# East Los Angeles College Associated Student Union Constitution

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# **PREAMBLE**

We the Associated Student Union of East Los Angeles College hereby present an accurate delineation of the ASU Board qualifications and subdivisions of power. This organization does not desire to portray merely a strict image of governance; furthermore, its main concern focuses on being a source of encouragement and responsibility that will promote and increase the intellectual, physical, social, and cultural growth of this college. In order to provide an expanded educational and social service program for all students we hereby establish this ASU Constitution and its Bylaws according to the standards and regulations of the State of California and the Trustees of the Los Angeles Community College District.

# **ARTICLE I**

# Section 1: Name of Organization

The name of this organization shall be the Associated Student Union of East Los Angeles College, henceforth, referred to as the ASU.

# Section 2: Place of Business

The principal place for the transaction of this organization shall be:

East Los Angeles College

1301 Avenida Cesar Chavez

Monterey Park, California 91754

South Gate Educational Center

2340 Firestone Boulevard

South Gate, California 90280

#### Section 3: Colors and Mascot

The official colors of East Los Angeles College shall be forest green and white. In keeping with tradition, the official mascot shall be represented by the "Siberian Husky" to be defined as a costumed dog and/or a live animal which will attend public rallies and ASU sponsored events.

# **ARTICLE II**

# Section 1: Membership

- A. All students officially enrolled and attending classes at East Los Angeles College are strongly encouraged to participate in ASU sponsored activities and become ASU members. Regularly enrolled students may be eligible to hold office subject to good standing with the college and acquisition of ASU membership. (Good standing shall be determined by Article II, Section 2A of this Constitution.)
- B. A nominal membership fee will be assessed each semester/term upon students. The amount of said fee will be determined in consultation between the ASU Board, the ASU advisor and the college administration. The amount of the fee will be reviewed regularly and adjusted as deemed appropriate in the same consultative manner.

# Section 2: Qualifications

- A. No candidate can have more than 80 degree-applicable units completed in the District. Students who exceed the 80 and/or more degree applicable units may fill out an 80 and/or unit exception form. Exceptions will be decided by the College President based upon recommendations made by the Executive Vice President of Student Services. The candidate must be a current paid ASU member (LACCD Administrative Regulation S-9).
- B. At the time of election, or appointment and throughout the term of office, the officer or board member must be actively enrolled in and must successfully complete a minimum of 5 units per semester. Any candidate or officer with a disability may request an accommodation for the requirements to hold office may reference LACCD Regulation S-9 Section 6. The officer or board member must have and maintain a cumulative and current GPA of at least 2.0 in units completed at all the colleges in the District during the semesters in which the student government office is applied for and held. Current means the most recently completed semester or session. The Chief Student Service's Officer and/or designee will check grades after every semester and session. Students falling below this requirement will automatically forfeit their office. (LACCD Administrative Regulation S-9).
- C. The term of office for all members of student government shall begin at midnight on July 1<sup>st</sup> of each year and shall expire at 11:59 pm on June 30<sup>th</sup> of the following year, except for the office of president for which if no person is designated to fill the position as of June 30<sup>th</sup>, the incumbent shall continue to serve until a replacement is determined.
- D. A candidate officer or board member is ineligible for office if they have served more than four (4) semesters in any one or more student government elected or appointed offices in the District (LACCD Administrative Regulation S-9)
- E. No one person shall hold more than one ASU student government office at the same time. No one person on the ASU Board shall be an officer of a charted club.

# Section 3: Vacancies

A. Procedure to fill vacancies due to resignation, ineligibility, or impeachment can be found in Bylaws. (Article 3: Section3)

# **ARTICLE III**

#### Section 1: Structure

The Associated Student Union shall include these four (4) bodies:

- A. The ASU Board.
- B. The Budgetary Affairs Committee.
- C. Inter-Club Council.
- D. The Supreme Court.

# Section 2: ASU Board

- A. The ASU Board will consist of the following officers:
  - 1. President
  - 2. Executive Vice President
  - 3. Vice President of Finance
  - 4. Vice President of Advocacy
  - 5. Vice President of Public Relations
  - 6. Vice President of South Gate
  - 7. Treasurer
  - 8. Chief Delegate
  - 9. Secretary
  - 10. Senators (13)
- B. The President, Executive Vice President, Vice President of Finance, Vice President of Advocacy, Vice President of Public Relations, Vice President of South Gate, Treasurer, Secretary, and Chief Delegate shall be elected by the Student Body.
- C. All officers listed in Article III Section 2A have one vote on all issues coming before the ASU Board with the following exceptions:

- 1. The ASU board member who serves as the chair should abstain from voting to maintain impartiality. The chair will be decided by Article 4 Section 3 Order of Succession in the ASU Bylaws. The chair may vote to break or create a tie.
- 2. Members who have a conflict of interest are expected to abstain from voting. Members who have personal financial gains are expected to abstain from voting.
- D. Quorum will be necessary to hold an official ASU meeting. Quorum shall be defined as fifty (50) percent plus one of the currently filled ASU Board positions.

# Section 3: Purpose of the ASU Board

#### The ASU Board:

- A. Shall advocate for the general welfare of the students at East Los Angeles College.
- B. Shall represent student interests at various campus committees.
- C. Shall be the only legislative branch of Student Government.
- D. Shall have the power to conduct, manage and control the affairs and business of this organization consistent with the California Educational Code, Los Angeles Community College District Regulations, the Ralph M. Brown Act, and the Articles of this Constitution and its Bylaws.
- E. Shall submit an approved budget for the fiscal year commencing July 1<sup>st</sup> to the College President no later than May 31<sup>st</sup> or soon thereafter.
- F. Shall have authority in all cases involving the financial affairs of this organization.
- G. Shall recommend chartering of all college clubs to the College President or their designee for their approval and recognition.
- H. Shall have power to modify these Bylaws and offices it deems necessary with approval of 2/3 of the ASU Board.
- I. Shall have the power to require periodic reports from any and all committees, officers and clubs.

