

**UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION
GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY AGENDA
March 26, 2026, 7:00 PM**

Zoom Conference Call

<https://oklahoma.zoom.us/j/93772247533?pwd=sBRbHEL3MOD2aTipaH9URXpz3t1Fcr.1>

Call to Order

Mission Statement: Graduate Students at the University of Oklahoma have a number of unique concerns and interests requiring a voice separate from the usual instruments that express the will of the faculty and of undergraduates. For this reason, the Graduate Student Senate of the University of Oklahoma Student Government Association was established in 1987 to represent all Graduate Students and to serve their needs.

Reading and Approval of the Minutes: (minutes from previous meeting:
(<https://www.ou.edu/sga/branches/graduate-student-senate/agendas-and-minutes>)

Officer Reports:

- Chair:
- Vice-Chair:
- Secretary:

Committee Reports: (submit your meeting minutes [here](#))

- Academic Affairs:
- Development & Philanthropy:
- External Affairs:
- Internal Affairs:
- International Student Affairs:
- Public Relations:
- Sustainability:
- Ways and Means:

Student Concerns:

Special Orders:

Old Business:

- Cabinet Revision Act of 2026 (Do Pass)

New Business:

- Spring 2026 Election Language Revision Act (Do Pass)

Announcements:

Adjournment

THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS
CONGRESSIONAL SESSION CXV

March 3, 2026

GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE
SENATE SESSION GS26

March 12, 2026

CONGRESSIONAL BILL CB-115-12
SENATE BILL GS26-12

AS INTRODUCED

An Act of Legislation to amend the SGACA; providing for short title, providing for codification, and providing for an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION:

Section 1: Title: This act shall be known and may be cited as the “Cabinet Revision Act of 2026.”

Section 2: Purpose: The purpose of this act shall be to amend to amend the SGA Code Annotated to better accommodate the regular executive cabinet structure in modern administrations.

Section 3: AMENDATORY: The University of Oklahoma Student Government Association Code Annotated Title X Chapter 5 is amended as follows. For the purposes of this bill, all items removed shall be denoted with a strikethrough (~~strikethrough~~) and all items added shall be denoted with an underline (underline).

- 1) **Executive Cabinet Members.** The members of the Executive Cabinet shall consist of the Chief of Staff, and any other coordinators, assistants, and liaisons deemed necessary by the President and appropriate by the Legislative houses through advice and consent. The duties of the Executive Cabinet should and can reflect the needs of the President and the administration, including but not limited to: special projects, constituent relations, media relations, legislative affairs, academic affairs. The cabinet structure, position names, and total members shall be left to the discretion of the President. ~~The following, but certainly not limited to, positions must be included as part of the Executive Cabinet:~~

- a) ~~**Communications Coordinator.** The coordinator will be responsible for promoting the interests, programs, and positions of the OU SGA. The coordinator will chair meetings with the Congress Vice Chair, Senate Public Relations Committee Chair, the CAC Public Relations Coordinator, and the SGA Webmaster to discuss matter pertaining to social media, media relations, photography, tabling, and other means of advertisement and message distribution.~~

- b) ~~**International Affairs Coordinator.** The coordinator shall be responsible for voicing the concerns for the international student population overall and take necessary steps to improve the welfare for these students, and the student body overall. The appointment process shall include communication with the International Advisory Committee.~~

Section 4: This act shall become effective when passed in accordance with the SGA Constitution.

Author(s): Josephine Nicholson, SGA Vice President
Henry Christiansen, SGA Chief of Staff
Mercer Martin, SGA President

Submitted on a Motion by:

Action taken by Congress:

Verified by Chair of Congress: _____ Date: _____

Submitted on a Motion by:

Action taken by Senate

Verified by Chair of Senate: _____ Date: _____

Approved by SGA President: _____ Date: _____

THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS
CONGRESSIONAL SESSION CXV

Month DD, YYYY

GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE
SENATE SESSION GS26

March 26, 2026

CONGRESSIONAL BILL CB-115-XX
SENATE BILL GS26-15

AS INTRODUCED

An Act of Legislation to amend election-related language in the Code Annotated; providing for short title, providing for codification, and providing for an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION:

- Section 1:** Title: This act shall be known and may be cited as the “Spring 2026 Election Language Revision Act.”
- Section 2:** Purpose: The purpose of this act shall be to update the Code Annotated to account for changes made to the election period and better reflect the reality of SGA Elections.
- Section 3:** AMENDATORY: The University of Oklahoma Student Government Association Code Annotated Title VI Chapter 1, Title VI Chapter 3, and Title II Chapter 2 Section 4 are amended as follows. For the purposes of this bill, all items removed shall be denoted with a strikethrough (~~strikethrough~~) and all items added shall be denoted with an underline (underline).

