

## ASSOCIATED STUDENTS' CONSTITUTION

### PREAMBLE

We, the Associated Students of College of the Canyons, in order to form a more effective government, to promote the good name of College of the Canyons, to promote belief in the creeds of liberty and equality, to emphasize the process of learning through the medium of self-government, and as witness to our faith in the institutions of our culture, do ordain and establish this Associated Students' Constitution.

### **ARTICLE I – RIGHTS OF MEMBERS**

Section I. All duly registered students of College of the Canyons who are in good standing shall be members of this Association.

Section II. All the Associated Students reserve to themselves the powers of initiative, referendum, and recall.

Clause A. Legislation may be proposed by means of a petition of initiative signed by twenty-five percent (25%) of all Association members.

Clause B. Any Associated Student Government Senate legislation shall be subject to a referendum upon presentation of a petition signed by twenty-five percent (25%) of all Association members.

Clause C. Associated Student Government Senate members shall be subject to a recall by presentation to the Associated Student Government Senate of a petition signed by one-third (1/3) of all the Association members.

Clause D. Initiative, referendum, and recall elections must be held within fifteen (15) college days after the Associated Student Government Senate receives the aforementioned petition(s) unless the Associated Student Government Senate acts in compliance with the stated intent of the petition. A majority of all votes cast shall be sufficient to enact or repeal legislation. To constitute a recall, two-thirds (2/3) of the votes cast shall be required.

Section III. The rights of this Association's members to freedom of the press, to peaceably assemble, to universal equality, and secret suffrage, and to petition the government for a redress of grievance shall not be denied or abridged by any branch of student government.

### **ARTICLE II – STUDENT SENATE**

Section I. All legislative powers herein granted are vested in the Student Senate of the Associated Student Government, which shall be composed of a President, Executive Vice President, Student Trustee, Executive Vice President of Communications, Vice President of Inter Club Council, Vice President of Activities, Vice President of Advocacy, and Vice President of Equity and other elected officers as provided for in the Bylaws of this Association.

Clause A. Advisors to the Student Senate shall be the Campus Life and Student Engagement Staff, or such

advisors as appointed by the president of the college.

Clause B. Only those officers elected to their office or filled, by appointment or proxy or a vacated Student Senate elective office, shall have legislative powers.

Clause C. Non-voting officers, provided for in the Bylaws of this Association, may be appointed by the President with the approval of two-thirds (2/3) of the Executive Board, to assist the Board in accordance with the aims of the Constitution and as prescribed in the Bylaws.

Clause D. It shall be the mission of the Student Senate to maintain a close relationship with the Board of Trustees for the Santa Clarita Community College District, the Administration of College of the Canyons, the faculty, and the staff, and to provide student representation and opinion whenever necessary, and when required by law. It shall also be the mission of the Student Senate to keep updated as to any legislation at any level, be it national, state, district, etc. that will affect the student body of the district, and to advocate as effectively as possible on the student's behalf. Furthermore, it shall be the duty of all members of the Student Senate to assist the Activities Board in the execution of their duties.

Section II. All activities planning, event planning, and student involvement coordination powers herein are granted to the Activities Board of the Associated Student Government, which shall be composed of the Vice President of Activities who will appoint members of the Valencia Campus Activities Team and the Canyon Country Campus Activities Team with the approval of two-thirds (2/3) of the Student Senate.

Clause A. The non-voting chair of the Activities Board shall be the Executive Vice President of Activities.

Clause B. Advisors to the Student Senate shall be the Campus Life and Student Engagement Staff, or such advisors as appointed by the CEO or designee of the college.

Clause C. Only those officers elected to their office or filled, by appointment or proxy or a vacated Student Senate elective office, shall have legislative powers.

Clause D. It shall be the mission of the Activities Board to provide the members of the Association with as many opportunities as possible to expand their horizons and enrich their College experience. Furthermore, it shall be the duty of all members of the Activities board to assist the Student Senate in the execution of their duties.

Sub-Clause 1. In order to fulfill this mission, the Activities Board will engage in planning and the implementation of cultural, educational, legislative, and social activities, programs, and services for the campus community.

Section III. No officer may hold more than one (1) Student Senate office at the same time nor serve more than two (2) consecutive terms in the same office nor serve more than three (3) terms total in the Student Senate.

Section IV. Students desiring election to office must register their names with the Campus Life and Student Engagement Staff for placement on the ballot during the time period designated for such action in the election codes prescribed by the Bylaws of this Association and/or the

Student Senate.

Section V. A general election for President, Executive Vice President, Student Trustee, Executive Vice President of Communications, Vice President of Inter Club Council, Vice President of Activities, Vice President of Advocacy, and Vice President of Equity shall be held no later than four weeks before commencement. The term of office for these positions shall be one (1) year, starting on the first Monday after Commencement of the year elected, and ending on Commencement Day of the following year.

Section VI. Vacancies occurring among the members of the Senate shall be filled as stipulated in the Bylaws of the Association

Clause A. In the event of a vacancy in the office of President, the Executive Vice President shall then be considered vacant.

Clause B. In case successive vacancy of the office of the President, the order of succession shall follow in this order: Executive Vice President, Vice President of Activities, Vice President of Inter Club Council, Vice President of Advocacy, Vice President of Equity, Executive Vice President of Communications, and the Student Trustee.