# Section 4: Duties of ASU Officers

A. Duties of the ASU Officers can be found in Bylaws. (Article IV: Section2)

#### Section 5: Inter-Club Council

#### The ICC Shall:

- 1. Meet at least once a month during the semesters of Fall and Spring.
- 2. Serve as a liaison between chartered clubs and the ASU.

3. Set that no student shall serve as an officer for more than one chartered club at the same time.

# **ARTICLE IV**

# Section 1: The Supreme Court

The Supreme Court shall act as the ultimate authority in matters of the Constitution, proceedings of impeachment and grievances.

#### Section 2: Recall

Procedure and grounds for Impeachment can be found in Bylaws. (Article VIII: Section 3)

# Section 3: Impeachment

Procedure and grounds for Impeachment can be found in Bylaws. (Article VIII: Section 4)

# **ARTICLE V**

# Section 1: Budgetary Affairs Committee Membership and Quorum

- A. The Budgetary Affairs Committee shall consist of:
  - 1. Vice President of Finance (Chair)
  - 2. ASU President
  - 3. One elected member of the ASU Board appointed by the ASU President and approved by the ASU governing board.
  - 4. Advisor or designee
  - 5. One faculty member appointed by the President of the college.
  - 6. Chief Business Officer or designee, serving as ex-officio member with no vote.
- B. Action taken at any meeting of the BAC is not considered legal unless there is a quorum of three voting members with a minimum of two students and the Advisor or their designee. (LACCD Administrative Regulation S-3).

# **ARTICLE VI**

# Section 1: ASU Stipend

Stipends will be issued in Fall and Spring semesters to qualifying Board members as outlined below:

A. The amount of stipend shall be based on the number of weeks served in office at a prorated rate.

- B. In order for officers to receive their stipend they must first fulfill their duties.
- C. Stipends shall be distributed after a recommendation from the ASU Advisor to the Vice President of Student Services with final approval of the College President.
- D. The Senators will be awarded semester stipends based on their performance and completion of duties as stated in this constitution and its Bylaws.
- E. Officers will receive the following amounts per semester:
- F. If the officer's GPA falls below a 2.0 for the fall or spring semester, their stipend will be withheld.

I.	ASU President	\$500
II.	ASU Executive Vice President	\$450
III.	ASU Vice President of Finance	\$400
IV.	ASU Vice President of Advocacy	\$400
V.	ASU Vice President of Public Relations	\$400
VI.	ASU Vice President of South Gate	\$400
VII.	ASU Treasurer	\$300
VIII.	ASU Secretary	\$250
IX.	ASU Chief Delegate	\$250
X.	Senators (13)	\$100 each

# **ARTICLE VII**

#### Section 1: Amendments to the Constitution

- A <u>Proposals</u>: Amendments to this Constitution may be proposed by any current member of the ASU Board. The proposed amendments shall be submitted in writing, to the ASU President and the ASU Advisor. The President shall present proposed amendments to the ASU Board within three weeks of following receipt of the proposed amendment, the president must place the item on the agenda of a regularly scheduled meeting for consideration by the Board.
- B. <u>Notification</u>: Prior to voting on the proposed amendment, ASU must provide public notification and notify the general student body population of the proposal. Said notification must be posted in the same manner as meeting agendas and for a period of at least ten (10) days prior to official consideration by the full ASU Board. Members of the public shall be encouraged to present feedback and response to the proposed amendment at a required town hall meeting.
- C. <u>Approval</u>: The proposed amendments must be approved by a 2/3 vote of the ASU Board currently holding office, present and voting at a regularly scheduled meeting.

- D. <u>Ratification</u>: Ratification of the amendments shall be approved by majority vote of the board, then placed before the entire student body for ratification by a majority vote at a college-wide election. The change shall become effective immediately or as provided in this amendment.
- E. <u>Application</u>: No amendment to this Constitution and its Bylaws can be retroactive.
- F. <u>Execution</u>: The ASU Board shall carry out the provisions of this Constitution and its Bylaws.

# ARTICLE VIII

#### Section 1: Administrative Advisor to ASU

- A. Chief Student Services Officer or designee shall be the Administrator Advisor of ASU.
- B. Action taken at any meeting is not considered legal unless a simple majority of voting members of the governing body and the Chief Student Services Officer or designee are present. As pursuant to Los Angeles Community Colleges Office of the Chancellor Administrative Regulations Index Number: S-1.

#### Section 2: Ultimate Authority

- A. In accordance with the Laws of California, the rules of the State Board of Education and the Los Angeles Community College Board of Trustees, the ultimate authority of judgment and all student matters rest jointly with the ASU Board, the Supreme Court, the Dean of Student Services, the President of the College and the LACCD Board of Trustees.
  - 1. All other consultations of this Organization are subordinate and shall comply with this constitution.
  - 2. This Organization shall be governed by Robert's Rules of Order, revised, in all matters not covered by this Constitution or by ASU Board action.

# ARTICLE IX

# Section 1: Ratification

This Constitution, if ratified by majority vote of the Student Body, shall take effect upon certification of the election.

Amended: May 26, 2006

March 18, 2008

April 23, 2010

March 22, 2013

April 9, 2018

July 1, 2018

April 29, 2019

SL 072108