



# **Constitution and bulletin of the Women's Self-Government Association of the University of Wisconsin. 1931**

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## CONSTITUTION AND BULLETIN

*of the*

## WOMEN'S SELF-GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

*of*

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THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN

1931

## *Code for Wisconsin Women*

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The Wisconsin woman is thoughtful of her obligation to help establish and maintain high social and moral standards. To this end:

1. She is loyal to herself. She is careful of her word in all her obligations and in her every statement.
2. She is loyal to others. She is thoughtful and staunch in her zeal to make the right things prevail.
3. She is scrupulously honest in scholarship,—both in every day work and in examinations.
4. She conducts herself in such a way that she can be *honestly willing* to have every girl in the community adopt her standards.



# CONSTITUTION *of the* **WOMEN'S SELF-GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION**

## ARTICLE I

### NAME

The name of the association shall be the Women's Self-Government Association of the University of Wisconsin.

## ARTICLE II

### OBJECT

The object of this association shall be to regulate all matters pertaining to the student life of its members which do not fall under the jurisdiction of the faculty; to further in every way the spirit of unity among the women of the University; to increase their sense of responsibility towards each other and to be a medium by which the social standards of the University can be made and kept high.

## ARTICLE III

### MEMBERSHIP

All the undergraduate women of the University shall be ipso facto members of the Association.

## ARTICLE IV

### ELECTION OF OFFICERS

#### SECTION 1. OFFICERS

The officers of the association shall be a presi-

dent, vice-president, secretary, treasurer and census chairman.

## SECTION 2. ELECTIONS

a. The officers of the association shall be elected in the following manner; three candidates shall be nominated for each position. One of these shall be nominated by Keystone Council, and two by popular vote at a properly advertised mass meeting.

b. Officers shall be elected before the first of April, the date and place for holding the election to be determined by the election committee.

c. The president, vice-president, treasurer, and census chairman shall be elected by ballot of the whole association.

## ARTICLE V

### DUTIES OF OFFICERS

#### SECTION 1. DUTIES

a. The president shall call and preside over mass meetings, meetings of the legislative board and the executive council, and shall act as an ex-officio member of all W. S. G. A. committees and shall perform the general duties of an executive. She will automatically become vice-chairman of Union Council and chairman of the Women's Affairs Committee. She shall make all permanent and temporary appointments with the approval of W. S. G. A. Council.

b. The vice-president shall officiate in the absence of the president and shall be chairman of the social committee.

c. The secretary shall record all minutes of mass, executive, and legislative board meetings, and shall carry on such correspondence as designated by council.

d. The treasurer with the advice of the executive

council shall make a budget of the expenses of the association and shall collect, keep and dispense all money belonging to the association as directed by the legislative board, ordered by the president, and *approved by the executive advisor.*

e. The census chairman shall record all points made by individuals holding office, and she shall supervise the point system. It shall be her duty to record in the W. S. G. A. office the names of those eligible for Key Privileges, and send notices to the House Mothers listing those of their girls who are eligible for such privilege.

#### SECTION 2. EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

The executive council shall be composed of the officers of the association, the representatives of the women of the Senior, Junior, Sophomore, and Freshman classes, the elections chairman, the district chairman, the judicial chairman, and the Junior and Senior Women's Representatives-at-Large on Union Council; all of these shall be voting members.

During the time she is especially active the chairman of each temporary committee shall be a non-voting member of council.

#### SECTION 3. DUTIES OF COUNCIL

a. To formulate and direct such policies and plans as shall further the best interest of the women in the University.

b. To prepare all business for consideration by Board.

c. To legislate on all business which requires immediate action.

d. To fill any vacancies in its membership from the group represented by the retiring member for a term expiring with the succeeding regular election or appointment.

