

1 **UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS AT MONTICELLO**
2 **STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION**
3 **SPRING 2009 ELECTION RULES**
4
5

6 **Rule 1. ORGANIZATION OF ELECTIONS**
7

8 **SECTION 1.**
9

10 There shall be two elections organized in the Spring 2009 semester; a general election
11 and a special election.
12

13 **SECTION 2.**
14

15 The general election shall be organized to elect officials to fill open positions (as
16 described in these rules) in the Student Government Association (SGA). The general
17 election will be held, in compliance to the SGA Constitution, three days with the polls
18 being located at a separate location each day; namely, **Tuesday, April 14, 2009 from**
19 **10:00 AM to 2:00 PM at the Science Center (SC) Main Entrance**, on **Wednesday,**
20 **April 15, 2009 from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM at the Gibson University Center (UC)**
21 **Green Room**, and on **Thursday, April 16, 2009 from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM at the**
22 **Memorial Classroom Building (MCB) Lobby.**
23

24 **SECTION 3.**
25

26 The special election shall be organized for the student body to vote on ballot measures
27 proposed either by students or the SGA Senate that will affect the SGA and the student
28 body as a whole. The special election will be held, in compliance to the SGA
29 Constitution, three days with the polls being located at a separate location each day;
30 namely, **Monday, March 23, 2009 from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM at the Gibson**
31 **University Center (UC) Green Room**, on **Tuesday, March 24, 2009 from 10:00 AM**
32 **to 2:00 PM at the Science Center Main Entrance**, and on **Thursday, March 26, 2009**
33 **from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM at the Memorial Classroom Building (MCB) Lobby.**
34

35 **Rule 2. OPEN POSITIONS**
36

37 **SECTION 1. OPEN POSITIONS**
38

39 Interested candidates may file for the following positions open for election in the Spring
40 2009 general election: SGA President, SGA Vice-President, SGA Secretary, SGA
41 Treasurer, Student Activities Board (SAB) Position I, SAB Position II, SAB Position III,
42 SAB Position IV, SAB Position V, SAB Position VI, SAB Position VII, SAB Position
43 VIII, College of General Studies Senate Position II (GSII), Division of Agriculture
44 Senate Position II (ARGIII), School of Business Senate Position II (BUSII), Division of
45 Computer Information Systems Senate Position II (CISII), School of Arts and Humanities
46 Senate Position II (SAHII) (*those degrees not in Art, Music, Speech, or Journalism*), Art

1 Department Senate Position II (ARTII), Division of Music Senate Position II (MUSII),
2 Speech and Journalism Department Senate Position II (SJII), School of Education Senate
3 Position II (EDII), School of Forest Services Senate Position II (FORII), Biology
4 Department Senate Position II (BIOII), Chemistry Department Senate Position II
5 (CHEMII), Mathematics Department Senate Position II (MATHII), Natural Science
6 Department Senate Position II (NATII), Pre-Medical Department Senate Position II
7 (MEDII), Division of Nursing Senate Position II (NURII), Division of Military Science
8 Senate Position II (MILII), Psychology Department Senate Position II (PSYII), History
9 Department Senate Position II (HISTII), Criminal Justice Department Senate Position II
10 (CJII), Department of Political Science/ Pre-Law Senate Position II (PSCIII), Sociology
11 Department Senate Position II (SOCIII), Social Work Department Senate Position II
12 (SWII), Anthropology Department Senate Position II (ANTHII), At-Large Senate
13 Position III (ALIII), At-Large Senate Position IV (ALIV), and At-Large Senate Position
14 V (ALV).

15 16 **SECTION 2. SGA EXECUTIVE (CABINET) POSITIONS' DESCRIPTIONS**

17
18 The powers, duties and responsibilities of the **SGA President** can be found in Article III,
19 section 2 of the SGA Constitution.

20
21 The powers, duties and responsibilities of the **SGA Vice-President** can be found in
22 Article III, section 3 of the SGA Constitution.