Section VII. The Powers of the Student Senate shall be:

Clause A. To collect and expend revenues with two-thirds (2/3) vote of Senate Members.

Sub-Clause 1. To collect and expend revenue from the Student Representation Fee.

- a. The Fee will remain in compliance with the California Education Code.
- b. Control of this account will remain with the Associated Students.
- c. The monies will be used only for activities, events, and/or travel with direct correlation to District, City, County, State, and/or National legislation.
- d. The monies may also be used for the attendance of conferences dealing with District, City, County, State, and/or National Government, i.e., SSSCC, CCCCCO, CCCSAA, USSA, and CEOCCC.

Clause B. To enact laws for the general welfare of the Association.

Clause C. To initiate impeachment proceedings of its members by a three-fourths (3/4) vote of all Student Senate members.

Section VIII. The powers of the Activities Board shall be:

Clause A. To plan and execute all activities and student involvement

Sub-Clause A. To expend funds allocated for awards ceremonies, activities, and events.

Clause B. To initiate impeachment proceedings of its members by a three-fourths (3/4) vote of all

Activities Board members.

Section IX. The Senate shall not have the power to enact any bill of attainder or ex post facto law.

Section X. The Student Senate shall meet regularly once a week with the exception that they may not meet on authorized school holidays or during finals week.

Clause A. Special meetings for special purposes may be called by the President or by a majority vote of the Senate Officers.

Clause B. All Senate Officers shall be afforded ample notice of all Senate meetings.

Clause C. A quorum, consisting of two-thirds (2/3) of the voting Senate Officers, shall be required before the Senate may legally function.

Section XI. The Activities Board shall meet regularly, with the exception that they may not meet on authorized school holidays or during finals week.

Section XII The Inter Club Council shall meet regularly.

Section XIII. Each office shall have, but not limited to, the following duties:

Clause A. The President shall serve as Chief Executive Officer and official representative of the Association. Also, the President shall be responsible for advocacy and legislative issues at the statewide level.

Clause B. The Executive Vice President shall assume the duties of the President during the President's absence, if vacated, or at the direction of the President. This position shall also be responsible for all financial matters of the Association.

Clause C. The Student Trustee shall represent the Association at all District Board Meetings. This position shall also be responsible for advocacy and legislative issues at the state level. This position shall also be responsible for representing the Association at the Academic Senate.

Clause D. The Vice President of the Inter Club Council shall chair the Inter Club Council meeting. This position shall update the Student Senate regarding the activities of the Inter Club Council.

Clause E. The Vice President of Activities will be the non-voting Chair of the Activities Board. This position will direct the activities of the Association.

Clause F. The Executive Vice President of Communications will be responsible for publicizing the activities sponsored by the ASG Senate. This position will be responsible for producing a monthly student publication and/or production and updating the ASG's social media by leading a production team and a social media team.

Clause G. The Vice President of Advocacy shall host an event related to advocacy and legislature. This position will also actively collaborate with the President and Student Trustee in representing the District at the statewide level.

Clause K. The Officer of Equity will be responsible for taking part in improving equity and inclusion at the College through committee attendance, hosting focus groups, and designing workshop initiatives. This position will also be responsible for providing a report every semester addressing how the ASG may pursue diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives most effectively.

### **ARTICLE III – JUDICIARY**

Section I. An ad hoc Judicial Review Committee composed of students and college staff outside of the Student Senate will handle all judicial review pertaining to matters between and/or involving the Associated Students, its members, and its subordinate organizations.

### **ARTICLE IV – ASSERTION OF POWERS**

Section I. All campus student clubs, organizations, and societies, and all members of this Association shall be bound by the legislation of the Student Senate, providing that the legislation does not abridge, deny, or conflict with any provision of this Constitution.

### **ARTICLE V – AMENDMENTS**

Section I. Amendments to this Constitution may be proposed either by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Student Senate, or by initiative of twenty-five percent (25%) of the Association's members.

Section II. Such proposed amendments shall be submitted for ratification to members of this Association at a general or special election. Two-thirds (2/3) of the votes cast shall be necessary for adoption.

Section III. The Student Senate President shall set a date for a special election no later than six (6) weeks after receiving the proposed amendment by either a (2/3) vote of the Student Senate, or (25%) of the Student Body.

### **ARTICLE VI – BYLAWS OF THE ASSOCIATION**

Section I. The Student Senate shall create and enforce Bylaws in accordance with the aims of this Constitution.

Section II. All Bylaws shall become effective upon acceptance of a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Student Senate and shall be continuous until amended or revoked by a two-thirds (2/3) vote by the Student Senate.

### **ARTICLE VII – AUTHORITY**

Section I. Ultimate authority in all matters of student government shall rest with the

Superintendent/President of College of the Canyons, under the direction of the Santa Clarita Community College Board of Trustees, in accordance with the laws of the State of California and the Santa Clarita Community College District

Section II. Parliamentary authority for all matters not covered in this Constitution or the Bylaws of this Association shall be governed by the most recent edition of Robert's Rules of Order.

#### **ARTICLE VIII – ENACTMENT**

Section I. All debts and compacts between this Association and other parties, which were valid under the former Constitution, are valid under this Constitution

Section II. This Constitution shall be in effect when ratified by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of this Association's members voting, when the tenures of office of the present Associated Student Government Officers have expired, and when approved by the Superintendent-President of College of the Canyons and the Santa Clarita Community college Board of Trustees.