

Revised: April 2008

THE CONSTITUTION
OF THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF
NORTHWEST NAZARENE UNIVERSITY

Revised and updated:

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ARTICLE I: NAME

- Section 1: The name of this organization shall be the Associated Students of Northwest Nazarene University.
- Section 2: The initials "ASNNU" shall be the proper abbreviation for the Associated Students of Northwest Nazarene University.
- Section 3: The students that shall represent the ASNNU shall be named the Student Government Association
- Section 4: The initials "SGA" shall be the proper abbreviation for the Student Government Association of Northwest Nazarene University.

ARTICLE II: PURPOSE

- Section 1: The purpose of the ASNNU shall be:
- (a) to promote and enhance the stated goals and ideals of NNU; and,
 - (b) to express pertinent student concerns to the SGA.
- Section 2: The purpose of the SGA shall be:
- (a) to promote and enhance the stated goals and ideals of NNU;
 - (b) to promote meaningful educational, cultural, religious, social, and service activities which will be beneficial to students, and to promote lifetime services to humanity;
 - (c) to coordinate the activities of student organizations;
 - (d) to create and maintain healthy communications between all elements of the campus society;
 - (e) to develop and maintain relations between all other student associations;
 - (f) to protect the rights of students;
 - (g) to promote a favorable relationship between the community of Nampa and the students of NNU; and,
 - (h) to promote a strong sense of community among the students.

ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP

- Section 1: All duly registered students of Northwest Nazarene University shall, upon payment of student fees, automatically become members of the Associated Students of Northwest Nazarene University.

ARTICLE IV: OFFICERS AND QUALIFICATIONS OF THE SGA

- Section 1: The executive officers of the SGA shall be: President, Executive Vice President, Social Vice President, Business Manager, Secretary, Campus Ministries Coordinator, Community Relations Coordinator, and Publicity Director. The remainder of the SGA officers shall include: Chief Justice and Associate Justices,

and Class Councils.

- Section 2: The qualifications for SGA positions shall be as follows:
- (a) The President, Executive Vice President, Social Vice President, Business Manager, Secretary, Campus Ministries Coordinator, Community Relations Coordinator, and Chief Justice shall have upper division standing and shall have been in attendance at the University not less than one semester immediately prior to their election or appointment, or shall display to the Judicial Board, prior to the election or appointment, just cause pertaining to the failure to attend the University one semester immediately prior to their election or appointment;
 - (b) All Associate Justices shall be in attendance at the University not less than one semester immediately prior to their appointment, or shall display to the Judicial Board, prior to their appointment, just cause pertaining to the failure to attend the University one semester immediately prior to their appointment;
 - (c) The Class Council officers shall be members of the academic class from which they are elected or shall display to the Judicial Board, prior to the election, just cause pertaining to the failure to achieve such a standing, and shall, with the exception of the Freshman Class Council, have been in attendance at the University not less than one semester immediately prior to their election, or shall display to the Judicial Board, prior to the election, just cause pertaining to the failure to attend the University one semester immediately prior to their election;
 - (d) The SGA Executive Officers and Justices shall be full-time students, as defined by the Crusader Handbook, maintaining a cumulative grade point of 2.30 or above, and class council members shall maintain a grade point of 2.30 or above; and
 - (e) Each officer shall profess and maintain a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and shall consider himself to be personally committed to the purpose of the SGA as stated in Article II, Section 2 and shall present a signed statement of such a commitment to the Executive Vice President upon filing for office.
- Section 3: The President, Executive Vice President, and Social Vice President shall be elected for a term of one year, beginning at the start of each academic year.
- Section 4: The Campus Ministries Coordinator, Community Relations Coordinator, Publicity Director, Business Manager, and Secretary shall be appointed for a term of one year, beginning at the start of each academic year.
- Section 5: Officers who are elected or appointed to fill a vacancy during a political year shall be elected and/or appointed until the end of that political year.
- Section 6: The Chief Justice and each Associate Justice shall be appointed for a term that will last until the Justice ceases to be a full-time student of the

University. The length of the office may be extended under the following conditions:

- (a) a simple majority of the Senate;
- (b) the reasons for the extension and jurisdiction of power are clearly defined; and
- (c) the length of the extension is established.

