

Constitution
of the
Lafayette African & Caribbean
Students Association
As Amended



LACSA

LAFAYETTE AFRICAN & CARIBBEAN
STUDENTS ASSOCIATION

Resolution No. 1 of 2012

[L. S.]

Amendment of the Constitution

-

Be it resolved:

That in accordance with the provisions of Article 12 of the LACSA Constitution, the said constitution is hereby amended.

Any previous versions of the Constitution are null and void, should these versions be inconsistent with the amendments reflected and thereby enacted in this current version of the LACSA constitution.

In testimony thereof, we the President and Vice President of LACSA do hereby affix our assent to this updated version of the Constitution of LACSA promulgated this 8th day of April, 2012 at Lafayette College, Easton, PA.

Signed by the members of the Board:

/sgd. / Y. Seyum (President)

/sgd. / A. Dopson (Vice-President)

- Constitution -

LAFAYETTE AFRICAN AND CARIBBEAN
STUDENTS ASSOCIATION

MISSION STATEMENT

Lafayette African and Caribbean Students' Association shall foster an atmosphere promoting the cultural awareness of African and Caribbean students as well as create an inclusive Lafayette College community.

ARTICLE 1: NAME OF THE ORGANIZATION

The organization governed by this constitution shall be known as the Lafayette African and Caribbean Students' Association (LACSA).

ARTICLE 2: OBJECTIVES

The Lafayette African and Caribbean Students' Association has the chief vision of creating cultural awareness at Lafayette through the achievement of the following:

1. Becoming competent role models through community action and involvement, on and beyond the Lafayette campus.
2. Provide African and Caribbean students with a forum to discuss their opinions.
3. Helping each other academically to ensure our primary goal of graduation from Lafayette.
4. Promoting respect towards each other as well as within the community.
5. Providing social and academic activities that will enhance campus-wide awareness of our cultural heritage.
6. Organize at least one academic, social, or cultural event per month.

ARTICLE 3: MEMBERSHIP

Section I:

Membership in LACSA shall be open to all interested persons.

Section II:

1. Membership shall be established by the completion of a brief *information form*.
2. Membership shall be maintained through the following stipulations:
 - a. Mandatory attendance at all general body meetings; non-active members will not receive monetary support for LACSA funded trips, activities and events.

- b. Active participation in current projects and endeavors.

Section III:

All members shall have the right to participate in all meetings, projects, and other activities of the organization.

ARTICLE 4: MEETING TIMES

Section I:

The Executive Board shall meet bi-weekly on a day determined by the Board in the beginning of office terms. The General Body shall meet every last Sunday of the month.

Section II:

The President is reserved with the right to call an emergency meeting of the Board or General Body.

ARTICLE 5: EXECUTIVE BOARD

There shall be an Executive Board for LACSA, whose composition, general responsibilities, and responsibilities of the members of the Board are provided for below.

Section I: Composition

The Executive Board shall consist of the:

1. President
2. Vice President
3. Secretary
4. Treasurer
5. Public Relations Officer

Section II: Responsibilities of the Board

1. The Executive Power of LACSA shall be invested in the Executive Board.
2. The Executive Board shall have the duty of coordinating all LACSA events.
3. Attendance at all LACSA meetings is mandatory for all Executive Board members.
4. Any Executive Board member shall miss no more than two (2) meetings per semester.
5. Maintain a binder to be passed down to the next officer including a copy of the constitution and any other relevant documents.
6. Rotate monthly attendance at LINC meetings.

Section III: President

There shall be a President for LACSA, whose office shall be an elected one, and whose responsibilities shall include:

1. Overseeing all LACSA decisions, activities, and functions.

2. Formulating agendas for Executive Board meetings.
3. Maintaining order at all Executive Board and general body meetings.
4. When necessary, create and appoint people to ad-hoc committees which will advise and make recommendations on any issue or concern.
5. Representing LACSA and the interests of LACSA to the college.
6. Serving on all external committees whose goals parallel the goals of LACSA (i.e. The Black Coalition, Diversity Committee).
7. Serving as a liaison between LACSA and the Office of Intercultural Development.

Section IV: Vice President

There shall be a Vice-President for LACSA, whose office shall be an elected one, and whose responsibilities shall include:

1. Acting as President on his/her absence and strongly reinforce all LACSA policies.
2. Assisting Secretary in duties.
3. Succeeding to the office of President if the position becomes vacant.
4. Representing LACSA and the interests of LACSA to the college.

Section V: Secretary

There shall be a Secretary for LACSA, whose office shall be an elected one, and whose responsibilities shall include:

1. Recording accurate minutes of all executive and general body meetings.
2. Filing minutes in the organizational binder so that they are available for every general body member.
3. Maintaining an accurate record of membership.
4. Representing LACSA and the interests of LACSA to the college.
5. Formulating agendas for general body meetings.

