ASSOCIATED STUDENT GOVERNMENT
ELECTION REGULATIONS

<Preamble>

In order to provide a more efficient means of campaigning and to create an atmosphere of legitimacy in campus elections, the following regulations will govern the elections of student government representatives, Associated Student Government.

<Article I>

Candidates

Section 1. Those persons running for office must meet constitutional qualifications of candidacy, and must have a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.0, with the exceptions of first semester freshman.

1.1 Vice-presidential and presidential candidates must have a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.5.

Section 2. In order to be a candidate for vice-president or president, a person must submit a petition, per ticket, bearing the names and student identification numbers of fifteen percent (15%) of campus privilege fee paying students at Emporia State University within the semester elections are held.

2.1 Official petitions will be released by the election commissioner exactly four (4) academic weeks prior to the first day of elections, excluding the week of Spring Break.

2.11 Petitions may be obtained after that time.

2.12 Petitions will be released only to candidate or to his/her authorized (in writing) representative.

2.2 The petitions must be certified in the Center for Student Involvement office within fifteen (15) school days of the release date, including the date petitions are released.

2.21 Certification of petitions occurs when petitions have been received, verified, and signed by the Election Commissioner and/or Associated Student Government Advisor(s).

2.3 The order in which names are to be listed on the ballot shall be the order in which official petitions are returned to the Center for Student Involvement office or filing fees submitted in the place of petitions for senatorial candidates.

2.4 The president and vice-president of Associated Student Government will be elected by a ticket voting system.

2.4.1 The ballot will list the president and vice-president candidate on each ticket together from left to right across the ballot.
Section 3. In order to be a candidate for a senatorial position, the candidate must complete one of the following options:
3.1 Candidate must submit a petition of fifty (50) legible signatures with student identification numbers from students in the candidate’s representative college.
3.2 Any candidate wishing to bypass the petitions may pay a filing fee of $30 to the elections commissioner starting on the Wednesday following release of petitions.
   3.2.1 Any proceeds derived from the payment of a filing fee shall be deposited into the Associated Student Government administrative fund.
3.3 Petitions must be certified at the Center for Student Involvement office by 5pm within five (5) school days prior to the first day of the election.

Section 4. The informational meeting will be conducted no later than four weeks before the first day of elections by the Election Commissioner and the Deputy Election Commissioner.
4.1 All campaign information and petition forms will be distributed during this meeting.
4.2 Petitions will be released to only the candidate or to his/her authorized representative(s).
   4.2.1 The term “authorized representative” shall apply to all persons listed by the candidate as able to act on their behalf.
4.2.2 No more than three (3) persons can be deemed authorized representatives.
   4.2.2.1 President and Vice-President candidates will share authorized representatives.
4.2.3 Additions to and/or deletions from, the list of authorized representatives may be made; however, such changes will take effect only upon notifying the election commissioner (in writing) thereof.

Section 5. Petitions and regulations can only be released by the election commissioner.

Section 6. In order to be a candidate for President, Vice-President, or Senator, a person must submit a signed “Duties and Responsibilities Agreement”.

ARTICLE II
Campaign Materials

Section 1. There will be no official declarations for office, either written or oral, prior to the first day of classes of the spring semester.

Section 2. Candidates are directly responsible for their campaign materials.
   2.1 Campaign materials shall not be posted without written approval from the Election Commissioner.
   2.2 Campaign materials shall be removed from campus by the day following the last day of the elections.

Section 3. There shall be no posted campaigning materials or oral campaigning within the Center for
Student Involvement.

3.1 Candidates will be allowed to use equipment and services of the Center for Student Involvement provided that they purchase all supplies necessary to do so.

3.2 Candidates will not be allowed to use the ASG logo on their campaign material.

3.3 Associated Student Government bulletin boards will be available to official candidates to post campaign material.

73.3.1 Flyers and posters for these boards must not exceed 11"x14 ½".

Section 4.

A copy of any and each piece of campaign material (posters, flyers, cards, written correspondence, leaflets, etc.) must be certified by the election commissioner or advisor by 5pm on the day previous to the distribution of said material.

4.1 With each new item of campaign material, a receipt listing how many copies of the item were printed and the total cost of the material must accompany the copy given to the election commissioner.

4.2 Certification of campaign material is described as written notification to the candidate(s) from the Election Commissioner that campaign material has been approved or denied.

Section 5.

No campaign material is allowed to be posted, uploaded, or made available to students until all petitions have been certified.

Section 6.

Portable posters and banners may be brought into any area of campus during rallies but must be removed after the event is completed.

6.1 Memorial Union Square will be open for rallies, if approved by the Conference/Scheduling office.

Section 7.

