

# CONSTITUTION OF THE REGIS COLLEGE STUDENT BODY

## I. STUDENT BODY

1. The student body of Regis College shares a common responsibility to carry out the mission of Regis College as stated in the *Regis College Calendar*.
2. The student body exercises leadership and service to the Regis community collectively through the Student Council (SC). The SC represents the student body in carrying out the mission of Regis College.

## II. MISSION STATEMENT OF THE STUDENT COUNCIL

The Regis College Student Council is committed to carrying out the mission of the College of becoming a community that witnesses to the greater glory of God. To fulfill our commitment to an *integrated spirituality, a faith that does justice, critical dialogue* and *academic excellence*, the Student Council provides representative student leadership that fosters communication, promotes student interests, coordinates student activities and provides students with opportunities for participation in communal prayer.

## III. PURPOSE OF THE STUDENT COUNCIL

1. *Prayer*. The first responsibility of the members of the SC is to participate in, and foster communal prayer for the mission of Regis College and the Regis community.
2. *Social Justice*. As part of the SC mandate, SC members will personally and communally reflect on social justice issues as pertaining to the Roman Catholic community, and discern possible ways of responding responsibly to concrete situations of injustice in the local and global community.
3. *Communication*. SC members are responsible to foster communication and coordinate activities for community building among the students. They are responsible to give voice to students by presenting student concerns and providing feedback to the Dean of Students on College life, policies and activities. The Dean of Students presents these to the President and the Dean of Regis College.
4. *Student Representatives*. The Dean of Students, in cooperation with the Dean of Regis College, shall be responsible for the nomination as appropriate of all student representatives to the Regis College Academic Council, and in cooperation with the Degree Directors of Regis College, shall also nominate student representatives to such Regis and TST councils and committees which require them. The

students on the committees will report to SC as appropriate, keeping within the bounds of confidentiality.

5. *Representing Regis College.* SC members should be available to represent Regis College at TST events or other events where representation is needed.

#### IV. MEMBERSHIP

1. *Members of SC.* Students, who are chosen from the various programs of study to serve as representatives on the Academic Council, are *de facto* members of SC. Other SC members volunteer of their own initiative, and make a renewable year-long commitment to attend and participate actively in SC meetings, and to serve on SC subcommittees and/or in other capacities, as required by SC.

#### V. OFFICERS

1. *The Student President.* One member of SC shall be designated to serve as Student President. The final decision, in consultation with on-going members of SC, is the responsibility of the Dean of Students along with the Dean of Regis College. The Student President is a member of the Academic Council, and shall be available to serve on the Regis College Board of Governors and on such committees as deemed necessary by the College.
2. *The Chair.* SC meetings shall be chaired by a SC member who is chosen by SC at the first meeting of each academic year. The Chair is responsible to lead the SC meetings in a well-organized and respectful manner. The Chair, together with the Dean of Students and the Student President, is responsible to determine the agenda of the SC meetings.
3. *The Secretary.* The Secretary will record the minutes of all SC meetings and will provide copies to the Student President and the Dean of Students, who will distribute them to all SC members. A summary of the minutes will be posted on the Regis College web site.
4. *The Dean of Students.* The Dean of Students acts as a liaison between the student body and the President and Dean of Regis College. He/she, along with the Dean of Regis College, chooses the student representatives for the Academic Council, who are approved by the Appointments and Ranks Committee.
5. *Other.* To better serve the mission of the SC and to respond to the needs of the Regis College student body, other temporary or permanent official positions might be required on SC. These positions would have to be approved by SC. The Dean of Students makes the final selection of officers, after discussion with SC.

## VI. PROCEDURES

1. *Collectivity.* SC operates collectively. The officers of SC serve in their position and capacity at the will and discretion of the SC and the Dean of Students.
2. *Meetings.*
  - a. SC shall meet at least three times each semester. All meetings shall be open to the entire student body. A quorum of 50% of SC members is required.
  - b. The first meeting of the academic year, chaired by the Dean of Students, will be in August. All students present can volunteer as members of SC and to hold any of the offices. Preparations for Orientation will be made then.
  - c. New Regis College students will be personally invited for the meeting in September. This meeting will include the review of the SC Constitution, the commitment and confirmation of SC members, the appointment of SC officers, as well as the naming of representatives on the Academic Council.
  - d. The final meeting of the SC will be in April, when SC members and officers will terminate their service for the academic year. The final tasks of the SC will be to review and evaluate the work of the academic year, and assist in the ongoing renewal and betterment of student leadership and service through discussing and suggesting possible changes in SC for the following academic year. All members of SC will be thanked for their service to the student body and Regis College. The students may volunteer for the SC of the next academic year.
3. *Decisions.* Decisions shall be taken by consensus whenever possible. If after substantial deliberation consensus is not forthcoming, the matter may be brought to a vote at the request of the majority of present SC members. All students present at the meeting have a voice, but only SC members would have a vote. A majority vote (50% + 1) of all those present eligible to vote would be necessary for the matter to pass.
4. *By-laws.* SC shall be responsible for establishing and maintaining by-laws. Compliance with the mandates of this Constitution shall be the guiding principle for relevant prescription in the by-laws.
5. *Amendments.* An amendment to this Constitution must be proposed by or through a member of the SC. Every member of SC must be notified of the proposed amendment in draft form at least two weeks prior to the meeting at which it is to be discussed. Following its preliminary deliberations, SC must make provision for the comments of the student body. The amendment may be reformulated, and if necessary brought to a vote at a second meeting. There needs to be a 2/3 majority if consensus is not reached.

## REGIS COLLEGE STUDENT COUNCIL BY-LAWS

1. The student representatives on Academic Council (*de facto* members of SC) shall consist of:
  - Four representatives from the Conjoint Basic Degree programs, preferably representing all programs (Master of Divinity, Master of Arts in Ministry and Spirituality, Master of Theological Studies). At least one representative must be a first year student.
  - One representative from the Diploma programs (Integration for Ministry, Eastern Christian Studies, Lonergan Studies) who is not concurrently enrolled in a Conjoint Basic Degree or Advanced Degree program.
  - Two representatives from the Advanced Degree programs (Master of Arts in Theology, Master of Theology, Doctor of Ministry, Doctor of Theology/Doctor of Philosophy in Theology).  
These representatives may be full or part-time students.
2. Records and files of transactions and meetings of the SC must be kept to ensure continuity throughout the years. This includes records of the planning of events. Student officers will submit sub-committee files to the Dean of Students at the end of the academic year for filing.
3. SC members are expected to attend 2/3 of the regular scheduled meetings.
4. The Dean of Students is responsible for keeping record of all monies spent and will give financial reports every year to the SC and to the Dean of Regis College.
5. SC members shall be equally responsible for planning and organizing SC events and should be available to serve as members on sub-committees as required.
6. Regis College students are encouraged to attend SC meetings and to participate and volunteer for various activities organized by SC.

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Read by President of Regis College January 20, 2005  
Read by Dean of Regis College January 20, 2005

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