

Constitution of ALLIES

I. Name of Organization

The name of this organization shall be ALLIES.

II. Statement of Purpose

ALLIES shall exist to provide visible, tangible support for individuals of all gender identities and sexual orientations. Group purposes shall include, but are not limited to:

- A. providing all students, faculty, and staff with an avenue to demonstrate their support of individuals of all gender identities and sexual orientations;*
- B. promoting educational opportunities for students, staff, and faculty, as well as parents and alumni, to enhance understanding of the diversity of individual of all gender identities and sexual orientations;*
- C. developing a broad appreciation for diversity and inclusiveness, as articulated in the Statement of Assurance, through promoting understanding of all gender identities and sexual orientations;*
- D. increasing the awareness of discrimination and harassment on the basis of gender identity and sexual orientation;*
- E. working to overcome oppression and insensitivity on the basis of gender identity and sexual orientation;*
- F. acting as an advocate to the University community for support of and issues relevant to individuals of all gender identities and sexual orientations;*
- G. helping find funding opportunities for ALLIES and its members to attend conferences, workshops, and events related to individuals of all gender identities and sexual orientations;*
- H. providing access for members of the University community to "safe places and safe people"--individuals and forums for confidential discussion, support, and information.*

III. Membership Requirements

Membership in ALLIES is open to all members of the University community.

Voting members shall include all those who have attended a minimum of two ALLIES events, at least one of which has been a general body meeting in the last twelve months.

IV. Organizational Structure

The organization shall be run as a collective composed of all ALLIES members. Quorum at a general body meeting shall consist of eight voting members or the entire available ALLIES voting membership should that number be fewer than eight. The collective shall elect, as defined in Election Policy, a President, Vice President,

Treasurer, and Social Chair with the following duties:

A. President

1. The President shall assure that the organization stays true to its Statement of Purpose.
2. The President shall lead the organization, provide general guidance, and oversee events.
3. The President, or designee, shall act as the ALLIES representative for all external affairs.
4. The President must refer to the general body all decisions involving a monetary value of fifty dollars or more.
5. The President must refer to the general body all decisions affecting the public image of ALLIES or directly affecting the membership of ALLIES.
6. The President shall not vote at a general body meeting except in the event of a tie.
7. The President shall have the power to veto any decision made at a general body meeting in which the president has not cast a vote.
8. A two-thirds majority of the voting members at a general body meeting may overrule any presidential decision or veto.
9. The President shall be available to mentor future ALLIES leaders.

B. Vice President

1. The Vice President shall assist the President in performing the presidential duties.
2. The Vice President, or designee, shall act as the ALLIES representative for all internal affairs.
3. The Vice President, or designee, shall take minutes at all general body meetings. The minutes shall be posted to the bboard.

C. Treasurer

1. The Treasurer shall oversee the finances of ALLIES.
2. The Treasurer shall submit the ALLIES budget, in accordance with Student Senate procedure.
3. The Treasurer may accept budget proposals from the collective.
4. The Treasurer shall create the budget in accordance with the best interest of ALLIES.
5. The Treasurer shall act as the ALLIES representative to Student Senate. This includes, but is not limited to, signing all requests for funding.

6. The Treasurer shall maintain a confidential list, visible to executive officers only, of current members of ALLIES.

D. Social Chair

1. The Social Chair, or designee, shall organize social events for ALLIES that are consistent with its Statement of Purpose.
2. The Social Chair, or designee, shall coordinate all advertising.
3. The Social Chair, or designee, shall provide a summary of the Executive Meeting at the general body meeting.

E. Elected officers may propose ad hoc committees or positions, such as Booth Chair or Dormitory Outreach Program Ambassadors, at general body meetings. Appointees must accept or decline their position.

F. The chain of command is as follows: President, Vice President, Treasurer, Social Chair, ALLIES advisor.

V. Election of Officers

A. Elections shall take place only during an Election Meeting.

1. Quorum shall be the same for an Election Meeting as for a general body meeting.
2. An Election Meeting shall be announced at least five school days, but no more than ten, before the general body meeting preceding it.

B. The Election Committee shall consist of one or more people who are not running for office and shall be formed at the general body meeting preceding the Election Meeting.