No posters or other campaign materials will be allowed in or on any campus edifice without the consent of the head of department which occupies that area.

7.1 Any campaign materials posted in the residence hall must conform to residence hall policies regulations regarding this matter.

7.2 All exterior posters must be made of cardboard, poster board, plastic, cloth, or any other sturdy materials and must be driven into the ground.

7.3 Campaign materials in the above (section 1.1) areas may not be placed on sidewalks or hand railings.

7.3.1 Any materials on trees within these areas must be taped or tied in.

7.3.2 No nails, tacks, staples, etc. may be used to affix campaign materials to trees.

Section 8.

There will be no etchings, or markings upon any campus property, including sidewalks, walls, and all other edifices with the exception of space designated and approved by the university under the direction of the Election Commissioner.

Section 9.

There will be no use of student voter information by candidates in any manner that would violate the privacy of the student voters.
Section 10. There shall be no campaigning or campaign materials of any form in any campus computer lab or within ten (10) feet of the computer voting stations sponsored by Associated Student Government, with the exception of buttons worn by supporters during the act of voting or passage through the area.

Section 11. Web sites may be used for campaign purposes, but there cannot be a link to any Associated Student Government Website and must comply with all previous stipulations outlined in this section.

ARTICLE III
Campaign Budgets

Section 1. Candidates may not spend more than $500 on campaigning.
1.1 Any money or materials donated to a candidate, if used by that candidate for campaign purposes, shall be counted as part of the limit above but must not exceed half the budget ($250.00).

Section 2. Each candidate shall be required to submit to the election commissioner an itemized account of all his/her expenditures, donations, and other pertinent financial information two (2) weeks (or fourteen (14)) days prior to the first day of elections, and a complete listing of financial information by 5pm on the day following the election.

Section 3. All campaign materials must clearly identify the candidate(s) responsible for it.

ARTICLE IV
Violations

Section 21. Any violation of any part Articles I through III will result in penalties to violator.
21.1 The candidate in question may be subjected to fines and/or disqualification.
21.2 Official scrutiny applied to one candidate shall be applied simultaneously to all other candidates for that office.

21.3 The amount of fines will be left to the discretion of the election commissioner.
21.3.1 Fines will not exceed $15 per candidate, per violation.
21.3.2 If fines exceed $50, the candidate’s name will be removed from the election process.
21.3.3 Fines assessed will be due within 24 hours of notification of violation.

Section 42 Fines collected will be used to help defray election costs for the Associated Student Government.
2.5 The penalty to be applied to the violator will be decided by the election
commissioner.

2.5.1 Any penalty must have the approval of the Senate Operations Committee of Student Senate.

2.5.1.1 The election commissioner must bring all penalties before the Senate Operations Committee within 72 hours after the first notification of the violation.

2.5.2 Any penalty may be appealed to the Student Senate.

2.5.2.1 The appeal must be in writing, stating the grounds for the appeal, and be presented to the President of the Student Senate within ten (10) days of Senate Operations Committee action described above (section 2.41).

Section 3. All fines must be paid to Associated Student Government by the candidate within 72 hours of assessment.

3.1 If a fine is not paid within the time allotted, then an advisor of the Associated Student Government may place a hold on the candidate’s transcript until the fine is paid.

ARTICLE V
Election Commissioner

Section 1. The election commissioner will be the person directly responsible for the administration of Associated Student Government elections, but no earlier than the official opening of the legislative session.

1.1 The election commissioner will be chosen at least six (6) weeks prior to the first day of elections.

1.1.1 The process of selecting the Election Commissioner shall be done through an application and interview process, with final recommendations for Election Commissioner and Deputy Election Commissioner coming from the President of Associated Student Government and subject to Senate Approval.

1.2.1 The election commissioner may not be a candidate in the election, or authorized representative thereof.

1.2 The election commissioner may be removed and/or replaced by the Senate Operations Committee, subject to Student Senate approval.

Section 2. The President of Associated Student Government shall appoint a Deputy Election Commissioner, subject to majority approval by the Senate.

2.1 The deputy commissioner shall assist the commissioner in the performance of his/her duties.

2.1.1 In the event that the commissioner in incapacitated, deputy commissioner shall act in his/her place.
2.2 The deputy commissioner is subject to same requirements and procedures for his/her election and removal as are outlined for the commissioner in Section 1.

