

Bowdoin Student Government

Proposed Constitutional Amendments

Spring 2008

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Forward by BSG President Dustin Brooks '08

As the semester slowly comes to a close, the BSG probably isn't the first thing on your mind right now. In spite of that, I hope you'll take a moment to read through this document and to vote in the upcoming referendum and the elections that will follow. Many of these amendments are decidedly uninteresting things, and we've avoided spending too much time on them this year. Nevertheless, the process of student body approval for our reforms is an important part of student government at Bowdoin. The first amendment proposed is by far the most controversial. The issue of presidential eligibility is a contentious one with good arguments on both sides of the question. This vote is unique in that the BSG Assembly put it forward for referendum explicitly for the purpose of letting the student body make the decision. All of the other amendments presented are proposals that we broadly support. In sending this along for a vote, we didn't discuss the first amendment on its merits, so its presence on this list is not necessarily a reflection of BSG members' support for it. The remainder are all changes to the way that the BSG functions and organizes itself. None of these changes in amendments two through sixteen are earth shattering, but we feel that all of them are important improvements on our current system. These should finish up the three year process of reform we've undergone. Previous reforms allowed us to do more substantive things to improve student life this year, these will help us do even better work in the future. Please take the time to review these proposals and feel free to contact us with any questions.

Enjoy these last few weeks,
Dustin

Crucial Dates and Contact Information

Referendum Begins

Tuesday April 8th, 8:00am

Referendum Ends

Friday April 11th, 8:00pm

Where to Vote

bowdoin.edu/vote (all lowercase)

Questions, Comments, Concerns

e-mail bsg@bowdoin.edu

Section 1: Proposed Constitutional Amendments (plaintext)

1. An Amendment to Remove the Presidential Eligibility Requirement

Currently, the President of the BSG must have served on BSG at some point during her/his Bowdoin career. This Amendment would remove that requirement.ⁱ

2. An Amendment to Change the Date of First-Year Elections

Currently, elections for first-year Class Officers take place during September. This would move those elections back to mid-October.ⁱⁱ

3. An Amendment to Change the Representation of the IHC on the BSG

Currently, the IHC President and three additional members of the IHC serve on the BSG to represent the College Houses. This amendment will switch the three other members with the IHC Vice President. The IHC has to approve this for it to take effect.ⁱⁱⁱ

4. An Amendment to Increase the Number of At-Large Representatives and Decrease the Number of Special Representatives and Create the Position of Athletics Representative

This amendment will remove the representatives from the Community Service Council and Residential Life. They will be replaced with two more At-Large Representatives, elected by the Student Body as a whole and two additional appointed At-Large representatives. An Athletics Representative will also be added to the BSG to represent the concerns and interests of athletes on campus. It will be appointed by the Captain's Council pending their approval.^{iv}

5. An Amendment to Alter Recalls and Referenda

Currently, the only way for the Student Body to recall the President, Vice Presidents, or Treasurer is to recall them all at once. This amendment will allow for the individual recall of each of those positions by the student body. Also, the BSG must now be informed of upcoming referenda, though they have no ability to stop them. Finally, all actions currently requiring a quorum of student votes will require 1/3 of the student body to vote and a 2/3 majority of those voting to pass.^v

6. An Amendment to Promote the Transparency of the Bowdoin Student Government

This amendment will explicitly say that if students bring a concern to the BSG it will be considered.^{vi}

7. An Amendment to create a quorum and bylaws

Currently, there is no minimum number of members that must attend a BSG meeting for votes to be considered valid. This amendment will require that 2/3 of the BSG's membership be at a meeting for votes to take place. This amendment will also allow the BSG to create Bylaws to govern itself.^{vi}

8. An Amendment to create a separate section for Committees and Create New Job Descriptions for Officers

This amendment will create a new section of the Constitution to contain information regarding BSG committees, which is currently absent. A Special Committee on Programming, an Appeals Committee, and an Executive Committee (another name for the President, Vice Presidents, and Treasurer) will also be added. This amendment will also update the descriptions of the BSG officers to accurately describe what they do.^{viii}

9. An Amendment to revise the Staff section of Section II

This amendment will allow the President, Vice Presidents, and Treasurer to hire a Webmaster and appoint additional unpaid staff members to assist the BSG.^{ix}

10. An Amendment to add the Student Activities Fee and Chartering Authority

This amendment will add information about both the Student Activities Fee and the BSG's Chartering Authority to the Constitution and consolidate them with their respective committees: the Student Activities Funding Committee and the Student Organizations Oversight Committee.^x

11. An Amendment to add a Preamble, Revise the Purpose Section and Clarify the BSG Assembly

This amendment will add a preamble to the Constitution and revise the purpose section to reflect BSG's role on campus. This Amendment will also change all references to Student Government into BSG Assembly.^{xi}

12. An Amendment to Change the Composition of the Leadership Council

This Amendment will restructure the Leadership Council to include only the BSG President and the four class presidents. Meetings will be held monthly and will be organized by the Chair of the Programming Committee. Any of the five presidents may call this council to order.^{xii}

13. An Amendment to Create Class Councils

This Amendment will change the name Class Officers to Class Councils. Members of the class may approach these Class Councils to suggest ideas and assist in the planning of activities.^{xiii}

14. An Amendment to Create the Community Outreach Officer

This Amendment will change the title of the Community Service Officer to the Community Outreach Officer. S/he will be appointed by the five other members of the Class Council and will be responsible for informing the class of all events, activities, and programming planned by the Class Council as well as the time and location of all Class Council meetings. The COO will also be responsible for paying special attention to community service opportunities and will assist the other members of the Class Council in planning them as well as all other activities.^{xiv}

15. An Amendment to Clarify the Positions of Members of the Class Officer Team

This Amendment will change the descriptions of the members of the Class Officer Teams to reflect the way duties are currently performed.^{xv}

16. An Amendment to Allow Half-Year Terms for Some Members of the Junior Officer Team

This Amendment will allow the Vice President of the Junior Class Officer Team to be elected/appointed to half-year. BSG Representatives will still be elected to half-year terms as per section 2ai2a of the constitution.^{xvi}

Section 2: Current Constitution

1) Purpose

- a) The Constitution of the Student Body: The Constitution of the Student Body shall be the basis for student government and representation.
- b) Student Body: The Student Body shall be composed of all students currently enrolled at Bowdoin College.
- c) Student Government: The Student Government shall be empowered by the Student Body to be responsible for presenting student opinion to the administration, chartering organizations, the Judicial Board, filling Trustee, Faculty and General College committee student positions, and supervising class officer elections.
 - i) Student Government will act as a forum for ideas and represent their constituencies in legislative issues facing Bowdoin College.
 - ii) Student Government is also charged with ensuring that all of student government functions effectively through the management of elections, chartering and reviewing student organizations, overseeing the SAFC, and appointing and communicating with student representatives to trustee, faculty, and college committees.