23
24 The powers, duties and responsibilities of the **SGA Secretary** can be found in Article III,
25 section 4 of the SGA Constitution.

26
27 The powers, duties and responsibilities of the **SGA Treasurer** can be found in Article III,
28 section 5 of the SGA Constitution.

29 30 **SECTION 3. SGA SENATE POSITIONS' DESCRIPTIONS**

31
32 The powers, duties and responsibilities of the **SGA Senator** can be found in Article IV of
33 the SGA Constitution.

34 35 **SECTION 4. SGA SAB POSITIONS' DESCRIPTIONS**

36
37 The powers, duties and responsibilities of the **SAB Position I** shall be: to hold his/her
38 office for one year term, to be elected by the student body at-large; to preside over the
39 Student Activities Board; to have one vote in the Cabinet, only when a tie has occurred;
40 to work with the Director of Student Programs and Activities and Vice-Chancellor of
41 Student Affairs on matters of planning and scheduling activities on campus; and to insure
42 quality, variety, and well-coordinated activities are presented for student involvement on
43 campus.
44

1 The powers, duties and responsibilities of **SAB Positions II, III, IV, V, VI, VII, & VIII**
2 shall be: to hold his/her office for one year term, to be elected by the student body at-
3 large; and to be a full active voting member of SAB.
4

5 **Rule 3. FILING FOR OFFICE**

6 **SECTION 1.**

7
8
9 **ALL CANDIDATES** interested in filing for office must fill-out a **Statement Pledge of**
10 **Departmental Support Form**, notifying the Election Commission of the candidates'
11 declared major and minor, as registered with Office of the Registrar; and a **Candidate**
12 **Filing Form**, formally registering to run for a SGA office, and declaring the office in
13 which the candidate wishes to file.
14

15 **SECTION 2.**

16
17 In order to appear on the ballot, all candidates must have **all forms and certified**
18 **petitions filed** with the Office of the Director of Student Programs and Activities
19 between Monday, March 9, 2009 8:00 AM and Friday, March 27, 2009 4:30 PM.
20 **Candidates who do not have all paperwork filed BEFORE FRIDAY, MARCH 27,**
21 **2009 4:30 PM shall not be placed on the ballot.**
22

23 **SECTION 3.**

24
25 In order to appear on the ballot, a candidate filing **FOR A EXECUTIVE OFFICE OR**
26 **A SAB POSITION** must obtain the **signature of fifty (50) students** on a certified
27 petition provided by the Election Commission. Certified petitions may be obtained by
28 filing a **Certified Petition Form** and must have attended atleast five (5) SGA meetings
29 per semester for two semesters concurring.
30

31 The offices of President and Vice-President shall be elected as one ticket. Candidates
32 wishing to run for these offices, will have to select a running mate to file with in order to
33 be on the ballot.
34

35 **SECTION 4.**

36
37 In order to appear on the ballot, a candidate filing **FOR A SENATE POSITION** must
38 obtain the **signature of approval from the office seeking department's head**. The
39 Election Commission will arrange department head signature opportunity.
40

41 **SECTION 5.**

42
43 All candidates must sign an agreement recognizing that the Election Commission is the
44 authority over Student Government Association elections, and the commission's
45 decisions can be appealed to the Student Senate. In addition, a candidate filing for office

1 must sign an agreement acknowledging he/she has read Article VII of the Constitution
2 concerning the rules and regulations involved in the election process.

3
4 **SECTION 6.**

5
6 All candidates must attend a **Mandatory Candidate Meeting**, hosted by the Election
7 Commission on **Tuesday, March 31, 2009 at 3:00 PM in the Gibson University**
8 **Center (UC) Caucus Room**, to review all rules of the Spring 2009 general election; and
9 to insure all candidates understand the election rules and process.

