

CONSTITUTION OF THE BLACK STUDENT UNION

PREAMBLE

The Black Student Union and all members, hereafter will be bound by the rules and regulations set forth by this Constitution of the Black Student Union at the University of Delaware.

ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Black Student Union (BSU).

ARTICLE II - PURPOSE

The purpose of the Black Student Union shall be:

1. To represent Black students in political matters.
2. To serve as the primary advocacy organization for Black students.
3. To act as chief liaison between Black students and the University administration.
4. To take active measures toward fostering an enriching environment for Black students attending a predominantly White university.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the Black Student Union will consist of all full-time matriculated undergraduate and graduate Black students of the University of Delaware.

ARTICLE IV - EXECUTIVE BOARD, EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, COMMITTEES

Section 1. Officers

The officers of this organization shall be as listed below. Each officer shall sign an agreement indicating that he/she will fulfill the duties and responsibilities of his/her office as specified by this Constitution. When necessary, new officers shall be added by a two-thirds vote of the general body quorum or appointed by the President.

A. *Elected Officers:*

President
First Vice President
Second Vice President
Recording Secretary
Corresponding Secretary
Treasurer
Parliamentarian
Senior Class Representative
Junior Class Representative
Sophomore Class Representative
Freshman Class Representative

B. *Appointed Officers:*

Mr. BSU
Miss BSU

C. *Appointed Positions:*

Pamoja Representative
Committee Chairpersons

Section 2. Executive Board

The Executive Board will consist of the President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, and Parliamentarian.

Section 3. Executive Council

The Executive Council will consist of the Executive Board, each Class Representative, and all other appointed officers. All members of the Executive Council, with the exception of the Freshman Class Representative, must hold a 2.0 grade point average. All members of the Executive Council must hold at least a 2.0 grade point average for the Fall semester to continue in the office term of one year beginning in the Fall semester of each academic year. No member of the Executive Council may hold the same office more than two consecutive terms. The Executive Council shall assist in maintaining all committees and carry out the aims and objects of the BSU.

Section 4. Responsibilities and Duties of the Officers

A. The President shall:

1. Preside over all formal, informal, and executive meetings.
2. Call meetings of the Executive Board/Council and general body when necessary.
3. Appoint officers as stated in the Constitution Article V Section B with the approval of the Executive Council.
4. Act as BSU representative and spokesperson, or appoint alternate.
5. Confer with the advisor on business matters.
6. Give advice to the Executive Council in the discharge of responsibilities and duties.
7. Appoint all Ad Hoc Committees.
8. Provide for the orderly transfer of all documents at the end of his/her term to the Student Activities Office and newly elected BSU officers.
9. Uphold the purpose of the BSU (stated in Article II).
10. Enforce due observance of the Constitution.

B. The First Vice President shall:

1. Preside in the absence of the President.
2. Represent the BSU in all internal functions.
3. Succeed the President in the event of the resignation or impeachment.
4. Preside in the Black Leadership Council.
5. Oversee all committees.

C. The Second Vice President shall:

1. Preside in the absence of the President and/or First Vice President.
2. Represent the BSU in all external functions.
3. Function as chairperson of the Public Relations Committee.
4. In the event of the succession of the First Vice President to President, take on the position of First Vice President and the duties of the Second Vice President shall be dispersed among the Executive Board.

D. The Recording Secretary shall:

1. Maintain an accurate and permanent record of the minutes of the Executive Council and the General Body meetings.
2. Distribute copies of the minutes to the Executive Council at all meetings and place such minutes and the Treasurer's Report on file.
3. Expedite the transfer of all files and records of the BSU to the newly elected recording secretary at the end of each term.
4. Take and maintain a record of attendance at all Executive Council and General Body meetings. Submit this record as an end of the term attendance report.
5. In the absence of the Corresponding Secretary, assume the responsibilities of the Corresponding Secretary.

E. The Corresponding Secretary shall:

1. Notify all members of the Executive Council of regular meetings, dating and voting issues at least three days in advance.
2. Conduct all official correspondence for the Executive Council and the General Body.
3. Notify the Executive Council at least one day in advance of all emergency meetings.
4. In the absence of the Recording Secretary, the Corresponding Secretary shall assume the responsibilities of the Recording Secretary.

F. The Treasurer shall:

1. Maintain an accurate account of all BSU financial transactions.
2. Present a written report of all financial transactions to the Executive Council and the general body at each meeting, and to the University administration when required.
3. Plan and submit a tentative schedule of the year's budget to the Executive Council.

