

CONSTITUTION  
OF THE  
CLASS GOVERNMENTS  
OF THE  
UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT GOVERNMENT  
OF  
PRINCETON UNIVERSITY  
AS AMENDED

WITH DATES OF AMENDMENT AND EXPLANATORY APPENDICES



APRIL 25, 2014.—Ratified by the undergraduates.

APRIL 25, 2014.—Last amended.

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PRINCETON UNIVERSITY UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT GOVERNMENT  
PRINCETON : 2014

C O N T E N T S

Foreword ..... II

CONSTITUTION

Section. 1. Objects of Class Government Generally..... 1  
Sec. 2. Senior Class Government; Commencement ..... 1  
Sec. 3. Campus Policy; Cooperation with the Senate ..... 1  
Sec. 4. Election of Class Officers..... 2  
Sec. 5. Vacancies ..... 2  
Sec. 6. Term of Office ..... 2  
Sec. 7. Holding of Class Government Office Generally ..... 3  
Sec. 8. Other Duties ..... 3  
Sec. 9. Monthly Public Meetings..... 4  
Sec. 10. Publication of Budgets and Reports..... 4  
Sec. 11. Removal of Class Officers ..... 4  
Sec. 12. Rules and Procedures ..... 5  
Sec. 13. Amendment ..... 5  
Sec. 14. General Provisions ..... 5

APPENDICES

Appendix A—Dates of Amendment ..... 8  
Appendix B—Organization and Citation ..... 9  
Appendix C—Explanatory Section Interpolations..... 11  
Appendix D—Voting Thresholds ..... 12  
Appendix E—Historical and Revision Notes..... 13  
Appendix F—Amendments to the Constitution..... *Appendix F is a separate document*

## FOREWORD

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This current edition of the Class Government Constitution is the result of the referendum question approved by the undergraduates in the spring of 2014. For more information on that referendum and the ratification of this Constitution, see the Revision Notes in Appendix E.

THE CLASS GOVERNMENTS.

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Cite this Constitution: Class Gov't Const.

To cite the provisions in this Constitution, use section and inferior subdivision number. Thus, Class Gov't Const. § 0(a) refers to subsection (a) of section 0 of the Class Government Constitution (also, section 0(a) of the Class Government Constitution). For more information, see Appendix B.

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**SECTION 1. OBJECTS OF CLASS GOVERNMENT GENERALLY.**

The objects of each Class Government are as follows:

- (1) Create substantive and class-specific programs that contribute broadly to the University, local, and national communities on behalf of and to the direct benefit of the class.
- (2) Plan social events designed to foster class unity and spirit.
- (3) Design, order, and distribute class gear to promote class identity.
- (4) Foster relationships with the parent and grandparent alumni classes.
- (5) Establish distinct class identity and unity throughout and beyond the undergraduate years at the University.

(§ 901.)

**SEC. 2. SENIOR CLASS GOVERNMENT; COMMENCEMENT.**

(a) **IN GENERAL.**— In addition to the objects described in section 1, the objects of the Senior Class Government include the following:

- (1) Organize—
  - (A) Class Day;
  - (B) Senior Prom;
  - (C) Senior Check Out; and
  - (D) Other events and activities relating to Commencement.
- (2) Regularly solicit input from the senior class when making decisions relating to Commencement.

(b) **SENIOR CLASS PRESIDENT AND ELECTIONS.**—As described in section 801 of the Senate Constitution, the Senior Class President shall participate in the appointment of the Chief Elections Manager and any Elections Manager.

(§§ 801, 902.)

**SEC. 3. CAMPUS POLICY; COOPERATION WITH THE SENATE.**

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—A Class Government shall not engage in an issue relating to campus policy unless that issue has a unique and singular effect on the class.

(b) **WORK WITH SENATORS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—In the rare occasion that a campus policy issue has a unique and singular effect on the class, a Class Government may work in conjunction with each corresponding Senator.

(2) **COMMUNICATION OF CONCERNS TO SENATORS.**—If an undergraduate in the class communicates a policy-related concern to the Class Government, the Class Government shall forward the concern to each corresponding Senator.

(3) **REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE BY SENATE MEMBER.**—If a Senate member requests the assistance of a Class Government or Class Officer with a project or other action, that Class Government or Class Officer may assist.

