the committee membership is present.

Chapter 902.2.11 The First Year Council shall add or nullify committees as needed.

Chapter 902.3 A First Year Councilor appointed to fill a vacancy shall sit on the committee of the First Year Councilor that he or she is replacing.

Chapter 902.4 Committee Chairs will be selected by a vote within a committee.

Chapter 902.5 The First Year Council shall meet weekly, unless a special session is requested by the SGA President or a majority vote (fifty percent plus one vote) of First Year Councilors.

Section 3. Copies:

Copies of legislation may be sent to Jillian Fields, SGA President; Sam Rickert, Executive Vice President; Will Bradley, FYC Director; Will Stiers, FYC Assistant Director; Angel Narvaez-Lugo, SGA Advisor; Keely Brewer, The Crimson White Editor-in-Chief; and others as deemed necessary.