

## **AMERICAN ADAGES SOCIETY (AAS)**

*Big Wisdom, small sentences.*

### Constitution of the American Adages Society

#### **Article I – Name**

The name of this organization shall be the **American Adages Society (AAS)** at The University of Texas at Austin.

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#### **Article II – Purpose**

The American Adages Society exists to:

- Explore the origins, etymology, and cultural influence of American adages.
  - Document and analyze proverbs, adages, and sayings as cultural, linguistic, and historical artifacts.
  - Encourage intellectual growth and community engagement through storytelling, discussion, and research.
  - Build a living archive and resource for scholars, writers, educators, and communities.
  - Promote intercultural exchange by comparing American adages with those of other cultures.
  - Foster a community of inquiry dedicated to preserving wisdom, influence, and legacy through language.
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#### **Article III – Membership**

1. Membership shall be open to all currently enrolled students at The University of Texas at Austin, regardless of race, color, religion, national origin, gender, age, disability, citizenship, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression.

2. Active membership requires:
  - Registration through HornsLink.
  - Attendance of a minimum of two meetings or events per semester.
  - Support of the organization's mission in good faith.
3. Non-student participants (faculty, staff, community members) may serve as advisors or guests but may not hold office or vote.

### **Membership Removal**

Members may be removed for conduct detrimental to the organization or violation of university policy. Removal requires.

1. A written explanation submitted to the officers.
2. A review meeting with the member and officers.
3. A two-thirds majority vote by active members present.

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## **Article IV – Officers**

### **1. Required Officers:**

- **President:** Oversees meetings, represents the organization, and coordinates with Student Activities.
- **Vice President:** Assists the President, manages membership, and assumes leadership in the President's absence.
- **Treasurer:** Manages funds, maintains financial records, and oversees funding requests.

### **2. Additional Officers (optional, as appointed or elected by membership):**

- Social Chair, Archive Director, Events Coordinator, Marketing Chair, or others as needed.
  - These roles will be defined in the bylaws and may evolve with the growth and change of the organization.
3. **Eligibility:** Officers must be UT students in good standing.
  4. **Terms:** One academic year, renewable by election.

### **Officer Removal**

An officer may be removed for failure to perform duties, misconduct, or violation of university policy.

1. A written petition must be submitted by at least three members.
2. The officer shall be allowed to respond before a vote.
3. Removal requires a two-thirds vote of active members present.
4. Reasoning for removal must be made.
5. A replacement officer position shall be kept in mind.

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### **Article V – Elections**

1. Elections shall be held annually in April.
2. Officer nominations will be opened two weeks before the elections.
3. Officers shall be elected by majority vote of active members present.

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4. Vacancies may be filled by special election or by presidential appointment with majority approval.
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## **Article VI – Meetings**

1. Regular meetings shall be held at least twice monthly during the academic year.
  2. Special meetings may be called by the President or the majority of officers.
  3. A quorum for voting shall consist of 50% of active members present.
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## **Article VII – University Advisor**

In accordance with Sec. 6.101(6) of the *Institutional Rules on Student Services and Activities and Information on Students' Rights and Responsibilities*, this organization may have a University Advisor who is at least twenty-one years of age, is not enrolled as a student at the University, and serves as either:

- a. A part-time or full-time employee of the University, or
- b. A representative of a national organization associated with the registered student organization (registered student organizations only).

Advisors provide continuity, guidance, and university liaison support but do not direct day-to-day operations. The organization shall have at least one UT faculty or staff advisor.

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## **Article VIII - Hazing**

State law and Sec. 6-404 of the *Institutional Rules on Student Services and Activities and Information on Students' Rights and Responsibilities* define hazing as any intentional, knowing, or reckless act, occurring on or off the campus of an educational institution, by one person alone or acting with others, directed against a student, that endangers the mental or physical health or safety of a student for the purpose of pledging, being initiated into, affiliating with, holding office in, or maintaining membership in any organization whose members are or include students at an educational institution.

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## **Article IX - University Compliance**

This organization is a recognized student organization at The University of Texas at Austin and shall comply with all campus policies as set forth in the *Institutional Rules on Student Services and Activities and Information on Students' Rights and Responsibilities*.

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## **Article X – Finances**

1. The Treasurer shall manage all funds transparently.
  2. The organization may apply for Student Government or ECB funding, hold fundraisers, or collect optional dues as approved by majority vote.
  3. Dues may be considered by vote of the membership, but are not required at founding.
  4. Upon dissolution, remaining funds revert to the Office of the Dean of Students.
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## **Article XI – Amendments**

1. Amendments to this Constitution may be proposed by any member in good standing.
  2. Ratification requires a two-thirds vote of active members present at a regular meeting.
  3. All amendments or changes to this constitution must be reflected in an updated constitution that must be submitted to Student Activities in the Office of the Dean of Students at 2609 University Ave., Suite 2.112, within 14 days of its approval.
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## **Bylaws of the American Adages Society**

### **Section I – Membership Expectations**

- Members are encouraged to attend meetings regularly and contribute to discussions.
  - Weekly/full participation is not mandatory, but consistent involvement is expected to remain in good standing.
  - Members are encouraged to contribute to the society's archive, projects, or collaborations.
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### **Section II – Officer Duties (Expanded)**

- **President:** Sets meeting agendas, ensures alignment with mission, and leads external communication.
  - **Vice President:** Tracks member participation, coordinates committees, and oversees events.
  - **Treasurer:** Files funding requests, maintains a transparent budget, and reports finances each semester.
  - **Archive Director (optional):** Maintains the living archive (digital and physical).
  - **Social Chair (optional):** Plans social gatherings and community engagement.
  - **Events Coordinator (optional):** Manages logistics for guest lectures, symposiums, and collaborations.
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### **Section III – Committees**

- Committees may be formed by officer vote for specific projects (e.g., symposium planning, podcast development, publication of the compendium).
  - Committee chairs shall be appointed by the President with the approval of officers.
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### **Section IV – Decision-Making**

- Decisions are made by majority vote of active members present at a meeting.
  - Major initiatives (e.g., constitutional amendments, publication projects, collaborations) require two-thirds approval.
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### **Section V – Dissolution**

- In the event the organization dissolves, all funds shall revert to the Office of the Dean of Students, as required by UT policy.

Signed Sebastian Kiteka  
(President)