



Student Government Association

Behavioral Standards and Values

Mission: *The Student Government Association is an advocate for the Champlain College community and acts as a liaison for the students to the Administration, Staff, and Faculty. The SGA strives to effect change on behalf of the students, thereby creating a more enjoyable environment and a promising future. The SGA offers opportunities for leadership development, involvement and personal growth within Champlain College*

As an SGA Representative or Officer, I adhere to the following Behavioral Standards and Values:

I. HONESTY

In practice, this value looks like:

- a. I will only make promises that I believe I can keep.

b. I abstain or recuse myself from the decision-making process in all situations in which there is a conflict of interest, or when I believe I cannot exercise impartial judgment.

c. I will express my genuine opinion on issues even if my view is unpopular.

d. I will be true to who I am as a person while at the same time upholding the integrity of our organization.

II. RESPONSIBILITY

In practice, this value looks like:

a. I seek to maintain integrity in both my public and private life.

b. I can clearly articulate how my decision will Advocate the college's core values.

c. I use SGA materials and resources solely for SGA related activities.

d. I take ownership for the decisions I make or fail to make, the actions I take or fail to take, and the consequences that result.

e. I protect confidential information that has been entrusted with me.

f. I do not misuse SGA Facebook or Twitter (or other social media sites) by posting from the organization or “tagging” SGA in posts that are not in accordance with our mission.

g. I monitor the content of my social media sites to ensure I am representing SGA to the best of my ability.

h. I do not wear my SGA Apparel in inappropriate times, such as, but not limited to, parties, bars, or anytime underaged consumption of alcohol or illegal drug use could be present.

i. I will not hold SGA events that are not approved by the House of Representatives, cabinet or SGA advisor(s).

III. PROFESSIONALISM

In practice, this value looks like:

- a. I will arrive at meetings and functions on time and prepared.
- b. I will use appropriate language and I will speak respectfully.
- c. I will be considerate of those who are our guests and devote my full attention to their presentation.
- d. I will directly approach those with whom I have conflict or disagreement.

IV. COMMUNICATION

In practice, this value looks like:

- a. I clearly relay any necessary information to my fellow SGA members and/or my constituents as soon as possible.
- b. I asked clarifying questions if I disagree or do not understand.
- c. I seek feedback from my fellow SGA members or constituents in order to promote the mission and goals of our Student Government Association.
- d. I will be cautious and aware of how I communicate about the SGA in a public setting so that there is no scrutiny against myself as a member or our organization as a whole.

V. COLLABORATION

In practice, this value looks like:

- a. I will work with other SGA members to divide and accomplish assigned responsibilities.
- b. I will encourage new ideas and share all relevant information with others.

c. I will reach out to the college community for other opportunities for collaboration and teamwork.

d. I will strive to reach a consensus that best serves the Champlain community.

VI. PRODUCTIVITY

In practice, this value looks like:

a. I will spend my Office hours on SGA related work and materials.

b. I will uphold my responsibility to reach out to my constituents at least twice a semester.

c. I will be willing and without attitude help my fellow SGA members on events and meetings in order to accomplish the task at hand.

VII. FAIRNESS

In practice, this value looks like:

a. I treat all viewpoints with respect, even if I do not personally agree with them.

b. I only take credit for work that I have done and acknowledge everyone who assists me.

c. I observe and establish procedures detailed in the standing rules and bylaws and demonstrate transparency in my decision-making process.

VIII. COMMITMENT

In practice, this value looks like:

a. I will attend the scheduled SGA meetings and events.

b. I will make my SGA Affiliated presence known on campus and in the community.

c. I have a clear set of objectives, a general time frame for accomplishments, and am willing to see difficult projects through completion.

d. I will continue to work toward and support the SGA's mission and goals, as well as my own.

e. If I do not see myself being able to fulfill my role as an SGA representative or officer I understand that it is in the best interest of the organization for me to relinquish my duty.

IX. INTEGRITY

In practice, this value looks like:

a. I will be sincere in my decisions and communications to the public.

b. I will not hold my role as an SGA member as being above other students on campus in a negative manner.

c. I will use my best judgment and moral character to uphold the premise upon which I was elected.

X. SERVICE

In practice, this value looks like:

a. I will make my focus on the greater need of the student body before considering my own.

b. I understand my role as an SGA member is to serve the values and goals of our mission.

XI. ACCOUNTABILITY

In practice, this value looks like:

- a. I will take responsibility for and stand by my actions within SGA
- b. I will not shift blame for my actions onto others
- c. I will own up to any of my actions that violate any current Champlain College or SGA guidelines
- d. I will keep all dissent occurring within SGA within the organization

Procedures for Sanctions of SGA Members in Violation of Standing Rules or Bylaws

1. A complaint must first be brought to the President or Vice President. If the complaint is against the President or Vice President, the complaint must be brought to one or all of the advisors.
2. The President, Vice President, and the advisor(s) must meet/discuss to determine a plan of action. Possible plans of action are (A) dismissal of the complaint or (B) a discussion with the respondent of the complaint
3. If the complaint is not dismissed, then the respondent to the complaint must be interviewed by the President, Vice President, and the advisor(s).
4. A meeting of the President, Vice President, and the advisor(s) must then be held to either resolve the complaint or bring the complaints to the House of Representatives for further action.
5. If the complaint is to be brought before the House of Representatives, then the President, Vice President, or one of the advisors must notify the respondent of the complaint.
6. Once the complaint has been referred to the House of Representatives, the House of Representatives is under no obligation to accept the resignation from the respondent.
7. In a meeting of the House of Representatives, where only voting members are present, the House of Representatives must discuss the complaint and determine a course of action. Options for a plan of action are (A) resolution of the complaint or (B) sanctions are levied against the respondent of the complaint up to and including expulsion of the respondent.
 - a. The respondent must be invited to the meeting.
 - b. The advisor(s) may be present for the discussion.
 - c. When the House of Representatives decides to vote on a plan of action, the respondent and the advisor(s) must leave the meeting.
 - d. Only the final action is recorded in the minutes.