G. The Parliamentarian shall:

1. Be well versed in *Robert's Rules of Order*.
2. Advise the President of proper parliamentary procedure at all BSU meetings.
3. Advise the Executive Council on the BSU constitution.

H. The Class Representatives shall:

1. Serve as primary liaison between his/her specific class and the Executive Council.
2. Plan at least one program per semester directed toward the needs of his/her respective class.
3. Conduct at least one class meeting per semester.

I. Mr. and Miss BSU shall:

1. Serve on the BSU Hospitality committee.
2. Co-chair the Mr. and Miss BSU Pageant committee.
3. Co-chair the Community Service committee.

J. Committee Chairs shall:

1. Be appointed by the executive council.
2. Report to the First Vice President and members at large at General Body meetings.
3. Carry out duties as delegated.

ARTICLE V - NOMINATIONS

Open Nominations forms will be sent out to all Black students, either by mailing or distributing through the Center for Black Culture. All forms must be returned to the center. Nominations will be accepted at the General Body meetings preceding the vote. Only officers not running can handle ballots. All nominees will be notified to present speeches on a designated night. Prospective candidates must attend an information session, to be held at least one week before candidate speeches. The policies of *Robert's Rules of Order* must be at all times adhered to.

ARTICLE VI - ELECTIONS

Officers and Class Representatives, with the exception of the Freshman Class Representative, shall be elected in May of each new term. The Freshman Class Representative shall be elected by October of each new academic year.

ARTICLE VII - CODE OF CONDUCT

All officers of the BSU are subjected to probation or impeachment by a three-fourths vote of the Executive Council. Grounds for probation and impeachment are:

1. Failure to fulfill the duties and responsibilities of office.
2. Misuse of BSU funds or property.
3. Unexcused absences of Executive Council meetings exceeding two per semester.
4. Unexcused absences of General Body meetings exceeding one per semester.
5. Conduct which disgraces the BSU.

ARTICLE VIII - AMENDMENTS

This constitution may be amended by a two-thirds majority vote of the General Body. The voting General Body must meet quorum requirements (Article IX - 4). The amendment may not be voted upon if in conflict with the Purpose (Article II) of the BSU.

ARTICLE IX - MEETINGS

1. The Executive Council shall meet at least twice each month in a closed session.
2. General Body meetings shall be held at least once each month, excluding May.
3. *Robert's Rules of Order* shall govern all Executive Council and General Body meetings.
4. Quorum at General Body meetings shall consist of twenty members and a minimum of eight Executive Council members.
5. Quorum at Executive Council Meetings shall consist of seven officers including four Executive Council Board officers.
6. The *Pamoja* Representative will meet with the Executive Council prior to printing deadlines.
7. Chairpersons shall meet with the Executive Council once a month prior to General Body meetings.

ARTICLE X - DISSOLUTION

The BSU may be dissolved by a three-fourths vote of the General Body at quorum.

BY-LAWS

The Black Student Union shall have By-Laws to establish policy. The Executive Council shall be empowered to submit to the membership in a business meeting changes in the By-Laws. The rules contained in the By-Laws shall govern the Black Student Union in all cases to which they are applicable and not consistent with the rules of order of the Black Student Union. By-Laws can be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members present.

SECTION 1. COMMITTEES

The following shall be committees of the Black Student Union:

1. Nomination and Elections
2. Political Action
3. Finance
4. Constitution Review Committee

SECTION 2. ADVISOR

A campus faculty member or professional staff member shall be elected by the membership as the Black Student Union Advisor. The Advisor shall sign an agreement indicating he/she will fulfill the duties and responsibilities as specified in the By-Laws. Duties and responsibilities of the Black Student Union Advisor shall be:

1. To take an active role in the Black Student Union
2. To meet at least once a month with the Executive Council
3. To give advice and counsel to the Executive Council
4. To actively support Black Student Union's programs and functions

SECTION 3. PUBLICATION

The Black Student Union shall print a publication at least twice a year. This publication shall serve as the communication vehicle to the membership.

SECTION 4. RESTRICTIONS

Executive Board members of the Black Student Union can not hold an Executive office as; President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, or Treasurer, in any other registered student organization except for a fraternity or sorority.

ACTIVITIES

Activities deemed necessary by the Black Student Union