

1 SSB 2012-19

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3 A Bill for: Committee Reform

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5 Sponsored by: Government and Legislative Affairs

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7 First Reading: October 26, 2011

8

9 Referred to the Governmental and Legislative Affairs Committee

10

11 Second Reading:

12

13 Vote:

14

15 Presidential Action: \_\_\_\_\_

16

Spencer Walrath – President

Date

17

18 **WHEREAS:** The Senate will be much smaller next year; and

19

20 **WHEREAS:** Five committees will stretch senators over too many committees and

21

22 **RECOGNIZING:** That this needs to be rectified before said senate takes office; and

23

24 **BE IT THEREFORE ENACTED:** That the following lines in strikethrough be stricken from  
25 the bylaws, and the portions in italics be added. All items affected by this legislation shall be  
26 relettered and renumbered accordingly. This legislation shall be enacted on April 15, 2012.

27

28 Article 1 Executive Branch

29

30 Section 1. Executive Offices

31

A. President

32

1. Serves as an ex-officio/non-voting member of the ~~Government and  
Legislative Affairs Committee~~ *External Relations.*

33

34 B. Vice President

35

1. Serves as an ex-officio/non-voting member of the ~~Student Affairs Committee~~  
*Governmental and Legislative Affairs.*

36

37 E. Director of Public Relations

38

2. Serves as an ex-officio/non-voting member of the ~~Public Relations and  
Programming Committee~~ *Campus Relations.*

39

40 F. Director of Diversity and Student Life

41

1. Shall serve as an ex-officio/non-voting member of the ~~Student Affairs  
Committee~~ *Campus Relations.*

42

43

44 Article V Legislative Branch

45

46 Section 3. Standing Committees

47

48 The Northern Iowa Student Government shall establish the following legislative branch  
49 committees.

50

51 **A. Organization and Finance**

52 This committee shall be responsible for:

- 53 1. Budgeting Student activity monies.
- 54 2. Accepting applications from new student organizations seeking  
55 recognition.
- 56 3. Revoking recognition from defunct organizations.
- 57 4. Reconciling complaints between student organizations recognized by Northern  
58 Iowa Student Government.
- 59 5. Reviewing requests for the use of the Contingency Fund.
- 60 6. Reviewing student organization constitutions.

61 In addition, the chair of this committee shall serve as: Member of the Student Services  
62 Fee Committee.

63

64 **B. Government and Legislative Affairs**

65 This committee shall be responsible for:

- 66 1. Proposing and reviewing Northern Iowa Student Government Constitution  
67 and By-Law changes.
- 68 2. Reviewing Northern Iowa Student Government policy changes.
- 69 3. Monitoring University policy changes.
- 70 4. Monitoring the activities and policies of student governmental organizations  
71 representing UNI students.
- 72 5. Appointing a member of the committee to update all governing documents of  
73 the Northern Iowa Student Government, with the help of committee, and send an  
74 updated copy to the Speaker of the Senate for review and recordkeeping. The  
75 Director of Public Relations and/or Webmaster shall post the document on the  
76 website.
- 77 6. *The membership of this committee shall consist of the Committee Chairs of the*  
78 *Senate, the Speaker of the Senate, and a Senator elected to be the Chairperson of*  
79 *the Committee.*
- 80 7. *The Chairperson of Government and Legislative Affairs shall be elected by the*  
81 *Senate*
- 82 8. *The committee is required to meet a minimum of twice a month during the*  
83 *Senate Session.*

84

85 **C. Public Relations and Programming**

86 This committee shall be responsible for:

- 87 1. ~~Devising and coordinating a variety of events to be sponsored by Northern~~  
88 ~~Iowa Student Government in conjunction with the Director of Public~~  
89 ~~Relations including philanthropy, socials, etc.~~
- 90 2. ~~Assist the Director of Public Relations in promotion of all Northern Iowa~~  
91 ~~Student Government activities.~~
- 92 3. ~~Composition and distribution of a newsletter concerning current NISG~~  
93 ~~activities, if not the committee shall send a report to the NISG President on~~

94 ~~pertinent matters to the Senate, and Public Relations and Programming~~  
95 ~~Committee.~~

96 ~~4. Collecting feedback from students on current issues of importance when~~  
97 ~~deemed necessary.~~

98 ~~5. Acting as a liaison with other student groups to encourage self promotion.~~

#### 99 **D. Student Affairs**

100 This committee shall be responsible for:

101 ~~1. Investigating various general education proposals.~~

102 ~~2. Recommending appointments to University committees.~~

103 ~~3. Serving as a forum for student concerns.~~

104 ~~4. Monitoring issues pertaining to all aspects of student life and academic affairs.~~

#### 106 **C. Campus Relations**

107 This committee shall be responsible for:

108 *1. Devising and coordinating a variety of events to be sponsored by Northern*  
109 *Iowa Student Government in conjunction with the Director of Public Relations*  
110 *including philanthropy, socials, etc.*

111 *2. Assist the Director of Public Relations in promotion of all Northern Iowa*  
112 *Student Government activities.*

113 *3. Shall compose a Senate newsletter that shall be distributed by the Director of*  
114 *Public Relations on behalf of the Senate.*

115 *4. Collecting feedback from students on current issues of importance when*  
116 *deemed necessary.*

117 *5. Acting as a liaison with other student groups to encourage self-promotion.*

118 *6. Investigating various general education proposals.*

119 *7. Recommending appointments to University committees.*

120 *8. Serving as a forum for student concerns.*

121 *9. Monitoring issues pertaining to all aspects of student life and academic affairs.*

#### 123 **DE. External Relations Committee**

124 This committee shall be responsible for:

125 1. Educating the student body and the Northern Iowa Student Government about  
126 pertinent student issues and lobbying techniques.

127 2. Reviewing state and local legislative meetings and proposed bills.

128 3. Running a letter-writing campaign to the state legislators.

129 4. Meeting with state legislators to lobby on behalf of students.

130 5. *Membership shall not be restricted by the number of senators.*

#### 132 **E. F. Membership**

133 Membership of non-senators on standing committees, with the exception of the External  
134 Relations Committee and *Government and Legislative Affairs* shall not exceed one (1)  
135 non-senator for every two (2) senators.

136  
137 Non-senators serving on standing committees shall have full voting privileges with  
138 regards to those committees.

139

140 **F.-G. Committee Chairs**

141 Shall be elected by a majority vote of the committee members at the first committee  
142 meeting of the new Senate following the general spring election, subject to confirmation  
143 by the full Senate. Vacancies shall be treated in a like manner. Committee Chairs may  
144 be dismissed by a two-thirds vote of their respective committees.