# **McNeese State University Student Government Association**

**Senator Expectations Program and SGA Senate Project**

 **WHEREAS,** The McNeese State Student Government strives to promote Senator engagement on campus. The Student Government Association is tasked with ensuring an efficient allocation of student resources, for the purpose of better serving the student body and the McNeese family.

**WHEREAS,** this proposal has three functions. First, to establish the creation of the Senator Expectations Program to codify a structured system for establishing senator involvement. Second, is a change in how student resources are allocated to fund this program. Thirdly, will be the creation of the SGA Senate Project fund. Whose purpose is to allow senators to establish a substantial student lead campus project.

**WHEREAS,** this SGA Senate fund is to be administrated by the Campus Development Committee in consultation with the SGA advisor and the Director of Facilities. To ensure proper and ethical use of the monies.

**WHEREAS,** The SGA Senate project fund if enacted will not be allocated, until a proper fund structure and constitution has been approved by both the SGA senate and proper university authorities.

**WHEREAS,** the shifting of these fees ensures that student resources will better be utilized and improve the services provided for the students’ education.

**WHEREAS,** an active and involved legislature leads to more student involvement**.** This will improve the entire student experience. Student organizations and educational departments will be able to utilize senators that have more experience and expertise, due to a renewed vested interest in the institution.

**WHEREAS,** Senators will be compensated with a stipend to reward their hard work. The guidelines for fulfilling the obligations and receiving the stipend will be spelled out in a separate document. To be voted on separately by the legislature. The reason for separating these documents is to preserve flexibility of these obligations and stipend amounts for future administrations.

**WHEREAS,** the fee shifts will be laid out in the tables below.

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| --- | --- |
|  | **Current** Student Assessed Fees |
| 1 | Student Assed Fee | Fall | Spring | Summer  |
| 2 | SGA  | $5.00 | $5.00 | $3.00 |
| 3 | Organization Fund | $3.00 | $3.00 | $1.00 |
| 4 | Log  | $15.00 | - | - |
| 5 | Contraband | $3.00 | $3.00 | - |
| 6 | Debate | $4.00 | $4.00 | $4.00 |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | **Proposed** Student Assed Fees  |
| 1 | Student Assed Fee | Fall | Spring | Summer  |
| 2 | SGA  | $6.25 | $6.25 | $1.00 |
| 3 | Organization Fund | $4.00 | $4.00 | $0.75 |
| 4 | Log  | $10.00 | - | - |
| 5 | Contraband | $1.75 | $1.75 | - |
| 6 | Debate | $3.00 | $3.00 | $3.25 |
| 7 | SGA Senate Project Fund | $1.50 | $1.50 | - |

**WHEREAS,** the net effect on student costs who are attending the university will be as follows:

* Full time students attending Fall, Spring, and Summer semesters will save $5.
* Full time students attending Fall and Spring semesters will save $2.
* Part time students attending Fall, Spring, and Summer semester costs will not change.
* Part time students attending Fall and Spring semesters costs will increase by $3.

**WHEREAS,** based on current enrollment projections the net savings on the entire student body will be to the sum of $13,000.

**WHEREAS,** the accompanying document, **Attachment 1**, is to serve as the Senator Expectation Program and Guide. Such is to lay out clearly the procedures that are to be followed for proper involvement in the program and how the program is to be managed.

**WHEREAS** the student government senate shall be vested with the authority to amend the Senator Expectation Program and Guide granted a simple majority in the upper house of the legislature followed by the approval of the SGA President. If vetoed by the SGA President, a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the senate may ratify the proposed amendment.

**WHEREAS** **Attachment 1** reads as follows:

Student Government Association
McNeese State University

Senator Expectation Program and Guide

# Purpose:

This program is designed to reward senators for active participation in the Student Government and the campus as a whole. If this agreement is opted into there will be a monetary stipend provided to each senator who fulfills the expectations to be discussed. This document is intended to provide a statement of voluntary consent for each senator and to clarify the expectations of this program. It will also provide information pertinent to help senators reach their goal and give a tentative schedule of events held by SGA that senators will have a chance to participate. There will be a notes and comments portion at the end of the document where prospective senators have a chance to voice concerns or share information with SGA officers for the betterment of the program and Student Government in general. This commitment will match the standard senator term. To be immediately terminated upon the vacating of the senate seat.

# Senator Participation Packages:

 **Level One Civil Service Package**: $150 Stipend rewarded upon completion of the requirements at the end of the semester. The requirements for this package are to obtain ***35 points*** total after point reductions are accounted for and attend the Senator orientation meeting in August (point system will be explained in the next section of this paper).

**Level Two Distinguished Civil Service Package**: $250 Stipend rewarded upon completion of the requirements at the end of the semester. The requirements for this package are to obtain ***65 points*** after point reductions are accounted for and attend the Senator orientation meeting in August (point system will be explained in the next section of this paper).