2) The Student Government

- a) Composition
 - i) Student Government Composition
 - (1) The Student Government shall be composed of eight class representatives to be elected during class elections, the President of IHC, representatives from the College House System, a representative of the Community Service Council, a representative from Residential Life and the President, the Vice Presidents and the Treasurer, who shall concurrently be the Chair of SAFC.
 - (2) Each class will have two class representatives who must be elected by their class.
 - (a) The Election for Junior Class Representative positions will be divided into two separate elections: one for the fall semester and one for the spring semester. There will still be two class representatives for each semester. Both elections (for fall and spring positions) will take place in the spring of the previous academic year along with the other class officer elections. Any candidate who will be enrolled at the college for the fall semester will be able to run for a fall position. Likewise any candidate enrolled at the college for the spring semester will be able to run for a spring position. Candidates who intend to be enrolled at the college for the full academic year may run in both the fall and spring elections. The two candidates with the highest vote tallies in the fall election will be the class representatives for the fall semester. The two candidates with the highest vote tallies in the spring election will be the class representatives for the spring semester.
 - (3) There shall be four representatives on the Student Government who will be interviewed by the President and Vice Presidents for positions.
 - (4) The Inter-House Council will select two representatives to represent the overall house system and will also select one representative to represent chemical-free interests specifically.
 - (5) In the event that only one candidate runs for two open full-year class representative seats, that candidate will be guaranteed the seat and the election will be reopened for only one seat.
 - (6) If a suitable class representative cannot be found, the President, Vice Presidents and Treasurer will work with two delegates from the incoming class officer team to interview and appoint an eligible member. In the event of resignation or removal, the sitting class officer team would fulfill the role of the "incoming" class officer team.

- (7) Appointment/Election of members shall take place in the spring, excluding the incoming first-year class, the rising senior class and the four appointed representatives.
- (8) Spring elections for class officers will take place at a later date than elections for Student Government officers allowing defeated candidates to run in the later election.
- ii) President, Vice Presidents and Treasurer
 - (1) The President, five Vice Presidents and Treasurer shall be elected at-large by the Student Body.
- iii) Leadership Council
 - (1) The President will chair a Leadership Council made up of the President, all house presidents, all class presidents and the chair of the Inter House Council.
 - (2) This council will serve as a coordinating and consulting body and must meet monthly.
 - (3) Leadership Council reports will be delivered to the Student Government by the president.
- b) Election of the President, Vice Presidents and Treasurer
 - i) Elections for President, the five Vice Presidents and the Treasurer are to be held in the spring.
 - ii) Elections shall be conducted as outlined by the Election Rules and Regulations.
 - (1) No person who is a candidate shall be eligible to conduct elections.
 - (2) All candidates must submit a statement of candidacy that shall be made available to the student body before elections.
 - (3) Elections and the counting of votes will be done on-line with the assistance of Information Technology. In the event of technical failure elections may be rescheduled or held by paper ballot.
 - (4) Candidates shall be notified of results within 24 hours of closing the election.
 - iii) When there is a vacancy in the Presidency or Vice Presidencies, the Student Government shall elect one of its members to fill the vacancy.
 - iv) No person may fill more than one seat on the Student Government simultaneously.
- c) Officers of the Student Government
 - i) Student Government Committee Responsibilities
 - (1) The Student Government members shall fill vacancies as needed on each committee of the College where student representatives are required. Additional vacancies will be filled through interviewed appointments by the Vice President for Student Government Affairs and such other person or persons as the Student Government may direct.
 - (2) The President will appoint members of the Student Government to fill remaining vacancies on college committees.
 - ii) Officers and Responsibilities
 - (1) President – The President will serve as the primary Student Government liaison to the administration and spokesperson to the student body. He will be a non-voting member of all Student Government committees, will serve on the Board of Trustees and Executive Committee of the Trustees and will be involved in the Judicial Board selection process. The President will direct and coordinate the activities of the Vice Presidents and Treasurer and will set the weekly agenda of the Student Government. The President must have served previously as a member of the Student Government to be elected.
 - (2) Vice President for Student Government Affairs – The Vice President for Student Government Affairs will be responsible for maintaining elections, overseeing public relations, managing the website, preparing materials for Student Government meetings and other activities related to the general operation of the Student Government. He/she will chair the BSG Affairs Committee which will propose constitutional amendments, constitutional interpretation and bylaws to the Student Government body.

- (3) Vice President for Student Affairs – The Vice President for Student Affairs will create programming related to the enrichment of student social life on campus and will be responsible for student issues pertaining to campus life. He/she will serve as chair of the Student Affairs Committee, which will provide support for all of the Vice President's duties.
- (4) Vice President for Academic Affairs – The Vice President for Academic Affairs will manage the academic policies, activities and proposals of the Student Government. He/she will chair the Academic Affairs Committee, which will assist in his or her duties.
- (5) Vice President for Student Organizations – The Vice President for Student Organizations will chair the Student Organizations Oversight Committee.
- (6) Vice President for Facilities – The Vice President for Facilities will create programming related to the physical plant and facilities of the College, direct all off-campus programming and advocate for the Student Government in the campus departments of Dining, Facilities Management and Security. He/she will chair the Facilities Committee which will provide support for all of his or her activities.
- iii) Staff
 - (1) The Student Government shall hire an independent secretary who shall keep the minutes for all Student Government meetings throughout the academic year.
- d) Procedure
 - i) The Student Government shall run meetings in a respectful and welcoming environment. At the first meeting of the year the President shall explain how s/he will run the meetings. This explanation shall include: discussion procedure, voting procedure, the process for establishing items for the agenda, and other discretionary items.
 - ii) Student Government Committees
 - (1) There shall be five standing committees of the Student Government which shall be chaired by the respective Vice Presidents.
 - (2) Members shall be appointed to Student Government Committees in such manner as the Student Government shall direct.
 - (3) The President shall be an ex officio member of all committees.
 - (4) The reports of the various committees shall be submitted to the Student Government for review and whatever action may be deemed necessary and proper.
 - iii) Meetings
 - (1) The Student Government shall hold a meeting at least every other week, with the ability to require meeting every week if found necessary by the President and Vice Presidents.
 - (2) Students who wish to express an opinion before the Student Government may do so during a designated Public Comment Time at the beginning of each meeting.
 - (3) Any non-member student that would like to propose a bill before the Student Government should do so by submitting it to the appropriate committee of the Student Government or by having it endorsed by one of his/her class representatives.
 - iv) Executive Session
 - (1) A two-thirds vote of the Student Government present may move the Student Government into Executive Session. All persons not on the Student Government must leave the room. The recording secretary shall not keep minutes during the meeting unless directed by the President and approved by a majority vote. Any minutes taken shall be private to the Student Government members.
 - (2) A two-thirds vote of the Student Government is required to move out of Executive Session.
 - (3) All discussion in Executive Session is confidential and should not be discussed outside the executive session.
 - v) Attendance