10
11 **Rule 4. CAMPAIGNING**

12
13 Campaigning shall be defined as any method of actively soliciting votes such as making
14 speeches, and distributing literature, fliers, cards, posters, electronic communication and
15 social networking mediums, or other campaign paraphernalia. There shall be absolutely
16 no campaigning before the official beginning of the campaign period. **The campaign**
17 **period shall begin Monday, April 6, 2009 12:00 AM.**

18
19 **Rule 5. CAMPAIGN FINANCES**

20
21 **SECTION 1. SPENDING LIMIT**

22
23 There shall be a limit of \$75.00 in expenditures per candidate. Each candidate shall fill
24 out a campaign expenditure form, and sign a release authorizing the election commission
25 to verify all expenditures and amounts. If a candidate receives any free goods or services
26 to which the others in that race do not have access, the values of those goods and/or
27 services will be counted against his/her campaign limit.

28
29 **SECTION 2. FINANCE POOLING**

30
31 Candidates willing to campaign with other candidates may do so with the following
32 provisions: that all goods and/or services used in which more than one candidate directly
33 benefits from, shall the equal cost value of the goods and/or services be counted against
34 each candidate benefiting's campaign limit.

35
36 **Rule 6. ELECTION AUTHORITY**

37
38 **SECTION 1. ELECTION COMMISSION**

39
40 The University of Arkansas at Monticello Student Government Association Election
41 Commission is the authority over Student Government Association elections. The
42 Commission and The Election Commissioner, elected from the members of the
43 Commission, shall have right to interpret election rules, constitution regulations, and
44 SGA legislation to insure a au courant and fair election process. The Commission's
45 decisions can be appealed to the SGA Senate, Director of Student Programs and
46 Activities or the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs.

1 **APPENDIX**

2
3 **SGA CONSTITUTION ARTICLE VII**

4
5 **“ARTICLE VII ELECTIONS**

6
7 **SECTION 1. FILING FOR OFFICE**

8
9 (A) In order to appear on the ballot, a candidate filing for executive office must
10 obtain the signature of fifty (50) students on a form provided by the election
11 commission. All candidates must sign an agreement recognizing that the election
12 commission is the authority over Student Government Association elections, and
13 the commission’s decisions can be appealed to the Student Senate. In addition, a
14 candidate filing for office must sign an agreement acknowledging he/she has read
15 Article [VII] of the Constitution concerning the rules and regulations involved in
16 the election process.

17
18 (1) Candidates must also agree to disclose their campaign expenditures,
19 and make them available for verification by the commission.

20 (2) The filing period will close one week prior to the beginning of
21 elections. An acknowledgement of having read Article [VII] must be
22 turned in the SGA office by candidates prior to the end of the filing
23 period.

24 (3) If any office is not filled, the newly elected President will then fill the
25 vacancy in accordance with the guidelines of Article III, Section 2.

26
27 (B) Nominations for Student Senate will be made by the students of each
28 department. There will be two seats per department listed in the current catalog
29 plus two seats from the General Studies and five Members atlarge. Nominations
30 will be as described in Article [VII], Section 1, Paragraph A, except twenty (20)
31 signatures will be required to nominate.

32
33 **SECTION 2. VOTE REQUIRED FOR ELECTION**

34
35 (A) The candidate that receives the plurality of the ballots cast shall be elected to
36 that office.

37
38 (B) Senate seats shall be won in descending order by the number of valid ballots
39 cast for departmental and atlarge candidates until all seats are filled. Voters may
40 cast ballots for any Senate candidate irrespective of department or atlarge
41 candidate.

42
43 (C) Ballots will be invalid if votes are cast for more than one candidate for each of
44 the executive offices or more than two candidates in any of the departments or
45 more than five atlarge candidates.

