

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. There shall be two categories of membership: active members and inactive members.

Clause A. Inactive members shall be defined as students who do not possess a current, paid and validated Student Support Fee card. Inactive members shall be limited to the right to vote in all Associated Student Government affiliated elections.

Clause B. Active members shall be defined as students who hold a current, paid and validated Student Support Fee card. Active members shall be entitled to the right to vote in all Associated Student Government affiliated elections, to the rights and privileges provided by the Associated Students' card, and the right to hold any Associated Student Government office, or serve on any Associated Student Government committee or represent the Association in any manner when so designated by Executive Board.

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 Executive Board of the Associated Student Government, which shall be composed of a President, Executive Vice President, Student Trustee, Executive Liaison Officer, Vice President of the Inter Club Council, Executive Vice President of Activities, Officer of Marketing and Information, and other elected officers as provided for in the Bylaws of this Association.

Clause A. Advisors to the Executive Board shall be the Office of Student Development 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 Executive Board 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 Executive Board 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 students behalf. Furthermore, it shall be the duty of all members of the Executive board 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 Executive Vice President of Activities, Vice President of Activities – Valencia Campus, Vice President of Activities – Canyon Country Campus, Public Affairs Officer, six (6) Student Involvement Coordinators, and other elected officers as provided for in the bylaws of this association.

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

Clause B. Advisors to the Executive Board shall be the Office of Student Development Staff, or such advisors as appointed by the president 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. Non-voting officers, provided for in the Bylaws of this Association, may be appointed by the Executive Vice President of Activities with the approval of two-thirds (2/3) of the Activities Board, to assist the Activities Board in accordance with the aims of the Constitution and as prescribed in the Bylaws.
- Clause E. 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 Executive Board 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. Traditional programs and services the Activities board is expected to coordinate include a Back-to-School Bash held once per semester, a Fall Fest, a Spring Fling, a celebration of Black History Month, a celebration of Women's History Month, a Cinco de Mayo celebration, and any other event that is deemed necessary.
- 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 Office of Student Development 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, Vice President of the Inter Club Council, Executive Vice President of Activities, Vice President of Activities – Valencia Campus, Vice President of Activities – Canyon Country Campus Officer of Marketing and Information, Executive Liaison Officer, Public Affairs Officer, and six (6) Student Involvement Coordinators 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 filed 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, Executive Vice President of Activities, Vice President of the Inter Club Council, Executive Liaison Officer, Officer of Marketing and Information, Public Affairs Officer, and the Student Trustee.

Section VII. The Powers of the Executive Board 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. Monies from the Fee will be placed into an account under the Executive Board.
- c. Control of this account will remain with the Associated Students.
- d. The monies will be used only for activities, events, and/or travel with direct correlation to District, City, County, State, and/or National legislation.
- e. The monies may also be used for the attendance of conferences dealing with District, City, County, State, and/or National Government, i.e., CalSACC, 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 Executive Board 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 Executive Board 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, on a bi-weekly basis starting on the second week of each semester, 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, on a weekly basis starting on the second week of each semester, on Monday, with the exception that they may not meet on authorized school holidays or during finals week.

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 all 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. He/She 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. He/She shall also be responsible for advocacy and legislative issues at the state level. He/She shall also be responsible for representing the Association at the Academic Senate.

Clause D. The Vice President of the InterClub Council shall chair the InterClub Council meeting. He/She shall update the Executive Board regarding the activities of the InterClub Council.

Clause E. The Executive Vice President of Activities will be the non-voting Chair of the Activities Board. He/She will direct the activities of the Association.

Clause F. The Officer of Marketing and Information will be responsible for publicizing the activities and actions of the Executive Board. He/She will also be responsible for producing a monthly student publication with content provided by the members of the Association.

Clause G. The Executive Liaison Officer shall serve as the liaison between the main campus and all satellite campuses. The Executive Liaison Officer must be enrolled as many units as necessary, as stipulated in the Bylaws of the Association, at the Canyon Country Campus. He/she shall serve on all district committees pertaining to the planning/coordination of all off campus sites.

Clause H. The four (4) Student Involvement Coordinators shall be responsible for the planning and execution of events for the general student population. Also, the Student Involvement Coordinators shall plan an event for faculty recognition day and student recognition day. They will also work with the Executive Liaison Officer to plan events to be held at the Canyon Country Campus.

Clause I. The Public Affairs Officer of the Activities Board will be responsible for publicizing the events planned by the Activities Board, as well as coordinating the Activities Board contributions to the monthly student publication.

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 Executive board 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 Executive Board, 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.