

Constitution of the College Republicans At Texas

Article I. Name, Affiliation, and Purpose

Section 1: The name of this organization shall be “College Republicans at Texas”

Section 2: The College Republicans at Texas shall be the recognized campus affiliate of the Texas College Republicans, and of the College Republican National Committee, and shall be subject to and abide by the Constitutions, Bylaws, and Resolutions thereof.

Section 3: In the event that the College Republicans at Texas is dissolved, all of its holdings and assets shall be liquidated and donated to the Republican Party of Texas.

Article II. Purpose

Section 1: To make known and promote the principles of the Republican Party among members of the University of Texas campus and community.

Section 2: To aid in the election of Republican candidates at all levels of government.

Section 3: To encourage and assist in the organization and active functioning of the Republican Party at local, state, and national levels.

Section 4: To foster a sense of camaraderie and companionship among the members of this club. Section 5: To develop political skills and leadership among Republican students as preparation for future service by them to the Party and community.

Article III. Officers

Section 1: The officers who comprise the College Republicans at Texas shall be: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Public Relations Director, and Social Events Coordinator.

Section 2: All officers shall be elected at the last general meeting of the semester of the year, to be announced to all members not less than two weeks in advance.

Section 3: Any members wishing to run for an office shall submit a letter of intent to run for said office to the President not less than one week prior to the election.

Section 4: Officers shall be elected by a majority of those paid members present and voting.

Section 5: Paying members will have one vote each while current officers will be given two votes each.

Section 6: Vacancies occurring among the officer board shall be filled by appointment by the remaining officer board. A majority vote of the remaining officers is required to fill any vacancy.

Section 7: Members of the officer board shall be required to attend meetings of the officer board and general meetings. More than 2 unexcused absences will constitute grounds for impeachment under Article V.

Section 8: President All executive powers of this organization shall be vested in the President.

The President shall serve:

A. To take any official action as deemed necessary and proper in carrying out the purposes of the College Republicans at Texas as set forth in Article 2.

B. Preside over meetings of College Republicans at Texas.

C. To call meetings of the officer board.

D. To coordinate the activities of the College Republicans with other organizations.

E. To determine the final outcome of a vote within the officer board in the event

of a tie.

F. To establish ad hoc committees and appoint committee heads as needed.

Section 9: Vice President

The Vice President shall work closely with the President and shall be vested with the following powers:

A. To preside over meetings of College Republicans in the absence of the President.

B. To succeed the President should that office become vacant for any reason.

C. To provide oversight for the actions of committees and committee heads.

D. To exercise any other powers granted to him/her as deemed necessary by the President in carrying out the purpose of this organization.

Section 10: Secretary The following duties shall be those of the Secretary:

A. To record minutes for both General meetings as well as those of the officer board.

B. To keep a list of members.

C. To provide the members of the College Republicans with an agenda at ev

Section 15: Volunteer Director The following duties shall be those of the Volunteer Director:

A. To organize and preside over the Community Service Committee

B. To plan community service projects for the club

Section 16: Historian The following duties shall be those of the Historian:

A. To keep a photo record of club meetings, guests, and events.

B. To compile/update a club scrapbook for use in correlation with club recruitment activities.

C. To make sure the club webmaster is provided a digital copy of the photos for the website.

Section 17: Webmaster The following duties shall be those of the Webmaster:

A. To sustain and update the official website of College Republicans at Texas

B. To investigate and initiate new forms of medium via the internet in pursuit of advertising the College Republicans at Texas

C. The webmaster will be appointed by the president and shall be subject to the approval of the officer board.

Section 18: President Emeritus

A. The previous semester's President shall be an honorary, non-voting member of the officer board, and shall act as an advisor to the same.

Article IV. Membership

Section 1: Any person affiliated with the University of Texas community is eligible for membership.

Section 2: Annual dues are required for membership in the College Republicans. The officer board shall set the amount annually.

Section 3: Honorary memberships may be granted at the discretion of the President.

Honorary members do not pay dues, and can not vote in elections.

Article V. Impeachment

Section 1: Any officer who has demonstrated disloyalty to the Republican Party, negligence or incompetence in the performance of his/her prescribed Constitutional duties, or has willfully impeded the College Republicans at Texas from achieving its

purposes may be impeached and removed from office.

Section 2: Impeachment charges may be brought against any officer by any member or officer in good standing. The secretary will note the date and nature of the charges.