Chapter VI-1 General Provisions

1. **Definitions**

- a. **Academic Week** – Any week (Monday - Friday) during which the University holds classes for at least one (1) day.
- b. **Campaign Spending** – The value of any products, services, or expenses incurred by the campaign. “Value” should not include any discounts, which are not available to the general public, but should include the value of any services or products donated. This shall not include the value of any non-professional services performed by students.
- c. **Campaign Time Frame** – The time between the first class day of the ninth (9th) Academic Week and the validation of the election.
- d. **Campaigning** – Working in an organized and active way to promote a candidate as a representative of or at the directive of that candidate. Campaigning shall not be constructed to include any public campaign materials disseminated during the signature collection period, statements made about one's platform, or any solicitation for votes in the election shall always be considered campaigning.
- e. **Class Day** – The Period of time from 8 AM to 5 PM on a day in which classes are held.

- f. **Designated Agent** – A person chosen and registered by a candidate with the ability to represent the candidate in any official capacity.
- g. **Election Fraud** – Any act or omission completed or attempted with the intent to deprive a candidate or voter of their rights.
- h. **Information on Candidates Booklet** – A booklet published by the Election Commissioner on the first day of the Ninth (9th) Academic Week containing a statement from the Election Commissioner, a list of all candidates, and the pieces of literature from the candidates who submitted them.
- ~~i. **Ninth (9th) Academic Week** – The Academic Week in which Candidates may begin campaigning. Campaigning shall only begin at the start of the first Class Day of the given Academic Week. The Academic Week in which the Information on Candidates Booklet shall be published in the given week of the Fall and Spring Semesters.~~
- ~~j. **Tenth (10th) Academic Week** – The Academic Week in which Fall and Spring Elections shall occur. Voting days shall be the Thursday and Friday of the given week of the semester.~~
- k. **Member of a Campaign** – Any SGA Member who publicly or privately works with a candidate.
- l. **Publicly Posted** – Conspicuously posted in the SGA Office & on the SGA website under the Election’s “Election Information” tab.
- ~~m. **Eighth (8th) Academic Week** – The Academic Week in which Mandatory Candidates Meetings shall be held.~~
- n. **SGA Presidential Race** – The SGA Presidential race includes candidates for SGA President and SGA Vice President running together as one (1) ticket.
- o. **Signatures** – Signatures required for Presidential and CAC Chair petitions may be collected physically or online. Physical signatures must include the following information: OU ID number, name, and signature. Digital signatures must be authenticated through an online platform that can be integrated with OU’s single sign-on (SSO). The process for digital signatures must be jointly approved by the Election Commissioner and the Office of Student Affairs.
- ~~p. **Seventh (7th) Academic Week** – The Academic Week in which filing for Candidates wishing to run in the upcoming election closes. Filing shall close at the end of the last Class Day of the given week.~~
- q. **Unsolicited** – Any unrequested electronic message sent through an OU-maintained service (eg, OU email, Canvas, etc.), for the purpose of explicitly requesting a vote or support.

2. **Timeline**

- a. **Seventh (7th) Academic Week** – The Academic Week in which filing for Candidates wishing to run in the upcoming election closes. Filing shall close at the end of the last Class Day of the given week.
- b. **Eighth (8th) Academic Week** – The Academic Week in which Mandatory Candidates Meetings shall be held.
- c. **Ninth (9th) Academic Week** – The Academic Week in which Candidates may begin campaigning. Campaigning shall only begin at the start of the first Class Day of the given Academic Week. The Academic Week in which the Information on Candidates Booklet shall be published in the given week of the Fall and Spring Semesters.
- d. **Tenth (10th) Academic Week** – The Academic Week in which Fall and Spring Elections shall occur. Voting days shall be the Thursday and Friday of the given week of the semester.

3. **Applicability of Election Rules.** The policies, regulations, and stipulations in this Title shall be applicable only to candidates for positions that are named in sections four (4) and

five (5) hereinafter. All other campus organizations and bodies wishing to conduct an election may individually establish procedures for that election.

- 4. Purpose of Election Rules.** The provisions governing elections are intended to provide for the fairness, equitability, and efficiency of all SGA elections with respect to both candidates and voters. In the absence of established guidelines, rulings concerning elections should be made with this principle in mind.
- 5. Spring General Election.** The following shall be elected in the Spring General Election:

 - a. the Campus Activities Council (CAC) Chair,
 - b. Undergraduate Student Congress Representative Seats, and
 - c. the Student Bar Association (SBA) President.
- 6. Fall General Election.** The following shall be elected in the Fall General Election:

 - a. The SGA President and Vice-President;
 - b. Undergraduate Student Congress Representative Seats.
- 7. Vacancies.** The SGA President shall be notified in writing of any vacancy that occurs in the positions listed in sections 4 and 5, above. If the SGA President resigns, they shall notify the Chairs of both Houses of the Legislative Branch. The number of seats available for election shall not change after the filing period begins.

