

Constitution of the Associated Students of Saint Martin's University

Amended: August 2023

Ratified:

Article I. *Name*

The name of this organization shall be the Associated Students of Martin's University and shall also be known as ASSMU.

Article II. *Powers*

The powers of ASSMU shall be as follows:

- a. To aid, direct, manage, supervise, invoke policy, and coordinate student activities in conjunction with the Student Services Division;
- b. To manage, supervise, and coordinate student appropriated funds;
- c. To initiate and assist in the creation and maintenance of campus clubs;
- d. To represent student interests in Saint Martin's University Community and improve the quality of life on campus for all assembly members.

Article III. *Membership*

Section III.01. All students of Saint Martin's University who have paid an activity fee shall be assembly members of ASSMU and receive the privilege of freely joining clubs and/or other activities on campus. Those qualified are full time undergraduate and graduate students. Only ASSMU assembly members shall be entitled to vote in elections or hold any ASSMU office. The ASSMU assembly will be referred to in all ASSMU Governing documents as the assembly.

Section III.02. In accordance with its mission statement, ASSMU is committed to the creation of a tolerant learning and working environment free from discrimination, fear, hate, and exclusionary forms of conduct and harassment.

Section III.03. ASSMU and its clubs shall not discriminate on the basis of race, ethnicity, gender, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, age, or mental, physical, or sensory disability when determining membership. Intolerable forms of discrimination will not be limited to these enumerated classifications.

Section III.04 All ASSMU assembly members shall adhere to the standards and regulations established in the ASSMU Governing Documents which shall be defined as the compilation of the ASSMU Constitution, Bylaws, Club Handbook, and Financial Code. Assembly members associated with clubs will be expected to abide by and refer to the duties and processes outlined in the Club Handbook.

Article IV. *Offices*

Section IV.01. The governing body of ASSMU shall be referred to as the Senate, which consists of two distinct branches: The Executive and Legislative. No member of the Senate shall serve concurrently in any other Senate office. No member of the Senate shall hold the position of President or Treasurer or attend Senate meetings on behalf of any

ASSMU sponsored club concurrent with their Senate term of office. Senate members are encouraged, however, to participate as active members in all such clubs.

Section IV.02. The offices of the Executive Branch of the Senate, shall be referred to as the Executive Board, the offices of which include: President, Vice President, Executive Treasurer Executive Secretary, and Executive Club Coordinator.

- a. The Vice President and Executive Club Coordinator shall be the only members of the Executive Branch who vote.
- b. If a tie ensues the President shall act as the tie-breaker.

Section IV.03. The offices of the Legislative Branch of the Senate shall be referred to as Senators, the offices of which include: Senator of Arts and Sciences, Senator of Athletics, Senator of Business, Senator of Commuter Students, Senator of Cultural Diversity, Senator of Education, Senator of Engineering, Senator of Graduate Students, Senator of International Students, Senator of Life Sciences, Senator of Non-Traditional Students, Senator Military-Affiliated Students, and Senator of Public Health.

- a. Each member of the Legislative Branch shall get one (1) vote on issues brought before the Senate.
- b. Voting shall be done according to the will of the Senator's constituency and in accordance with ASSMU's governing documents.

Section IV.04. The Senate, with the exception of the Executive Secretary and Executive Treasurer, shall be elected by all participating members of the assembly at the annual spring election in the manner prescribed in the Bylaws (Article VII) and the Elections Code.

- a. The Executive Secretary and Executive Treasurer shall be appointed by the incoming President.
- b. The Senate shall assume office no later than two weeks prior to the end of the spring semester following their election and shall serve for a term of one (1) academic school year or until their successors are qualified and duly elected.
- c. A vacancy occurring in any Senate position between elections shall be filled in the manner prescribed in the Bylaws (Article III).

Section IV.05. A quorum of any ASSMU meeting consists two-thirds (2/3) of the entire Senate's voting membership.

Section IV.06. The voting membership of the Senate shall be as follows:

- a) Vice President and Executive Club Coordinator
- b) 13 ASSMU Senators as enumerated by section IV.03 of the Constitution

Section IV.07. After the general election of the new Senate, the outgoing Senate shall serve in an advisory capacity until the end of their term of office.

Article V. Memorandum, Resolution and Initiative

Section V.01. Assembly members shall have the right of optional Memorandum and Initiative submissions as outlined in the Club Handbook.

Section V.02. A memorandum shall be defined as a record, in the form of a brief written statement, of a particular legal transaction in reference to ASSMU club funding. A majority vote by the Senate passes the memorandum's fiscal requests. Should a majority vote not be met, the memorandum shall fail.

Section V.03. An initiative shall be defined as a procedure enabling the assembly, by petitioning with a minimum of 20 assembly member's signatures, to propose a law and secure its submission to the Senate for approval. The measure requires a majority vote of the Senate to pass.

Section V.04 A resolution shall be defined as a written document submitted by a Senate member making a statement or requesting action by ASSMU as a whole, including officers and assembly members. Resolutions shall be voted upon by the Senate and upon approval shall be published in the form of a press release to the assembly and all relevant SMU affiliates. A resolution may also be submitted as a call to action to the administration through ASSMU.

Article VI. *Provisions for Removal from Office*

Any Senate Member is subject to recall, disciplinary, or automatic removal from office by members of ASSMU as outlined in the Bylaws (Article II and III).

Article VII. *Amendments*

Section VII.01. Amendments to this Constitution shall be made by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Senate.

Section VII.02. Proposed amendments may be submitted to the Senate by any member of ASSMU as follows:

- a. Amendments must be submitted in written form and filed with the Executive Secretary.
- b. The Executive Secretary shall then provide a copy of all proposed amendments to the Senate within five (5) academic days of receipt of proposed amendments.
- c. Action must take place within one (1) week following the receipt of the proposed amendments from the Executive Secretary.