(4) **REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE BY CLASS GOVERNMENT OR CLASS OFFICER.**—A Class Government or Class Officer may request the assistance of a Senate member in doing a project or other action.

(§§ 309, 902.)

**SEC. 4. ELECTION OF CLASS OFFICERS.****(a) FRESHMAN CLASS GOVERNMENT.—**

(1) ELECTION.—As described in article VIII (sections 802 through 805) of the Senate Constitution, the freshman class shall elect 5 freshmen to serve as the Freshman Class Government.

(2) COMPOSITION.—The Freshman Class Government is comprised of 5 freshmen of equal responsibility who shall work collaboratively to fulfill the objects described in section 1.

**(b) SOPHOMORE, JUNIOR, AND SENIOR CLASS GOVERNMENT.—**

(1) ELECTION.—As described in article VIII (sections 802 through 805) of the Senate Constitution, in the spring, the freshman, sophomore, and junior classes shall each elect 5 undergraduates in the corresponding class to serve as the corresponding Class Government.

(2) COMPOSITION.—The Sophomore, Junior, and Senior Class Governments are each comprised of the—

- (A) Class President;
- (B) Class Vice President
- (C) Class Treasurer;
- (D) Class Secretary; and
- (E) Class Social Chair.

(§ 904.)

**SEC. 5. VACANCIES.**

(a) APPLICATION AND INTERVIEW PROCESS.—If a Class Government office is vacant, the remaining corresponding Class Officers shall organize an application and interview process office that is open to each eligible undergraduate.

(b) TIME PERIOD.—The length of time of the process is up to 14 days.

**(c) ADVERTISING.—**

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise provided in subparagraph (B), the Class President shall advertise the process in a class-wide email.

(2) FRESHMAN CLASS GOVERNMENT.—The Freshman Class Officers shall designate 1 of the Freshman Class Officers who shall advertise the process in a class-wide email.

(d) APPOINTMENT.—After conducting the process, the remaining corresponding Class Officers may appoint a replacement by a 3/4 vote.

(§ 205(e).)

**SEC. 6. TERM OF OFFICE.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise provided in subsection (a), the term of office of each Class Officer begins on June 1 and ends on May 31 of the following calendar year.

(b) FRESHMAN CLASS OFFICER.—The term of office of each Freshman Class Officer begins upon being elected and ends on May 31 of the same academic year.

(c) **TERM OF OFFICE OF REPLACEMENT.**—The term of office of a replacement under section 5 shall be for the remainder of the term of that office.

(§ 206(a)(2).)

**SEC. 7. HOLDING OF CLASS GOVERNMENT OFFICE GENERALLY.**

(a) **CLASS OFFICERS MEMBERS MUST BE UNDERGRADUATES IN CORRESPONDING CLASS.**—Each Class Officer must be an undergraduate in the corresponding class.

(b) **CLASS GOVERNMENT OFFICE MAY BE HELD BY ONLY ONE UNDERGRADUATE.**—A Class Government office may be held by only 1 undergraduate at any time.

(c) **PROHIBITION ON HOLDING MORE THAN ONE CLASS GOVERNMENT OFFICE.**—An undergraduate may hold only 1 Class Government office at any time.

(d) **ASSUMPTION OF NEW ELECTED SENATE OR CLASS GOVERNMENT OFFICE.**—If a Class Officer wins election to or is appointed to another Class Government or elected Senate office, that individual shall be considered to have resigned the previous Class Government office upon assuming the new office.

(e) **RESIGNATION FROM OFFICE.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Except as otherwise provided in subparagraph (C), a Class Officer shall be considered to have resigned from office if the applicable following provision is satisfied:

(A) **CLASS OFFICER EXCEPT CLASS PRESIDENT.**—In the case of a Class Officer except the Class President, the Class Officer notifies the Class President in writing of the resignation.

(B) **CLASS PRESIDENT.**—In the case of the Class President, the Class President notifies the Class Vice President in writing of the resignation.

(C) **FRESHMAN CLASS GOVERNMENT.**—In the case of a Freshman Class Officer, the Freshman Class Officer notifies the remaining Freshman Class Officers in writing of the resignation.

(2) **OTHER CONDITIONS GENERALLY.**—A Class Officer shall be considered to have resigned from office if the Class Officer—

(A) withdraws from the University for a leave of absence;

(B) leaves campus for study abroad or field study during the academic year;

(C) is suspended or expelled from the University; or

(D) assumes a new Class Government or elected Senate office as described in subsection (d).

