

Constitution for the GLBT Student Union at East Carolina University

Amended effective 4/9/03

ARTICLE 1: PREAMBLE

This Constitution shall govern the structure and functions of the GLBT Student Union at East Carolina University, founded 20 April, 1994, to provide a group in which students of ECU who are gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered or allied with our causes may meet to further these issues on campus and in the surrounding community.

ARTICLE 2: NAME AND SYMBOLS

SECTION 1: NAME: The name of this organization shall be the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered Student Union (GLBT Student Union).

SECTION 2: SYMBOLS: The rainbow in its many forms and representations, symbolic of diversity, shall be the symbol of this organization.

ARTICLE 3: PURPOSES

The Purposes of this organization shall be:

- To provide outreach, support, information, and resources for gay, lesbian, and bisexual students, faculty, staff, and their friends;
- To provide information and resources for the campus as a whole on issues regarding sexuality and sexual orientation;
- To educate the ECU community on issues of homophobia and heterosexism in all their forms; and
- To provide a social outlet for members and their friends.

ARTICLE 4: MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1: Active membership shall be open only to registered students of East Carolina University.

SECTION 2: Associate membership shall be open to students, faculty, staff, and alumni of East Carolina University or Pitt Community College and the spouses or partners of those with either membership status.

SECTION 3: The Executive Committee shall determine the Membership Policy, which shall define requirements for active and associate membership status.

SECTION 4: Only active members may vote on business in regular meetings or hold elected office in the organization.

SECTION 5: The GLBT Student Union shall not discriminate on grounds of race, sex, religious affiliation or the lack thereof, color, age, veteran status, disability, sexual orientation, or HIV status.

ARTICLE 5: MEETINGS

SECTION 1: The GLBT student union must hold meetings at least once per month while school is in session, excluding summer sessions, holidays, breaks, reading day, and exams.

SECTION 2: Meetings and events in addition to those required may be held and are encouraged.

SECTION 3: In order to conduct business or hold elections, 50% plus one of the active membership must be present or represented by written proxy.

SECTION 4: Proxy votes must state the vote, and may not simply empower another member to vote in his or her place.

ARTICLE 6: OFFICERS AND ELECTIONS

SECTION 1: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

A. The Executive Committee shall consist of the President, the Executive Vice President, the Vice President for Finance, the Vice President for Events, the Vice President for Media, the Advisor(s), and any appointed committee chairs or officers.

B. Only those members of the Executive Committee who were elected to their office (including advisors) shall have a vote in Executive Committee decisions.

C. The Executive Committee shall be empowered to conduct all business of the organization with the exception of elections and constitutional amendments.

SECTION 2: ANNUAL ELECTIONS A. The elected officers shall be the President, the Executive Vice President, the Vice President for Finance, the Vice President for Events, and the Vice President for Media.

B. Elections may be held at any regularly scheduled meeting of the Spring Semester, with nominations opened at a regularly scheduled meeting at least two (2) weeks prior.

C. The term of all officers (except advisors) shall be one (1) year, ending at the adjournment of the final regularly scheduled meeting of the Spring Semester.

D. Officers shall take office immediately following the end of the last regularly scheduled meeting of the Spring Semester.

SECTION 3: VACANCIES IN OFFICE

A. Officers elected to fill an office that becomes vacant due to resignation or removal shall serve the remainder of the term of office.

B. Officers who withdraw from school are considered to have resigned if they do not do so on their own.

C. Elections for vacant offices shall be exempt from the two (2) week nomination requirement.

SECTION 4: REQUIREMENTS AND DUTIES OF OFFICERS

A. Duties of the President: The President shall run meetings of the organization and of the Executive Committee.

The President shall appoint, with approval of the Executive Committee, committee chairs and non-elected officers to delegate responsibilities as needed.

The President shall aid the Vice President for Finance in his/her solicitation of funds from the SGA.