Section 3. It shall be the responsibility of the election commissioner to:

3.1 Publicize information concerning the election prior to, during and after the election.
3.2 Enforce the election regulations.
3.3 Before the election:
   3.3.1 A general informational meeting will be arranged with all candidates four (4) weeks prior to the first day of elections.
   3.3.2 Check accuracy of the petitions submitted by the candidates.
   3.3.3 Arrange a “meet the candidates,” a general informational meeting for the campus population to be held during the daytime prior to the election.
   3.3.4 Arrange debates between the Presidential and Vice-Presidential candidates at least one week prior to the start of the election or at the discretion of the Election Commissioner, assuming there is more than one set of candidates running.
   3.3.5 If there is only one set of candidates running, a question and answer session with the candidates will take the place of the debates.
3.4 During the elections:
   3.4.1 Determine the locations for, and reserve area and equipment for the voting polls.
   3.4.2 Determine the hours for voting.
   3.4.3 Locate people to operate the voting polls.
3.5 Tabulate and publicize the results of the elections.

ARTICLE VI
Elections

Section 1. Spring elections shall be held on the Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of the third (3rd) week following Spring Break.

Section 2. Election dates are subject to change by the Student Senate.

ARTICLE VII
Voting

Section 1. The locations of the voting polls shall be determined by the Election Commissioner, subject to the Senate Operations Committee approval.
   1.1 Voting may occur electronically

Section 2. Those persons running the polls will be appointed by the election commissioner, subject to
the Senate Operations Committee approval.

2.1 No such individual may be a candidate or authorized person thereof.

2.2 Those persons will be responsible to the election commissioner.

Section 3. Students will vote according to their majors and classifications at the time of the elections.

Section 4. Voting will be done by secret ballot.

4.1 The ballot will contain information about the candidate including his/her name, as listed on his/her petition, the office which he/she is seeking and other biographical information.

4.1.1 The order in which the names are to be listed shall be specified in Article I, section 2.3.

4.1.2 The ballot shall have places for write-in votes equal in number to number of positions for that election.

4.1.3 All ballots will be printed according to school, and will include the following information: “Indicate the candidate(s) of your choice by placing a mark in the box(es) provided.”

4.1.3.1 “If you wish to vote for write-in candidate(s), you must also mark the box(es) provided.”

4.2 No one, except the election commissioner, in the presence of an ASG advisor, has the authority to open view election results for any reason whatsoever until after the closing of the polls on the final day of the election.

ARTICLE VIII
Counting Ballots

Section 1. After the polls have closed, a printout shall be taken to the officially designated area for counting.

1.1 Any ballot or portion of a ballot in which directions have not been correctly followed must be declared void by the election commissioner.

1.2 Write-in votes shall be counted if they contain both the first and last names of candidates, not necessarily spelled correctly and must be marked as indicated on the ballot.

1.2.1 Questionable spellings will be decided by the election commissioner.

Section 2. The candidate receiving a plurality of votes shall be declared the winner.

2.1 In constituencies with more than one representative, section 2 will be applied once for each position (i.e., for senate constituency with three seats, the top three
candidates, ranked in descending order of votes received, shall be declared the winner).

2.2 Write-in candidates must receive ten percent (10%) or more of the total ballots cast for that position in order to be declared a winner.

2.3 In the case of a tie, the election commissioner shall devise a run-off election, subject to Senate Operations approval.

Section 3. The following persons shall be the only persons present at counting of the election ballots:

3.1 One or more ASG faculty advisor(s), The election commissioner, deputy commissioner (if any), and any assistants specifically authorized by the election commissioner.

3.2 The above (section 3.1 through 3.4) is subject to provision that none of the persons present be a candidate or any person who at any time during the campaign was authorized as a candidate’s representative.

ARTICLE IX
Reporting of Election

Section 1. The election commissioner will be responsible for notifying all candidates who have been elected.

Section 2. It will also be the responsibility of the election commissioner to post lists regarding the results of election.

2.1 Lists will be posted at the following locations:
2.11 In the Rotunda of Plumb Hall
2.12 On the door of the Center for Student Involvement office
2.13 In The Bulletin

Section 3. Within one week (7 days) after the election, the election commissioner must submit a written summary of the election, separate from the election results, to the ASG President, to be kept on file in the Center for Student Involvement office and placed in the legislative summary for future reference.

ARTICLE X
Certification of Election

Section 1. The Student Senate shall approve the results of the election at the first meeting after the elections were held during the election commissioner’s report.
Section 2. Anyone wishing to challenge the results of election must present grounds for challenge, in writing, to the Chair of Senate Operations Committee within one academic week (5 school days) after the election.

2.1 It will be the responsibility of the election commissioner and Senate Operations to investigate the challenge.

2.2 If the challenge is found to be valid and would deem the election invalid, the election commissioner is responsible for devising the procedure for rectifying such invalidity, subject to approval of the Senate Operations Committee and Student Senate and is subject to appeal under the same procedure as outlined in Article IV, Section 2.52.

ARTICLE XI
Revision of Regulation

Section 1. Any revision in the election regulations must be approved by a majority vote of the Student Senate.