

Lane College Student Government Association



Constitution

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION CONSTITUTION

PREAMBLE

We, the students of Lane College, in order to form a stronger Student Government Association, promote the intellectual and social growth of the Student body, provide for student input in the College's policy-making process, and create a harmonious relationship with the faculty and administrative staff, do establish this Constitution of the LANE COLLEGE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION.

ARTICLE I **NAME AND OBJECTIVES**

Section 1

Name: The name of the organization shall be the Lane College Student Government Association, abbreviated, SGA.

Section 2

Objectives: The objectives of this organization shall be:

- a) To provide a central channel for student problems and concerns.
- b) To act as a medium for the dissemination of information to the Student Body.
- c) To represent, through formal and informal Committees and meetings, the students' opinions on all aspects of the functioning on the College.
- d) To assist in the coordination and regulation of the student activities and organizations.
- e) To administer the Student Activities fee.
- f) To represent the Student Body on appropriate ceremonial and official occasions.

ARTICLE II **DIVISION AND FUNCTIONS**

Section 1

Division: The Lane College Student Government Association shall consist of three branches:

- a) The Executive Cabinet shall consist of the President, Vice President, Business Manager, Treasurer, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, and a SGA Representative from each class.
- b) The SGA Advisory Committee shall consist of the respective president of each chartered and active campus organization.

- c) The Judiciary Council shall be comprised of nine students appointed by the President of the SGA and approved by the Advisory Council.

Section 2

Functions: The functions of the three branches shall be:

- a) The Executive Cabinet shall carry out the general administrative duties of the SGA and regulate student activities.
- b) The SGA Advisory Committee shall advise the President and approve all major SGA expenditures.
- c) The Judiciary Council shall conduct hearings of students and SGA officers accused of violating College and SGA policies respectively.

ARTICLE III

EXECUTIVE CABINET; POWERS AND DUTIES

Section 1

The President shall:

- a) Make appointments to the appropriate administrative committees.
- b) Preside over Student Body Meetings
- c) Sign all requisitions.
- d) Represent the Student Body on ceremonial and official occasions.
- e) Serve as the chief spokesperson for the Student Body.
- f) Exercise general administrative powers and duties.
- g) Serve as the Student Representative to the Board of Trustees.

Section 2

The Vice President shall:

- a) Preside over the SGA Advisory Committee.
- b) Serve in the absence of the President and fulfill all duties of that office.
- c) Perform other duties as delegated by the President.

Section 3

The Secretary and Assistant Secretary shall:

- a) Keep the minutes of all meetings as delegated by the President.
- b) Serve as custodian of records, documents, and other valuable papers of the SGA.
- c) Answer correspondences and perform other duties as delegated by the President.

Section 4

The Business Manager shall:

- a) Keep a record of all expenditures incurred by the Student Government Association.
- b) Sign jointly with the President all requisitions that represent disbursements.

- c) Purchase jointly with the Treasurer all items requested by the President.

Section 5

The Treasurer shall:

- a) Keep a record of SGA funds.
- b) Issue monthly financial reports to the President and Business Manager.
- c) Receive all monies made payable to the SGA.

Section 6

The Student Government Association Representative(s) shall:

- a) Serve as a liaison between the SGA and the respective classes.
- b) Assist the class officers.
- c) Assist and advise the President of the SGA.
- d) Vote in Executive Cabinet meetings.

ARTICLE IV

THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE: POWERS AND DUTIES

Section 1

The Advisory Committee shall:

- a) Plan jointly with the Executive Cabinet student activities and projects.
- b) Approve Cabinet appointments by the President.
- c) Approve major SGA expenditures.

ARTICLE V

JUDICIARY COUNCIL: POWERS AND DUTIES

Section 2

The Judiciary Council Shall:

- a) Supply members to all judicial Committees and disciplinary boards.
- b) Develop a code of ethics for all SGA officers, subject to approval by the Student Body.
- c) Hear charges against SGA officers.
- d) Hear and make referral to the Disciplinary Committee in cases involving minor infraction of the school Code.

ARTICLE VI

ELECTIONS

Section 1

Executive Cabinet:

- a) General Eligibility: All candidates for office in the Executive Cabinet other than the President and SGA Representatives of the Freshman Class must have a cumulative grade point average of 2.8 or better. The President must have a cumulative academic average of 3.0 or better.

- b) Candidates for President or Vice President must be classified as at least a junior at the time of assuming office. Candidates for Business Manager must be classified as at least a sophomore at the time of assuming office. Candidates for all other Executive Cabinet offices beside SGA Representatives from the respective classes must have completed at least two semesters at the College.

Section 2

Judiciary Council:

- a) Members of the Judiciary Council shall be at least sophomores at the time of their appointment. The Chief Justice must be at least a junior and approved by a two-thirds majority of the Advisory Committee.

Section 3

Advisory Committee:

- a) Criteria for the members of the Advisory Committee shall be set by the respective organizations and approved by the Judiciary Council.

Section 4

Election Procedures:

- a) Elections for President, Vice President, Business Manager and SGA Representatives of the Executive Cabinet shall be held the third week in April. Election for SGA Representative of the Freshman Class shall be held the third week in September along with SGA supervised class elections.
- b) Candidates for President, Vice President and Business Manager must submit a filing petition with at least one hundred student signatures five days prior to scheduled elections. Candidates for SGA Representatives must file a petition with at least twenty-five signatures from members of their respective classes.
- c) The President, Vice President and Business Manager shall be elected in campus-wide elections. SGA Representatives shall be elected concurrently in the elections for President, Vice President, and Business Manager by their respective classes. All other positions of the Executive Cabinet shall be filled by the President with the consent of a majority of the members of the Advisory Committee.
- d) Each campus organization shall submit to the Executive Cabinet by the third week in September the name of its prospective member of the Advisory Committee.

ARTICLE VII **MEETINGS**

Section1 The President shall appear before the Student Body at least once a month to present a budget report and tentative monthly calendar of activities. Other campus business and issues will also be discussed at this time.

Section 2 The Advisory Committee shall meet bi-monthly.

ARTICLE VIII **REMOVAL FROM OFFICE**

- Section 1 Any member of the Executive Cabinet may be removed from office by impeachment or recall.
- a) Any official found guilty of charges of misconduct or dereliction of duty by the Judiciary Council shall voluntarily resign or, if an elected official, may be subject to a recall.
 - b) An elected officer shall be immediately removed from office by two-thirds of the Student Body voting for removal.
 - c) Any appointed member of the Executive Cabinet may be removed directly by the President with the consent of a majority of the Advisory Committee.
 - d) In the case of the President's removal from office, the vacancy created by removal for any other reason shall be filled by the President of the College with the consent of the Advisory Committee.
- Section 2 Advisory Committee members may be expelled for dereliction of duty by a two-thirds vote of the Committee.
- Section 3 Judiciary Council members may only be removed by a two-thirds vote of the Student Body.

ARTICLE IX **AMENDMENTS**

- Section 1 Any proposed amendment to the Constitution shall be submitted in triplicate to the Executive Cabinet, Judiciary Council, and Vice President for Student Affairs. Any amendment which does not conflict with College Policy may be presented and ratified by a two-thirds vote of those present at a called meeting of the Student Body.

ARTICLE X **RATIFICATION**

This document shall, hereby govern the Lane College Student Government Association as its official Constitution when ratified by a simple majority of the Student Body and approved by the President of the College.