ARTICLE V: EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

- Section 1: The Executive Council shall be the administrative branch of the SGA.
- Section 2: The Executive Council shall be comprised of the President, Executive Vice President, Social Vice, President, Business Manager, Secretary, Campus Ministries Coordinator, Community Relations Coordinator, and Publicity Director. The Crusader Editor and Oasis Editor shall be ex-officio members of the Council.
- Section 3: The duties of the Executive Council shall be:
- (a) to make any recommendation it deems necessary to the Student Senate;
 - (b) to implement all legislation enacted by the Senate; and
 - (c) to plan and organize all ASNNU convocations and religious activities.
- Section 4: The duties of the President shall be:
- (a) to preside at all sessions of the Executive Council;
 - (b) to sign all legislation of the Senate of which he/she approves and return all legislation of which he/she disapproves together with his/her objections to the Student Senate;
 - (c) to appoint, with the advice and consent of the Senate, a Chief Justice and Associate Justices of the Judicial Board;
 - (d) to appoint, with the advice of the Executive and Social Vice Presidents and the Campus Life Director, a Campus Ministries Coordinator;
 - (e) to appoint, with the advice of the Executive and Social Vice Presidents and the Campus Life Director, a Business Manager;
 - (f) to appoint, with the advice of the Executive and Social Vice Presidents and the Campus Life Director, a Community Relations Coordinator;
 - (g) to appoint, with the advice of the Executive and Social Vice Presidents and the Campus Life Director, a Secretary;
 - (h) to appoint, with the advice of the Executive and Social Vice Presidents and the Campus Life Director, a Publicity Director;
 - (i) to serve as a representative of the ASNNU to the faculty/administration;
 - (j) to serve as a liaison of the faculty/administration to the ASNNU;
 - (k) to establish and implement a system of goals and objectives for the year;
 - (l) to serve on designated committees;
 - (m) to dismiss any person holding the office of Business Manager, Community Relations Coordinator, Campus Ministries Coordinator,

Publicity Director, Secretary, Yearbook Editor, or Newspaper Editor if he/she deems it necessary to do so;

- (n) to make Judicial Board appointments not more than three weeks after vacancies occur; and
- (o) to fulfill all duties as defined by the ASNNU Code.

Section 5: The duties of the Executive Vice President shall be:

- (a) to fill the office of President in the event that the President is unable to fulfill his/her duties;
- (b) to act as an assistant to the President;
- (c) to be in charge of all SGA elections;
- (d) to preside over all sessions of the Senate, except in the event that he/she cannot fulfill his/her duties as the Senate Chair or when he/she relinquishes the Chair to the Vice-Chair, in which case the chair shall vote only to make or break a tie;
- (e) to inform non-traditional/commuter students of upcoming university activities;
- (f) to serve on designated committees; and
- (g) to fulfill all duties as defined by the ASNNU Code.

Section 6: The duties of the Social Vice President shall be:

- (a) to take charge of the campus social activities;
- (b) to coordinate student activity scheduling;
- (c) to serve on designated committees; and
- (d) to fulfill all duties as defined by the ASNNU Code.

Section 7: The duties of the Business Manager shall be:

- (a) to receive all funds of the ASNNU and disperse funds on order of the Senate;
- (b) to deliver all property of the ASNNU in his/her care to his/her successor;
- (c) to inform Senate of all major financial occurrences;
- (d) to serve on designated committees; and
- (e) to fulfill all duties as defined by the ASNNU Code.

Section 8: The duties of the Secretary shall be:

- (a) to keep a record and post a copy of all proceedings of all meetings of the SGA Executive Council and the Senate;
- (b) to be responsible for all official correspondence of the Executive Officers;
- (c) to keep all official documents of the Senate on file;
- (d) to serve on designated committees; and
- (e) to fulfill all duties as defined by the ASNNU Code.

Section 9: The duties of the Campus Ministries Coordinator shall be:

- (a) to plan and organize all ASNNU chapels and convocations;

- (b) to plan and organize a Wednesday night service for students;
- (c) to plan and organize all activities relating to the religious life of the campus which he/she deems necessary;
- (d) to supervise, advise, and serve as a resource for Class-M ministry clubs; and
- (e) to fulfill all duties as defined by the ASNNU Code.

Section 10: The duties of the Community Relations Coordinator shall be:

- (a) to plan and organize all ASNNU community projects;
- (b) to serve as the public relations representative for ASNNU students to the community;
- (c) to serve on designated committees; and
- (d) to fulfill all duties as defined by the ASNNU Code.

Section 11: The duties of the Publicity Director shall be:

- (a) to be in charge of all ASNNU Publicity;
- (b) to serve as a resource for all the publicity of other campus organizations;
- (c) to coordinate all on-campus student publicity other than election propaganda;
- (d) to serve on designated committees; and
- (e) to fulfill all duties as defined by the ASNNU Code.

ARTICLE VI: SENATE

Section 1: The Senate shall be the legislative branch of the SGA.

