

## Decision on the Appeal of [SR01-F21](#) and [SR02-F21](#)

December 3, 2021

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Following the impeachment of President Matthew J. Meyer on November 16, 2021, an appeal ([Constitutional Challenge 01-F21](#)) was formally submitted, challenging the constitutionality of the General Senate's power, procedure and judgment.

Before examining the actions of the former president and the Senate, I must find a power vested in the Chief of Staff to adjudicate this constitutional inquiry. Article X, Section 5, Subsection b of the [General Bylaws](#) gave the Hearing Board the power of judicial review over all actions of the Senate to determine their compatibility with the governing documents. [Senate Resolution A03-F21](#) and [Senate Resolution GB04-F21](#) effectively removed the Chief Justice position and severed the Student Conduct Board's official relationship with John Carroll Student Government. During former President Meyer's time in office, the Senate adopted a legislative clause saying "Article X, pertaining to the now defunct Student Hearing Board, will be removed from the General Bylaws." The power of judicial review was extracted from the Student Government entirely. These two senate resolutions exclusively redirected the "duties and responsibilities pertaining to attendance of Senators" and did not establish the power of any Student Government executive board member to invalidate the will of the Senate.

Nevertheless, the General Senate 11-2 vote to remove former President Meyer from office created evident conflict between the actions of the Senate and the governing documents of Student Government. While in part subjective, the appeal clearly recognizes the constitutional impeachment procedure was not entirely followed. Though the current structure of our organization leaves no further viable remedy for an appeal of impeachment, the recently introduced amendments to the Constitution aim to repair the missteps of the Senate, ensuring such shortcomings will not occur in terms to come.

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### **Written and Submitted by:**

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