(3) **RESIGNATION IS FINAL.**—A resignation under this subsection is final, even if the undergraduate in question returns to the University before the end of the term of office.

(§ 207.)

**SEC. 8. OTHER DUTIES.**

(a) **SERVICE ON HONOR COMMITTEE.**—In accordance with section 2 of article I of the Constitution of the Honor System, the Sophomore Class President and Junior Class President shall each serve as a member of the Honor Committee.

(b) ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS ORGANIZED BY ODUS.—Each Class Officer shall attend each ODUS Class Government meeting unless duly excused by ODUS.

(§ 905.)

#### **SEC. 9. MONTHLY PUBLIC MEETINGS.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to recess schedules, each Class Government shall hold at least 1 public meeting each month for any member of the corresponding class to ask questions and provide suggestions to the Class Government.

(b) MINUTES.—The corresponding Class Secretary shall take the minutes of each public meeting and publish these minutes in print or electronic media.

(§ 906.)

#### **SEC. 10. PUBLICATION OF BUDGETS AND REPORTS.**

At the end of each semester, each Class Government shall publish the following for its corresponding class:

- (1) The Class Government budget for that semester.
- (2) The Class Government semester report.

(§ 907.)

#### **SEC. 11. REMOVAL OF CLASS OFFICERS.**

(a) RECALL.—A Class Officer may be recalled in accordance with section 901 of the Senate Constitution.

(b) EXPULSION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In accordance with this subsection, by a 3/4 vote of all Class Officers from each class, the Class Governments may expel a Class Officer from office for nonfeasance, misfeasance, malfeasance, or gross misconduct in office.

(2) REMAINING CLASS OFFICERS TO AGREE TO EXPULSION PROCEEDINGS.—A Class Officer shall face expulsion proceedings only if each of the remaining corresponding Class Officers agrees to initiate those proceedings.

(3) NOTIFICATION.—The remaining corresponding Class Officers shall notify the Class Officer in question and each Class Officer from each class of their intention to hold expulsion proceedings at the next Class Government–ODUS meeting.

(4) PROCEEDINGS.—

(A) REMAINING CLASS OFFICERS TO PRESENT RATIONALE.—At the Class Government–ODUS meeting as described in paragraph (3), the remaining corresponding Class Officers shall explain why the Class Officer in question should be expelled.

(B) CLASS OFFICER MAY GIVE DEFENSE.—Before the Class Governments vote on the expulsion, the Class Officer in question may present a defense before the Class Governments.

(§ 1002.)

**SEC. 12. RULES AND PROCEDURES.**

(a) **RULES APPLICABLE TO CLASS GOVERNMENTS GENERALLY.**—In accordance with subsection (c), by a majority vote of all Class Officers from each class, the Class Governments may prescribe any rule or procedure applicable to the Class Governments generally.

(b) **RULES APPLICABLE TO SPECIFIC CLASS GOVERNMENT.**—In accordance with subsection (c), by a majority vote of all Class Officers from a Class Government, those Class Officers may prescribe any rule or procedure applicable to that Class Government.

(c) **REASON FOR RULE OR PROCEDURE; ACCORDANCE WITH CONSTITUTION.**—A rule or procedure established under this section shall be—

- (1) for the orderly and efficient operation of the entity in question;
- (2) supplementary to any applicable provision in this Constitution; and
- (3) in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution.

(§ 406.)

**SEC. 13. AMENDMENT.**

(a) **REFERENDUM.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—This Constitution may be amended by a referendum in accordance with article X (sections 1001 through 1003) of the Senate Constitution.

(2) **VOTE REQUIREMENT.**—A referendum result shall amend this Constitution if—

- (A) at least 1/6 of the undergraduates vote in the referendum; and
- (B) 3/5 of the votes cast in the referendum are in the affirmative.

(b) **CLASS GOVERNMENT VOTE.**—The Class Governments may amend this Constitution by a 3/4 vote of all Class Officers from each class.

(Art. XII; amend. 1, § 1, Apr. 25, 2014.)

**SEC. 14. GENERAL PROVISIONS.**

(a) **DEFINITIONS.**—As used in this Constitution, unless the context indicates otherwise:

(1) **MALFEASANCE.**—The term “malfeasance” means malicious or negligent exercise of a duty.

