

# Constitution of the Associated Students of the University of Missouri

Adopted by affirmation of campus ASUM advisors, UM System ASUM advisors, campus student leaders and ASUM Executive Director: May 9, 2012.

Amended by Board of Directors: April 2018 Amended by Board of Directors: November 2019 Amended by Board of Directors: April 2019

Amended by Bylaws Committee

# Organization

#### Section A. Name

1. The name of this organization is the Associated Students of the University of Missouri (ASUM).

#### Section B. Purpose

1. ASUM is a nonpartisan, student-led organization serving all students of the University of Missouri System (UM System). The purpose of ASUM is to educate students about the governmental decision-making process; to increase student civic awareness, concern, and participation; to provide the public with information concerning student interests; and, to channel student energy and interest in the governmental decision-making process.

#### Section C. Affiliation

- 1. ASUM is supported through student fees, therefore, it is subject to the rules and regulations that apply to all student organizations.
- 2. ASUM determines its own legislative agenda that reflects the concerns and interests of students, even if that agenda puts ASUM in opposition with the administrations of the UM System and its campuses.

### Section D. Office Location

1. The main office of ASUM resides at the UM System office located in Columbia, Missouri.

# Student Membership

1. Any student at a UM System campus is a member of ASUM.

# Officers

#### **Section A. Definition**

- 1. There are three Officer positions, collectively referred to as Officers: Executive Director and the Legislative Directors. Refer to bylaws for more information.
- 2. There is a Marketing Director position hired annually. Refer to bylaws for more information

## Section B. Eligibility

1. No person may serve as an Intern or Officer if currently seeking or filing for any paid public elected position at any level of local, state, or federal government.

### **Section C. Duties**

1. The positions and duties of the officers are defined in the Bylaws.

# **Campus Membership**

#### Section A. Eligibility

1. Each campus of the UM System will hold campus membership if it commits to financially support the Legislative Internship program and a Campus Chapter and meets requirements in the bylaws.

### **Section B. Duties**

1. Each member campus shall commit to pursuing the betterment and advancement of ASUM in the full range of programming established by ASUM.

### Section C. Benefits

- 1. A member campus shall be entitled to full representation on the Board of Directors.
- 2. Students of a member campus shall be eligible for the Legislative Internship program.

# **Campus Chapters**

- 1. Campus Chapters shall be led by a Campus President and slate of officers.
- 2. Campus Chapters shall be advised by a Chapter Advisor.
- The Legislative Internship program shall be funded at least fifty (50) percent through student fees via Campus Chapter contribution to the Central Budget. Campus Chapter activities may be conducted or supported by student fees.
  a. Student fees may be generated by passage of a student-initiated referendum by a majority of students or through an appropriation of student activities fees determined by standard campus procedures.
- 4. Campus Chapters will be expected to carry out designated activities in the Fall and Spring semesters as described in the Bylaws.
- 5. Campus Chapters shall submit two (2) reports to the Executive Director annually.
- 6. If there is no active Campus Chapter, the campus Board members, in collaboration with the Campus Advisor, are responsible for a reduced number of campus activities, as described in the Bylaws.

# **Board of Directors**

#### Section A. Mission Statement

1. The mission of the ASUM Board of Directors (Board) shall be to collect student issues and concerns and to relay them to the Capitol through programs such as the Legislative Internship program. The Board shall also provide support and advise the campuses through the Board members in their activities to educate the university community about political policies and issues on their respective campuses.

#### Section B. Voting Board Members

- 1. Each member campus shall have three (3) voting members on the Board.
  - a. Of the voting members from each campus, one (1) shall represent the undergraduate student body, one (1) shall represent the graduate student body, and one (1) shall represent the Campus Chapter.
  - b. At least one (1) undergraduate student and at least one (1) graduate student from each campus shall serve as voting members.
- 2. If these requirements cannot be met, substitute members may be designated.
  - a. Substitute members must be confirmed or selected using the process described in the Bylaws.

- Substitute members will be selected through the collaboration of the Executive Director and the Campus Advisor on the respective campus as described in the Bylaws.
- 3. All members must complete an orientation conducted by the Executive Director.
- 4. The two Legislative Directors shall be voting members on the Board and neither shall be counted as one (1) of the three (3) members from a campus.
- 5. All voting members are granted only one (1) vote.
- 6. The voting members of the Board are expected to participate in Board meetings and abide by all standards set forth in the Bylaws.

#### Section C. Non-Voting Board Members

1. The Executive Director, Campus Advisors, System Advisors, and the UM System Student Representative to the Board of Curators shall be members of the Board without voting rights, except when explicitly specified in this Constitution.

#### Section D. Officers

- 1. The Executive Director shall serve as the Board Chair. The Board Chair is not entitled to a vote unless there is a tie vote to be broken.
- 2. The Vice Board Chair shall be elected among the Board.

#### Section E. Committees

A. In order for ASUM Central to run effectively, the use of committees will be implemented.
The following committees are required to be filled each year.

a constitution and bylaws committee

- B. Event planning committee
- C. Budget Committee
- D. D.C. Committee

E. Committees A-D must always be in place. Other committees may be formed as deemed fit by the board of directors

```
4.
```

# Legislative Internship Program

- 1. ASUM hereby establishes the Legislative Internship program to allow for active student participation in shaping government policy by providing a structure for students to serve as registered lobbyists at the capitol at Jefferson City under the direction of the Directors.
- 2. ASUM will strive to have at least one (1) intern from each campus.

3. The overhead expenses of the Legislative Internship program, except those delegated to the Campus Chapters, will be at a minimum, funded fifty percent by the Central Budget. The remaining expenses of the Legislative Internship program may be funded through the Supplemental Budget.

# **Finances**

The following budgets shall be set in place:

#### Section A. Central Budget

1. Contributions shall be made by each campus into a central budget as described in the Bylaws. The Central Budget shall only contain funds collected from Campus Chapters.

### Section B. Chapter Budget

1. Each member campus shall be responsible for its own campus budget. The chapter budget and expenses shall be approved by the Campus Advisor.

### Section C. Supplemental Budget

1. Contributions to ASUM from third-parties, that is any entity that is not a campus chapter, shall be managed in a budget that is supplemental and separate to the central budget.

# **Constitution and Bylaws**

### Section A. Constitution

- 1. This constitution (Constitution) shall be adopted by two-thirds (2/3) of the voting members of the Board.
- 2. Amendments to the Constitution must be approved by two-thirds (2/3) of the voting members of the Board. Amendments must be written and submitted in advance to all voting members at least one (1) week prior to the vote.

### Section B. Bylaws

- 1. To ensure all aspects of the organization are established for future Board members and to maintain order, the attached bylaws (Bylaws) shall be set in place.
- 2. Adoption of the Bylaws and any amendments thereafter will be done through a majority vote of the Board.

### Section C. Review and Renewal

a. **1. T**he ASUM Constitution must be reviewed annually by the Constitution and Bylaw Committee each fall semester and renewed by the Board after

review during Spring Board Retreat. This is to ensure the Constitution remains up to date with any program changes.

1.

# **Non-Discrimination**

ASUM shall not discriminate based on race, color, national or ethnic origin, ancestry, religion, sex, pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, military or veteran status, or any status protected by applicable state or federal law.