Article I: Membership

A. General Councilors are required to attend all weekly General Council meetings. Any General Councilor accumulating unexcused absences in more than one-third (1/3) of the General Council meetings per semester will be deemed by the Executive Board to have abandoned their seat,

B. General Councilors, excluding Hall Council representatives, are required to participate in at least one of the standing committees.

C. After accumulating three (3) unexcused absences from committee meetings per semester, each subsequent absence will be regarded as an unexcused absence from a General Council meeting,

D. General Councilors who are unable to attend a General Council meeting may have an absence excused by notifying the Vice President for Operations in advance of the meeting, at the discretion of the Vice President for Operations. In extenuating circumstances where a General Councilor is not reasonably able to provide advance notification, the Vice President for Operations may excuse the absence at their discretion,

E. General Councilors who are unable to attend a committee meeting may have an absence excused by notifying the committee chair in advance of the meeting, at the discretion of the committee chair. In extenuating circumstances where a General Councilor is not reasonably able to provide advance notification, the committee chair may excuse the absence at their discretion,

F. If a General Councilor joins the RSA at a point when they would be unable to fulfill the above requirements, the Executive Board may choose to grant him or her voting rights for that semester,

G. General Councilors excused from a meeting will not count towards the total membership when determining quorum,

H. In the at-large membership of the General Council, membership will be accomplished by completing and submitting to the Executive Board a membership petition with the signatures of twenty-five (25) residents from the residence hall complex in which the petitioner resides,

I. Resident Assistant representatives to the General Council will be assigned their seats by completing and submitting to the Executive Board a membership petition with the signatures of ten (10) Resident Assistants from any residence hall.
Article II: Committee Assignments

A. All General Councilors, excluding Hall Council representatives, are responsible for joining and participating in at least one standing committee,

B. If a General Councilor wishes to change committees for any reason, the Vice President for Operations will be responsible for facilitating that request,

C. Committee chairs will be responsible for maintaining committee attendance records, and providing these records to the Vice President for Operations in order to enable the enforcement of the rules set in Article I of these Bylaws.

Article III: Legislation

A. If legislation that passes the General Council is not approved by the signature of the President within one week, the legislation is enacted. If vetoed, the reasons for the veto must be presented by the President at the following General Council meeting. The General Council can override this veto with a two-thirds (2/3) majority,

B. Legislation pending on the floor of the General Council at the end of the Spring semester must be reintroduced at the opening of the Summer 1 session. Any changes in the legislation approved in the previous semester will be retained. If the sponsor of the legislation is not present during the Summer 1 session, the individual must appoint a new sponsor for the legislation. If a new sponsor is not appointed, the legislation will be postponed until a new sponsor is appointed,

C. The following forms of legislation shall be used by the RSA:
   1. Council Resolution: A Council Resolution will be used to call for action from the University on any matter that affects resident students, directly or indirectly. Upon approval by a majority of the General Council, these resolutions will be forwarded to the appropriate University offices for consideration,
   2. Internal Resolution: An Internal Resolution shall be used to define the day to day operations of the RSA, its committees, subcommittees, and members in order to clarify the powers and duties stated within the Constitution and Bylaws. Upon approval by a majority of the General Council, these resolutions will become RSA policy,
   3. Sense of the Council: A Sense of the Council shall be used to formally express the opinion of the resident student community about any matter of concern to the
RSA constituency. Upon approval by a majority of the General Council, the
document shall be forwarded to the appropriate University offices and others for
consideration.

D. Joint legislation shall be used for the RSA to express the opinion of the resident student
community or call for action from the University in conjunction with another deliberative
body,

E. All legislation must be provided to the General Council at least forty-eight (48) hours in
advance of being voted on.

   1. This section of the Bylaws may be suspended in accordance with the provisions
      for a suspension of the rules.

**Article IV: Voting**

A. Absentee voting is defined as submitting a sealed written ballot containing the vote on
   specific legislation to the Executive Board no less than twenty-four (24) hours before the
   vote. Absentee voting is not permitted,

B. Proxy voting is defined as sending a person to vote in one’s place,

   1. Proxy voting is only permitted for hall council representatives, the SRA
      Representative and the NRHH Liaison. In the event that these representatives
      cannot attend a General Council meeting, another member of their respective
      executive body may take their place with prior notification given to the Vice
      President for Operations.

   2. If a Hall Council Vice President, SRA Representative, or the NRHH Liaison holds
      an additional position that is granted a voting right, another member of their
      executive body may take their position with prior notification given to the Vice
      President for Operations.

C. For final votes on legislation and elections, a full vote count is required unless the General
   Council passes a motion to adopt the legislation by unanimous consent.

**Article V: Impeachment/Removal from Office**

Any General Councilor may move articles of impeachment against another General Councilor.
There must be a second to the motion. The General Councilor who made the motion then retains
the floor to explain the reasons for the motion. Once debate has closed, a vote will be taken to
bring charges against the accused. A majority vote is necessary to bring charges. If charges are
to be brought, a special meeting of the General Council will convene within two (2) weeks to
hear the charges. At this meeting, the General Councilor bringing the charges will present their
case for the charges. The accused General Councilor will then have the opportunity to rebut the charges. A vote on the question of removal from their position will then be taken. A three-fourths (3/4) vote of the General Council membership in favor of removal is necessary to remove the member from their position. The questions of impeachment and removal from office cannot be tabled for more than one week; neither can they be referred to a subcommittee.