1 (D) Writein votes are permitted for any executive office, departmental Senate
2 seat, or atlarge Senate seat. However, writein votes must conform to the rules set
3 down in this section and writein candidates must fulfill all eligibility requirements
4 noted elsewhere in this Constitution in order to assume office.
5

6 SECTION 3.
7

8 Elections for Student Senate and Student Government Association Officers will
9 be held no earlier than midterm of the spring semester and no later than the last
10 Student Senate meeting. The election will take place over three consecutive days
11 for students to cast their ballots. For each of the three voting days the poll shall be
12 at a different location.
13

14 SECTION 4.
15

16 All students voting must present a valid UAM ID card.
17

18 SECTION 5
19

20 The election commission shall consist of five members chosen by the Student
21 Senate and who are not running for any elected office or two University
22 professional staff members appointed by the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs.
23

24 SECTION 6. DUTIES OF THE ELECTION COMMISSION SHALL BE:
25

26 (A) To establish the times and places of all elections according to the guidelines
27 of the Constitution.
28

29 (B) To provide for poll workers for the election and to ensure the security of
30 ballots and the ballot boxes.
31

32 (C) To count the votes of the election.
33

34 (D) To enforce all election rules and guidelines.
35

36 (E) To hear and decide upon any and all protests and possible violations.
37

38 (F) To determine the consequences for election rules violations.
39

40 (G) To receive financial disclosures from all candidates, and to verify their
41 expenditures.
42

43 (H) To certify election results after all protests and violations have been resolved.
44

45 (I) To report to the Student Government Association on any and all
46 election matters.

1
2 SECTION 7. THE FOLLOWING ELECTION RULES ARE HEREBY
3 ESTABLISHED:
4

5 (A) There shall be a limit of \$75.00 in expenditures per candidate. Each candidate
6 shall fill out a campaign expenditure form, and sign a release authorizing the
7 election commission to verify all expenditures and amounts. If a candidate
8 receives any free goods or services to which the others in that race do not have
9 access, the values of those goods and/or services will be counted against his/her
10 campaign limit.
11

12 (B) Any candidate making a campaigning in an academic class will be removed
13 from the ballot and will be ineligible for any office in that election. Campaigning
14 is defined as: any method of actively soliciting votes such as making speeches,
15 and distributing literature, fliers, cards, posters, or other campaign paraphernalia.
16

17 (C) No campaigning is allowed within a fiftyfoot vicinity of the polls during the
18 election. Poll workers may not wear or display any campaign paraphernalia or
19 actively campaign for candidates while working at the polls. Voters will be asked
20 to remove campaign paraphernalia while voting.
21

22 (D) Campaigning will begin earlier than one (1) week prior to the election. The
23 specific date will be declared by the election commission.
24

25 (E) Candidates may not place any literature (fliers, cards, posters, etc.) inside
26 classrooms, on automobiles (except for their own), utility poles, trees, entrance
27 doors to University facilities, or any other area deemed inappropriate by the
28 Assistant Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs or the Vice Chancellor for Student
29 Affairs.
30

31 SECTION 8.
32

33 All complaints, disputes, and official protests will be handled by the Director of
34 Student Programs and Activities. All contests of the election must be received in
35 writing prior to the election being certified by the Vice Chancellor for Student
36 Affairs or his/her designee. Should an election commission be established through
37 the Student Senate They must follow the following guidelines: After the filing of
38 a complaint or discovery of a violation, the commission shall schedule a hearing
39 according to the Senate Bylaws. All interested parties, and all involved parties,
40 will be notified of the time and place for the hearing. Decisions of the commission
41 will be made by a majority vote. There must be at least three members of the
42 commission present and voting for any decision to be valid. The following
43 sanctions are available to the commission:
44

45 (A) Formal reprimand, for violations of nonserious nature.

1 (B) Invalidation of the election and the ordering of a new election for
2 major violations and for problems pertaining to the administration of the
3 election that potentially could alter the outcome.

4 (C) Removal of the candidate from the ballot or elected position, for major
5 violations, which have occurred during the election process.

6 (D) Any combination of the above sanctions that the election commission
7 may desire to impose.

8
9 SECTION 9.

10
11 The decision of the election commission will be upheld or overturned by majority
12 vote in the Student Senate of the members present and voting.”
13
14

15
16
17 I HEREBY SWEAR (OR AFFIRM) THAT I HAVE READ AND WILL ABIDE BY THE
18 CONSTITUTION AND ELECTION RULES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS AT
19 MONTICELLO STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION.
20
21
22

23 _____
24 NAME

DATE