

MT. SAN ANTONIO COLLEGE
CONSTITUTION OF THE
ASSOCIATED STUDENTS

PREAMBLE

This Constitution, established by a representative body of students of Mt. San Antonio College, serves to promote and protect the diverse needs of the student population, enhance the awareness of student concerns through open communication with administration, faculty and staff, foster opportunities for leadership and involvement in the campus community, and execute all obligations, both fiscal and judiciary in an objective and ethical manner.

ARTICLE I
NAME

Section 1: The name of this Association shall be the Associated Students of Mt. San Antonio College.

ARTICLE II
MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: All registered students of Mt. San Antonio College who have paid the current Student Activities Fee shall be members of this Association.

Section 2: The Associated Students shall not discriminate on the basis of religion, sex, national origin, marital status, physical disabilities, medical condition, age, sexual orientation, cultural belief, educational background or Veteran status.

Section 3: Members of the Associated Students Senate, Associated Students' President, Vice Presidents, Inter Club Council Chair, Inter Club Council Vice Chair and members of the Associated Students Court shall be the officers of the Associated Students' Student Government.

ARTICLE III
ELIGIBILITY

Section 1: Eligibility for office requires completion of a minimum of one semester at Mt. SAC with 6 (six) graded units and a 2.0 cumulative Mt. SAC grade point average.

Section 2: Any member of Student Government shall be eligible to hold office if he/she maintains and completes 5 graded units (non-credit classes are not accepted) and has a 2.0 cumulative Mt. SAC grade point average.

Section 3: In order to remain in office all Associated Student Officers are required to abide by the College Code of Conduct, Associated Students Constitution, Associated Students Directives, Inter Club Council Constitution, and Associated Students Judiciary Rules & Procedures.

Section 4: No elected or appointed officer of this Association shall hold two offices at the same time. This includes serving as an officer in a campus club (as recognized by Inter Club Council) or campus organization.

Section 5: Associated Students elected officers cannot be re-elected for the same position.

ARTICLE IV
ELECTIONS

Section 1: There shall be one general election per year. Said election will be held during the Spring Semester. It shall be the President's responsibility to see that said election is held.

Section 2: The AS President, two Vice Presidents, Inter-Club Council Chairperson, Inter-Club Council Vice Chairperson, Student Trustee and two Senator Pro-Tempores shall be elected in the Spring General Election. All Associated Students elected officers and Student Trustee shall serve a one-year term. The term for the Associated Officers begins on July 1st and ends on June 30th of the following year. The Student Trustee shall be elected in accordance with Mt. SAC Board Policy.

Section 3: The AS President and two AS Vice Presidents shall be elected on the same ticket. The ICC Chairperson and ICC Vice Chairperson shall be elected on the same ticket. The Student Trustee and two Senate Pro-Tempores shall each run on individual tickets.

ARTICLE V EXECUTIVE BRANCH

Section 1: The AS President shall serve as the Executive Branch of this Association.

Section 2: Duties of the Executive Branch:

- Serve as an advocate and representative voice of the diverse student body.
- Serve to promote checks and balances in the Associated Student Government and enforce the Associated Students Constitution and all Associated Students Directives. (By-laws)
- Serve as the Chief Executive Officer of the Associated Students Budget, assuring that the financial allocations are in the best interest of the students.
- Sign or veto legislation approved by the Associated Students Senate and Executive Board.
- Participate in the planning of the Leadership Institutes.

ARTICLE VI THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

Section 1: The Executive Board shall consist of the two AS Vice Presidents, two Senate Pro-Tempores, ICC Chairperson and ICC Vice Chairperson. All Associated Students Officers shall have voting powers. The Student Trustee shall serve as a non-voting member.

Section 2: The AS Vice Presidents shall alternate as presiding officer over all meetings. The Vice President not presiding shall share the voting rights as the rest of the Executive Board members. When acting as the presiding officer, the Vice President shall vote only in a case where it shall affect the outcome of the item being voted upon. In the absence of one Vice President, the other Vice President shall be the presiding officer.

Section 3: A majority of the current membership shall constitute a quorum. Quorum refers to all individuals who are a part of Executive Board, not just voting members.

Section 4: The Executive Board shall meet a minimum of twice a month with the exception of holidays and finals as recognized by the College. Any official meetings during the summer and winter intersession are at the discretion of the AS Advisor. It shall be the responsibility of the Secretary to the Associated Students or his/her designee to take and distribute the Executive Board minutes within five (5) school days.

Section 5: The Executive Board shall have the power to:

- Adopt penalties related to the attendance, involvement, performance of duties, and professionalism of all officers of this Association.
- Ratify or veto all Senate and Presidential appointments.

- Act upon all legislation forwarded by the Senate.
- Request removal of AS officer by a 3/4 vote for failure to perform required duties. Final action requires a 2/3 vote of Senate.
- Adjourn into Executive Session in compliance with the Ralph M. Brown Act or any related State legislation pertaining to Executive sessions.
- Establish committees, commissions and boards as deemed necessary to conduct AS business.
- Ratify or veto all Senate legislation as defined in the Organizational Directive. In a case, where an item failed to be ratified during Executive Board, the legislation goes back to the Senate for further discussion.

ARTICLE VII

THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH – THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS SENATE

Section 1: The primary responsibilities of the Associated Students Senate are: a) the allocation of revenue entrusted to the Association Students b) the monitoring of AS funded accounts, c) sponsoring events and programs designed to enrich and entertain a diverse student population d) enacting legislation which impacts student concerns and e) serving as a voice and advocate for student issues.