Section VI: Treasurer

There shall be a Treasurer for LACSA, whose office shall be an elected one, and whose responsibilities shall include:

1. Keeping accurate records of all LACSA financial transactions.
2. Submitting a monthly budget update to the General Body.
3. Serving as a link between LACSA and the Office of Student Activities and Student Government on financial matters.
4. Seeking ways to cosponsor events with other groups on campus.
5. Representing LACSA and the interests of LACSA to the college.

Section VII: Public Relations Officer

There shall be a Public Relations Officer (PR) for LACSA, whose office shall be an elected one, and whose responsibilities shall include:

1. Keeping accurate audio/visual records of all LACSA events/programs.
2. Serving as LACSA's communications liaison to other clubs, organizations, offices, departments, etc.
3. Creating marketing and promotional strategies for LACSA events and programs in order to increase student participation and involvement in LACSA.

4. Coordinating the display of LACSA advertising mechanisms (posters, flyers, etc).
5. Representing LACSA and the interests of LACSA to the college.

ARTICLE 6: LACSA ADVISOR

There shall be a Faculty /Administrative Advisor to LACSA who shall:

1. Maintain relations between faculty, administration, and students.
2. Advise the Executive Board when deemed appropriate.
3. Attend the majority of executive Board and general body meetings.

ARTICLE 7: ELECTIONS

Section I:

1. Nominations shall take place in March of each academic year.
2. Acknowledgements of new officers shall take place in the beginning of March of each academic year. The newly elected Board shall shadow the previous Board for approximately a month at which time they will be responsible for planning the last general body meeting and event of the semester.

Section II:

To run for an LACSA Executive Board position, one must:

1. Submit an application to the current Executive Board.
2. Be an active LACSA member by the time of election.
3. In the election of the President, an applicant shall be deemed to have qualified for election if, and shall not be deemed qualified for election unless he/she has previously served as a member of the Board of LACSA.

Section III:

1. An Elections Committee appointed by the Executive Board shall determine the eligibility of the candidates in concert with the advisor to LACSA.
2. No person may run for or hold more than one Executive Board position at a time.

Section IV:

All elections shall be conducted by secret ballot.

ARTICLE 8: IMPEACHMENT

Section I:

LACSA member(s) may bring specific impeachment charges to the Executive Board member(s) who have not fulfilled their duties and/or engaged in conduct which violates the LACSA Constitution or well-being of the organization.

Section II:

The impeachment process shall be conducted in the following manner.

1. A formal letter must be written by the member(s) bringing charges to the Executive Board for the impeachment of the accused, specifically stating the reasons for impeachment.
2. The Executive Board shall have a meeting to discuss the matter with the individuals who have brought the charges and the accused the Board shall attempt to resolve the matter, if possible.
3. If the matter has not been resolved, President shall present the matter at the next general body meeting from the date of the letter calling for impeachment, and call for an impeachment vote from the general body.
4. A majority vote of the general body shall remove the accused individual from office.

Section III:

1. Following impeachment of an Executive Board member, the remaining Executive Board members shall share the additional responsibilities until the end of the semester.
2. A new member shall be elected for the following semester.
3. Within the committees, the remaining members of the individual committees shall vote on another committee Chairperson.

ARTICLE 9: RESIGNATION AND REASSIGNMENT

Section I:

If at any time a member of the Executive Board or a committee chairperson wishes to resign from his/her position, that individual must notify the president or highest ranking Executive Board member at least two (2) weeks in advance to allow adequate time to find a replacement.

Section II:

1. If at any time a member of the Executive Board wishes to go abroad, he/she must notify the president or highest ranking Executive Board member at least one (1) month in advance of departure so that a replacement can be found.
2. The replacement must shadow the branch member for at least 2 weeks.

Section III:

1. Per all of the above situations, appointment of a new Executive Board member or committee chairperson by the president must be approved by 3/5ths of the Executive Board.
2. In the case that the President should need replacement, a vote by the general body will be held for eligible candidates.

ARTICLE 10: ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

Section I: Conduct

All Executive Board members, committee chairperson, and members shall maintain a professional and respectful level of conduct at all ABC meetings and functions.

ARTICLE 11: (RESERVED)

ARTICLE 12: AMENDMENT

Section I:

1. The Amendment of this constitution shall be reserved to the Board.
2. Any amendment(s) to this constitution shall be deemed to have been passed and put into effect if, and shall not be deemed to have been passed and put into effect unless such amendment(s) has received the unanimous vote by the Board in support of the amendment(s).