(2) **GROSS MISCONDUCT IN OFFICE.**—The term “gross misconduct in office” means—

- (A) the corrupt violation of an assigned duty;
- (B) a dereliction of duty;
- (C) unlawful behavior; or
- (D) behavior that violates applicable University policy.

(3) **MISFEASANCE.**—The term “misfeasance” means the performance of a duty in a wrongful manner.

(4) **NONFEASANCE.**—The term “nonfeasance” means the failure to act when a duty to act exists.

(5) ODUS.—The term “ODUS” means the Office of the Dean of Undergraduate Students.

(6) SENATE.—The term “Senate” means the Senate of the Undergraduate Student Government of Princeton University

(7) SENATE CONSTITUTION.—The term “Senate Constitution” means the Constitution of the Senate of the Undergraduate Student Government of Princeton University.

(8) UNDERGRADUATE.—The term “undergraduate” means a Princeton University student who—

(A) is pursuing either the A.B. or the B.S.E. degree; and

(B) satisfies the requirements for regular enrollment in accordance with the current edition of Rights, Rules, Responsibilities.

(9) UNIVERSITY.—The term “University” means Princeton University.

(b) RULES OF CONSTRUCTION.—

(1) SINGULAR INCLUDES PLURAL AND VICE VERSA.—As used in this Constitution, a word that imports the singular also includes the plural, and a word that imports the plural also includes the singular.

(2) DAY AND MONTH.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—As used in this Constitution, unless the context indicates otherwise:

(i) DAY.—The term “day” means a day during the academic year when the University is in session.

(ii) MONTH.—The term “month” means a month during the academic year when the University is in session.

(B) CLASS GOVERNMENT WORK.—The terms “day” and “month” shall not be construed to restrict any Class Government work or project that may be ongoing when the University is not in session.

(3) CORRESPONDING.—The term “corresponding” modifies a term that directly and logically relates to another term.

(c) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING CHANGES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Senior Class Secretary or designee of the Senior Class Secretary, in consultation with the Class Secretary for each remaining class, may—

(A) correct article and section designations;

(B) correct punctuation;

(C) correct cross-references;

(D) update footnotes and appendices;

(E) update the title page, Contents page, and Foreword; and

(F) make such other technical and conforming changes to this Constitution as may be necessary to reflect the intent of the classes and the undergraduates.

(2) SENIOR CLASS SECRETARY SHALL INFORM CLASS GOVERNMENTS.—Before making a technical or conforming change under subsection (a), the Senior Class Secretary or designee of the Senior Class Secretary shall notify each Class Government of that change.

(3) CLASS GOVERNMENTS MAY OVERTURN ACTION.—If the Senior Class Secretary or designee of the Senior Class Secretary has made a change under paragraph (1), the Class Governments may overturn that change by a majority vote of all Class Officers from each class at the next Class Government—ODUS meeting.

(4) CHANGE SHALL NOT BE SUBSTANTIVE.—The Senior Class Secretary or designee of the Senior Class Secretary shall not make a change that substantively alters the scope or meaning of any provision in this Constitution.

(Art. XIII.)

## **APPENDIX A—DATES OF AMENDMENT**

This Constitution was amended on the following dates:

- (1) April 25, 2014 (ratification).
- (2) April 25, 2014 (Class Gov't Const. amend. 1).

## APPENDIX B—ORGANIZATION AND CITATION

### PART 1. ORGANIZATION AND CITATION OF THE CONSTITUTION.

The component parts of the Constitution and the proper manner of citing them are indicated in the following outline:

#### SEC. 000. THIS IS A SECTION.

This is a section of the Constitution, which can be cited as “section 0 of the Class Government Constitution” or “C.G. Const. § 0”. This section can be subdivided as follows:

- (a) THIS IS A SUBSECTION.—This is a subsection, which can be cited as—
  - (1) “section 0(a) of the Class Government Constitution”; or
  - (2) “C.G. Const. § 0(a)”.

This subsection can be further subdivided as follows:

- (1) THIS IS A PARAGRAPH.—This is a paragraph, which can be cited as—
  - (A) “section 0(a)(1) of the Class Government Constitution”; or
  - (B) “C.G. Const. § 0(a)(1)”.

