**The Constitution of the Student Body**

**of LeTourneau University**

PREAMBLE

We, the students of LeTourneau University, in order to foster a spirit of cooperation among students, faculty, and administration; to provide for an effective means of communication; to seek to improve the campus; to coordinate, regulate, and execute student activities and ministries; to maintain high standards of personal conduct; to promote and encourage personal growth; and to develop good citizens with a Christ-centered perspective, do hereby establish this Constitution for the Student Body of LeTourneau University.ARTICLE I  
The Executive Cabinet

# Section A. Definition

1. The Executive Cabinet shall consist of the Student Body President (the President), the Student Body Vice President (the Vice President), the Student Body Treasurer (the Treasurer), the LeTourneau Student Ministries President (LSM President), and the YellowJacket Activities Council President (YAC President).

# Section B. Purposes and Responsibilities

1. The Executive Cabinet shall exist to promote the general welfare of the LeTourneau University Student Body (being all traditional students enrolled at LeTourneau University) by facilitating communication between the Student Body and the University Administration; by overseeing student activities and ministries through the agencies established to coordinate and conduct them; and by working in cooperation with Senate. The Executive Cabinet shall take the necessary and proper steps to uphold and enforce the provisions set forth in this Constitution in accordance with the University’s Administrative policies and procedures.

# Section C. Officer Requirements

1. Each Officer must have completed a minimum of three semesters at LeTourneau University and be at least a second semester sophomore at the time of election.
2. Each Officer shall be enrolled in at least nine credit hours at LeTourneau University throughout his or her term.
3. Each Officer shall maintain a lifestyle consistent with the University’s Statement of Faith.
4. Each Officer shall be in good standing with the University as defined by the LeTourneau University Student Handbook and the LeTourneau University Catalog and uphold the academic and disciplinary standards as outlined by Student Life’s guidelines for IMPACT leadership.
5. Each Officer shall be elected each year by a preferential election method, as defined by the Constitutional Bylaws.
6. Each Officer shall serve a one year term beginning one week prior to the end of the Spring Semester. Each Officer shall take the Oath of Office as stated in the Constitutional Bylaws prior to the last week of classes.
7. The Vice President must have completed two semesters as a member of Senate before taking office.

# Section D. Executive Cabinet Officers

1. *The Student Body President*shall be the official representative for the Student Body; be the responsible communicator to the University Administration on behalf of the Student Body; sign all bills and resolutions as required by Article II, Section E; have the power to veto any legislation as defined by Article II, Section E; have the power to call and preside over meetings of the Executive Cabinet; and have the power to call special meetings of Senate with at least a forty-eight hour notice to Senators.
2. *The Student Body Vice President*shall have the power to call and preside over all Senate meetings; train Senators in leadership skills and Senate procedures; assist the President in communication between Senate and the faculty and administration; succeed to the position of President should the office become vacant; and fulfill the duties of the President in case of illness or absence.
3. *The Student Body Treasurer*shall be responsible to Senate and the Executive Branch in all financial matters; keep accurate records of all income and expenditures; assist Senate and the Executive Cabinet with budget proposals; sign all checks and expenditure requests from Senate; and be responsible for all Senate and Executive Cabinet expenditures.
4. *The LSM President*shall preside over all LSM meetings; meet regularly with the University’s Spiritual Life Committee; nominate LSM officers to be approved by LSM; maintain a close working relationship with the chief advisor and the Missionary in Residence; and train LSM officers in leadership skills and day-to-day procedures.
5. *The YAC President*shall be responsible for ensuring that all YAC activities follow University guidelines; oversee the promotion of all YAC activities; and train YAC members and leadership officers in leadership skills and day-to-day procedures.

# Section E. Removals and Vacancies

1. Each Officer may resign by submitting a letter of resignation to Senate. Each Officer may be removed from office by a petition signed by two-thirds of the Student Body. The Vice President may be removed upon a two-thirds vote of the entire Senate. The LSM President may be removed upon a two-thirds vote of the entire LSM executive cabinet. The YAC President may be removed upon a two-thirds vote of the YAC coordinators.
2. Should the office of Student Body President become vacant, the Student Body Vice President shall become President. Should the office of Vice President, Treasurer, LSM President, or YAC President become vacant, the President shall nominate a replacement who fulfills the qualifications for office and who shall take office upon confirmation by a two-thirds vote of the entire Senate.

