



## SGA proposes constitutional amendments

by Scott Brown  
Contributor

Two amendments to the SGA constitution released Dec. 4 are now open for student review for a period of three weeks, leading up to a campus-wide vote at the start of next semester.

These amendments will serve to involve students in the decisions made on campus and ensure connectivity within the student leadership.

Before the joint session of the Student Government Association (SGA) Nov. 19, the proposed amendments were approved by both the House of Club Representatives and the Senate, after three weeks of re-

vision and open forum hosted by the constitutional review board.

Two weeks earlier on Nov. 6, the constitutional review board first presented the two new amendments to the SGA joint session, which caught many members by surprise. The amendments were approved by the Senate but voted down by the House of Representatives.

Discussion about the amendments continued after the meeting, calming those who had fears about the issue passing beneath the radar.

Many of the questions during the meeting were merely points of clarification, leaving two or three issues which were later investigated by the constitutional review committee, and lead to some changes in the amendments.

The committee spent the first of three weeks in deliberation and revision of the amend-

ments in closed meetings. The second two weeks were open to all members of the SGA to offer their input and have any questions they had answered in preparation for their re-submittal at the next joint session meeting.

These amendments were conceptualized and drafted early in the semester in an effort to simplify the communication process between different student organizations, and to ensure accountability within the SGA.

"The way it (the SGA) is set up now is not even reactive. It's just a bunch of people talking about doing things and never seeing anything through," said Beth Brooker, SGA President. "That's why we changed the function of the permanent committees to focus outward so that they could hear the voices of the students."

Specifically, the changes altered the duties of certain SGA

positions and intertwined the responsibilities of the different organizations on campus.

The amendments were contested at first on the grounds that they had not been thoroughly disclosed to the members of both the senate and the house. Ironically a few of the amendments related specifically to the issues of permanent committee involvement and inter-organizational connectivity that they were designed to prevent.

Now that the two amendments have been approved, they will be offered to the student body for a period of three weeks, both through active distribution from the SGA and upon request of one of the SGA executives.

The amendments will be enacted pending a three-fourths vote of approval from all students during Confirmation and the days prior to January 16.

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### Affirmatives win debates

On Reading Day, the affirmatives went 2 for 2.

Two debates—one open forum debate, and one academic debate—were each won by the affirmative argument in close decisions. Both debates were part of the "The 6th Annual Debate Tournament: An Evening of Debate," sponsored by the Brevard College Debate Society.

In the academic debate, Catherine Johns and Travis See Debates, page 12

### Bring the Heat!



Photo by Shawn James

Sculpture student Zach Porch performs his final project of the semester.