- (1) All Student Government members are expected to attend all Student Government meetings unless excused by the President.
- vi) Upkeep of the Constitution of the Student Body
 - (1) A revised edition or updated edition drafted by the Student Government should be kept in the Student Handbook.
- e) Removal Clause:
 - i) A member may be removed from the Student Government by a 2/3 vote of the student government.
 - ii) The Student Government will immediately begin the process by which the member was originally chosen to fill the empty seat. This clause will not apply to the President, Vice Presidents or Treasurer.
 - iii) The President, Vice President or Treasurer will be replaced by Section 2biii.
 - iv) If the removal takes place within three weeks before a regularly scheduled membership process, the seat will remain unfilled.
 - v) Any person able to serve until the next regularly scheduled membership process will be eligible. Class representatives must come from the class they are representing.
- f) Resignation Clause:
 - i) A member may resign by notifying the President or the Vice President for Student Government Affairs. Upon receipt of a resignation, the Student Government will be informed at its next regular meeting.
 - ii) The Student Government will immediately begin the process by which the member was originally chosen to fill the empty seat. This clause will not apply to the President, Vice Presidents or Treasurer.
 - iii) The President, Vice President or Treasurer will be replaced by Section 2biii.
 - iv) If the resignation takes place within three weeks before a regularly scheduled membership process, the seat will remain unfilled.
 - v) Any person able to serve until the next regularly scheduled membership process will be eligible. Class representatives must come from the class they are representing.

3) Student Organizations and Clubs

- a) The Student Organizations Oversight Committee
 - i) Responsibilities
 - (1) The SOOC will charter and oversee all clubs on campus.
 - (2) The SOOC will construct such rules and procedures as may be necessary and present them to the Student Government for approval at the beginning of each academic year.
 - ii) Membership
 - (1) The SOOC shall be composed of several Student Government members that the Student Government will designate.
- b) The Student Activities Funding Committee
 - i) Responsibilities
 - (1) The SAFC will provide funding from the Student Activities Fee for club-sponsored events and activities.
 - (2) The SAFC will construct such rules and procedures as may be necessary and present them to the Student Government for approval at the beginning of each academic year.
 - ii) Membership
 - (1) The Treasurer of the BSG, two appointed members, and the four class treasurers will be the membership of the SAFC. The Director of Student Activities and the Vice President of Student Organizations will sit as non-voting members.
 - (2) The Treasurer will chair the SAFC.
 - iii) Rules
 - (1) The Treasurer is ineligible to hold the Presidency or a Vice Presidency of the Student Government.

- (2) The funding allocated to an organization by the SAFC may not be used as a donation to any other off-campus organization or charity and must be for the benefit of the College community.

4) Student Representatives to Committees of the Faculty and Trustees

- a) Committees
 - i) A complete list and description of all committees shall be updated as necessary by the Vice President for Student Organizations, and shall be available on the web.
- b) Appointments
 - i) The President and the Vice President for Student Government Affairs shall sit with the Trustees and the Executive Committee of the Trustees.
- c) Selection Criteria
 - i) Any student who is currently enrolled at Bowdoin and who, to the best of his or her knowledge, will be enrolled for the entire term of his or her service is eligible for committee positions.
 - (1) Students who plan to study away for all or part of the term of the position that they are seeking should withdraw from the interviews.
 - (2) It is the candidate's responsibility to truthfully inform the interviewing committee of any intention of studying away that may conflict with the term.
 - (3) In the event an appointed student will be absent for part of the term of office on the committee, it will be the student's responsibility to inform the Student Government immediately and assist in the selection of a replacement.
 - ii) In selecting the candidates, the committee should consider previous commitments of the candidates, such as extracurricular activities, sports, and previous committee positions.
- d) Responsibilities of the Representatives
 - i) Students of the committees of the faculty and trustees shall serve one-year terms from May to May, with the following exceptions.
 - (1) The student representatives to the Budgetary Priorities and the Financial Planning Committee shall be appointed to two-year terms.
 - ii) Student representatives shall be required to submit individual reports for each committee on which they serve, covering the committee's activities and their attendance.
 - (1) Reports must be received at the discretion of the Vice President for Student Organizations.
 - (2) The Vice President for Student Government Affairs shall assemble the reports and one copy shall be sent to the office of the President of the College, and another shall be put on the web.
 - (3) The Vice President for Student Government Affairs shall be responsible for informing representatives of their obligation to file the reports and the deadlines for them.
 - (4) Committee members who fail to submit a written report shall be called before the Student Government for an explanation, and shall be subject to dismissal from all committees on which they are presently serving. Those failing to submit a written report will be ineligible to be nominated for any committee for the following two semesters.
 - (5) The Student Government may require any student representative to appear before the Student Government to give an oral report.