ARTICLE II  
Student Senate

# Section A. Definition, Powers, and Responsibilities

1. Senate shall be the representative body of the LeTourneau University Student Body; operate in cooperation with the Executive Cabinet and the University Administration through coordinated two-way communication; give student organizations the opportunity to use Senate funds and resources to benefit the Student Body; and take the necessary and proper steps to uphold and enforce the provisions set forth in this Constitution in accordance with the University’s policies and procedures. All legislative powers shall be vested in Senate.

# Section B. Senators

1. Qualifications
   1. Each Senator shall live in the district from which that Senator is elected during the entire time in office.
   2. Each Senator shall be enrolled in at least nine credit hours at LeTourneau University throughout his or her term.
   3. Each Senator shall maintain a lifestyle consistent with the University’s Statement of Faith.
   4. Each Senator shall be in good standing with the University as defined by the LeTourneau University Student Handbook and the LeTourneau University Catalog and uphold the academic and disciplinary standards as outlined by Student Life’s guidelines for IMPACT leadership.
   5. Each Senator must attend Senate training as designated by the Vice President.
2. Voting Districts
   1. Each residential unit or residential society, being defined as a floor or floors which identify themselves in name and action as a single entity, shall be considered one voting district. When in question, The Department of Student Life shall determine the section of housing to be defined as a floor.
3. Elections
   1. Each voting district is entitled to one Senator for every twenty-five students or fraction thereof provided that at least five students live within that district. The number of Senators allowed per voting district shall be determined according to the last Fall Residence Life official housing list. The method of election shall be determined by the Constitutional Bylaws.
4. Senator Duties
   1. Senators shall represent the interests of their voting district to Senate; inform Their voting district of issues and legislation under consideration by Senate; act as leaders on campus; uphold and defend the Constitution; and take the Oath of Office as stated by the Constitutional Bylaws.
5. Senator Removals and Vacancies
   1. Senators may be dismissed from Senate by a two-thirds vote of all members of their voting district; by submitting their letter of resignation to Senate; by moving from their voting district; or for a failure to follow the attendance requirements as determined by the Constitutional Bylaws. If a Senate seat becomes vacant, a reelection must be held as determined by the Constitutional Bylaws.

# Section C. Senate Officers

1. *The President Pro Tempore (PPT)* shall be responsible for overseeing the operation of all committees, including nomination of chairmen and committee members; become the acting Student Body President if the positions of both Student Body President and Student Body Vice President become vacant and shall hold an election to fill these offices as determined by the Constitutional Bylaws; and promote the efficiency of Senate operations by necessary and proper means. The PPT must be a Senator at the time of his election. The PPT will retain all rights and privileges of a Senator. The PPT must also have been a Senator for at least one full semester before serving as PPT. The PPT is to be elected by a majority vote at the first session of the fall semester after classes begin. The method of election shall be determined by the Constitutional Bylaws. The PPT will serve for one academic year. The PPT may be removed from office upon a two-thirds vote of the entire Senate. The PPT may resign by submitting his or her resignation in writing to Senate. In the case of a vacancy, an election as designated by the Constitutional Bylaws shall be held within ten class days of the vacancy.
2. *The Senate Secretary* shall maintain and publish records of all Senate proceedings; submit all legislation requiring the President’s signature to the Student Body President; maintain Senate’s attendance records; and perform other administrative tasks as designated by the Constitutional Bylaws, Senate Bylaws, PPT, or Student Body Vice President. The Secretary must be enrolled in at least nine credit hours at LeTourneau University throughout his or her service. The Secretary must also maintain a lifestyle consistent with the University’s Statement of Faith and be in good standing with the University. The Secretary may not be a Senator or Executive Officer during the same year as serving as Secretary. The Secretary will be selected by a majority vote of the entire Senate as determined by the Constitutional Bylaws. The Secretary may be dismissed for failure to perform the allotted duties by a two-thirds vote of the entire Senate. The Secretary may resign by submitting a resignation 15 class days in advance to Senate. Senate shall hold a replacement election within 15 class days of the resignation of the Secretary.
3. *The Senate Sergeant-at-Arms* shall be responsible for enforcing all legislation relating to the internal workings of Senate and maintaining general order in Senate Assembly, in accordance with the Senate Bylaws.

# Section D. Senate Assembly

1. Two-thirds of the members of Senate shall constitute a quorum. Quorum is required to conduct an official meeting. Attendance requirements for Senators shall be determined by the Constitutional Bylaws. Each Senator shall have exactly one vote. Senate shall assemble regularly as decided at the first Senate meeting of each academic year. Senate meetings shall be open to the public.

# Section E. Legislation

1. Legislation shall only be introduced by Senators. Legislation changing standing rules or amending Senate Bylaws shall be enacted upon passage. Resolutions expressing an opinion shall require the signature of the President before being published. All other legislation shall require the signature of the President and be reviewed by the Dean of Students prior to enactment. Legislation vetoed or not signed by the President shall be handled as directed by the Constitutional Bylaws.