## ARTICLE VI

### SECTION 1. STUDENT JUDICIAL COMMITTEE

a. The purpose of the student judicial committee is to aid in maintaining the high standard of the community.

b. The committee shall consist of six members, the president of W. S. G. A. ex-officio, and the executive advisor of W. S. G. A. ex-officio. Three of the members shall be seniors, two juniors, and one sophomore; they shall all be appointed by the executive council. Members shall hold office during the remainder of their undergraduate course, and vacancies shall be filled as they occur. The secretary shall be chosen by the members of the committee and shall keep a complete record of all its proceedings.

c. A senior woman, not the president of W. S. G. A., shall be appointed chairman of the committee by the president of W. S. G. A. on her election to office. The chairman shall call the meetings, preside, and bring to the attention of the committee conditions or occurrences which demand its action or consideration.

d. The student judicial committee shall have original and exclusive jurisdiction in all cases of discipline of women undergraduates when the misdemeanor is the violation of a W. S. G. A. ruling.

e. The student judicial committee shall not have original and exclusive jurisdiction in cases of dishonesty in scholastic work, abuse of library privileges, cases arising in summer-school, and cases which involve the violation by men and women students of the general and University social code.

f. The student judicial committee retains the right, after due consideration of any case, to send the case to the proper faculty committee for decision and action.

g. Investigation of cases shall be left to the student judicial committee or to the properly designated University officials or to both.

h. Notice of the decision reached by the student judicial committee shall be sent immediately to the properly designated University officials. In cases where the penalty imposed involves abridgement of academic opportunities, notice of the decisions of the committee shall be sent to the Faculty Committee on Appeals and to the Dean of the College of which the student is a member.

i. Nothing in the above provision for the constitution of the judicial committee and its jurisdiction shall in any way annul or limit the present right of the student to appeal to the Faculty in discipline cases.

### SECTION 2. ELECTIONS CHAIRMAN

a. The standing chairmen shall be appointed by the president subject to the approval of the executive council. The elections chairman shall select her own assistant subject to the approval of the executive council.

#### b. District Chairman

The district chairman shall be appointed by the president subject to the approval of the executive council. The district chairman shall have charge of the organization of a district system and all matters pertaining to its functioning.

#### c. Members-at-large on Union Council

Each year a member-at-large shall be elected by the entire women student body, to serve on Union Council and on W.S.G.A. council for two years. She shall be a second semester sophomore at the time of her election.

## ARTICLE VII

### LEGISLATIVE BOARD

#### SECTION 1. PERSONNEL

- a. The executive council of W.S.G.A. shall be active members of Board.
- b. The members of Keystone shall be ex-officio members of Board.
- c. House groups of as many as three or more shall send one voting representative to Legislative Board for each fifty girls or fraction thereof. This arrangement shall include all dormitories.
- d. The elected house president of each house shall automatically become the Legislative Board member representing that group. In houses entitled to more than one representative the group shall elect, where possible, one or more upper-classmen as further representatives.
- e. Exceptions to the above policies must have the sanction of the executive council.
- f. Board shall be divided into sections as follows:
  1. Members representing dormitories
  2. Members representing special interest houses and professional sororities.
  3. Members representing social sororities.
  4. Members representing rooming houses (group 1).
  5. Members representing rooming houses (group 2).

#### SECTION 2. ELECTION OF BOARD

- a. The members of the legislative board shall be chosen by the bodies they represent in the fall before October 15th. The members of the Board shall hold office for one year.
- b. No freshman woman, nor any woman not

registered in the University the semester previous to her election shall be eligible for Board except by special permission of the Council.

#### SECTION 3. DUTIES OF THE BOARD

- a. To legislate on all W.S.G.A. matters.

#### SECTION 4. MEETINGS

- a. There shall be a regular monthly meeting of the entire Legislative Board.
- b. There shall be a regular monthly meeting of each section of the Legislative Board.
- c. The president of W.S.G.A. shall call at least one joint meeting of housemothers and Legislative Board during the first month of each semester. This shall be considered as the regular Board meeting for that month.

#### SECTION 5. DUTIES OF THE INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

- a. To attend all Legislative Board meetings.
- b. To attend all sectional Legislative Board meetings.
- c. To call house meetings when necessary and at such meetings to report all business discussed in Board meetings.
- d. To consider herself responsible for the type of conduct of the members of her house, and to report to the president of W.S.G.A. any conduct in violation of the spirit or *rules* of W.S.G.A.

