



MOTION FORM

FOR SERVAS INTERNATIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY (SIGA) 2025

1. Heading for the proposal in this motion (No more than 10 words)

Renaming and redefining SYLE

2. Date and place for this motion.

- Servas International General Assembly (SIGA)
- Dijon, France
- October 7th-8th 2025

3. SI member group(s) or SI EXCO member(s) who is (are) responsible for this motion.

Note that only SI Member Groups or SI Executive Committee (SI EXCO, Servas International's global board) may propose motions for a SIGA.

Servas USA

4. Exact wording of the proposal to be voted on.

To better clarify what our extended stay program can and should be, we should change the name from SYLE (Servas Youth Language Experience) to a more broad SESO (Servas Extended Stay Opportunity) to allow members of all ages to explore this opportunity, and not simply tie it to language learning. Further, removing the term 'youth' from what we consider 'young adult' members, to better market and explain the program, if we do stay with 'under 30' as a rule.

Please note that SIGA 2025 must be able to vote YES, NO or ABSTAIN on a SIGA proposal.

5. Implications on SI Statutes 2024. The SI Statutes are accessible on the internet here:

<https://servas.org/administration-archive>

Will this proposal affect the SI statutes and therefore create a need for a change in the SI statutes? If the answer is yes, please:

5A) Copy the part of the SI statutes that you suggest should be amended

5B) Write the exact proposed new wording in the SI Statutes here:

5A)

SYLE is not in the statutes

6. Explanation for the motion. The motivation must contain a clear description of the benefit of this proposal for the Servas community; its member groups, individual members and Servas International as an international non-governmental organisation. It should also contain information on how it is different from current practice. It should indicate how the proposal is intended be implemented. Finally, the motion should explain the metrics that will be used to measure benefits from this proposal.

SIGA 2025 should approve this motion because (one or more motivations):

Why SESO?

1. Expanding Beyond Language Learning

- The current name, SYLE, implies a primary focus on language immersion, which may limit interest from those who seek cultural exchange but not necessarily formal language study.
- SESO better captures the full range of meaningful experiences available—whether that's volunteering, community engagement, or simply living abroad with a host family.

2. Clarifying the Age Group

- The word "Youth" in SYLE can be misleading. Servas defines "young adult" members as under 30, but "youth" is often associated with teenagers or children.
- By removing "youth" from the name, SESO more accurately represents the target audience and avoids unnecessary confusion.

3. Encouraging Broader Participation

- SESO highlights the **opportunity** aspect of the program, making it clear that it is open to all eligible members, not just those focused on language learning.
- A more inclusive name supports Servas' mission of fostering deeper cross-cultural connections and immersive travel experiences.

7. SI budget implications

Describe what financial resources are needed to accomplish the aims of this motion.

Use the money currency Swiss francs, which is the currency used for SI's budget:

8. Other resources needed -- time, experts with specialist competences or knowledge or other human resources.

zero

9. Proposed timeline/timetable for accomplishing the aims of the proposal?

The proposed action should ideally:

- Start on this date: 2025-November- 1
- Be accomplished on this date: 2025-November-1

The person(s) or group(s) will report the results of this motion to SI Exco.

- ...?
- ...
- ...

10. Which person(s) writes/write this motion and is/are responsible for the proposal?

Person 1

Name:

- Tys Sniffen

ServasOnline registration ID (see your ServasOnline profile on servas.org): 8588

- <https://servas.org/member/tys-sniffen>

Functions/titles in Servas:

- USA board member

Email address(es):

- tys.sniffen@usservas.org

Mobile number(s) (Signal, WhatsApp etc) and other communication channels (if applicable):

- +1415.606.7746

Person 2

Name:

- ...

ServasOnline registration ID (see your ServasOnline profile on servas.org):

- ...

Functions/titles in Servas:

- ...

Email address(es):

- ...

Mobile number(s) (Signal, WhatsApp etc) and other communication channels (if applicable):

- ...

- ...

Person 3

Name:

- ...

11. Who or which group will be responsible for accomplishing the aim/aims of the proposal in this motion? (SI committee, SI Team, SI member group or Servas individual member/members.

- SI to change the bylaws?

For SI Exco Use Only:

12. SI Exco comment on this motion

Date: 2025-MONTH-DAY

Comment:

For Minute Taker Use Only:

13. Amendments (Passed or defeated)