5) Class Officers

- a) Responsibilities of Class Offices
 - i) The class offices have been established to help promote the social and structural unity of the classes. The officers are empowered by the Student

- Government.
- ii) The approved minutes of the Student Government shall be sent to each of the officers.
- iii) The class officers for each respective class will meet on at least a bi-monthly basis.
- iv) The class and assistant deans will serve as the advisor for the class officers.
- v) The Student Government may dismiss any class officer from office for neglect of duties by a 4/5 majority of the entire Student Government membership, after holding a hearing at which the officer in question has a right to be present.
- vi) Any member of the Student Government is eligible to also serve as a class officer.
- b) Class Officers
 - i) The class officers shall be made up of the following offices:
 - (1) President
 - (2) Vice President
 - (3) Treasurer
 - (4) Community Service Officer (CSO)
 - ii) The Senior Class President will serve as a member of the Young Alumni Leadership Program (YALP).
 - iii) The Vice-president of each class will serve as a class liaison to the Student Activities Board in order to promote the social aspects of the class officers.
 - iv) The Treasurer of each class as stated in 3bii1 will serve as a member of the Student Activities Fee Committee (SAFC). In this capacity the treasurer is responsible for coordinating the financial efforts of the SAFC and the social aspects of their respective class.
 - v) The CSO of each class will serve as a class liaison to the Bowdoin student organization which coordinates volunteer efforts (i.e. The Bowdoin Volunteer Program). In this capacity, the CSO will promote interaction between the class and the community. They will also be the connection between the classes and Environmental organizations on campus.
 - vi) Election of Officers
 - (1) Elections shall be held in the spring, except for the first-years whose election will be in the fall.
 - (2) The terms of the class officers shall run from the time the elections results are announced until the results of the next election are announced.
 - (3) All elections shall take place in accordance with normal election procedure as outlined in 2bii.
 - (a) The candidate with the most votes shall be designated the winner of the election.
 - vii) Resignation Clause:
 - (1) A class officer may resign by notifying the President or the Vice President for Student Government Affairs or the Class President. Upon receipt of a resignation, the Student Government should be informed at its next regular meeting.
 - (2) The Student Government will immediately begin the process by which the member was originally chosen to fill the empty seat.
 - (3) If the resignation takes place within three weeks before a regularly scheduled membership process, the seat will remain unfilled.
 - (4) Any person able to serve until the next regularly scheduled membership process will be eligible.

6) Referenda

- a) Student Government Referenda
 - i) A two-thirds vote of the Student Government or submission of signatures equal to fifteen percent of the student body on a student-initiated petition shall bring any issue to a student referendum, except the recall of the President and Vice Presidents, which is outlined in Article VII.

- ii) The entire Student Body shall be entitled to vote.
- iii) Twenty-five percent of the Student Body shall constitute a quorum.
- iv) A majority vote constitutes passage of a referendum.
- v) The referendum shall be run by the Student Affairs Committee.
- vi) Petitions shall be presented to the President and acted upon within seven days.
- vii) Referenda shall have the power of Student Government decisions.

7) Recall Elections

- a) Recall of the President and Vice Presidents by the Student Body
 - i) A petition calling for a recall of the President and Vice Presidents, bearing the names of at least fifty percent of the students enrolled at the Brunswick campus for that semester must be presented at a regular meeting of the Student Government.
 - ii) A campus-wide vote on the issue must be held within seven days of the meeting at which the petition is presented.
 - iii) At the meeting when the petition is submitted, Student Government shall appoint an Elections Committee to conduct the recall election and, if necessary, supervise the election of a new President and Vice Presidents by the Student Body
 - iv) Following the meeting when the petition is submitted, no new business may be acted upon by the President and Vice Presidents until the vote has taken place and the President and Vice Presidents receive a vote of confidence.
 - v) A majority of a twenty-five percent quorum is required to recall the President and Vice Presidents. In which case, they will be deemed to have resigned.

8) Constitutional Amendments

- a) Methods of Amending the Constitution
 - i) Student Government Action
 - (1) Constitutional amendments may be proposed by a four-fifths majority of the Student Government and ratified by a two-thirds majority of the Student Body voting in a referendum.
 - (2) The Student Government must take appropriate measures to inform and educate the Student Body about the changes proposed.
 - (3) Constitutional amendments may be proposed by a petition containing signatures representing twenty percent of the Student Body and ratified by a two-thirds majority of the Student Body voting in a referendum. The results of such a referendum, however, shall be invalid unless at least thirty percent of the Student Body shall have voted.
 - ii) Effective Date of Amendments
 - (1) Unless otherwise specified, Constitutional amendments shall take effect upon their ratification by the Student Body.

9) Judiciary

- a) Selection
 - i) The Judicial Board will announce the vacancies on the Student Judicial Board and the application procedure to the Bowdoin student body.
 - ii) All applicants will be interviewed by a committee composed of the continuing Student Judicial Board members and the President.
 - iii) The names of the nominees are submitted for approval by the Student Government. Approval of nominated members and alternates is by majority vote of the Student Government. The Current Judicial Board members will attend the meeting where the vote is to be taken. In the event any nominated

members or alternates are not approved by the Student Government, the nominating committee will submit new nominations for approval.

b) Dismissal

The Student Government may dismiss a member of the Student Judicial Board, for adequate cause, by a two-thirds vote of its entire membership. This may occur only after holding a hearing at which the member in question has the right to be present.

Section 3: Actual Constitutional Language Changes

1. An Amendment to Remove the Presidential Eligibility Requirement

Remove (from section 2cii1): the President must have served previously as a member of the Student Government to be elected

Section 2cii1 would now read: President - The President will serve as the primary Student Government liaison to the administration and spokesperson to the student body. He will be a non-voting member of all Student Government committees, will serve on the Board of Trustees and Executive Committee of the Trustees and will be involved in the Judicial Board selection process. The President will direct and coordinate the activities of the Vice Presidents and Treasurer and will set the weekly agenda of the Student Government.

2. An Amendment to Change the Date of First-Year Elections

Add (to section 2ai7): The incoming first-year class elections will take place during mid-October.

