

Berea College Board of Residents

Mission Statement

The Student Government Association Board of Residents (the BOR) is charged with representing the students of Berea College by fostering, listening to, and incorporating student opinions and voices into the residence life of Berea College. Understanding the importance of promoting student welfare, representing student concerns, protecting the best interests of students, and fostering communication among the aforementioned groups, we resolve to work toward the benefit of the Student Body and bring about positive changes in the way students live and learn together. We encourage and sponsor/co-sponsor residential events that contribute to awareness, knowledge, and thought about contemporary issues. In all these means, we strive to remember the traditional ideals of the Great Commitments of Berea College as they apply to the Student Body. Thus, the BOR's primary mission is to represent the residence halls and specialty housing from which we were elected, and we reserve the right to sponsor/co-sponsor campus events that affect the campus residential community as a whole.

Standing Rules of Order

I. Inaugural Meeting

A. Scheduling- The first BOR meeting will be scheduled during the required SGA Retreat.

B. Election of Chair and Clerk- At the first BOR meeting, the first order of business will be the election of Chair and Clerk. The SGA President shall call the meeting to order and verify that a quorum of 50% of the voting members is present. He/she shall take nominations for Chair and Clerk. The nominees will give a brief statement about their interest in the position. Nominees will leave the room during voting for the position they are seeking. A runoff will be held between the top two candidates in the event that no one candidate receives a majority.

***C. Assumption-** Upon election, the Chair and Clerk shall immediately assume their roles. No new representatives from the house councils are needed to fulfill the previously elected positions of the newly elected chair and clerk. The Chair and an elected representative of the BOR must attend weekly Executive Council meetings.

II. Robert's Rules of Order

Robert's Rules of Order shall serve as the standing rules of the BOR, except where these rules may be in conflict with other Standing Rules of the BOR, as contained herein.

III. Quorum

Quorum is defined as fifty percent of the voting membership of the Board of Residents.

IV. BOR Members

Residence Halls/Units

This refers to housing that is recognized and administered by Berea College; such establishments are governed by their House Council. The SGA recognizes the Eco-Village as one Residence Unit and the entirety of on-campus specialty housing (that is, all segments not considered uniquely a Residence Hall) as one Residence Unit; however, this recognition in no way shall affect the internal governance of such segments.

A Functioning House Council

C. Notification from the Clerk upon Receiving the Third Absence- Upon receiving the third (3rd) absence, the Clerk shall send a written warning to the representative informing him/her of the attendance policy, and the possible consequences of receiving more than six absences.

D. Action to be Taken- The Clerk shall notify the BOR when a Representative is absent for a sixth time. That Rep.'s position will be considered vacant. However, the Representative may attend the next regular BOR meeting and explain the final absence to the membership of the Board. If the Senate feels an extenuating circumstance exists, it may then vote to allow the member to remain in the BOR upon the affirmative vote of 2/3 of the members present.

When the previous House Council's Presidential position is vacant the House Council itself must provide a new president to serve as an active member of the BOR. If this replacement is not ensured, the house council is no longer a functional unit.

VI. Meeting Time/Location

Meetings shall be held set at the inaugural meeting at the required SGA retreat. The Chair, in consultation with the Clerk, shall have the sole discretion of canceling any previously scheduled meeting, or calling any special, or "emergency" meeting. Cancellations may not occur when extremely urgent business is pending.

VII. Agenda

The Chair, in consultation with the Clerk, and SGA Executive Council shall set the agenda for each meeting. It is preferable that the Agenda be sent to the members the day before the meeting.

VII. Minutes

Minutes recorded by the Clerk should ideally be approved by the next meeting. The approved minutes shall be posted on the BOR Public Folder and/or Website.

VIII. Controversial Votes

Any vote deemed controversial by the Board may be published on the BOR Public Folder and/or BOR Website. Also, with the consent of the Board, the Clerk shall send the voting results electronically to the Student Body. Either action will require a 2/3rds vote of the Board.

IX. Finances

The BOR's finances shall only be disbursed with a two-thirds majority vote. The BOR shall give no finances to a non-functioning house council. The BOR will not finance proposals unless the program complies with the criteria for funding set by the Executive Council.

X. Voting by E-Mail

With consent of the Chair and Clerk, an e-mail vote may be held on matters that require timely action. At least two thirds of the voting members must respond by the deadline stated in the e-mail. If a significant portion of Representative's object to the "e-vote," the vote will then be held at the next meeting.

1. Consists of at least three of the mandatory officers.
 - a. An individual who serves the dual role of house council President and BOR Representative.
 - b. An individual who serves as house council vice president.
 - c. An individual who serves as secretary/treasurer (at house council's discretion)
2. The President fulfills all duties to the House Council and the Board of Residents.

B. Privileges of a Functioning House Council

These privileges are not absolute, and will be removed if the house council is deemed non-functioning.

1. A vote on the Board of Residents.
2. Access to BOR funding through an effective proposal that embodies the criteria for funding set forth by the Executive Council of SGA.
3. Ability to implement policies within the Residence Hall/Unit such as extended visitation.

Role as BOR member

To assume the essential role as an advocate of one's residence hall while, being an active participant to the body of the Board of Residents within SGA. Without attaining these essential roles, the body will not be a functioning entity.

Duties of BOR Member

1. Meet regularly, no less than bi-weekly.
2. Establish all election procedures for the House Councils of Residence Halls/Units.
3. Encourage and sponsor residential events that contribute to awareness, knowledge, and thought about contemporary issues.
4. Make all legislation necessary and proper to residential governance.
5. Attends BOR meetings.
6. Keeps House Council informed of BOR activities.
7. Keeps BOR informed of hall activities.

Role as House Council President

-The SGA Board of Residents shall consist of one House Council President from each Residence Hall/Unit.

One faculty member shall serve as an *ex officio*, voting member and a designate selected from residence life collegium shall serve as an *ex officio*, non-voting member.

Duties of House Council President

1. Makes agendas for meetings, in conjunction with the hall Coordinator.
2. Calls and conducts residence hall meetings with staff members.
3. Calls and conducts house council meetings.
4. Takes an active part in residence hall activities.

V. Attendance

A. Absences- A representative may miss no more than five (5) meetings per academic year. Of those five (5) meetings, a maximum of two (2) may be used (at the Representative's discretion) as proxy absences. A proxy absence means that the absent Rep. will select a student to vote in his/her place. The Chair and Clerk shall be notified of any proxies at least 24 hours before the meeting. Absences will not be noted in the event that an officer is away for the duration of Short Term. The SGA retreat will count as two absences, if has not previously been excused by the president of SGA.

B. Tardies- Any person arriving more than fifteen (15) minutes late to the meeting shall be considered absent. Those tardy however may still have the power to vote, as long as they have not missed a significant portion of discussion on the topic at hand.