Impeachment proceedings shall occur at the next general meeting, and the charged officer will have the opportunity to defend himself/herself prior to the vote.

Section 3: A 2/3 majority of the members present is required to remove a charged officer from office.

Article VI. Committees

Section 1: The 4 standing committees shall have the following duties:

A. Publicity Committee: To publicize club activities and encourage membership within the University community.

B. Fundraising Committee: To engage in the planning and enactment of fundraising activities for the benefit of College Republicans at Texas.

C. Social Events Committee: To engage in the planning and enactment of social events for the benefit of College Republicans members.

D. Community Service Committee: To engage in the planning and enactment of community service activities for the benefit of the UT/Austin community. To promote the good name of the College Republicans at Texas.

Section 2: Temporary committees shall be established at the discretion of the President, and expire at the end of his/her term, unless noted otherwise by the succeeding President.

Article VII. Amendments

Section 1: Any member may propose a written Constitutional Amendment.

Section 2: The Constitution may be amended only after the introduction of an amendment and a 2/3rd vote of support by the members present.

Amendments

1. Relating to the officer board

a. Modified Article 3 Section 5 to remove the statement “while current officers will be given 2 votes each”. Each dues paying member will now receive only 1 vote (ratified April 26, 2011)

b. The position of Webmaster will be stricken as an officer position (ratified April 26, 2011)

c. Added subsection F to Article 3 Section 11 to state that the Treasurer is to collect dues and work with the secretary to keep and updated membership roster. In the event of the Treasurer being unavailable to accept dues, another chosen voting member of the officer board by a majority vote may accept dues. (ratified April 26, 2011)

d. The position of the Volunteer Coordinator is no longer included as an officer position and all the former powers of the Volunteer Coordinator are given to the social events coordinator (ratified April 26, 2011)

e. The Social Events Coordinator is hereby renamed the Events Coordinator (ratified April 26, 2011)

f. Clarification of Executive Authority (ratified April 26, 2011)

i. The President may not sit as head of a committee

ii. Committee decisions are subject to oversight of the officer board, including, but not limited to, approval of committee members, veto of committee decisions, dissolution of committees, etc. Oversight decisions

subject to majority vote on officer board

iii. Committees are not allowed to make decisions on behalf of the club, nor do committee decisions supersede officer board decisions. Committees may make recommendations to the club, which are subject to approval by majority vote.

iv. Officers may serve on committees, but may not be voting members of said committee (Exception: Treasurer, who sits as head of the fundraising committee per Article 3 Sec. 11D)

1. Clarification: Heads of Committees may not vote but other officers on a committee are allowed

v. Only elected officers with Constitutional authority of office are allowed to vote at officer meetings. Committee Chairs and appointed directors may be present at officer meetings, but may not vote

g. Any officer impeached will be designated as “not in good standing” with the club, loses membership, and may not pay dues until the next semester

i. Clarification: impeachment MUST pass (ratified April 26, 2011)

h. Any officer resigning from his/her position prematurely forfeits club membership unless a desire to remain a general member is explicitly stated in the letter of resignation (ratified April 26, 2011)

2. Relating to Elections

a. Regarding Officer Nominations (ratified April 26, 2011)

i. Candidates running for an office shall hence forth be nominated for said positions

ii. Nominations will open at the second to last meeting of the semester and continue to the final meeting of the semester

iii. On the night of officer elections, nominations for each office will be taken at the beginning of each race when the officer or individual presiding over the elections call for the final nominations of each position and no later

iv. Individuals may be nominated by any dues paying member in good standing with the organization. To be placed on the ballot, another dues paying member in good standing must second the nomination. The secretary will be charged with recording nominations

1. Clarification: People nominated from the floor must be on the ballot with the knowledge that they can turn down the position

2. Clarification: Dues paying members are still allowed to file at least one week in advance for the desired officer position they wish to run for with the knowledge that nominations for the same position will still be allowed on the election night

b. Regarding Election Day Proceedings (ratified April 26, 2011)

i. The officer election meeting will be run by the President Emeritus or the most senior ranking officer not running for re-election, if this does not suffice, a suitable replacement may be chosen by a majority vote of the Officer Board

ii. The votes shall be tabulated by a well respected member or friend of the organization. This individual will not be allowed to vote during the Election.

The potential record keeper will be approved by a majority vote of the Officer Board

iii. Official records of the votes cast will be kept by the person counting the votes and each candidate may personally request to know the number of votes they received during the election. This information will not be made public or released to anyone besides a candidate.

