# TITLE X: CODE OF ETHICS

## **Chapter 1000: Rights**

### 1000.1 Student’s Rights

#### Freedom of Speech

##### No branch of the Student Government of the University of North Florida shall hinder nor restrict any students’ freedom of speech.

#### Freedom of Peaceful Assembly and Association:

##### No branch of the Student Government shall restrict any students right to peacefully assemble and freely associate during the open meetings of Student Government as long as decorum is maintained and in accordance with the Policies and Procedures of the branch holding said meeting.

#### Freedom of Press:

##### No branch of the Student Government shall censor the student media of the University of North Florida.

#### Right to Information

##### Every Student shall be able to attend all open meetings of Student Government

2. The Student Government shall establish and maintain a website (hereinafter referred to as Website) to inform the Student Body of Student Government events, policies, open positions, meeting minutes, and anything else specifically referred to by Statutes

a. The Student Government Constitution, Statutes, Activity and Service Fee Budget, Executive Branch Policies & Procedures, Legislative Branch Policies & Procedures, Judicial Branch Policies & Procedures, and Office of Elections Policies & Procedures, all Executive Agency Policies & Procedures, all Commission Constitutions and names of Student Government officers shall be available on the Website.

b. The Website shall have a calendar of upcoming Student Government events and meetings.

c. The Student Government Webmaster (hereinafter referred to as Webmaster) may choose to include additional information not mandated within these statutes at their discretion, in consultation with the Associate Vice President of Student Engagement & International Affairs, Student Government Director, and the respective Branch head to which the information is related.

d.. Posting on the Student Government Website will constitute posting in a public space and advertisement in a widely published forum.

##### E. Executive Information

1. Acts of the Student Body President including all executive orders, all appointments, all vetoes, and all dismissals of Student Government members.

2. The Student Body President may request that other information be posted on the Website, but the Office is not obligated to do so

3. The names of all filled positions of, as well as any publicly available contact information for, all officers in the Executive Branch must be posted on the Website.

4. The Student Body President, or designee, shall be responsible for transmitting all information as may be required by this act to the Webmaster within a reasonable amount of time not to exceed five (5) business days, and in a medium which is reasonable.

F. Legislative Information

1. Acts of the Senate including, all agendas and minutes, all actual statutory revisions, all actual allocations, all confirmations, all impeachments, and all roll call votes, and the Legislative Policies & Procedures, must be posted on the Website in accordance with Title IV 418.4.

2. The Student Senate President may request that other information be posted to the website, but the Webmaster is not obligated to do so.

3. The names and offices of all Senators and Officers of the Senate, as well as the committees on which they serve, as well as their publicly available contact information for Senate Cabinet positions, must be posted on the Website.

4. The Senate Secretary shall be responsible for transmitting all information as may be required by this act to the Webmaster within a reasonable amount of time not to exceed five business (5) days, and in a medium that is reasonable.

a. In case of the Senate Secretary's absence, the Student Senate President, or Designee, shall be responsible for transmitting information in accordance with stated provision.

b. In case of technological failures, the bills shall be posted in the Senate offices.

1. Judicial Information
2. All acts of the Judicial Branch, including all actions of the Supreme Court, opinions and advisory, and all other Judicial Branch pinions, orders, interpretations, and writs, including the outcome thereof, must be posted to the Website.

2. The posting of the Court Register on the Website will constitute compliance as long as all information required is contained herein.

3. The Chief Justice may request that other information be posted to the Website, but the Webmaster is not obligated to do so.

4. The names and offices of all Justices and Officers of the Court, as well as their publicly available contact information must be posted on the website.

5. The Clerk of the Court shall be responsible for transmitting all information as may be required by this act to the Webmaster within five (5) days, and in a medium that is reasonable.

1. In the absence of the Clerk of the Court, the Chief Justice, or Designee, shall be responsible for transmitting all information required by this act to the Webmaster within five (5) days, and in a medium that is reasonable.