Section 2ai7 would now read: Appointment/Election of members shall take place in the spring, excluding the incoming first-year class, the rising senior class and the four appointed representatives. *The incoming first-year class elections will take place during mid-October.*

Remove (from section 5bvi1): be in the fall

Add (to section 5bvi1): take place during mid-October

Section 5bvi1 would now read: Elections shall be held in the spring, except for the first-years whose election will *take place during mid-October.*

3. An Amendment to Change the Representation of the IHC on the BSG

Remove (from section 2ai1): the President of IHC, representatives from the College House System

Add (to section 2ai1): the President and Vice President of the Inter-House Council

Section 2ai1 would now read: The Student Government shall be composed of eight class representatives to be elected during class elections, the President and Vice President of the Inter-House Council, a representative of the Community Service Council, a representative from Residential Life, a representative from the Activities Board and the President, Vice Presidents and Treasurer, who shall concurrently be the Chair of SAFC.

Remove the entirety of section 2ai4: The Inter-House Council will select two representatives to represent the overall house system and will also select one representative to represent chemical-free interests specifically.

4. An Amendment to Increase the Number of At-Large Representatives and Decrease the Number of Special Representatives and Create the Position of Athletics Representative

Remove (from section 2ai1): a representative of the Community Service Council, a representative from Residential Life

Add (to section 2ai1): , a representative of athletic interest, At-Large representatives of the Student Body as a whole

Section 2ai1 would now read: The Student Government shall be composed of eight class representatives to be elected during class elections, the President of IHC, representatives from the College House System, a representative from the Activities Board, *a representative to Residential Life, a representative of athletic interests, At-Large representatives of the Student Body as a whole* and the President, the Vice Presidents and the Treasurer, who shall concurrently be the Chair of SAFC.

Remove (from section 2ai3): four representatives on the Student Government who will be interviewed by the President and Vice Presidents for positions.

Add (to section 2ai3): eight At-Large representatives to represent the interests of the Student Body as a whole. Two will be elected during the spring class officer elections. The remaining six will be interviewed by the President, Vice Presidents and Treasurer for their position. Community service interests on campus should be taken into account among the At-Large representatives. The interviewed representatives may be appointed to half-year terms.

Section 2ai3 would now read: There shall be eight *At-Large representatives to represent the interests of the Student Body as a whole. Two will be elected to full-year terms during the spring class officer elections. The remaining six will be interviewed by the President, Vice President, and Treasurer for their position. The interests of Residential Life, the Activities Board, and community service organizations should be represented among the At-Large representatives. The interviewed representatives may be appointed to either half or full-year terms.*

Remove (from section 2ai7): four appointed representatives.

Add (to section 2ai7): six appointed representatives.

Section 2ai7 would now read: Appointment/Election of members shall take place in the spring, excluding the incoming first-year class, the rising senior class and the *six appointed representatives.*

Add a new section to 2ai:

The Athletics Representative will be elected each year for a full-year term by the Captain's council.

5. An Amendment to Alter Recalls and Referenda

Remove (from section 7a): and Vice Presidents by the Student Body

Add (to section 7a): , a Vice President, or the Treasurer by the Student Body.

Section 7a would now read: Recall of the President, *a Vice President or the Treasurer* by the Student Body.

Remove (from section 7ai): and Vice Presidents

Add (to section 7ai): , a Vice President or the Treasurer

Section 7ai would now read: A petition calling for a recall of the President, *a Vice President, or the Treasurer*, bearing the names of at least fifty percent of the students enrolled at the Brunswick campus for that semester must be presented at a regular meeting of the Student Government.

Remove (from section 7aiii): and Vice President

Add (to section 7aiii): , Vice President, or Treasurer

Section 7aiii would now read: At the meeting when the petition is submitted, Student Government shall appoint an Elections Committee to conduct the recall election and, if necessary, supervise the election of a new President, *Vice President, or Treasurer* by the Student Body.

Remove (from section 7aiv): and Vice Presidents until the vote has taken place and the President and Vice Presidents receive

Add (to section 7aiv): , Vice President, or Treasurer in question until the vote has taken place and that individual has received

Section 7aiv would now read: Following the meeting when the petition is submitted, no new business may be acted upon by the President, *Vice President, or Treasurer in question until the vote has taken place and that individual has received* a vote of confidence.

Remove (from section 7av): the President and Vice Presidents. In which case, they

Add (to section 7av): a President, Vice President, or Treasurer. In which case, the individual in question

Remove (from section 7av): majority of a twenty-five percent quorum

Add (to section 7av): two-thirds majority vote of at least one-third of the Student Body

Section 7av would now read: A *two-thirds majority vote of at least one-third of the Student Body* is required to recall a *President, Vice President, or Treasurer*. *In which case, the individual in question* will be deemed to have resigned.

Add a new section to 6a: Student-initiated petitions may only be presented on an official Student Government form, the distribution of which will be controlled by the President, Vice Presidents, and Treasurer. Once the student initiating the petition has requested a

form and clarified the intention of the petition, s/he may not, under any circumstances, be denied the form by the President, a Vice President, or the Treasurer.

Remove the entirety of section 8ai3.

Add a new section to 8a: Student Body Action

Add a new subsection under Student Body Action: Constitutional amendments may be proposed by a petition containing signatures representing twenty percent of the Student Body and ratified by a two-thirds majority of the Student Body voting in a referendum. The results of such a referendum, however, will only be valid if at least thirty percent of the Student Body has voted.

Add an additional subsection under Student Body Action: Student-initiated constitutional amendments may only be presented on an official Student Government form, the distribution of which will be controlled by the President, Vice Presidents, and Treasurer. Once the student initiating the petition has requested a form and specified the exact constitutional change desired, s/he may not, under any circumstances, be denied the form by the President, a Vice President, or the Treasurer.

Add (to section 1b): For purposes of constitutional amendments, referenda, and recall, the size of the Student Body shall be determined by the Office of Student Records.

Remove (from section 6aiii): Twenty-five percent

Add (to section 6aiii): One-third

Section 6aiii would now read: *One-third* of the Student Body shall constitute a quorum.

Add (to section 6aiv): two-thirds

Section 6aiv would now read: A *two-thirds* majority vote constitutes passage of a referendum.

Remove (from section 8ai3): thirty percent

Add (to section 8ai3): one-third

6. An Amendment to Promote the Transparency of the Bowdoin Student Government

Add a new section to 2diii: Any student concern may be brought to a meeting of the Student Government or any of its members and it will be given consideration by the Student Government.

7. An Amendment to create a quorum and bylaws

Add as a subsection under 2d: Quorum

In order for a vote to be held, a meeting of the Student Government Assembly must have two-thirds of its membership (not including unfilled positions) present.