Section 2: The Senate shall be comprised of three students from each class--a total of twelve senators. The Executive Vice President shall serve as Chair of the Senate and vote only in the case of a tie. The Chair Pro-Tempore shall be elected out of the Senate membership and, when acting as the chair, shall vote only in the case of a tie.

Section 3: The Senate shall meet at such time and place as it shall deem necessary and shall operate according to Roberts Rules of Order, unless otherwise stated in the Code and/or Procedures of the Senate.

Section 4: Except as otherwise specified, the Senate shall act on all questions related to the ASNNU.

Section 5: The powers and duties of the Senate shall include the following:

- (a) The Senate shall consider all recommendations from the Executive Council and enact any legislation deemed necessary;
- (b) The Senate shall appoint all students, except those who are members ex-officio, to all Student/Faculty Committees;
- (c) The Senate shall elect such officers as it deems necessary for the furtherance of its business;

- (d) The Senate, upon approval of the ASNNU, the University Administrative Cabinet, and the Board of Regents, shall set the fees of the ASNNU. These fees shall be collected by the Business Office before completion of registration;
- (e) The Senate, upon approval of the University Administrative Cabinet, shall authorize the ASNNU Business Manager to submit the proposed budget for the following semester to the ASNNU for its approval. Voting shall be by ballot, and adoption of said budget shall be by majority vote;
- (f) The Senate shall approve all new student organizations that are to be designated as "Class-A" or "Class-M" organizations and their respective constitutions;
- (g) The Senate may initiate recall provisions against any ASNNU officer in compliance with Article XII;
- (h) The Senate may recall, by a two-thirds vote, any student elected to a Student/Faculty Committee, the Elections Committee, or any other appointment whose recall is not provided for anywhere else in the ASNNU Constitution; and
- (i) The Senate shall hold confirmation procedures to fill the vacancies in the SGA Judicial Board not less than one and not more than three weeks after presidential appointment(s). A two-thirds majority vote of the Senators present is required to confirm a nomination

Section 6: The actions of the Senate shall take the form of bills, legislative enactments, and resolutions of the Senate.

Section 7: The Senate shall not pass any bill that would in any way infringe upon, supersede, or nullify any purpose of the ASNNU or the SGA as stated in Article II.

Section 8: Before becoming a law, all legislation that has passed the Senate shall be presented to the SGA President for his/her signature. If said legislation is not signed by the President but is returned to the Senate with objections, then the Senate shall enter those objections into its minutes and reconsider the legislation. If, after such reconsideration, two-thirds of the Senate membership shall agree to the legislation, or if any legislation shall not be returned by the SGA President within seven days after it has been presented to him/her, it shall become law without his/her signature.

ARTICLE VII: JUDICIAL BOARD

Section 1: The Judicial Board shall be the Judicial Branch of the SGA and shall serve as a disciplinary board of the ASNNU (as specified under "Penalties and Disciplinary Procedures" in the Crusader Handbook, where applicable).

Section 2: The duties of the Chief Justice shall be:

- (a) to preside at all meetings of the Judicial Board;
- (b) to call all meetings of the Judicial Board; and,

- (c) to write, or to designate an Associate Justice to write, the majority and dissenting (if necessary) opinion(s) of all decisions of the Judicial Board.

Section 3: The Judicial Board shall meet at such a time and place as the Chief Justice deems necessary. The Judicial Board shall operate according to the written rules of procedure, which shall be available for inspection by any member of the ASNNU.

Section 4: Except when otherwise specified, the Judicial Board shall act on the judicial matters concerning the ASNNU and its organizations.

Section 5: The powers and duties of the Judicial Board shall be:

- (a) The Judicial Board shall be the final authority regarding interpretation of the ASNNU Constitution and all legislative acts of the ASNNU Senate;
- (b) The Judicial Board shall approve all club and organization constitutions (which shall be in accordance with the ASNNU Constitution);
- (c) The Judicial Board shall elect such officers as it deems necessary for the furtherance of its business; and,
- (d) The Judicial Board shall be the final arbitrator in all contested SGA elections.
- (e) During the first semester, the Judicial Board shall interview each officer of the Executive Council to ensure that they are performing their jobs as described in the ASNNU Code and Constitution.
- (f) Judicial Board shall perform responsibilities in accordance with Article XIII: Initiative and Referendum.

Section 6: As the Judicial Branch of the SGA, the Judicial Board shall arbitrate only those matters presented by legitimate parties, whether legitimate by duty or office or by direct involvement in the matter.

