University Policy SA-10.04-09/14

Policy Title: Student Leadership Eligibility Requirements

Originator: Dr. Jim Hurd, Senior Associate Vice President

Responsible Office: Division of Student Affairs

Reason for Policy/Purpose:

To establish the minimum University requirements for Student Leaders.

Who Does this Govern and Who Needs to Know this Policy?

Students interested in student leadership positions, student life staff, and student organization advisors.

Definition of Terms:

1. Student Organizations: For the purpose of this policy, “Student Organizations” include all student clubs and organizations with an established affiliation with the University including Student Government Association, Departmental Organizations, Registered Student Organizations, Fraternities and Sororities registered as Student Organizations, and Sports Clubs.

2. Departmental Organizations: For the purpose of this policy, “Departmental Organizations” are those organizations established specifically to advance the programs and services of a particular department or unit and that are generally maintained by departmental faculty or staff in varying degrees of collaboration with student volunteers and/or student staff. Examples include Campus Activity Board, Argo Camp, and Forensics.

3. Registered Student Organizations: For the purpose of this policy, “Registered Student Organizations” are those organizations established and generally maintained by students that officially register with the University (through the department of University Commons and Student Involvement) to receive benefits including access to facilities and the ability to apply for SGA funding. Examples include a variety of special interest groups, faith-based organizations, professional societies, honor societies, and academic clubs.

4. Sports Clubs: For the purpose of this policy, “Sports Clubs” are those organizations established and generally maintained by students that officially register with the University (through the department of Recreation and Sports Services) to receive benefits including access to facilities and the ability to apply for SGA funding.
5. Leadership position: For the purpose of this policy, “leadership position” includes any elected or appointed office established by a Student Organization through its constitution, statutes, bylaws, charters or other organizing document.

Policy Statement:

1. Students must meet the following minimum requirements to be eligible to seek and retain a leadership position in any Student Organization:
   a. Be enrolled in at least six (6) credit hours per semester, except as noted below.
   b. Have and maintain a cumulative grade point average (GPA) for University of West Florida course work of at least 2.5, and
   c. Not be on academic or disciplinary probation or suspension.

2. Students otherwise qualified will be eligible to retain their leadership positions during summer term without being enrolled if they were enrolled for at least six (6) credit hours in the spring term and are registered for at least six (6) credit hours in the fall term.

3. Students otherwise qualified will be eligible to retain their leadership positions during any term with fewer than six (6) credit hours if fewer than six (6) credit hours are required for completion of their degree plans.

4. Students failing to maintain minimum standards (Section 1. a, b, and c) will forfeit their leadership positions.

5. Students engaged in an official appeal process (e.g., a grade or conduct appeal) will retain their leadership positions pending the outcome of the University appeal process. Students who have been issued interim measures will not retain their leadership position unless expressly authorized by the Dean of Students.

6. Student organizations may establish additional requirements for leadership positions so long as such requirements do not violate the University Policy P-13.03-05/10 Policy Prohibiting Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation. Student Government Association’s additional requirements are governed by its Constitution, Statutes and/or Bylaws. Departmental Student Organizations’ additional requirements are the responsibility of the host department. Registered Student Organizations’, Fraternities’, and Sororities’ additional requirements are subject to review and approval by the University Commons and Student Involvement. Sports Clubs’ additional requirements are subject to review and approval by the Office of Recreation and Sports Services.
Procedures:

Student life offices including the Dean of Students, University Commons and Student Involvement, and Recreation and Sports Services will be responsible for developing processes and procedures to monitor compliance with this policy.

Change Justification:

Establish and clarify definitions of minimum requirements for UWF student leaders.

Authority and Related Documents:

BOG Regulation 6.010; University Policy P-13.03-05/14 Policy Prohibiting Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation; University Policy SA-22.01-07/10 Student Organization Registration Procedures.

APPROVED: Dr. Judith A. Bense, President   Date: 9/25/14

History: SA-10.00-06/01 Student Leadership Eligibility Requirements, adopted July 5, 2001; amended by SA-10.01-09/07 Student Leadership Eligibility Requirements, adopted September 2007; amended by SA-10.02-09/12 Student Leadership Eligibility Requirements, adopted September 2012; amended by SA-10.03-07/13 Student Leadership Eligibility Requirements, adopted July 2013; revised hereby.