#### SECTION 6. SPECIAL VOTING THROUGH BOARD

- a. In a time when a case arises which is thought important enough to refer to all the women, in order to obtain a more accurate vote, each Board member shall be instructed to collect the votes of each person in her house, and then she shall actually cast the same number of votes as she is representing people.

## ARTICLE VIII

### THE RECALL OF MEMBERS

#### SECTION 1. GROUNDS FOR RECALL

- a. Unexcused absence from two consecutive W.S.G.A. meetings, whether Board (sectional meetings of Board included), executive council, or committee meetings, shall constitute grounds for the recall of the offending member.
- b. An attitude of general indifference, or failure to perform duties shall constitute grounds for the recall of any committee or Board member.

#### SECTION 2. ENFORCEMENT

- a. The *Student Judicial Committee* shall handle all cases of this nature.

## ARTICLE IX

### MEETINGS

#### SECTION 1. CALLING OF MEETINGS

- a. Mass meetings of the association shall be held at the discretion of the president, the legislative board, or of twenty-five members of the association.

#### SECTION 2. QUORUM

- a. At all meetings of the association, except at mass meetings for the nomination of officers, one-third of the members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

#### SECTION 3. ADVERTISING OF MEETINGS

- a. Mass meetings shall be considered properly advertised if the notices of such meetings appear in the *Cardinal* and are posted on two conspicuous bulletin boards five days before the meeting.

## ARTICLE X

### AMENDMENTS

#### SECTION 1. PLACE AND METHOD

- a. A two-thirds majority vote of a quorum of association members shall be required for the amendment of the constitution and the amendment of house rules and other regulations.
- b. Voting shall be by the Australian Ballot system.
- c. The place of voting shall be determined by the Council.
- d. Council may call for a special vote through Board as provided for in Article VII—section 6.
- e. The proposed amendments shall be made public at least one week previous to the day of voting.

## ARTICLE XI

### PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE

#### SECTION 1. RULES OF ORDER

- a. Robert's Rules of Order Revised shall be the standard of parliamentary usage for the association.

## ARTICLE XII

### KEYSTONE COUNCIL

#### SECTION 1. PERSONNEL

- a. The presidents of all authorized women's organizations shall automatically upon their installation become members of Keystone Council.
- b. New organizations shall be admitted to council by a two-thirds vote of the council members.

#### SECTION 2. DUTIES

- a. To act as a coordinating body of all women's organizations.

- b. To authorize all new women's organizations.
- c. To decide matters for legislative action.
- d. Keystone Council shall nominate one set of candidates for officers for W.S.G.A.

### SECTION 3. PRESIDENT OF KEYSTONE

- a. The Senior Class Representative on W.S.G.A. Council shall automatically become the President of Keystone.

### SECTION 4. MEETINGS

- a. Meetings shall be held at the call of the President.

### SECTION 5. DUTIES OF INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

- a. Each member of Keystone Council shall file the following material in the W.S.G.A. office:
  1. A complete list of the members of the organization which she represents.
  2. A full set of activity cards provided by W.S.G.A.
  3. An annual report.

In establishing rules pertaining to the regulation of the houses in which women students at Wisconsin live, we have tried to keep in mind that actual conditions in different houses vary to a great extent. For this reason we feel that these rules should extend as much liberty and freedom to the individual house as is possible. Hence, in ~~ve~~ only suggested rather several instances we have than demanded rules.

The Senior Key Privilege which was on trial last year worked very successfully we feel. Accordingly the privilege has been enlarged for Senior women, and also extended to Junior women. We trust that the privileges will be used intel-

ligently and justify the confidence so indicated.

We welcome any suggestions the women living under these rules may have to offer us. Our goal of successful self-government always needs direct and indirect assistance!

W. S. G. A. Executive Council

(Signed) Bethana Bucklin, President.  
September, 1931.

### SUGGESTIONS

In answer to many requests we suggest that each house schedule some quiet hours to be observed on Sundays.

No girl should go on the lake canoeing or swimming without letting one other person know. The reason for this is obvious—*there is always a chance of accident in water sports.*

Graduate students, for their own benefit, should live in graduate houses rather than in those houses run for under-graduates.