Remove from section 2di: how s/he will run the meetings. This explanation shall include: discussion procedure, voting procedure, the process for establishing items for the agenda, and other discretionary items.

Add to section 2di: how meetings will be run (in accordance with the Rules of Order established in the Bylaws).

Add as a new section to the Constitution: Bylaws

Add as subsections under Bylaws:

A. The Student Government Assembly will adopt Bylaws to govern its processes by a two-thirds vote of its membership. These Bylaws are superseded by and may not conflict with the Student Government Constitution.

B. Included within these Bylaws will be Rules of Order for Student Government Assembly meetings, the Election Code, the Rules of the SOOC and the Rules of the SAFC.

C. Bylaws and revisions to them may be proposed by the Student Government Affairs Committee or any member of the Student Government Assembly.

D. In order to amend the Bylaws, a two-thirds majority vote of Student Government Assembly members is required. All amendments to the Bylaws must be voted on twice, with the votes occurring at least one week apart, before they are ratified.

8. An Amendment to create a separate section for Committees and Create New Job Descriptions for Officers

Add as a new section under 2: Student Government Committees

Add as subsections under Student Government Committees:

A. Student Affairs Committee -

1. The Student Affairs Committee will deal with the Assembly's engagement in policy issues in the area of student life. It will receive and propose potential legislation, provide advice for the President and Vice President for Student Affairs and discuss programming and policy initiatives.

2. It will be composed of the Vice President for Student Affairs, who will serve as chair, and several members of the BSG Assembly as assigned by the President, Vice Presidents and Treasurer. The President will sit as an ex officio member.

B. Academic Affairs Committee -

1. The Academic Affairs Committee will deal with the Assembly's engagement in policy issues in the area of academic life. It will receive and propose potential legislation, provide advice for the President and Vice President for Academic Affairs and discuss programming and policy initiatives.

2. It will be composed of the Vice President for Academic Affairs, who will serve as chair, and several members of the BSG Assembly as assigned by the President, Vice Presidents and Treasurer. The President will sit as an ex officio member.

C. Facilities Committee -

1. The Facilities Committee will deal with the Assembly's engagement in policy issues regarding the physical and virtual infrastructure of the College. It will receive and propose potential legislation, provide advice for the President and Vice President for Facilities and discuss programming and policy initiatives.

2. It will be composed of the Vice President for Facilities, who will serve as chair, and several members of the BSG Assembly as assigned by the President, Vice Presidents and Treasurer. The President will sit as an ex officio member.

D. Student Government Affairs Committee -

1. The Student Government Affairs Committee will deal with the Assembly's legislative processes. It will receive, propose and prepare potential legislation for the Student Government Assembly, provide advice for the President and Vice President for Student Government Affairs, propose bylaws, constitutional interpretation, and constitutional amendments, to the Assembly, discuss programming and policy initiatives, and oversee all matters not overseen by other Student Government committees.

2. It will be composed of the Vice President for Student Government Affairs, who will serve as chair, and several members of the BSG Assembly as assigned by the President, Vice Presidents and Treasurer. The President will sit as an ex officio member.

E. Student Organizations Oversight Committee-

1. The Student Organizations Oversight Committee will deal with the Assembly's management of student organizations at the College. It will grant or deny proposed charters, review existing charters, provide advice for the President and Vice President for Student Organizations, and propose legislation related to club life.

2. It will be composed of the Vice President for Student Organizations, who will serve as chair, the Treasurer and several members of the BSG Assembly as assigned by the President, Vice Presidents and Treasurer. The President will sit as an ex officio member.

3. It will operate according to the SOOC Rules and Regulations which are created and maintained by the BSG Assembly.

F. Student Activities Funding Committee -

1. The Student Activities Funding Committee will allocate the Student Activities Fee monies to student organizations. It will oversee the approval of operating budgets for some organizations in the spring, advise the Treasurer and allocate funding on a weekly basis.
2. It will be composed of the Treasurer, who will serve as chair, the Vice President for Student Organizations, the treasurer of each class and two at-large members appointed by the Treasurer, Vice President for Student Organizations and President. The President will sit as an ex officio member of the SAFC.
3. It will operate according to the SAFC Rules and Regulations and may change these rules with the approval of the BSG Assembly.
4. At the beginning of each academic year, the SAFC will present its Rules and Regulations to the BSG Assembly, propose any changes they might have at that time and receive a vote to approve their activities under these rules for the upcoming year.
5. The funding allocated to an organization by the SAFC may not be used as a donation to any off-campus organization or charity and must be for the benefit of the College community.

Add as a new section under Student Government Committees: Special Programming Committee

Add as a subsection under Special Programming Committee: There will be a Special Programming Committee to oversee all the programming needs of the Student Government and each of its committees. It will be chaired by the Programming Chair who will be appointed by the President, Vice Presidents, and Treasurer, will act under their purview, and will attend BSG meetings but not vote. Membership on the committee will be completely voluntary, open to all members of the Student Body, and not relieve Student Government members of their obligation to serve on other committees. The President, Vice Presidents, and Treasurer will be ex officio members of this committee.

Add as a new section under Student Government Committees: Appeals Committee

Add as a new subsection under Appeals Committee:

1. The Appeals Committee will deal with all student complaints related to the process of the BSG or any of its committees (excluding elections). It will only meet when the President or Vice President for Student Government Affairs calls after receiving a complaint and will be empowered to rectify any process errors that have been made.
2. It will be composed of the President, the Vice President for Student Government Affairs, one elected representative from each class, one IHC representative and one additional Assembly member of the appellants choosing.

Create as a new section under Student Government Committees: Executive Committee

Add as a new section under Executive Committee: The President, Vice Presidents and Treasurer will make up the Executive Committee of the Student Government Assembly. This Committee will act as an advisory body for the President and approves all BSG appointments.

All mentions of “President, Vice Presidents and Treasurer” in the Constitution will be changed to “Executive Committee”

Replace the officer descriptions under 2cii with:

President - The President is the primary representative of student opinion to administrators and the leader of the BSG. S/he chairs the BSG Assembly, the Executive Committee and the Leadership Council, sits as an ex officio member of all committees, attends Faculty Meetings, serves as a Student Representative to the Board of Trustees, sits as a member of the Administrative Committee of the College and as a member of the Trustee Executive Committee. The President sets the agenda for the Assembly, identifies priorities for the BSG officers and directs the activities of the BSG. S/he oversees and supports all functions of the BSG. Students who have not served as members of the Assembly are ineligible to serve as President.

