

School of Public and Environmental Affairs Public Finance Association at Indiana University

CONSTITUTION

Preamble

This organization shall be known as the School of Public and Environmental Affairs Public Finance Association (SPEAPFA). SPEAPFA hereinafter referred.

ARTICLE I: Membership

Participation in the SPEAPFA Student Chapter must be without regard to arbitrary consideration of such characteristics as age, color, disability, ethnicity, gender, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status. Any student enrolled in undergraduate or graduate classes at Indiana University may become a member of this chapter.

ARTICLE II: University Compliance

This organization shall comply with all Indiana University regulations, and local, state and federal laws.

ARTICLE III: Executive Officers

Management of chapter practices, procedures, and activities shall be vested in the Executive Board, which will consist of officers elected from this student organization. This chapter will decide qualifications of these officers, as necessary. These decisions must be met with the approval of the chapter Faculty Advisor.

As all members of the Executive Board perform specific administrative functions, all officers are to openly assist each other as needed in the efficient and professional performance of their respective duties.

President:

Shall preside at all meetings of this organization; shall act as chairperson of the Executive Board; shall generate and update the organization's mission statement and annual goals/objectives; shall be responsible for coordinating the semester calendar of events for the organization; shall administer the business of this organization between regular meetings, exercising authority consistent with the powers given in the bylaws.

Vice President:

Shall perform the duties of the president in the event of his or her absence, disability, or at the president's request. If the office of the president becomes vacant, the vice president will temporarily act as president of this organization. The organization members will then nominate and vote on a permanent replacement for the president. The vice president also assists in oversight of other student officers and preparation of the budget.

Treasurer:

The treasurer is responsible for gathering, distributing, and managing the organization's funds. The Treasurer prepares the budget, with the assistance of the Vice President. Sound organization operations require the establishment of and adherence to pragmatic budgets. All officers should be informed of funds budgeted for organization activities prior to planning for the year.

ARTICLE IV: Advisor

The Faculty Advisor will advise the Executive Council on any and all matters related to the administration of SPEAPFA.

ARTICLE V: Meetings

Notice of the time and place of each meeting shall be stated in advance. A reminder will be sent to all members no more than seven (7) days before the meeting.

Three (3) voting members present at any meeting shall constitute a quorum. Such quorum may, by majority vote of the members present, transact any business that may properly be brought before the meeting, except as otherwise indicated in these bylaws. A meeting may be adjourned or recessed by majority vote of the members present whether or not a quorum is present.

At all meetings of the members, the President, or the Vice President in event of the President's absence, shall preside as Chair. In the absence of said officers, the Chair shall be elected by a majority of the members present. Every regular member of the chapter in good standing shall be entitled to one vote on any matter of the chapter's business to be acted upon by vote of the members.

ARTICLE VI: Elections

Elections for all positions shall be held annually at a time designated by the Executive Council, but should allow sufficient time for a smooth transition and sharing of information between out-going and incoming officers. Elections should be held no later than four weeks before the end of Spring Semester. Student officers who wish to continue in their current positions and run for a second or third term may do so with the Advisor's approval. Elections will be conducted through private ballot. The Faculty Advisor and at least one graduating senior chapter member will count the votes.

If needed, the President shall fill a sudden vacancy on the Executive Board by appointing a temporary replacement. The matter shall then be brought to the attention of the general chapter membership. The membership will nominate and elect a fellow chapter member for the vacant position. In case of more than one candidate for a position, whoever captures the majority of votes is elected.

In the event membership becomes dramatically low and the electoral process becomes ineffective, the Faculty Advisor may interview the remaining members of this general membership and appoint them to positions stated in these Bylaws in which the individuals will then represent this student chapter accordingly.

If the Faculty Advisor position becomes vacant, the general membership of this chapter will nominate a professor of the School of Public and Environmental Affairs. Any advisor must be a member of the SPEA Faculty. An offer to fill the vacant position will then be presented to the professor for acceptance. The acceptance must be completed voluntarily. The advisory position must be filled by at least one Faculty Advisor.

ARTICLE VII: Hazing

Hazing shall be defined as any conduct which subjects another person, whether physically, mentally, emotionally, or psychologically, to anything that may endanger, abuse, degrade, or intimidate the person as a condition of association with a group or organization, regardless of the person's consent or lack of consent. Hazing will not be conducted or tolerated by the SPEAPFA.

ARTICLE VIII: Budget

The Vice President and Treasurer prepare the budget. The budget will be revised at the beginning of each semester by the Vice President and Treasurer.

ARTICLE IX: Finances

The Treasurer and Faculty Advisor will oversee the finances. In the event that a financial burden is placed on this organization, establishment of a dues paying policy may be proposed and voted on by the Executive Board. The Faculty Advisor must complete a review of this matter before the decision can become part of the chapter's policies and Bylaws.

ARTICLE X: Personal Gain Clause

This organization shall ethically raise and distribute profits from organizational functions to either the organization or to members who provide a service that directly benefits the organization. Individual members may not receive compensation directly from for-profit companies if acting as a representative of a student organization.

ARTICLE XI: Amendments

The Bylaws of this organization may be amended, at any time, by a deciding vote of the general membership. To constitute a deciding vote, two-thirds of the chapter must agree to the policy change. The officers of the Executive Board shall be responsible for notifying all members of an upcoming amendment proposal and vote. The membership shall be notified at least two weeks prior to any amendment-voting meeting. The Faculty Advisor will be required to attend and supervise any and all of these meetings.