# Point System Explanation:

The points necessary to compete the expectations of this program are acquired by attending events, dutifully serving on committees, and scheduling meetings with organizations unaffiliated with the senator making the meeting.

**SGA Senate Project Fund:** Direct involvement in the yearly senate campus project will provide ***10 points*** towards reaching requirements for the service packages. The senate project lead in cooperation with the Speaker of the House shall be the arbiters of what is to constitute involvement. The Speak of the House is to either take lead or assign lead of the project to another member of the upper house of the SGA legislature.

**Committee Service:** Committee service will provide ***10 points*** towards reaching requirements for the service packages. Points will not be rewarded if SGA executive officers deem that the senator did not sufficiently fulfill the obligation toward the committee to which they have assigned themselves to. Senators can serve on three committees for a total of ***30 points***. Potential Committees to serve on include both University and SGA Committees. At the beginning of the Fall Semester, Senators will be given a chance to choose the committee/committees they wish to serve on. If committee positions are still open after senators are given the chance to choose, they will be assigned by the President and Speaker of the House to fill vacant positions.

**Major SGA Events:** Major SGA events will be held approximately every month. They will be events that require moderate to extensive amounts of preparation. Senators will be given a chance to work the set up for the event or at the event by gathering information and facilitating the success of the event at the discretion of the SGA officer who presides over the event. This will usually be the Vice President, but other officers can assume that role if there are scheduling conflicts or if an event is geared towards the particular interest of a specific officer. Ultimate authority on who is the presiding officer over the event rests with the president and will be communicated ahead of time. In the Scheduling portion of this document planned major events will be designated as such by an asterisk. Every senator must help or attend at least ***One event*** per semester and will be rewarded ***10 points*** for participation if deemed a sufficient effort by the presiding officer. Any number of events can be attended/worked by a senator, but a maximum of ***30 points*** can be rewarded for any individual senator.

**Minor SGA Events:** Minor SGA events will be held more frequently with one happening approximately every two weeks, at the discretion of the president. These events should only require a small amount of preparation and planning. This will include tabling events and events such as, SGA Knows the Way. The Speaker of the House will usually be the officer who handles attendance for these events, however, such as is the case with big events this can be transferred to another officer as need or particular interest arises. Ultimate authority on who is the presiding officer over the event rests with the president and will be communicated ahead of time. Ultimate authority on who is the presiding officer over the event rests with the president and will be communicated ahead of time. In the Scheduling portion of this document planned minor events will be designated as such by a text in italics. Every senator must help or attend at least ***One event*** per semester and will be rewarded 5 points for participation if deemed a sufficient effort by the presiding officer. Any number of events can be attended/worked by a senator, but a maximum of ***15 points*** can be rewarded for any individual senator.

**McNeese Community Events:** SGA senators will be required to attend at least ***one*** McNeese cultural event. This includes sporting events, plays, band or choir performances, specific cultural events, such as Nepali Night, or organizational function. It must be an event the senator is otherwise unaffiliated. **Student Tailgates Do Not Count for This Requirement, although you are encouraged to go.** To receive credit for fulfilling this requirement the senator must provide some sort of proof of attendance to the Speaker of the House preferably, or another executive officer if the Speaker is unavailable. These events will be worth ***5 points each,*** with a maximum of ***10 points*** counting towards fulfilling the program requirements.

***Causes for Senator Point Deductions:***

* More than One unexcused absence at weekly SGA Meetings -5 points. After first deduction each additional unexcused absence will incur an additional -5-point penalty. Contact SGA Secretary for excused absence guidelines, if unable to contact them, then contact SGA President.
* Not showing up to minor event previously committed to, unless given a satisfactory excuse to presiding officer of that event -5 points.
* Not showing up to major event previously committed to, unless given a satisfactory excuse to presiding officer of that event -10 points.
* Unexcused absence for committee meetings. Contact the individual committee chairmen for excused absence guidelines. If unable to contact them, then contact SGA President.
* As a general rule, prompt and proper communication with the correct SGA official is necessary to receive an excuse from a prior commitment from an individual senator. Emergencies will be treated differently, at the discretion of the SGA President.
* As a general protection for senators, no senator can have less than ***Negative 10 points*** for a given semester

# Tenative SGA (Current Semester) Schedule:

\*to be created each semester\*

In order to receive credit for the visit this form must be turned in to either the SGA President or the SGA office signed by both yourself and an officer of the organization present at the meeting.

If any senator has any direct questions or comments, contact the SGA President at: MSU-glabiche@mcneese.edu.

**Action Taken: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

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**Gavin Labiche NaThya White**

**Student Government President Student Government Speaker of the House**

Notes and Comments

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