ARTICLE III  
LeTourneau Student Ministries (LSM)

# Section A. Definition, Powers, and Responsibilities

1. LeTourneau Student Ministries (LSM) shall be responsible for providing organized events by which students directly or indirectly address the spiritual needs of our world as an expression of our Christian faith. LSM shall encourage students’ faith and maturity in Christ; begin new student ministries; coordinate and support current ministries; and seek to foster spiritual growth and unity in the University.

# Section B. Executive Officers

1. Qualifications
   1. Executive Officers shall have been a member of LSM for at least two semesters or have been a member for one full semester and be in their second semester. This requirement may be waived for all candidates by a two-thirds vote of Senate upon recommendation by a majority vote of LSM.
   2. Officers shall be enrolled in at least nine credit hours at LeTourneau University throughout their term.
   3. Each Officer shall maintain a lifestyle consistent with the University's Statement of Faith.
   4. Each Officer shall be in good standing with the University as defined by the LeTourneau University Student Handbook and the LeTourneau University Catalog.
2. The President shall be responsible for all duties as listed in Article I, Section D.
3. Executive Officers shall serve a one year term beginning one week prior to the end of the Spring Semester classes.
4. All officers shall retain all the rights and privileges of an LSM member.
5. All LSM officers shall be eligible for scholarships as determined by the Constitutional Bylaws.

# Section C. Advisor

1. The chief advisor of LSM shall be the University Chaplain. The chief advisor shall provide written authorization for all expenditures, maintain a close working relationship with the LSM President, and take an active role in the planning and execution of ministries.

ARTICLE IV  
YellowJacket Activities Council (YAC)

# Section A. Definition, Powers, and Responsibilities

1. The YellowJacket Activities Council (YAC) shall be responsible for providing quality programs, activities, and special events that create opportunities for whole person and community development through edifying entertainment and creative Christian fellowship.

# Section B. YAC Officers

1. The President of YAC shall be its chief executive officer. The YAC President shall be responsible for all duties as listed in Article I, Section D. All other officers and administrative structure shall be determined by the YAC Bylaws. All YAC officers shall be eligible for scholarships as determined by the Constitutional Bylaws.

# Section C. Advisor

1. The chief advisor of YAC shall be the Dean of Students or his designee. The chief advisor shall provide written authorization for all expenditures, maintain a close working relationship with the YAC President, and take an active role in the planning and execution of activities.

ARTICLE V  
Clubs and Organizations

# Section A. Privileges and Responsibilities

1. Official clubs and organizations will be given the ability to apply for Senate funds, have a Senate lobbyist, sponsor University events, use University facilities and services, publicize and advertise on campus, use the LeTourneau University name, and have other rights and privileges as outlined in the Constitutional Bylaws.

# Section B. Existence

1. All previously recognized clubs and organizations must register with Senate following the procedures as determined by the Constitutional Bylaws.
2. A new club or organization may apply for official recognition at any time by following the application process as determined by the Constitutional Bylaws.

# Section C. Revocation of Official Status

1. Allegations of a club or organization violating University or Senate policy or procedures shall be made in writing to Senate to be reviewed and evaluated for possible revocation of official recognition by Senate. Other sanctions may be levied against the group according to the Constitutional Bylaws. In the event that legal restrictions or obligations prevent the claims against the organization from being released to Senate, the allegations shall be presented to the Dean of Students who shall have the authority to immediately revoke official recognition.

# Section D. Senate Lobbyists

1. A Senate lobbyist shall check in with the Secretary and presiding officer before the start of a meeting at which the lobbyist wishes to speak; have the right to speak and answer questions during open debate time only on issues pertaining to the group the lobbyist represents, as determined by the presiding officer; follow Senate time and procedure rules; and shall not vote, make motions, or introduce legislation.

ARTICLE VI  
Student Government Finances

# Section A. Source of Funds

1. Student Government funds shall come from, but not be limited to, the Student Government portion of the General Fee. Revenues collected by any branch or agency of Student Government as a result of normal operations shall remain under the control of that branch or agency.

# Section B. Categories of Funds

1. Student Government funds shall be separated into the following categories: Executive Cabinet; Senate; LeTourneau Student Ministries; and the YellowJacket Activities Council. Funds from one category shall not be kept in the same account with funds from another category. Each branch may transfer or allocate funds only from accounts in its category.