Vice President for Student Government Affairs - The VP for Student Government Affairs is responsible for organizing and supporting all activities of the BSG. S/he chairs the Student Government Affairs Committee, sits as a Student Representative to the Board of Trustees and the Administrative Committee of the College, as well as serving as an alternate to the Executive Committee of the Trustees. The VP for Student Government Affairs is responsible for ensuring the smooth functioning of the BSG through membership oversight and maintenance of the constitution, bylaws, budget and regular processes. S/he will also oversee elections and appointments to committees of the College. In the event that the BSG President is temporarily unable to fulfill her/his duties, the VP for Student Government Affairs will serve as Acting President until the President reassumes her/his responsibilities.

Vice President for Student Affairs - The VP for Student Affairs is responsible for all BSG policy and programming initiatives in the area of student life. S/he chairs the Student Affairs Committee and sits as a member of the Trustee Committee on Student Affairs. The VP for Student Affairs is responsible for liaising with administrators in the Student Affairs Division of the College, crafting BSG policy related to student life and providing specific programming to support BSG initiatives.

Vice President for Academic Affairs - The VP for Academic Affairs is responsible for all BSG policy and programming initiatives in the area of academic life. S/he chairs the Academic Affairs Committee and sits as a member of the Trustee Committee on Academic Affairs and on the Curriculum and Education Policy Committee. The VP for Academic Affairs is responsible for building relationships with faculty, liaising with administrators in the Academic Affairs Division of the College, crafting all BSG academic

policy and representing the BSG in campus dialogue regarding the curriculum and academic program.

Vice President for Facilities – The VP for Facilities is responsible for all BSG policy and programming initiatives related to the physical and virtual infrastructure of the campus. S/he chairs the Facilities Committee and sits as a member of the Trustee Committee on Facilities and Properties and the Campus Planning and Design Committee. The VP for Facilities is responsible for liaising with administrators in the Facilities and Information Technology Divisions of the College, crafting all BSG facilities policy, advocating for improved student services and spaces and representing the BSG in campus dialogue regarding future development.

Vice President for Student Organizations – The VP for Student Organizations is responsible for managing all BSG processes related to club life. S/he chairs the Student Organizations Oversight Committee and sits as a member of the Student Activities Funding Committee. The VP for Student Organizations, along with the Treasurer, is the BSG liaison to the Student Activities Office and oversees all chartering, club support and review processes.

Treasurer – The Treasurer is responsible for overseeing the club funding process. S/he chairs the Student Activities Funding Committee and sits as a member of the Student Organizations Oversight Committee. The Treasurer, along with the VP for Student Organizations, is the BSG liaison to the Student Activities Office and the primary manager of the Student Activities Fee.

9. An Amendment to revise the Staff section of Section II

Completely replace section 2bciii1 with: The President, Vice Presidents and Treasurer will hire an independent Secretary to keep minutes of BSG Assembly meetings and a Webmaster to maintain the website. The President may create additional unpaid staff positions and make appointments to them with the approval of the Vice Presidents and Treasurer.

10. An Amendment to add the Student Activities Fee and Chartering Authority

Add as a completely new section of the Constitution: Student Activities Fee

Add as subsections under Student Activities Fee:

A. The Fee: The Student Activities Fee is a student-managed fund collected as part of the College bill. It is a distinct fee, explicitly for the purpose of supporting student life and under the exclusive control of students. It is administered by the BSG through the SAFC under administrative guidance but with no higher authority than the student leadership that allocates it.

B. Guidelines –

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1. Funds from the Student Activities Fee may not be used as a donation to any off-campus organization or charity and must be for the benefit of the College community.
 2. Funds from the Student Activities Fee will only be allocated to student-led groups or projects.
 3. Funds from the Student Activities Fee may not be used to purchase alcohol or to finance any other illegal substance or activities.
 4. Other regulations for the funds will be outlined in the SAFC Rules and Regulations.

C. Student Activities Funding Committee -

1. The Student Activities Funding Committee will allocate the Student Activities Fee monies to student organizations. Only organizations that have been chartered by the SOOC may received funding. It will oversee the approval of operating budgets for some organizations in the spring, advise the Treasurer and allocate funding on a weekly basis.
2. It will be composed of the Treasurer, who will serve as chair, the Vice President for Student Organizations, the treasurer of each class and two at-large members appointed by the Treasurer, Vice President for Student Organizations and President. The President will sit as an ex officio member of the SAFC.
3. It will operate according to the SAFC Rules and Regulations and may change these rules with the approval of the BSG Assembly.
4. At the beginning of each academic year, the SAFC will present its Rules and Regulations to the BSG Assembly, propose any changes they might have at that time and receive a vote to approve their activities under these rules for the upcoming year.
5. The funding allocated to an organization by the SAFC may not be used as a donation to any off-campus organization or charity and must be for the benefit of the College community.

Add a new section to the Constitution: Chartering Authority

Add as subsections under Chartering Authority:

- A. The Assembly is the organization on campus with the authority to charter student organizations. It achieves this through the Student Organizations Oversight Committee which works in collaboration with the Office of Student Activities. The final decision-making power regarding all student organizations and clubs rests with the student leadership.
- B. Charter: A charter is an organization's mandate to operate on campus. Charters are approved by the SOOC and grant an organization access to meeting spaces on campus and use of certain College properties. It also indicates whether or not an organization is eligible for SAFC funding.

C. Guidelines -

1. Charter One status indicates that a club has been approved and may receive funding from the SAFC.
2. Charter Two status indicates that an organization has been approved but may not received funding from the SAFC.
3. The SOOC may review an organization's charter and change its status at any time.
4. Further guidelines are kept in the SOOC Rules and Regulations.

D. Student Organizations Oversight Committee-

1. The Student Organizations Oversight Committee will deal with the BSG's management of student organizations at the College. It will grant or deny proposed charters, review existing charters, provide advice for the President and Vice President for Student Organizations, and propose legislation related to club life.
2. It will be composed of the Vice President for Student Organizations, who will serve as chair, the Treasurer and several members of the BSG Assembly as assigned by the President, Vice Presidents and Treasurer. The President will sit as an ex officio member.
3. It will operate according to the SOOC Rules and Regulations which are created and maintained by the BSG Assembly.