Section 2: The Senate shall consist of 20 Senators two of which shall serve as Senators Pro Tempore. Each Senate seat shall have an assigned job description in addition to a core of general responsibilities. Senate appointments must be completed by the fifth week of the semester. Senate vacancies will be filled in accordance with Senate application procedures. Each Senator shall remain in office for the entire semester and throughout the following semester unless action is taken against them for failure to comply with Senate performance criteria. The maximum time that any student can serve as a Senator is four semesters.

Section 3: Each AS Vice President shall supervise ten Senate seats. Within one week of taking office, the A.S. Vice Presidents shall announce which seats they will supervise. This decision and announcement shall be binding for the entire term of office.

Section 4: The Senate Pro-Tempores shall alternate presiding over the meetings of the Senate. The Senator Pro-Tempore not presiding shall share the voting rights of the Senate. When acting as the presiding officer, the Senator Pro-Tempore shall vote only in a case where it shall affect the outcome of the vote. In the absence of one of the Senator Pro-Tempore the other Senator Pro-Tempore shall be the presiding officer.

Section 5: A majority of the current membership shall constitute a quorum. Quorum refers to all individuals who are a part of Senate, not just voting members.

Section 6: Vacancies that occur within the Senate requires following the application procedures.

Section 7: The Senate shall meet a minimum of twice a month during the Fall and Spring Semesters with the exception of holidays and finals as defined by the College. Any official meetings during the summer and winter intersession are at the discretion of the AS Advisor. It shall be the responsibility of the Secretary to the Associated Students or his/her designee to take and distribute the Senate minutes within five school days. Minutes will be disseminated to all appropriate parties and posted in compliance with the Brown Act.

Section 8: All Senate legislation shall be reviewed by the Executive Board before going to the President for approval. Should the Executive Board not approve the legislation it shall be returned to the Senate with written objections within one week, otherwise the legislation shall go to the President for approval.

Section 9: All approved Senate legislation shall be submitted to the AS President for his/her review. The A.S. President may exercise the power of veto in full or in part. Should the President veto any legislation it shall be returned to the Senate with written objections within one week, otherwise the legislation becomes effective.

Section 10: The Senate shall have the power to:

- Initiate and enact legislation dealing with the Association.
- Adopt and administer the Associated Students Budget.
- Establish and administer Associated Students sponsored programs.
- Make recommendations to the College Administration.
- Establish standing rules governing its operation.
- Adjourn into executive or personnel sessions in compliance with the Ralph M. Brown Act or any related state legislation pertaining to Executive Session.
- Establish committees and commissions as deemed necessary.
- Remove any member of the Senate from office, requiring a 3/4 vote.
- Only the AS Vice Presidents may move up to a vacant AS President position and only AS officers may move up to vacant Vice President or Senator Pro-tempore positions. An official appointment process must be started within 5 (five) school days of a vacancy occurring.
- Override AS Presidential veto and Executive Board's decisions by a 3/4 vote without amendments.

ARTICLE VIII JUDICIAL BRANCH - ASSOCIATED STUDENTS COURT

Section 1: The judicial power of the Associated Students shall be vested in the Student Court and in other lower courts as may be established by the Executive Board. The Student Court shall have the authority within the Association to interpret the constitution and supporting documents of the Association. The Student Court shall have the power of Judicial Review, as defined in the Judiciary rules and Procedures, over any legislation enacted by the Student Senate or any action by the Executive Board or President.

Section 2: The Student Court shall consist of one (1) Chief Justice and four (4) Associate Justices as well as any additional court officers needed as defined by the Judiciary rules and Procedures. The application process shall be directed by the Judiciary Rules & Procedures.

Section 3: The Court Justices shall serve no more than four semesters.

Section 4: The Student Court shall meet bi-monthly or as needed. Minutes of all proceedings must be submitted to Senate and posted in compliance with the Brown Act. Quorum shall consist of three court justices.

Section 5: The Student Court has jurisdiction over all registered students involved with campus clubs and organizations. It has within its powers the right of review of official actions taken by clubs or organizations, including Senate and the Executive Board. It has the authority to levy disciplinary action over areas within its purview. Issues involving a violation of the Student Discipline Policy must be referred to the appropriate administrative person.

ARTICLE IX RULES OF ORDER

Section 1: The meetings of the Executive Board and the Student Senate shall be conducted under Robert's Rules of Order, the most recent edition, in all cases when applicable, and where they are not inconsistent with the Constitution, support documents, or standing rules of the Association.

ARTICLE X INITIATIVE-REFERENDUM-RECALL

Section 1: The Associated Students shall have the power of initiative, referendum, and recall.

Section 2: Petitions for initiatives and referendums must be placed in writing and then signed by 50% of students who have paid the Current Student Activities Fee as the number of students who voted in the contested election. The petition shall then be presented to the Student Senate.

Section 3: Petitions for recalls must be submitted in writing and then signed by 100% of students who have paid the current Student Activities Fee as the number of students who voted in the contested election. The petition shall then be presented to the Student Senate.

Section 4: An initiative, referendum or recall requires the simple majority of verified registered students voting in a general election. In order to vote students must have paid the current Student Activities Fee.

ARTICLE XI AMENDMENTS

Section 1: This Constitution may be amended in any election where amendments, may be included providing:

- a. That the amendment was adopted by three-fourths (3/4) vote of the attending membership of the Student Senate and approved by a simple majority of the verified registered students voting in any student government election.
- b. That the requirements of an initiative or referendum have been fulfilled.
- c. Amendments will take affect immediately after the student wide elections are completed.

ARTICLE XII SUPREMACY

This Constitution shall be the supreme governing document of the Associated Students. No AS Directive or AS document shall take precedence in jurisdiction. Any document formulated contrary to the Constitution shall be deemed *unconstitutional* and shall remain invalid.

*Days are defined as Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays.

Special Election
10-30-6 to 11-3-06