ARTICLE IX: CLASS COUNCILS

Section 1: The class council shall be an active organizational branch of the ASNNU.

Section 2: Each academic class (freshman, sophomore, junior, and senior) shall be represented by a class council, which shall organize the activities of the class.

Section 3: Each freshman and sophomore class council shall consist of the following members:

- (a) President;
- (b) Vice President;
- (c) Treasurer;
- (d) Secretary;
- (f) Chaplain;
- (g) Publicity Director;

- (h) Three Senators; and
- (i) Two Social Board Representatives.

Section 4: Each junior and senior class council shall consist of the following members:

- (a) President;
- (b) Vice President;
- (c) Treasurer;
- (d) Secretary;
- (d) Chaplain;
- ~~(d)~~(e) Publicity Director;
- ~~(e)~~(f) Three senators; and
- ~~(f)~~(g) Two Social Board Representatives.

Section 5: Class officers shall be elected according to the procedures established in Article X.

Section 6: Class officers shall fulfill their respective duties as prescribed in the ASNNU Code, Section 2, Statutes 6 through 9.

Section 7: Each class council shall function with the assistance of one advisor, who shall be NNU administrators, faculty members, or staff members. Advisors shall be selected by each class council, with the exception of the Freshman Class, within the first month of the fall semester. In the case that an advisor resigns, the class council shall elect a replacement advisor.

Section 8: Class councils shall be eligible to receive ASNNU funding.

ARTICLE X: ELECTIONS

Section 1: All members of the ASNNU shall be eligible to vote in all SGA elections.

Section 2: All elections for SGA officers shall be by simple majority ballot.

Section 3: The Elections Committee of the SGA shall be in charge of all elections.

Section 4: The Elections Committee shall be responsible to see that all tallying and calculation of votes is conducted in concordance with the Election Procedures as written in the ASNNU Code. The Elections Committee shall be responsible for tabulating and recording the results of all SGA elections in accordance with said procedures. A numerical record of such elections shall be made by the Elections Committee and submitted to the Secretary of the SGA for one fiscal year. These records shall be open to public inspection.

Section 5: The Judicial Board shall be the arbitrator of all contested SGA elections.

Section 6: An announcement of the filing procedures shall be made at least one week before filing opens for any office of the SGA, and again on the day filing opens. The

filing period shall be open for a minimum of seven days.

- Section 7: The nomination and election of the President, Executive Vice President, and Social Vice President shall not be held later than the eighth week of the second semester.
- Section 8: The election of sophomore, junior, and senior class officers shall be not less than one and not more than three weeks following the election of the President, Executive Vice President, and Social Vice President.
- Section 9: The election of freshman class council members shall be not less than one and not more than four weeks after the beginning of the school year.
- Section 10: Any person filing for an SGA office must meet the requirements of that office, as prescribed in Article IV, before being officially recognized as a candidate. All screening of the candidates shall be done by the Executive Vice President.
- Section 11: If there are no sign-ups within the designated filing period, an additional filing period will be designated. If there are still no sign-ups, the following action will be taken:
- (a) For any class officer position, the class council will be in charge of appointing someone to that position.
 - (b) For any Executive Officer position, the Senate will be in charge of appointing someone to that position.

ARTICLE XI: ORGANIZATIONS

- Section 1: A student organization shall be considered as such if it is operative on campus according to its approved constitution.
- Section 2: A student organization shall become officially operative on campus upon the approval of its constitution by the Judicial Board. Such organizations shall be designated as "Class B" organizations.
- Section 3: After receiving "Class B" recognition by the Judicial Board, a student organization shall become officially eligible for ASNNU funding upon the approval of its constitution by the Senate. All ministry clubs - clubs whose primary focus is ministry outreach - shall become eligible for ASNNU funding upon the approval of the organization's constitution by the Senate. Such organizations shall be designated as "Class M" organizations. All other clubs shall become eligible for ASNNU funding upon the approval of the organization's constitution by the Senate and shall be designated as "Class A" organizations.
- Section 4: All "Class A" and "Class M" organizations shall be financially responsible to the Senate according to the policies established in the ASNNU Code.

Section 5: All student organizations shall be subject to periodic reviews by the Senate. These reviews may include an examination of the organization, its activities, its effect on the community and constituency, or its constitution. An organizational review may be initiated at any time by a simple majority vote of the Senate with subsequent notification of the organization. The Senate, upon completion of the review, shall publish its findings, offer suggestions for improvements, or, if sufficient reasoning is expressed, mandate changes with which the organization must comply. If the organization fails to respond satisfactorily to the Senate's mandates within a specified probationary period of no less than one week, then the Senate, with a two-thirds majority of the entire Senate membership, can negate the organization's constitution, hence rendering the organization official ASNNU club status. Just cause for this action, drawn from the review, shall be presented to the organization in question and to the Judicial Board.