1. Clarification: Records only kept for 24 hours

3. Relating to Campus Organization Endorsements

a. If the College Republican organization votes by a 2/3 majority to make an endorsement (but is not required to do so), the following will apply: (ratified April 26, 2011)

i. Any Campus organization election endorsement made by the College Republicans at Texas will be at the discretion of all dues paying members, and subject to a majority vote of said members. The club may vote not to make any endorsements

ii. If an endorsement committee is formed, the committee may make recommendations to the club, but the club membership must vote to approve the recommendations individually before the endorsement is issued. Committee membership is open to all dues paying members, and an endorsement committee must be formed no later than two weeks prior to a scheduled endorsement vote. The President shall make a good faith effort to give club members due notice about the formation of the endorsement committee

iii. The officer board shall create an endorsement questionnaire for candidates to complete before an endorsement interview may take place. The secretary is responsible for sending/collecting endorsement questionnaires. Any candidate who fails to submit a complete application to the Secretary by the stated due date is not eligible for an endorsement interview. Any club member may request a copy of a candidate's completed endorsement questionnaire, which the Secretary must provide. iv. Club members running for a position in a campus organization will skip endorsement committee interview/questionnaire process and join committee- recommended candidates when the club takes an endorsement vote.

4. Relating to General Members

a. A dues paying member will be granted the right to vote in all elections and amendment processes, declare for office and attend closed-door meetings (ratified April 26, 2011)

b. A non dues-paying member is still welcome to attend meetings, join in with events and socials and voice their opinion at open meetings (ratified April 26, 2011)

c. Alumni and former officers of the club in good standing will be recognized at all open meetings, regardless of membership status (ratified April 26, 2011)

5. Miscellaneous Amendments

a. Duties of subsections 4 and 5 in Article 3 Sec 1 will be combined (ratified April 26, 2011)

b. Subsection to article 7 will be added that states Constitutional amendments go into effect immediately after being voted on by the club (ratified April 26, 2011)

6. Regarding Amendment 1 Section g

a. Section g shall not go into effect unless the following conditions are met. (ratified September 1, 2011)

i. The officer board shall set a probation period of two weeks in which the impeached and removed officer will have the opportunity to show loyalty towards the organization.

ii. After the two week period the officer board shall meet and vote on yea or nay to enact Section g. A simple majority nay vote will prevent Section g from taking effect and the former officer shall continue to be a member of the organization.

7. Regarding State Officers

a. An officer of the Central Region of the Texas College Republicans, the Texas College Republicans, the Southern Region of the College Republican National Committee, College Republican National Committee and/or the International Young Democrat Union shall be given a de facto position on the officer board but not the executive officer board. (September 1, 2011)

i. The de facto officer shall be known by any of the following titles: spokesman of the organization. (ratified November 10, 2011)

i. Under the privilege of serving as spokesman, the Communication Director shall work with the President to create the official College Republican stance which shall not violate or make changes in the party platform according to the Republican Party of Texas.

ii. The Communications Director shall receive priority of speaking to the media on behalf of the College Republicans at Texas. The task then falls upon the President, followed by the Executive Vice President. If none of the previously mentioned officers are available the Communications Director and President can delegate to other officers as appropriate.

c. The title of the Treasurer is now henceforth the Chief Financial Officer and shall, along with the President, be administrators of the finances of the College Republicans of Texas. (ratified November 10, 2011)

i. If the executive officer board is denied funds from the Chief Financial Officer they may overrule by holding a 2/3 vote of the executive board at any officer meeting.

d. The title of the Secretary is now henceforth the Administrative Director and shall be responsible for maintaining membership lists and any other organizational records. (ratified November 10, 2011)

e. The title of the Events Coordinator is now henceforth the Special Events Director. (ratified November 10, 2011)

i. The Special Events Director will be in charge of planning social events and philanthropy for the College Republicans at Texas.

f. The position of the Historian shall be eliminated from the officer board upon creation the Parliamentarian. (ratified November 10, 2011)

i. The Parliamentarian shall be given the duties of the Historian. ii. The Parliamentarian shall be in charge of heading impeachment procedures,

except that of which he or she may be a party to.

