

AFRICAN STUDENT UNION CONSTITUTION

Article I. NAME

Section 1: The name of this organization shall be the African Student Union (hereinafter referred to as ASU).

Article II. PURPOSE

Section 1: To unite the African Students of Youngstown State University (hereinafter referred to as YSU). This alliance of students and scholars will provide support and render aid to the African students who attend YSU.

Section 2: To serve as a base where new African students can assimilate the American culture and yet maintain their African roots.

Section 3: To provide and partake in activities and events that will promote awareness of the African culture. The ASU shall also collaborate with other student organizations and clubs in various events.

Article III. MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: Membership of the ASU is open to all YSU students who are in good academic standing.

Section 2: Faculty and Staff of YSU can serve as patrons of the YSU.

Article IV. OFFICERS, ADVISORS AND THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1: The officers of this group shall include a president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer and public relations officer.

Section 2: The Executive Committee (hereinafter referred to as the EC) shall consist of the officers mentioned above along with the advisor(s) of the ASU. Other members include the webmaster and committee chairpersons.

Section 3: The tenure for each officer shall be one (1) academic year. An officer can have an unlimited number of terms in office.

Section 4: The signing authority for banking purposes will consist of three signatures. The signatories are required to be members of the EC and must include the treasurer and the president.

Section 5: The president of the ASU must be of African descent. He/She cannot serve as an officer in a different campus organization.

Article V. OFFICERS- DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Section 1: President

- A. To preside over and conduct all meetings.
- B. Chairperson of the EC.
- C. Serve as an ex-officio member of all committees.
- D. The official spokesperson and representative of the ASU.
- E. Prepares the meeting agenda with the aid of the secretary.

Section 2: Vice-President

- A. Perform the duties of the president in the absence of the president.
- B. To administer the budget with the aid of the treasurer.
- C. Keep track of financial records.
- D. Perform duties delegated by the President or the EC.

Section 3: Secretary

- A. To attend and keep minutes of all meetings.
- B. To give and serve all notices of ASU meetings including the preparation of meeting agendas.
- C. Prepare annual reports.
- D. Inform the ASU of emergency meetings at least 24 hours in advance.
- E. Perform duties given by the EC.

Section 4: Treasurer

- A. Keep and maintain financial records of the ASU.
- B. Submit an account balance at the end of the semester.
- C. Deposit money into the ASU account.
- D. Prepare the formal financial statement (balance sheet) at the end of fiscal year to fulfill the student government budget request.
- E. Perform other duties as assigned by the EC.

Section 5: Public Relations Officer

- A. Submit meeting time to the campus newspaper (The Jambar) at least five days before each meeting.
- B. In charge of promotion of the ASU. The PRO will also attempt to awaken the interest of lapsed members.
- C. Design programs and social activities.
- D. The PRO shall be in charge of fund raising and must be familiar with student organization funding regulations.
- E. May perform other duties as prescribed by the EC.

Article VI. ELECTIONS

Section 1: A nomination is valid if and only if the nominee accepts it.

Section 2: Each member is entitled to only one vote.

Section 3: If an office becomes vacant, by-elections will be conducted as required.

Article VII. IMPEACHMENT OF AN OFFICER.

Section 1: An officer shall be considered for impeachment if any of the following occurs:

- A. The officer fails to fulfill the duties and responsibilities of that position (see Article V).
- B. He/She is not in good academic standing.
- C. The officer attracts negative publicity to the ASU, whether on or off the YSU campus.

- D. The officer has three unexcused absences from general meetings in a semester.

Section 2: The EC shall meet with the officer in question to discuss the issue(s). The meeting shall conclude with one of the following outcomes:

- A. The aforementioned officer is put on probation. This means that the officer will be given the chance to continue serving in that position but has to show substantial improvements. Any future violation will not be tolerated.
- B. The officer resigns.
- C. The officer is removed from office by a two-thirds vote of the ASU. The officer in question must abstain from voting during this procedure.

Article VIII. AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS.

Section 1: The EC has the final authority to make, amend, repeal or rescind this constitution and/or the bylaws.

Section 2: Any proposed amendment must be submitted in writing at a previous meeting duly called. The EC may create a committee to revise the constitution and/or the bylaws.

Section 3: All amendments will require at least two-thirds vote for passage.

Article IX. QUORUM

Section 1: The quorum for a general meeting shall be six (6).

Section 2: The quorum for an EC meeting shall be four (4).

Article X. SELECTION AND TENURE OF ADVISORS.

Section 1: The tenure for an advisor shall be one year. This may be renewed an unlimited number of times.

Section 2: After the annual election of officers, the outgoing officers will be meeting with the incoming officers. They will deliberate and decide the candidates that they want to invite as advisors for the coming academic year.

Section 3: The power to select advisors for the coming academic year is vested solely upon the officers elected to serve during that year.

Section 4: Faculty members who are on sabbatical are not eligible to serve as ASU advisors.

Section 5: An advisor who attracts negative publicity to the ASU, whether on or off the YSU campus may be removed from office. Removal of this advisor from office requires a two-thirds vote of the EC.