

STATEMENT  
OF  
OBJECTS & REASONS

1. **Electing** to act on considerations of efficiency and effectiveness with regards to the constitutional duty of the Yale-NUS College Student Government Judiciary (henceforth “Judiciary”) to provide regular reports to the student body on the conduct of the Yale-NUS College Student Government Council (henceforth “Council”);
2. **Recognising** the *de facto* expanded role of the Directorship of Budget to include vast tracts of assumed duties and responsibilities beyond the annual budget and within a dynamic government that has itself expanded greatly in duties and responsibilities, and seeking to ensure that the expansion of the role is constitutionally defined and delineated, in the interest of securing the stable functioning of the Directorship;
3. **Reviewing** the Constitution and having found a formatting error that dilutes the meaning of the section found to be containing the error,

This Council seeks to amend the Yale-NUS Student Government Constitution.

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**Aditya Karkera**  
Director of Finance

RES04-2016/17

# A Resolution

*to*

## Amend the Constitution

*in the twenty-first week of Student Government, 2017*

Sponsor(s): Aditya Karkera (Director of Finance), Avery Simmons (Vice President)

1. **Article V, Section 5, Clause 4** of the Yale-NUS College Student Government Constitution (henceforth “Constitution”) will be amended as such:

*Replace*

“Present public monthly reports to the student body on the conduct of the Council, with special regard for the Council’s adherence to the stipulations of the Constitution”

*with*

“Present three public reports to the student body on the conduct of the Council, with special regard for the Council’s adherence to the stipulations of the Constitution. One report shall be released at the end of the first semester, one in the middle of the second semester, and one final, cumulative report shall be released at the end of the academic year. Additional reports may be presented at any time should the Judiciary feel the Council’s conduct renders it necessary”;

2. **Article III, Section 8, Clause 5** of the Constitution will be amended as such:

*Replace*

“5. Budget, who shall:

- a. Manage Government finances, and produce an internal budget proposal for the Government in consultation with the Government. This internal budget proposal will be finalised and ratified by a vote of the Council. The President will present this internal budget proposal to the Dean of Student’s Office for approval,

- b. Serve as co-budget director for the entire fiscal year, beginning in the second semester of their government term. For the first semester of their term, their co-director will be the outgoing budget director,
- c. Address student concerns on college-wide budgeting,
- d. In the case of a dispute from student organisation, form an appeal committee, comprised of the President, Vice President, Chief Justice, and relevant directors (budget, student organisations, etc.) to review appeals and provide a report to the student organisation on the final decision,
- e. Hold open meetings of the budget committee, except when making final decisions regarding the budget of the student organisations. For meetings in which final decisions on the budget of student organisations are made, minutes will be made public after the meeting has ended”

*with*

“5. Finance, who shall:

- a. Manage, record, and measure Government finances and transactions, and produce an annual budget for the Government in consultation with the Government. This annual budget will be finalised and ratified by a vote of the Council on an annual budget resolution to be drafted and presented by the director. The President will present this annual budget to the Dean of Student’s Office for ultimate approval,
- b. Address student concerns on college- and government-wide budgeting, as well as all questions of finance,
- c. In the case of a dispute from a student organisation, form a budget appeal committee, comprised of the President, Vice President, Chief Justice, and relevant directors (finance, student organisations, etc.) to review appeals and provide a report to the student organisation on the final decision,
- d. Hold open meetings of the student organisations budget committee, charged with the allocation of finances to extant and newly-recognised student organisations, except when making final decisions regarding the budget of the student organisations. For meetings in which final decisions on the budget of student organisations are made, minutes will be made public after the meeting has ended,
- e. Chair a finance committee comprised additionally of two members of government appointed by the director and one member of the student body confirmed by the Council, charged with drafting the budget and associated budget resolution, advising the President on matters of finance and budgeting, preparing government financial reports and statistics, and serving as the consultative body all

government functionaries must approach before engaging in any activity that requires government finance deployment”;

3. **Article V, Section 4, Clause 5, Subclause d** of the Constitution shall be amended by eliminating its status as a subclause of Clause 5, and instituting it as Clause 6, wherein:

“d. The power to render a verdict shall be the unconditional prerogative of the Judiciary, regardless of any other sanctions that the Judiciary may impose.”

*shall become*

“6. The power to render a verdict shall be the unconditional prerogative of the Judiciary, regardless of any other sanctions that the Judiciary may impose.”;

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*This Council, by the powers afforded to it and by the will of the President, hereby **moves to pass this resolution as it stands**, and*

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1. **Instructs** the Directorship of External Communications to ensure that the student body is well aware of the amendments to the Constitution so made with this resolution, and is encouraged to provide feedback and/or contentions;
2. **Applies** all changes of title brought about by the amendments so made with this resolution, whereby any and all references to the “Director of Budget” or “Directorship of Budget” are to be retrospectively changed to “Director of Finance” and “Directorship of Finance”, respectively.

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IN FAVOUR: Avery Simmons, Saza Faradilla, Aditya Karkera, Clin Lai, Anandita Sabherwal, Shi Ting Stinson, Sunwoo Nam, Scott Chua

IN OPPOSITION: Nil

IN ABSTENTION: Matthew Ware, Izzah Haziqah, Nirali Desai

HENCE, ***PASSED***