The President shall fulfill and assure all requirements of and responsibilities to the University and its respective divisions are met.

Order of Succession If the office of President shall become vacant between Annual Elections, then the office shall be automatically assumed by the next officer in the following order of succession:

- a. Executive Vice President
- b. Vice President for Finance
- c. Vice President for Events
- d. Vice President for Media

If all of the elected offices become vacant with no one to succeed the presidency, the advisors shall appoint interim officers or assume the responsibilities themselves until an election can be held.

B. Duties of the Executive Vice President: The Executive Vice President shall fulfill the duties of the President in his/her absence.

The Executive Vice President shall assist the President in securing speakers and programming.

The Executive Vice President shall assure that Membership Policy is followed.

The Executive Vice President shall assume the office of President should it be vacated before the term of office is completed.

The Executive Vice President shall keep accurate minutes of any meeting of the membership or Executive Committee in which business is conducted, or to appoint someone to do so in his/her place.

C. Duties of the Vice President for Finance: The Vice President for Finance shall collect all funds due to the organization.

The Vice President for Finance shall, upon direction of the Executive Committee, dispense funds of the organization for reasons provided.

The Vice President for Finance shall keep accurate records of all financial transactions.

The Vice President for Finance shall solicit funds from the SGA.

The Vice President for Finance shall be responsible for fundraising activities of the organization unless a Fundraising Chair is appointed.

The Vice President for Finance shall serve as a member ex-officio of any committees dealing with financial matters, including fundraising.

D. Duties of the Vice President for Events: The Vice President for Events shall be responsible for coordinating special projects and events for the organization

The Vice President for Events shall solicit ideas from the membership for events and bring those ideas to the Executive Committee for consideration.

The Vice President for Events shall coordinate with the Vice President for Finance to set a budget for each project or event, subject to approval by the Executive Committee.

The Vice President for Events shall serve as an ex-officio member of the publicity committee if one is appointed by the Vice President for Media.

E. Duties of the Vice President for Media: The Vice President for Media shall be responsible for coordinating the group's presence in the media, including, but not limited to newspaper, radio, television, and internet.

The Vice President for Events shall be responsible for maintaining any correspondence for the group, both via email and physically delivered mail.

The Vice President for Events shall coordinate with the Vice President for Finance to set a budget for publicity activities, subject to approval by the Executive Committee.

The Vice President for Media shall coordinate publicity activities with the Vice President for Events to most effectively promote the activities of the group.

The Vice President for Media shall be in charge of publicity and may appoint his/her own committee to aid in these duties with the assistance of the Vice President for Events.

ARTICLE 7: ADVISORS

SECTION 1: The GLBT Student Union shall maintain at least one (1) full-time faculty or staff advisor on file with the appropriate University office responsible for student organizations.

SECTION 2: Advisors may be elected by the membership of the GLBT Student Union.

SECTION 3: Advisors may be appointed by the Executive Committee.

SECTION 4: Only advisors elected by the GLBT Student Union membership shall have voting privileges in the Executive Committee.

SECTION 5: Advisors shall hold their position until resignation or removal.

SECTION 6: Advisors who are no longer employed by the University are considered to have resigned if they do not do so on their own.

ARTICLE 8: RESPONSIBILITY FOR MONETARY TRANSACTIONS

SECTION 1: The Vice President for Finance is responsible for all monetary transactions, subject to audit by the Executive Committee at any time deemed necessary by the Executive Committee.

SECTION 2: At the end of the term of office for the Vice President for Finance, both the outgoing and incoming Executive Committees shall review the books and turn them over to the newly elected Vice President for Finance.

ARTICLE 9: OVERRIDES AND AMENDMENTS

SECTION 1: Any decision of an officer or committee may be overridden by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the active GLBT Student Union membership.

SECTION 2: Any officer may be removed from office by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the active GLBT Student Union membership.

SECTION 3: This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote with a quorum of three-quarters (3/4) of the active GLBT Student Union membership.