G. Student Government Brand and Marketing Identity Clause

1. The Student Government website shall publish and maintain a Brand Guide to enable and communicate a consistent, recognizable brand identity for the Student Body to view.
2. Student Government shall be given exemption for its marketing and publications until otherwise notified and/or changed in University of North Florida regulations or policy.
3. Student Government should aim for all marketing and publications to adhere to the University of North Florida logotypes (hereinafter referred to as logo), colors, and typography as defined in the UNF Brand set forth by the Office of Marketing & Publications.
4. All Student Government seals and logo should try to maintain the University of North Florida brand requirements set forth as established by the Office of Marketing and Communications.
5. Seals of Student Government
   1. The seals shall consist of the Seal of Student Government, the Seal of the Student Body President, the Seal of the Student Senate, the Seal of the Judiciary, and the Seal of the Office of Elections.
   2. Seal of Student Government shall be designated as the official Student Government logo.
6. Any changes to the Seal of Student Government require unanimous approval by the Student Body President, Student Senate President, and Chief Justice.
7. Final approval shall follow the process outlined in Title X, 1001.G.4.C.
8. The Student Government Seal shall be made public and posted on the website.
9. The Student Government Seal shall be utilized for Student Government funding recognition plaques, documentation, awards, or publications deemed necessary.
10. When used as an official architectural element of the University, it shall be fabricated from materials in one of the primary colors unless otherwise stated by the University of North Florida.
11. The Student Body President, or designee, shall be responsible for maintaining the Student Government Seal and issuing approval for its publication in consultation with the approved Professional Staff designee.
12. The Student Body Treasurer shall be responsible for issuing approval for its publication for branding, event, general, or promotional items used for events, programs, and organizations that are fully or partially funded by the A&S fee in accordance with Title VIII, 801.3.
13. Branch and Office of Election Seals
14. The Seal of the Student Body President, the Seal of the Student Senate, the Seal of the Judiciary, and the Seal of the Office of Elections shall be made public and posted on the website.
15. The Executive Branch, Legislative Branch, Judicial Branch, and Office of Elections may adopt internal procedures for utilizing or adopting changes to their respective Branches seals.
16. If any proposed changes to any seal is made, the Associate Vice President of Student Engagement & International Affairs, or designee, must be notified to ensure that the logo in intended to represent the University of North Florida and Student Government.
17. The Associate Vice President of Student Engagement and International Affairs, or designee, shall have ultimate approval for adopting any changes to all Student Government Seals.
18. Student Government simplified logo
19. The Student Body President, or designee, shall be ultimately responsible for maintaining the Student Government simplified logo.
20. The Student Government simplified logo shall be made available for all Student Government Branches, Agencies, Commissions, and the Office of Elections to utilize for publications or digital publications when needed.

The Student Government simplified logo should try to maintain the University of North Florida brand requirements set forth as established by the Office of Marketing and Communications.

### 1000.2 Due Process

#### Every student shall be entitled to the same course of formal proceedings that are set out in the Student Government Constitution, Statutes, and Policies and Procedures. The formal proceedings shall include but not be limited to:

##### A&S Travel Requests

##### A&S Special Requests

##### Declaration of Candidacy for Election

##### Appointments Processes

##### Judicial Hearings

## **Chapter 1001: Code of Ethics**

### 1001.1 Definitions for the Standards of Conduct

#### Benefit - gain or advantage, or anything regarded by the person to be benefited as a gain or advantage, including the doing of the act beneficial to any person in whose welfare they are interested.

#### Conflict or Conflict of Interest - a situation in which regard for a private interest tends to lead to a disregard of a public duty or interest.

#### Student Government Member – Any Student Officer, Student agent, or Student employee of Student Government whether elected, appointed, or hired including but not limited to, any executive, legislative, or judicial officer, any Student participating or performing governmental function and any officer of a Student Government funded organization that would fall under the jurisdiction of the Student Body Constitution.

#### Intimidation – A threat or threats made with the purpose of compelling a student government member or members to act against their conscience, or to prohibit said member(s) from acting within the discretion of their position.