This paragraph can be further subdivided as follows:

- (A) THIS IS A SUBPARAGRAPH.—This is a subparagraph, which can be cited as—

- (i) “section 0(a)(1)(A) of the Class Government Constitution”; or
  - (ii) “C.G. Const. § 0(a)(1)(A)”.

This subparagraph can be further subdivided as follows:

- (i) THIS IS A CLAUSE.—This is a clause, which can be cited as—
  - (I) “section 0(a)(1)(A)(i) of the Class Government Constitution”; or
  - (II) “C.G. Const. § 0(a)(1)(A)(i)”.

### PART 2. SECTIONS THAT DO NOT BEGIN WITH A SUBSECTION.

If a section does not begin with a subsection (i.e., “(a)”), then any subdivision begins as a paragraph (i.e., “(1)”).

### PART 3. FORMATTING OF THE COMPONENT PARTS OF THE CONSTITUTION.

The component parts of the Constitution are formatted as follows:

#### SEC. 000. THIS IS A SECTION.

*(section head—10 point, bold, all caps, flush and hang indent; 5 point space below)*

- (a) THIS IS A SUBSECTION.—This is a subsection.

*(caption—12 point, initial caps and small caps, indented 0.25”)*

(1) THIS IS A PARAGRAPH.—This is a paragraph.

*(caption—12 point, 1st word initial cap and rest small caps, indented 0.5")*

(A) THIS IS A SUBPARAGRAPH.—This is a subparagraph.

*(caption—12 point, 1st word initial cap and rest small caps, indented 0.75")*

(i) THIS IS A CLAUSE.—This is a clause.

*(caption—12 point, 1st word initial cap and rest small caps, indented 1")*

(This is an interpolation.)

*(interpolation—10 point, flush; 5 point space above and below, except when a new article follows, in which case there is a 10 point space below)*

**SEC. 0. THIS IS A SECTION.** *(Beginning with a subsection.)*

(a) THIS IS A SUBSECTION.—This is a subsection.

(1) THIS IS A PARAGRAPH.—This is a paragraph.

(A) THIS IS A SUBPARAGRAPH.—This is a subparagraph.

(i) THIS IS A CLAUSE.—This is a clause.

(This is an interpolation.)

**SEC. 0. THIS IS A SECTION.** *(Not beginning with a subsection.)*

This is a section, which can be subdivided as follows:

(1) THIS IS A PARAGRAPH.—This is a paragraph.

(A) THIS IS A SUBPARAGRAPH.—This is a subparagraph.

(i) THIS IS A CLAUSE.—This is a clause.

(This is an interpolation.)

## APPENDIX C—EXPLANATORY SECTION INTERPOLATIONS

### PART 1. SECTION DERIVED FROM FORMER USG CONSTITUTION.

(a) SECTION.—

(1) EXPLANATION.—The interpolation “(§ N)” means that the section was derived from section N of the former USG Constitution.

(2) EXAMPLE.—The interpolation “(§ 000)” means that the section was derived from section 000 of the former USG Constitution.

(b) ARTICLE.—

(1) EXPLANATION.—The interpolation “(Art. N)” means that the section was derived from article N of the former USG Constitution.

(2) EXAMPLE.—The interpolation “(Art. IX)” means that the section was derived from article IX of the former USG Constitution.

### PART 2. NEW SECTION AFTER RATIFICATION OF CONSTITUTION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The interpolation “(New, amend. #, § 0, [Month abbreviation] DD, YYYY)” means that the section was added to this Constitution by section 0 of amendment #, approved on that date.

(b) EXAMPLE.—The interpolation “(New, amend. 2, § 1, Mar. 1, 2014)” means that the section was added to this Constitution by section 1 of amendment 2, approved on March 19, 2014.

### PART 3. OTHER AMENDMENT AFTER RATIFICATION OF CONSTITUTION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The interpolation “(Amend. #, § 0, [Month abbreviation] DD, YYYY)” means that the section was amended by section 0 of amendment # approved on that date.

(b) EXAMPLE.—The interpolation “(Amend. 5, § 2, Apr. 14, 2014)” means that the section was amended by section 2 of amendment 5, approved on April 14, 2014.

(c) INFERIOR SUBHEADINGS.—Such an amendment may include new inferior subheadings below a section (i.e., subsections, paragraphs, and so forth), but not a new section. For new sections, see part 2 (regarding a new section after the ratification of the Constitution).

