



Executive Order 4-01

The Constitutional Convention of Florida International University

By the authority vested in me by the Constitution and Statutes of the Student Body of Florida International University, and in the pursuit of the betterment and reform of the same; in accordance with SGAS § 4001.4.1, it is hereby ordered,

WHEREAS, The Constitution and Statutes of the Student Body were enacted on February 1, 2021, after the merger of the Student Government Council of MMC and the Student Government Council of BBC,

WHEREAS, From time to time, changes to the Constitution and Statutes reveal themselves to be necessary, as processes are followed and deficiencies become evident,

WHEREAS, During the rewriting of the Constitution and Statutes, many procedures of the Student Government were altered or abolished, changing the balance of power between the branches of government,

WHEREAS, The final draft of the new Constitution was approved without any vote or referendum, neither by the Senate nor by the Student Body, depriving students and their elected representatives from their ability to be involved in the crafting of the documents that govern their rights and powers,

WHEREAS, The SGA governing documents are the Constitution and Statutes of the *Student Body*, and as such, should be reflective of the beliefs and needs of the *Student Body*, with a wide latitude of opinions considered as Constitutional language is crafted,

WHEREAS, A Constitutional Convention that includes the voices of the students' elected Student Government representatives, alongside membership from the general Student Body, will provide the most effective and representative means of evaluating SGA processes and proposing reform,

NOW, THEREFORE, I hereby call to order the Constitutional Convention of the Student Body of Florida International University, which shall be constituted in such a manner and convene at such times as are enumerated hereinafter.

Section I - Purpose

The Constitutional Convention exists to propose amendments to the Student Body Constitution. Such amendments shall be written in pursuit of the furtherance of the principles of checks and balances, transparency, and accountability.

Section II - Composition

- (a) The Constitutional Convention shall have 9 members, to be appointed as follows:
 - (i) The leaders of each of the three branches of government — the Student Body President, the Senate President, and the Chief Justice — shall each be granted the ability to serve as a member of the Constitutional Convention, or to appoint a member of the Convention in their own place.
 - (ii) Each of them shall also be granted the ability to appoint two students to be members of the Constitutional convention, in consultation with one another, such that:
 - (1) There shall be at least two members of the general student body (not members of the Student Government Association) as members of the Convention; and,
 - (2) There shall be at least two Senators as members of the Convention.
 - (iii) Any Supreme Court Justice serving on the Convention must abstain from all votes.
- (b) The Chair of the Constitutional Convention shall be chosen after the membership of the Convention is selected, from among the membership of the Convention. The Chair shall be chosen by the unanimous agreement of the Student Body President, the Senate President, and the Chief Justice.
 - (i) The Chair shall designate one of the members of the Convention to serve as Vice Chair, whom shall serve as acting Chair in the Chair's absence.
 - (ii) The Chair shall choose the Secretary of the Convention, who shall take minutes. The Secretary may be the SGA Chief of Staff, the Vice Chair, or any member of the Convention.
- (c) Students shall be able to apply to be a member of the Constitutional Convention through an online form that shall be made available to all SGA members and the general student body, and publicly advertised. All selected members of the Convention shall have applied through said form. Constitutional Article VII qualifications shall not apply as a requirement for membership in the Constitutional Convention.

Section III - Rules of Procedure

The Rules of Procedure of the Constitutional Convention ("The Convention ROP's") shall be adopted by a majority vote of the Convention at the first meeting of the Convention. The Convention ROP's shall be drafted beforehand by the Chair, and presented to the Convention to be voted upon after an amendment period.

The Convention shall be governed according to the latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order but shall adopt its own procedures for any situation it deems necessary, including the proposal and adoption of Constitutional amendments to be submitted to the Senate.

The dates, times, and locations of the meetings of the Convention shall be decided by consensus among the members of the Convention after the membership is selected, and shall be made publicly available.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, with a sincere hope that future generations will look upon this action as a turning point in the development of our student-led democracy here at FIU, I have hereunto set my hand and caused this order to be carried out, this Tuesday, June 27th, 2023.

Alex Sutton



Alexander P. Sutton, Student Body President

Tuesday, June 27th, 2023