Section 6: Any organization that loses its official ASNNU club status shall turn over all funds which will be placed back into the SGA General Account.

ARTICLE XII: RESIGNATION, RECALL, AND VACANCY

Section 1: In the event that the Executive Vice President finds that the grades of an Executive Officer of the SGA have fallen below a cumulative grade point average of 2.30, that officer will be required to resign unless he/she can show just cause to the Judicial Board why he/she should not.

Section 2: In the event that an officer of the SGA is found guilty of an infraction of any major rule of Northwest Nazarene University by the Student Life Executive Committee, he/she will be required to resign unless he/she can show just cause to the Judicial Board why he/she should not.

Section 3: Any SGA Executive Officer, Senator, or Justice may be impeached and recalled for incompetence and/or negligence of his/her duties.

Section 4: The impeachment process may be initiated by a two-thirds majority vote of the Senate's total membership or a validated petition. In the case of an Executive Officer or Justice, the petition must be signed by not less than twenty-five percent of the ASNNU. In the case of a Senator, the petition must be signed by twenty-five percent of his/her class. In order for a petition to initiate the impeachment proceedings it must first be submitted to the Elections Committee, which shall verify its validity.

Section 5: The impeachment will be tried in Senate. The impeachment trial shall be conducted as prescribed in the Procedures of the Senate.

Section 6: In the event that an officer is found guilty during his/her impeachment trial, by a three-fourths majority vote of the Senate's total membership, the Election Committee shall schedule and conduct a recall election not less than one week and not more than three weeks from the date of the guilty impeachment verdict.

- Section 7: Any SGA officer that is impeached shall be removed from office by two-thirds majority vote in a recall election of the party that originally elected that SGA officer.
- Section 8: In the event that an elected officer is removed from office by a recall election, a special election shall be held to fulfill that vacancy. In the case of a Justice or appointed office, the President and Senate will start confirmation procedures to fill the vacancy.
- Section 9: In the case of a vacancy in any Executive Office except the President, arising from any case other than recall, a special election shall be held as prescribed by the ASNNU Code, Section 8. Upon the vacancy in the office of President, the Executive Vice President shall assume the office of President. The usual procedures shall be followed in the filling of the vacancy in the office of the Executive Vice President. In the event of the vacancy in both the offices of President and Vice President, a special election shall be held not less than one and not more than three weeks after said vacancies occur. Such an election shall be initiated by the SGA Secretary as prescribed by the ASNNU Code. In the event of a vacancy in the office of Senator, his/her respective class shall fill the vacancy by special election, not less than one and not more than three weeks after the vacancy occurs. In the event of a vacancy in the office of a Justice, the President and Senate shall begin confirmation procedures.

ARTICLE XIII: INITIATIVE AND REFERENDUM

- Section 1: The ASNNU may initiate legislation upon the presentation of a petition signed by twenty-five percent of the ASNNU. Upon presentation and subsequent validation of the petition by the Judicial Board, the Executive Vice President shall call for a special ballot on the question not later than two weeks after submission of said question.
- Section 2: The ASNNU shall have the power to act on any question, previously acted on by the Senate, by submission of a petition signed by twenty-five percent of the ASNNU. Upon submission and subsequent validation by the Judicial Board, a special ballot on the question shall be scheduled within two weeks after submission of the said petition.

ARTICLE XIV: RATIFICATION AND AMENDMENT

- Section 1: This constitution shall take effect when it has been passed by two-thirds of the Senate membership, has been approved by the University Administrative Cabinet, and is ratified by two-thirds of the ballots cast by the ASNNU. This constitution supersedes all existing ASNNU Constitutions and by-laws.
- Section 2: Amendments to this constitution, except those described in Section 3, may be submitted to the Senate in writing, signed by twenty-five percent of the members

of the ASNNU, or may be proposed by the Senate. Upon passage by a two-thirds majority vote of the total membership of the Senate, and passage by the University Administrative Cabinet, said amendments shall be presented in full to the ASNNU one week before voting upon the proposed amendments. Said amendments shall appear on the ballot. A two-thirds majority of the ballots cast by the ASNNU shall be required to adopt the amendment.

Section 3: Amendments to this constitution in the form of title changes of positions or bodies which do not affect the description, function, or purpose of the position or body in any way, may be adopted by a two-thirds majority of the members of the Senate present and voting.