1. In such case the general membership will appoint a member in good standing to head the impeachment procedures. 10.

Regarding credentialing for the Texas College Republican State Convention

a. Both dues and non-dues members are considered general members for credentialing. (ratified November 10, 2011)

i. By providing an email address a non-dues paying member authorizes the College Republicans at Texas to submit their name for credentialing.

11. Regarding the Executive Officer Board of the College Republicans at Texas

a. Let it be amended that the following officer board positions be renamed as follows: (ratified November 8, 2012)

i. Executive Vice President to Vice President

ii. Chief Financial Officer to Finance Director

iii. Special Events Director to Activities Director

b. Let it also be amended that the former position of Historian and currently Parliamentarian be separated into two entities once again to consist of the following: (ratified November 8, 2012)

i. Executive Director

1. Will take the newly delegated authority of the Parliamentarian such as presiding over impeachments and constitutional amendments.

2. Will be in charge of anything delegated to him/her from the President and Vice President.

3. In charge of maintaining external relations when the President cannot. Such as communication with RPT and TCRP. With this authority the Vice President will hold the responsibility of maintaining internal relations when the President cannot. Such as communication with registered student organizations, our club advisor, and the Dean of Students.

ii. Newly delegated authority to the Administrative Director.

1. Will take the former delegated authority of the Historian such as maintaining an up-to-date scrapbook, photographs of the organization and tabling events.

2. Will be in charge on planning recruitment events, staying in touch with new members, maintaining retention of members for the organization.

3. Will be in charge of maintaining and keeping separate the membership roster and email/associate member rosters. c. If the organization believes it to be beneficial to the organization, the organization may choose to vote for the addition of the Legislative Director to the Executive Officer Board. The vote to be cast will be a 2/3 vote by dues paying members present during quorum at a meeting at least two weeks before officer elections. If the vote passes the new officer position shall be available for any dues paying member to run for. The position will be given a vote at

officer meeting like most other positions on the executive board. The position will not become permanent and another 2/3 vote will be needed the following semester to extend the term. (ratified November 8, 2012)

i. Legislative Director

1. Acquire the authority to be the liaison between the organization and state politics.

- a. Be in charge of coordinating Capitol internships
- b. Reporting current happenings at the Capitol
- c. Plan lobbying days

2. During the Texas interim this position shall be called the Campaigns Director and be the liaison between the organization and local/state campaigns.

- a. Be in charge of coordinating campaign internships
- b. Report any news pertaining to campaigns
- c. Plan phonebanking and blockwalking dates
- d. Therefore the ranking of the executive officer board will be as follows: President, Vice President, Executive Director, Communications Director, Finance Director, Administrative Director, Activities Director, Legislative/Campaigns Director*, De facto International/National/State Officers* and President Emeritus (*only when available) (ratified November 8, 2012)

12. Regarding Absentee Voting

a. The officer board shall accept absentee ballots beginning one week before an election and ending at 11:59 PM the day before the election (ratified March 21, 2013)

b. The officer board must announce the time and location that they shall accept an absentee ballot at the beginning of the absentee ballot voting period. This requirement shall be fulfilled by email or by announcements at meetings (ratified March 21, 2013)

i. The location to receive ballots must be on the UT Austin campus, and the time interval must be sometime between the hours of 8:00am and 5:00pm unless otherwise agreed upon by the voter and officer.

c. To vote absentee, the voter shall write his vote on paper in the presence of the officer. The officer may not view the actual ballot. The voter shall then seal the ballot in an envelope (ratified March 21, 2013)

d. The absentee ballots shall be opened immediately after voting for the first race has ended on Election Day and before votes are tallied (ratified March 21, 2013)

e. No absentee ballots accepted 24hrs before the election (ratified March 21, 2013)

f. Voting will open after the meeting and close on 11:59 PM the day before the election (ratified March 21, 2013)

13. Regarding Officer Dues

a. All newly elected officers must pay dues, for the semester in which they will serve, within one week of their election, and additionally be in good standing. (ratified March 21, 2013)

14. Regarding Member Voting

a. In order for an active member to vote, they must be in good standing for at least one (1) week prior to a vote (ratified March 21, 2013)

15. Regarding a supplement to the existing Constitution

a. Create an additional constitution that incorporates all the amendments, thus less complicated than the original, which we will still keep. (ratified December 4, 2013)