 - a. **Election to Fill Vacancy.** Should a Congressional Seat become vacant after filing has opened, so long as a vacancy in that district was already made public and was included on the filing form during filing for candidates to apply, that new vacant seat may be filled at the time of election using the point tabulation system. If the district was never included initially on the filing form, then that seat shall not be filled during the active general election.
 - b. **Appointment to Fill Vacancy.** For each position listed in sections 4 and 5 above, other than SGA President, Vice President, and CAC Chair, the organization of which the appointment is needed to be made, that organization shall determine their own appointment qualifications. Those listed in the aforementioned sentence, shall be up for election in the next possible general election.
- 8. Uncontested Elections.** All positions for which one has filed for election, they must be placed on the ballot in the respective district, even if the position is uncontested. In an uncontested election, the candidate shall win if they receive more votes than the "prefer not to vote" option.

Chapter VI-3 Candidates

- a. **Filing.** Filing for general and special elections shall run at least four (4) Class Days. For General Elections, filing shall close at the end of the last Class Day of the ~~sixth (6th)~~ seventh (7th) Academic Week. For special elections, the end filing shall be determined by a majority vote of the Election Commission Staff no later than five (5) weeks prior to the election. No prospective candidate may file for more than one (1) elected position. Filing forms for SGA elective positions shall include the following acknowledgment statement & each candidate shall sign the statement before submitting their form:

“I do hereby affirm that I am required to abide by the SGA Constitution, SGA Code Annotated, and the SGA Campaign Activity Policy. I understand that I can be disqualified from the election if I disregard the election guidelines and rules. Furthermore, University, Local, State, and Federal rules and laws take precedent, and I may be subject to all of the aforementioned jurisdictions.”

- 2. Candidate Requirements.** No person may be listed on a ballot as a candidate for office unless they fulfill the requirements for candidacy listed in this section. Candidates for any SGA elected office must be in good academic standing with their respective college or department. Candidates shall complete an academic requirement form. The Election Commissioner and the SGA Staff Assistant shall verify the prospective candidate's academic

eligibility before being placed on the ballot. Each candidate or their designated agent shall attend a mandatory candidates meeting.

- a. **Candidates in SGA Presidential & CAC Races.** Candidates in the SGA Presidential or CAC Chair election shall present to the Election Commission a petition with five hundred (500) signatures by the time of the filing deadline. Signature gathering may begin at the beginning of the first academic week of the academic semester in which the candidate's campaigning period will begin. If the Election Commission determines that a petition does not have enough signatures as a result of a mistake in counting, candidates shall be allotted at least on full Class Day with signatures due at the end of the Class Day to collect the necessary remaining signatures to remain on the ballot. The Election Commission shall not make any adverse ruling on any petition.
- 3. Mandatory Candidates Meeting.** Each candidate or their designated agent shall attend a mandatory candidates' meeting. At least two (2) mandatory candidates' meetings shall be held during the ~~seventh (7th)~~ eighth (8th) Academic Week.
 - a. All rules shall be explained, the campaign material registration form distributed, the deadline for the campaign spending disclosure shall be announced, and the Superior Court's rules for submitting an appeal concerning electoral matters. The Congress Chair shall provide a list of the responsibilities of an SGA Undergraduate Student Congress Representative to be distributed by the Election Commissioner during the initial candidate meeting.
 - b. Candidates who do not attend the mandatory meeting shall still remain on the ballot and may be subject to an infraction in Chapter Five (5) of this Title.
- 4. Candidate Withdrawal.** Any candidate may withdraw their name from the ballot any time prior to 5:00 p.m. the Friday before the election by submitting written notification to the Election Commissioner. The Election Commissioner shall verify said notification.
- 5. Designated Agents.** Candidates running in the SGA Presidential and CAC Chair race must specify a designated agent. Candidates not running in those races may specify a designated agent on the filing form. Designated Agents shall have the ability to represent the candidate in any official capacity. No Designated Agent may be a candidate for any race during the same election, nor may they be an elected or appointed member of the Legislative, Executive, or Judicial Branch of SGA.
- 6. Infractions.** All candidates shall be subject to any points as allocated by the Elections Commission, outlined in Chapter 5 of this title.

Chapter VI-4 Campaigns

2. **Campaign Time Frame.** Prior to the official campaign period, prospective candidates may begin recruiting campaign staff and/or establishing but not publicizing a campaign internet site. Candidates shall begin campaigning on the first Class Day of the ~~eighth (8th)~~ ninth (9th) Academic Week of the given semester. Campaigning shall end after the validation of the election.

Chapter II-2 Undergraduate Student Congress

4. **Representative Terms⁶.** All representative seats must be up for election at least once a year. ~~At least twenty-four (24)~~ Half (50%) of all currently filled congressional seats must be up at each election. The ~~twenty-four (24)~~ seats up at each election shall consist of an equal division of seats across the respective academic districts. Each district with multiple representative seats shall have alternating terms for each representative within the respective district that shall end with the Fall or Spring election.⁶

Section 4: This act shall become effective when passed in accordance with the SGA Constitution.

Author(s): Andy Wang, Election Commissioner
 Morgan Hausz, Associate
 Olivia Miller, Associate

Submitted on a Motion by:

Action taken by Congress:

Verified by Chair of Congress: _____ Date: _____

Submitted on a Motion by:

Action taken by Senate

Verified by Chair of Senate: _____ Date: _____

Approved by SGA President: _____ Date: _____