# Section C. Automatic Allocations

1. Automatic allocations shall occur when funds are received by Student Government. Funds that are not automatically allocated shall be placed in the legislative accounts.
2. *Scholarships* shall be allocated automatically. Compensation for all Student Government officers shall be determined by the Constitutional Bylaws. The total compensation for all officers shall not be more than 40% of the total amount of funds allocated to Student Government. Compensation shall be in the form of a participatory merit scholarship. If a position becomes vacant, compensation shall be prorated according to time spent in office.
3. *The Executive Cabinet* shall be allocated funds automatically. These funds shall be determined by the Constitutional Bylaws and shall not be less than 1% or greater than 5% of the total funds allocated to Student Government.
4. *LSM* and *YAC* shall be allocated funds automatically. These funds shall be determined by the Constitutional Bylaws and shall not be less than 5% or greater than 25% per agency of the total funds allocated to Student Government.

# Section D. Expenditure Planning

1. The Executive Cabinet, LSM, and YAC must each submit a budget to Senate no later than the first Senate session after the 12th day of classes. If no proposed plan of expenditures is received from a branch by the first Senate session after the 12th day of classes, then Senate shall not allocate funds in addition to those automatically allocated to that branch for that semester. Senate must pass a general allocation bill by the second session after Student Government receives funds from the University to provide for the additional needs of each branch that is presenting a proposed plan of expenditures. Each branch shall have financial records ready to be audited at any time by request of the Administration, the Executive Cabinet, or Senate. The Executive Cabinet, LSM, and YAC shall provide a financial report to Senate at least once a semester.

# Section E. Transfers, Allocations, and Expenditures

1. A transfer or allocation of funds by the Executive Branch shall require the signature of the Student Body President and the Student Body Treasurer. All transfers or allocations of funds by Senate shall be in the form of a bill and shall be enacted by the Student Body Treasurer.
2. A transfer of funds by a branch for an event, the total cost of which shall not exceed the amount determined by the Constitutional Bylaws, must be approved by a resolution in Senate. This approval shall occur within a reasonable time period as determined by the Constitutional Bylaws.

ARTICLE VII  
Constitutional Amendments and Bylaws

# Section A. Constitutional Amendments

1. Proposals to amend the Constitution shall require a two-thirds vote of Senate or a petition signed by one-third of the electorate.
2. Proposed amendments shall be available for review by the Student Body for a minimum of ten class days prior to ratification.
3. Proposed amendments shall be approved by the Dean of Students prior to being presented to the Student Body for review.
4. The amendment shall be declared ratified only after two-thirds of those voting approve it, provided that half of the electorate votes.

# Section B. Constitutional Bylaws

1. Senate may adopt or amend Bylaws which enforce the provisions of this Constitution.
2. Proposals to amend the Constitutional Bylaws shall require a two-thirds vote of the entire Senate.
3. Proposed amendments shall be made available to Senators at least ten class days prior to being voted on.
4. Proposed amendments shall require the approval of the Dean of Students.
5. Changes in the Constitutional Bylaws affecting the amount of compensation for officers shall not take effect until the following academic year.
6. The Constitutional Bylaws may not be suspended.

# Section C. Executive Bylaws

1. The Executive Branch may adopt or amend Bylaws which govern its operations and procedures by general agreement of the Executive Branch.
2. Executive Bylaws are strictly for the purpose of governing the internal procedures of the Executive Branch.

# Section D. Senate Bylaws

1. Senate may adopt or amend Bylaws which govern Senate operations and procedures by a two-thirds vote of the entire Senate.
2. Senate Bylaws may not exert direct control over any entity outside the authority granted in this Constitution.
3. Senate Bylaws are strictly for the purpose of governing the internal procedures of Senate.
4. Senate Bylaws may be suspended for a specific amount of time by a two-thirds vote of Senate.

# Section E. LSM Bylaws

1. LSM may adopt or amend Bylaws which govern LSM operations and procedures by a two-thirds vote of LSM.
2. LSM Bylaws may not exert direct control over any entity outside the authority granted in this Constitution.
3. LSM Bylaws are strictly for the purpose of governing the internal procedures of LSM.
4. LSM Bylaws may be suspended for a specific amount of time by a two-thirds vote of LSM.

# Section F. YAC Bylaws

1. YAC may adopt or amend Bylaws which govern YAC operations and procedures by a two-thirds vote of YAC Coordinators.
2. YAC Bylaws may not exert direct control over any entity outside the authority granted in this Constitution.
3. YAC Bylaws are strictly for the purpose of governing the internal procedures of YAC.
4. YAC Bylaws may be suspended for a specific amount of time by a two-thirds vote of YAC.