16. Regarding Article III Officers, Section 6, 13, and 17

a. Amend Article III Officers, Section 6, by changing “Vacancies occurring among the officer board shall be filled by appointment by the remaining officer board.” To “Vacancies occurring among the officer board can be filled by appointment by the remaining officer board.” And add to the last sentence: A Majority vote of the remaining officers is required to fill any vacancy “or keep it vacant”. (ratified December 4, 2013)

b. Add to the Constitution Article III Officers a “Section 13: Outreach Director. The following duties shall be those of the Outreach Director (ratified December 4, 2013)

i. To foster relations with other organizations on campus.

ii. To host or plan for joint events with other organizations.

iii. To reach out to like-minded organizations in promoting cross membership.

iv. To reach out to different segments of the student body.

c. Restore Article III Officers, Section 17: Webmaster back into the Constitution and rename the position Media Director. Delete Subsection C. The webmaster will be appointed by the president and shall be subject to the approval of the officer board. (Instead the Media Director will be elected like the other officers). (ratified December 4, 2013)

14. Regarding Article VI. Committees, Section 3

a. Add to Article VI. Committees a “Section 3: The necessity of the 4 standing committees and its role will be determine at the start of each semester by a majority of the officers”. (ratified December 4, 2013)

15. Regarding the ranking of the Executive Officer Board

a. Let it be amended that the ranking of the Executive Officer Board will be as follows: President, Vice President, Executive Director, Communications Director, Finance Director, Administrative Director, Activities Director, Media Director, Outreach Director, Legislative/Campaigns Director*, De facto International/National/State Officers* and President Emeritus (*only when available) (ratified April 30, 2014)

16. Regarding election requirements and procedures

a. Candidates must win a majority (fifty percent) of the vote in order to be elected.

i. If no candidate receives a majority of the vote, then a run-off vote shall take place between the two candidates that received the most votes.

ii. Each candidate shall be given an opportunity to address the members in attendance before this run-off vote occurs.

iii. The run-off vote shall occur before moving down in precedence to the next officer position.

b. Candidates may be nominated to run for a position lower in rank on the Executive Officer Board if they are unsuccessful in being elected to a higher rank on a single election day.

i. A candidate may only run for two positions in a single election. If the candidate is unsuccessful in being elected to both positions, he/she must wait until the next election to run for a position on the Executive Officer Board. (ratified April 30, 2014)

17. Regarding transfer of specific duties from Administrative Director to Media Director

a. Let it be amended that the duties of the former officer position of Historian are relinquished from the Administrative Director, and are now duties of the Media Director. (ratified April 30, 2014)

18. Regarding the Longhorn "Get Out the Vote" program

a. Let it be amended that the duty of the Vice President and the Outreach Director assume responsibility over voter outreach at the University and must work with other political organizations facilitate the events' success.

19. Regarding officer duties, as per Article III

a. Let it be amended that each officer must provide a report at least once per semester to the members of the organization on what they have accomplished (ratified April 30, 2014).

20. Regarding Legislative Director

a. Be it amended that the Legislative Director be added to Article III and part of executive board. This position will become part of executive (ratified April 30, 2014).

The duties of the Legislative Director will be as follows:

i. Work with the Student Government, State Relations Agency Director to further lobbying at the Texas Capitol

ii. Bring at least one Legislator and Public Policy speaker to the chapter's meetings each semester

iii. Plan at least one event each semester

iii. Work with AEI, AIPAC, UT Government and Politics Department and additional organizations that further like-minded public policy to bring chapter awareness (ratified May 4th, 2016).

21. Regarding American Israel Public Affairs Committee

a. Be it resolved that College Republicans at the University of Texas stand firm with AIPAC in their endeavors on campus

AMENDMENTS

To Article III Section 3:

Amendment XXII:

- I. Any member and/or previous serving officer seeking a board position must be in good standing to run for the said position.
- II. Good standing shall be defined as:
 - a. A member showing good support and passion for the organization.
- III. For a previous serving officer seeking election, good standing will be defined as:
 - a. Requirements as stated under part II of this amendment
 - b. Attendance to board meetings and events
 - i. Formal executive board meetings scheduled weekly are mandatory
 1. Notification of absence must be made to the President one week prior
 - a. Absences of emergency do not adhere to the one week rule
 - i. Emergencies are judged as such by the President
 - ii. Attendance to events are mandatory
 1. Events include meetings and gatherings hosted by the local chapter and ones of the Texas Federation of College Republicans
 2. Absences adhere to the III,b,I,1 section of this amendment
 - c. Fulfillment of role and serving their position requirements as defined in Article III