11. An Amendment to add a Preamble, Revise the Purpose Section and Clarify the BSG Assembly

Add as a completely new section to the Constitution: Preamble

Add under Preamble:

The Bowdoin Student Government exists to empower students. It stands on campus as the democratically-elected, autonomous representative of the student body and receives its authority from those whom it serves. It seeks to be a partner to the faculty and administration in the leadership of the College, while being a relentless advocate for student needs and desires. In its policies and programs, it aims to serve as a thoughtful and fearless voice for conveying student opinion to the campus and beyond. The BSG also serves as a workshop for the development of future leaders and an enabler of creative pursuits. It works to improve student experiences and ensure full access to campus resources and opportunities. Above all, it strives to refine the College's most important goal - the education of students in a residential community.

Remove current Purpose language

Add under Purpose:

A. The BSG will act as a forum for ideas and represent the Student Body in campus decision-making processes. It will present student opinion to the administration and send representatives to all major committees of the College. It will pass resolutions and speak with the authority of the Student Body.

B. The BSG will pursue programming and policy initiatives for the Student Body. It will organize students when necessary and promote dialogue. It will provide class officers to build class unity. It will be involved in the Judicial Board selection process.

C. The BSG will have the authority to charter organizations and to fund them through the Student Activities Fee.

D. The BSG will assume additional duties as needs arise in the student community.

Remove (from sections 1c, 2, 2ai, 2ci, 2dii, 3ai2, 4ci3, 5ai, 6ai, 7ai, 8ai, 9aiii): Student Government

Add (to sections 1c, 2, 2ai, 2ci, 2dii, 3ai2, 4ci3, 5ai, 6ai, 7ai, 8ai, 9aiii): Bowdoin Student Government Assembly

Remove (from sections 1ci, 1cii, 2ai1, 2ai3, 2biii, 2biv, 2ci1, 2ci2, 2cii1, 2cii2, 2cii4, 2cii6, 2ciii1, 2di, 2dii1, 2dii2, 2dii4, 2diii1, 2diii2, 2diii3, 2div1, 2div2, 2dv1, 2dvi1, 2ei, 2ei1, 2fi, 2fi1, 2fi2, 3ai1, 3bi2, 3biii1, 4dii4, 4dii5, 5aii, 5av, 5avi, 5bvii1, 5bvii2, 6avii, 7aiii, 8ai1, 8ai2, 9aiii, 9bi): Student Government

Add (to sections 1ci, 1cii, 2ai1, 2ai3, 2biii, 2biv, 2ci1, 2ci2, 2cii1, 2cii2, 2cii4, 2cii6, 2ciii1, 2di, 2dii1, 2dii2, 2dii4, 2diii1, 2diii2, 2diii3, 2div1, 2div2, 2dv1, 2dvi1, 2ei, 2ei1, 2fi, 2fi1, 2fi2, 3ai1, 3bi2, 3biii1, 4dii4, 4dii5, 5aii, 5av, 5avi, 5bvii1, 5bvii2, 6avii, 7aiii, 8ai1, 8ai2, 9aiii, 9bi): Assembly or the Assembly (depending upon grammatical correctness and having no effect on the current meaning).

12. An Amendment to Change the Composition of the Leadership Council

^{xii} **Remove the entirety of section 2aiii1 and replace with:** The Leadership Council will be made up of the President of the BSG Assembly and the President of each of the Class Councils.

Add (to section 2aiii2): Meetings may be called by any of the five Presidents and will be organized by the Programming Chair

13. An Amendment to Create Class Councils

^{xiii} **Remove** (from section 2ai6): officer team

Add (to section 2ai6): council

Remove (from sections 2ai8, 5, 5a, 5ai, 5aii, 5aiii, 5aiv, 5b, and 5bi): officers

Add (to sections 2ai8, 5, 5a, 5ai, 5aii, 5aiii, 5aiv, 5b, and 5bi): councils

Each of these sections would now say class councils instead of class officers

Remove (from sections 5av, 5avi, and 5bvii1): officer

Add (to sections 5av, 5avi, and 5bvii1): councilmember

Each of these sections would now say class councilmember instead of class officer

Remove (from sections 5bvi and 5bvi2): officers

Add (to section 5bvi and 5bvi2): councils

Add (to section 5ai): Members of the class may approach these councils to suggest ideas and assist in the planning of activities.

14. An Amendment to Create the Community Outreach Officer

^{xiv} **Remove** (from section 5bi4): Service Officer

Add (to section 5bi4): Outreach Officer

Replace the entirety of 2bv with: The COO will be appointed by the five other members of the Class Council through an interview process and will be responsible for informing the class of all events, activities, and programming planned by the Class Officer Team as well as the time and location of all Class Officer Team meetings. The COO will also be responsible for paying special attention to community service opportunities and will assist the other members of the Class Council in planning them as well as all other activities.

15. An Amendment to Clarify the Positions of Members of the Class Officer Team

^{xv} **Add as a new section under 5bi:** 5. BSG Representative (2)

Remove the entirety of 5biii and 5biv

Add as new sections under 5b:

President: The class President will coordinate activities and programming for her or his class. The President will lead the Class Officer Team and serve as a first point of contact for any issues related to their class specifically. The President will be a member of the Leadership Council.

Vice President: The Vice President will assist the President in coordinating class activities. The Vice President will be a member of the Class Officer Team and will lead it in the President's absence. S/he will also be a member of the Campus Activities Board.

Treasurer: The treasurer will manage the class funds and financial activities. The treasurer will serve as a member of the Class Officer Team, participate in the planning of class activities and will sit as a member of the Student Activities Funding Committee.

BSG Representative (2): The BSG representatives will provide a voice for their class on the Bowdoin Student Government. They will sit as full voting members of the BSG. They will also serve on the Class Officer Team and be involved in the planning of class activities.

16. An Amendment to Allow Half-Year Terms for Some Members of the Junior Officer Team

^{vi} **Add to section 5bvi1:** and Juniors

Add to section 5bvi3: except the Junior class Vice President and BSG Representatives who will be elected as per the method in 2ai2a.