**Article VI: Student Government Association (herein “SGA”) Representative**

A. The representative to the Student Government Association will be elected by a majority vote of the General Council during the spring Executive Board elections,

B. That General Councilor is not required to forfeit their Hall Council position.

**Article VII: Alumni Affairs Coordinator (herein “AAC”)**

A. The AAC will be elected by a majority vote of the General Council during the spring Executive Board elections,

B. That General Councilor is not required to forfeit their Hall Council position.

**Article VIII: Senior Resident Assistant (herein “SRA”) Representative**

The SRA Representative will be appointed by the RSA Executive Board.

**Article IX: National Residence Hall Honorary (herein “NRHH”) Liaison**

A. The NRHH Liaison will be elected by the NRHH General Council as an NRHH Executive Board member during spring Executive Board elections,

B. The NRHH Liaison will be chosen by the NRHH Executive Board after elections.

**Article X: Public Relations Officer (herein “PRO”)**

A. The PRO will be elected by a majority vote of the General Council during spring Executive Board elections,

B. That General Councilor is not required to forfeit their Hall Council position.

**Article XI: Parliamentarian**

The Parliamentarian has the following powers and responsibilities:

A. Advises the Executive Board and General Council on matters related to parliamentary procedure and governing documents

B. Files legislation and other formal documentation for the RSA.
**Article XII: Finance Rules**

A. Finance rules, regulations, and operations will be herein guided by the Resident Activity Fee Manual.

B. Hall Councils desiring funding with less than minimum membership can appeal to the RSA Executive Board.

C. Hall funds frozen for lack of compliance with Resident Activity Fee Manual requirements can be unfrozen by retroactively complying with Resident Activity Fee Manual requirements. RSA, in conjunction with the Student Activities Business Office, may waive this requirement for extraordinary circumstances.

D. Internal budgets will be formed based on a percentage of the RAF collected. Fundraising money from corporate partners of NACURH or its equivalents will be the primary source of funding for the NCC budget for conferences.

E. The RSA pledges to return at least two-thirds (2/3) of the money collected in student fees for which the RSA is responsible to the resident population.

**Article XIII: Standard Operating Procedures**

A. The order of succession for the executive board will be President, Vice President for Operations, Vice President for Advocacy, Vice President for Engagement and Leadership, one of the Co-Vice Presidents for Programming and Collaboration, as determined by the Executive Board, the other Co-Vice President for Programming and Collaboration, and the National Communications Coordinator.

B. The Executive Board and Officers will collectively compile standard operating procedures for their respective responsibilities.

C. Each respective Executive Board member or Officer will be responsible for disseminating the resulting documents to the Hall Councils, RAs, Hall Council Advisors, and any other parties, as deemed appropriate by the Executive Board.

**Article XIV: Conference Delegations**

A. All Northeast Affiliate of College and University Residence Halls/NACURH conference delegations will be selected by the National Communications Coordinator (herein “NCC”) with advice and consent of the Executive Board. One delegate spot on the NACURH delegation must be reserved for the NCC-elect.
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B. The NCC shall have the power and responsibility to select and prepare a delegation advisor. The advisor must be a faculty or staff member employed by Northeastern University.
C. If a conference delegate does not follow the RSA or NACURH delegation guidelines then, under the direction of the NCC that delegate will not be allowed to attend future conferences,
D. Three spots will be reserved for the RSA President, NRHH President, and ANCC at all regional and national conferences. Representatives can be appointed to fill these spots.
E. The outgoing NCC and NCC-elect will share the responsibilities of managing the delegation for the NACURH conference.

Article XV: Definitions

A. A “functional Hall Council” will be defined as the elected or appointed residents of that hall complex, who meet with their advisor on a regular basis and turn in weekly minutes to the Vice President for Operations, and who complies with the responsibilities of a Hall Council defined by the RSA Constitution,
B. RSA’s “constituency” will be defined as any student living in University housing,
C. A “student in good standing” will be defined as a student with a QPA of 2.0 or higher who is not on any form of probation or suspension. The Executive Board will be held to a QPA of 2.5 per semester or higher during their term of office. If a QPA of 2.5 is not reached during a particular semester, the Executive Board member will be referred to the RSA advisor,
D. A “member” will be defined as any student on the Executive Board, General Council, and any Hall Council,
E. “Spending authority” will be defined as the authorization to approve transactions to a certain account,
F. A “Sense of the Council” will be defined as a voice to the opinions of the resident students of the University on any matter of their concern upon a majority approval of the General Council,
G. “Impeachment” will be defined as the process whereby an accusation of serious misconduct or sustained failure to perform the duties of one’s position is made as set forth in the Constitution, Bylaws, or legislation of the RSA,
H. “University housing” is defined as a Northeastern University owned residence hall or leased property within the City of Boston,
I. A “semester” is defined as the majority of the Fall term, Spring term, or the aggregate of the Summer terms at Northeastern University,

J. A “residence hall complex” is defined as a grouping of residence halls as decided by the The Department of Housing and Residential Life,

K. “Office hours” are defined as scheduled time devoted to be spent in the RSA/NRHH office unless position-specific duties require otherwise,

L. “Quorum” is defined as the presence of more than 50 percent of the unexcused voting members at a General Council meeting.

**Article XVI: Amendments**

A. These Bylaws may be amended by a majority vote of the General Council,

B. Any recommended substantive amendments to these Bylaws or the Constitution must be presented to the General Council no less than two (2) weeks before they are put to a vote.

**Article XIV: RSA Approval**

These Bylaws have been approved as amended.

________________________________________  _________________
Andrew Smith                                      Date
President
Resident Student Association
Northeastern University
## Versions and Amendments

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