### PART 4. EXAMPLE OF INTERPOLATION.

The interpolation “(§ 901; amend. 2, § 1, Mar. 1, 2014; amends. 5, § 4, Dec. 1, 2014)” means that the section was derived from section 902 of the former USG Constitution, and was subsequently amended by section 1 of amendment 2, approved on March 1, 2014; and further amended by section 4 of amendment 5, approved on December 1, 2014.

### PART 5. LOCATION OF AMENDMENTS.

For each amendment to the Constitution, see Appendix F.

### PART 6. FORMER USG CONSTITUTION DEFINED.

As used in these appendices, the term “former USG Constitution” means the USG Constitution that was in effect before April 25, 2014.

## APPENDIX D—VOTING THRESHOLDS

### PART 1. IN GENERAL.

(a) MAJORITY VOTE.—The term “majority vote” means more than half of the votes cast by individuals entitled to vote, excluding blanks or abstentions.<sup>1</sup>

(b) FRACTIONAL VOTE.—The term “[fraction] vote” means at least that fraction of the votes cast by individual entitled to vote, excluding blanks or abstentions.<sup>2</sup>

### PART 2. ENTIRE VOTING [GROUP] MEMBERSHIP.<sup>3</sup>

(a) MAJORITY VOTE.—The term “majority vote of the entire voting [group] membership” means more than half of the total number of individuals who are voting members of the group.

(b) FRACTIONAL VOTE.—The term “[fraction] vote of the entire voting [group] membership” means at least that fraction of the total number of individuals who are voting members of the group.

### PART 3. VOTING [GROUP] MEMBERS PRESENT.

(a) MAJORITY VOTE.—The term “majority vote of voting [group] members present” means more than half of the total number of present individuals who are entitled to vote.<sup>4</sup>

(b) FRACTIONAL VOTE.—The term “[fraction] vote of voting [group] members present” means at least that fraction of the total number of present individuals who are entitled to vote.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Henry M. Robert III et al., *Robert’s Rules of Order, Newly Revised* (11th ed. 2011), § 44, at 400.

<sup>2</sup> *See id.* at 401-02.

<sup>3</sup> *See id.* at 403-04.

<sup>4</sup> *See id.* at 403.

<sup>5</sup> *See id.* at 403.

**APPENDIX E—HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES**

TABLE SHOWING GENERAL DISPOSITION OF PROVISIONS OF FORMER USG CONSTITUTION (Apr. 25, 2014)

| <i>Former USG Constitution Provisions</i> | <i>New Sections</i> |
|-------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| § 205(e)                                  | 5                   |
| § 206(a)(2)                               | 6                   |
| § 207                                     | 7                   |
| § 406                                     | 12                  |
| § 309                                     | 3                   |
| § 801                                     | 2                   |
| § 901                                     | 1                   |
| § 902                                     | 2, 3                |
| § 903                                     | <i>Deleted</i>      |
| § 904                                     | 4                   |
| § 905                                     | 8                   |
| § 906                                     | 9                   |
| § 907                                     | 10                  |
| § 1002                                    | 11                  |
| Art. XII                                  | 13                  |
| Art. XIII                                 | 14                  |

**REVISION NOTES**

The undergraduates ratified this Constitution on April 25, 2014 by approving a referendum question submitted by the Class Governments (Referendum Question No. 1 (Spring 2014); Referendum Resolution 1-2014). The purpose of this referendum was to establish a Class Government Constitution that would be separate from the former USG Constitution. This was to reduce the possibility of tension between the two entities relating to their distinct campus roles and the execution of their separate objects. By approving this referendum question, the undergraduates also redesignated the former USG Constitution to be the new Senate Constitution.

The above table shows general dispositions of provisions from the former USG Constitution in the Class Government Constitution as of April 25, 2013, when the undergraduates ratified its creation. Amendment dates are indicated in Appendix A, and subsequent amendments are contained in Appendix F for institutional memory and historical background for each amendment.

Note that the Senate revised the former USG Constitution on December 8, 2013. For historical background to the current provisions in the Class Government Constitution, the reader is advised to consult the text of the former USG Constitution (particularly article IX, relating to Class Governments) and its amendments (particularly Amendment 1, from which sections 9 and 10 of the Class Government Constitution are derived).

ZHAN OKUDA-LIM '15,  
U-Councilor and CPUC Executive Committee Representative, and  
Drafter of the Constitution.

APRIL 25, 2014.