C. Nominations for office are made at the general body meeting preceding the Election Meeting.

1. Nominations must be accepted by the nominee at least forty-eight hours before the Election Meeting.
2. The list of all nominees must be sent to the d-list immediately following the meeting at which nominations are made.
3. The final list of candidates shall be e-mailed to the d-list as soon as possible after all nominees have accepted or rejected their nominations, but no later than twenty-four hours before the Election Meeting.
4. Elections for the positions of President and Vice President shall be held at the end of each spring semester.

5. Elections for the positions of Treasurer and Social Chair shall be held at the beginning of each fall semester.
6. In the event of a vacancy, an Election Meeting may be held at any time during the school year.

D. Any voting member unable to attend an Election Meeting may cast an absentee ballot or vote by proxy.

1. Absentee ballots shall be submitted to a member of the Election Committee prior to the start of the Election Meeting. The Election Committee member may request some proof of identity. The absentee ballot is an ordered preference list with up to five candidates for each position.
2. A voting member of ALLIES may be a proxy holder for up to two voting members. Both the person voting and the proxy holder must inform a member of the Election Committee of the voter's intent to vote by proxy before the start of the Election Meeting.
3. Candidates shall be elected by simple majority.
 - a) If no candidate obtains more than fifty percent of the vote, a revote shall be held between the candidates receiving the two highest numbers of votes until a winner is determined.
 - b) In the case of a tie, the candidate shall be chosen by an impartial contest determined by the present voting members.

VI. Expectations of Elected Members

A. Elected officers shall attend all general body meetings. If an elected officer is unable to attend a general body meeting, the collective must be notified.

B. All elected officers shall attend Executive Meetings. If an elected officer is unable to attend an Executive Meeting, the officer must inform the other elected officers.

1. Executive Meetings, when necessary, shall be held weekly while school is in session.
2. Executive Meetings shall be used to prepare and discuss the agenda for upcoming general body meetings.
3. The Social Chair, or designee, shall provide a summary of each Executive Meeting at the next general body meeting.

C. Impeachment

1. If it should be the opinion of the collective that an elected officer is not fulfilling the obligations of that position, any member of the collective may motion for removal of that elected member. The reasons for this motion shall be discussed and the officer in question shall be given a chance to rebut.
2. Half of the voting members of the collective present at a meeting in which there is a motion to impeach must support the motion in order to bring about impeachment proceedings.
3. If the motion is supported, the collective shall be informed of the motion via the d-list.
4. The motion shall be voted on at the next general body meeting. The next general body meeting shall occur five to ten school days after the motion is presented.
5. Quorum at the meeting during which the impeachment is decided upon shall be two-thirds of all eligible voting members.
6. Reasons for the motion of impeachment shall be discussed at the general body meeting during which the impeachment is voted on. The officer in question shall be given a chance to rebut at this meeting.
7. A vote of two-thirds of the voting members is needed to impeach an elected officer. There shall be no proxies or absentee voting. Should the motion pass, the motion is effective immediately.

D. An elected officer may resign by notifying the collective.

E. In the event of a vacancy of an office, another member of the collective will assume the duties of the officer until a permanent replacement is elected as outlined in Election of Officers(V).

VII.The collective shall grant official recognition to branch chapters of ALLIES under the following terms:

- A. A written request (e-mail or paper mail) for recognition must be received from the individual or individuals wishing to start a branch chapter.*
- B. The new chapter must include in its constitution, charter, or some form of official mission statement, the first and second articles of the ALLIES Constitution: "Name of Organization" and "Statement of Purpose", respectively. Part C of the "Statement of Purpose" may be altered to reflect the specific community.*

VIII.Amendments

- A. Amendments to the constitution may be suggested by any member of the collective and must be submitted to the collective in writing five school days or more before the general body meeting at which they will be discussed. A simple majority of the voting members of the collective is required for the amendment to pass.*

IX. Ratifying a Constitution

- A. The constitution to be ratified must be submitted to the collective in writing at least five school days before a general body meeting during which it will be discussed.*
- B. A two-thirds majority of voting members is required to ratify the new constitution.*