#### Retaliation – The act of inflicting physical or professional harm against a student government member in response to a decision made within the discretion of their position.

#### Corruptly – as meaning done with a wrongful intent and for the purpose of obtaining or compensating or receiving compensation for any benefit resulting from some act or omission of a public servant which is inconsistent with the proper performance of their public duty.

#### Harm – any unlawful interference with the person and/or property of another person, or any, verbal, written or printed communication which directly, or by inference, is a. defamatory to another person’s reputation, or b. could reasonably cause the denial or termination or membership of another in any campus organization.

### 1001.2 Standards of Conduct

#### Conflict of Interest:

##### No Student Government Member can act in a way that promotes their own personal interest over the interest of the student body.

##### Any Student Government member that participates in any private business, professional activity, or group which would receive a personal benefit from any government action that is performed by Student Government, shall be required to abstain from voting on any aspect of said legislation. The only exceptions being wherein the entire voting body would be affected by said legislation or when salaried officers are voting on final passing of the budget.

#### Misuse of the Student Government Property:

##### No Student Government member shall use or allow the use of Student Government property, facilities, and vehicles with total disregard for their intended use and unnecessarily shortens its expected useful lifespan.

#### Unlawful Compensation:

##### No Senator, executive cabinet member, justice, or employee paid with A&S Fee’s shall accept any form of compensation, monetary or otherwise, for help passing legislation, amending rules, receiving funding, or otherwise coming to an official decision.

#### Inducing to Act:

##### No officer or employee of the Student Government shall aid, advise, procure, or in any way induce another to act in violation of this chapter.

##### No officer or employee of the Student Government shall cover up evidence or misrepresent a fact pertaining to a violation.

##### No Justice shall allow personal interest to influence a vote.

#### Intimidation: No Student Government officer or employee shall in any way engage in intimidation.

#### Retaliation: No Student Government member shall in any way engage in retaliation.

#### It is the duty of every Student Government Member to hold themselves to the highest moral and ethical standards in all Student Government matters.

#### No Student Government Member shall commit written, printed, or verbal defamation.

#### Purposely misrepresent any material fact(s) through their speech or actions.

#### Intentional Wrongful Harm: No officer or employee of Student Government shall intentionally and wrongfully harm or threaten to intentionally and wrongfully harm any person by the performance or omission of any act.

#### Penalties: A violation under this chapter may be cause for impeachment, suspension, or removal from office, suspension or dismissal from employment or public censure and reprimand by any individual or body having lawful authority to take such action.

#### Corruptly: No Student Government member shall in any way engage behavior that can be defined as “Corruptly.”

## **Chapter 1002: Anti-Discrimination Policy**

### 1002.1 Discrimination shall be defined as the differential treatment of a student or student group solely on the basis of his or her gender identity or expression, race, ethnicity, creed, color, religion, sex, age, sexual orientation, national origin, marital status, parental status, disability, and any combination thereof, or what is outlined in the University Non-Discrimination, Equal Opportunity, and Diversity Statement.

### 1002.2 No Student Government officer, employee, Branch, Agency, RSO, or any entity which receives any Student Government funding shall practice discrimination as defined in 1002.1 of the Student Government Statutes.

## **Chapter 1003: Enforcement of Ethical Standards**

### Failure to observe the ethical standards outlined in this title shall constitute an act of malfeasance as described in Title VII, Chapter 702 §1A.

### Failure to observe the ethical standards outlined in this title shall be punishable as described in Title VII, Chapter 703.

## HISTORY:

SB-96F-958 (October 29, 1996)

SB-02SB-1568 (September 19, 2002)

SB-04F-1828 (November 29, 2004)

SB-04F-1843 (December 17, 2004)

SB-05S-1895 (June 6, 2005)

SB-16S-2955 (April 11th, 2016)

SB-16SB-3024 (July 20th, 2016)

SB-17F-3242 (October 27th 2017)

OB-23SB-3689 (August 2nd, 2023)

OB-24S-3717 (January 30th, 2024)

OB-25S-3784 (January 31st, 2025)