All those students who return later than 10:30 are requested to use all consideration for the other people in the house and to avoid all unnecessary noise.

It is suggested that house rules should include one to the effect of "no baths after 11:00 p.m."

That as a matter of honor every girl do her best to uphold the University by not bringing misunderstanding through any action that might reflect unpleasantly upon the institution.

### W.S.G.A. HOUSE RULES

#### *Quiet Hours*

The minimum of quiet hours is 17 hours a day throughout the school week: the distribution to be determined in each house. Each house must file in duplicate a copy of its quiet hour schedule in the W.S.G.A. office at the beginning of each semester.

All telephoning, except in case of emergency, must stop at 11:00 p.m. At no time shall a house be without telephone connections in case of emergencies.

#### *Calls*

Social calls for men are allowed any time between 12:00 noon and closing hours. Business calls before 12:00 noon may not exceed ten minutes.

#### *Guests*

Guests (not registered students) in W.S.G.A. houses are under W.S.G.A. rules; however they may be granted 12:30 permission by the house mother any night.

#### *Closing Hours*

Sunday through Thursday	-	10:30 p.m.
Friday and Saturday	-	- 12:30 p.m.

These hours are extended to all students. If preferable the house mother may designate the responsibility of locking the door to the W.S.G.A. Representative.

#### *Senior Key Privileges*

Seniors (those having 88 credits) not on probation have the privilege of remaining out two ten-thirty nights a week until twelve-thirty. This privilege may be used on Sunday nights. A Senior may not use her key to allow any "unauthorized absentee" to enter the house. A single infringement of this rule means the loss of the key privilege. The Housemothers are asked to report to the W.S.G.A. office any breaking of this rule. The privilege is not accumulative.

Any Senior using the Key Privilege must sign up with her Housemother.

#### *Junior Key Privilege*

Juniors (those having 58 credits) not on probation have the privilege of remaining out one ten-thirty night a week until twelve-thirty. This privilege may be used on Sunday nights. A Junior may not use her key to allow any "unauthorized absentee" to enter the house. A single infringement of this rule means the loss of the key privilege. The Housemothers are asked to report to the W.S.G.A. office any breaking of this rule. The privilege is not accumulative.

Any Junior using the Key Privilege must sign up with her Housemother.

#### *"Closed Period" Key Privileges*

During the "closed period" before examinations Key Privileges may be taken only until eleven o'clock instead of twelve-thirty.

#### *Prom Night and Military Ball Night*

Closing hours as set by the Student Life and Interests Committee shall be extended to all students on Prom night and Military Ball night.

#### *Late Permissions*

Late permission may be granted by the house mother only in cases where the student is attending an authorized extra-curricular activity.

#### *Graduates*

All graduates (those having a degree) living in under-graduate houses shall be granted the privilege of having keys and are allowed out any night until 12:30. They are not allowed to give their key to any undergraduate or guest, or to use it to allow any "unauthorized absentee" to enter the house. They are subject to the penalty of losing their key if they abuse the rule once.

### *Rules are Never Off*

Rules are in force from the time when the students arrive to register for the fall term until the house closes after summer session. They are in force during the vacations except that:

1. Quiet hours are not in effect.
2. Week-end closing hours are in effect for all.  
This shall include the last night of the Christmas and Spring recesses.
3. All nights before a full holiday are 12:30 nights.
4. All but Freshmen may receive permission to be out until 12:30 during Orientation week. The Freshmen are attending a definite University schedule and are therefore under the 10:30 rule.

### *Absences from House*

1. In Town Absences: A student absent from her house over night must leave her address and telephone number with her house mother.

2. Out of Town Absences: A student must have written permission from her family consenting to her absence from town unless she is going home. If a letter from her parents granting a blanket permission covering all out of town absences for the semester is brought by the student, *2 signed copies* are necessary. One shall be filed in the W.S.G.A. office and one with the house mother. In cases of out of town absences a student must leave her address and time of expected return with her house mother.

### *Parties at Men's Houses, etc.*

Women students may not go at any time unchaperoned to any men's living quarters.



