THE CONSTITUTION OF THE AFRICAN STUDENTS ASSOCIATION
THE UNIVERSITY OF AKRON

Reclaiming Our Heritage
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1. NAME OF ORGANIZATION
   1.1. The African Students Association of the University of Akron.

2. PURPOSE OF ORGANIZATION
   2.1. To promote unity among students, faculty and staff at the University of Akron.
   2.2. The prime concern of the association is to enhance academic, social, cultural and political experience.
   2.3. To promote cultural diversity on The University of Akron campus. The association will work to bridge the gaps that exist among different organizations on campus through insightful and educative programming involving the exposure of different cultural views and ideologies.

3. MEMBERSHIP ELIGIBILITY
   3.1. Any African student or active student, alumni, and faculty interested in the African culture can be a member of the African Students Association.
   3.2. To be a member, one has to complete an application form and accept the basic concepts in the constitution.
   3.3. The payment of the mandatory fees for renewing membership every semester with alternative payment plans.
   3.4. To maintain membership, members should be in good academic standing and have 2.0 GPA or above.
   3.5. Members are expected to attend all general meetings and contribute meaningfully to all endeavors of the association.

4. MEETINGS
   4.1. Meetings will be conducted using ways and means that will enhance understanding and tolerance of the members with all meetings conducted based on parliamentary rules of procedure.

5. ELECTION OF OFFICERS
   5.1. A candidate will be elected into office by a two-third majority vote. Re-election will be allowed when no candidate get a majority vote.

6. OFFICER ELIGIBILITY
   6.1. Before taking office, all candidates must:
      6.1.1. Have an average of 2.5 GPA and above.
      6.1.2. An officer elected with a GPA below 2.5 will be asked to attend training programs and other activities to enhance their performance levels. After the semester if their GPA is not raised to
the desired level they will be removed from office.

6.1.3. An eligible officer should have completed one academic year at the University of Akron.

6.1.4. An officer should also be an active member in the organization.

7. VOTING POWER

7.1. All members have voting powers and are eligible to vote and voice out their opinions during meetings. The advisor or a tie breaker in a form of coin flipping will decide on who is given the title after an unsuccessful second voting.

8. IMPEACHMENT

8.1. Requires two-thirds vote by the general voting members of the African Association. Any elected officers who do not fulfill their responsibilities fully will be impeached.

9. THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

9.1. Consist of the President, Vice President, Treasurer, Public Relations Officer and General Secretary.

10. OFFICERS/DUTIES

10.1. President

10.1.1. The President shall be the official spokesperson for the organization.

10.1.2. Represent the organization at The House of Representatives meeting.

10.2. Vice President

10.2.1. Assume the duties of any vacated office with the exception of the President, unless otherwise voted upon by the general body.

10.3. General Secretary

10.3.1. Be familiar with the duties of a Secretary and must have sufficient typing and organizational skills.

10.3.2. Take minutes at all meetings (General/Executive).

10.3.3. Produce typed minutes of previous meetings at executive and general assembly meetings.

10.4. Treasurer

10.4.1. Be familiar with the duties of a treasurer and have bookkeeping and organizational skills.

10.4.2. Handle all financial records and transactions.
10.4.3. Provide financial reports.
10.4.4. Attend all meetings.
10.4.5. Submit an annual report.
10.4.6. Work with the Executive Board members to prepare annual EAF grant requests.

11. STANDING COMMITTEES

11.1.1. Membership
11.1.1.1. Responsible for recruiting and maintaining members of The African Student Association, supplying members with a copy of the constitution, updating the membership roster, and providing an orientation session about The African Students Association for all members.
11.1.1.2. Must provide membership roster for Contingency and E.A.F. packets.
11.1.1.3. Responsible for preparing a list of qualified candidates running for offices of the African Students Association Executive Board.

11.1.2. African Culture
11.1.2.1. Responsible for initiating cultural programs that pertain to Black and African interests.

11.1.3. Political Actions
11.1.3.1. Educate and re-educate students of political concerns that affect Africans and people of color throughout the world.

11.1.4. Publicity
11.1.4.1. Responsible for producing and distributing information regarding African Students Association events.

11.1.5. Publications
11.1.5.1. Responsible for producing and distributing the association’s monthly newsletter.

11.1.6. Fashion
11.1.6.1. Provide detailed accounts of how and why "fashion" in the African community changes, and how it occurs. After the research of fashion trends, the Fashion committee will sponsor the annual fashion show.

11.1.7. Health and Wellness
11.1.7.1. Inform and discuss the medical concerns of the African community.

11.1.8. Community Service
11.1.8.1. Provide volunteer services to The University of Akron and its surrounding community, with specific discipline on pre-college students.

11.2. All committees must provide monthly programs and budgets to the executive board for submission with EAF and Contingency packets.

12. FACULTY ADVISOR
12.1. Eligibility
12.1.1. In order to qualify to be the Faculty Advisor to African Students Association the individual must be a full-time faculty member at The University of Akron.

12.1.2. Other requirements are to meet all qualifications as outlined by The University of Akron's policy regarding the faculty; advisor of registered student organizations.

12.2. Selection
12.2.1. The executive board shall select the faculty advisor. African Students Association has up to two (2) faculty advisors.

12.3. Term of Service
12.3.1. The faculty advisor shall serve a term of three (3) years, which may be renewed with at least two-thirds vote from The African Students Association executive board.
13. **Finance**

13.1. In addition to the dues for membership, African Students Association shall conduct fund-raisers and collect fees from the various programs throughout the year.

13.2. African Students Association will manage its own finances, but in accordance with the rules and regulations prescribed by The University of Akron.

14. **Amendments**

14.1. The following process must make all amendments to this constitution:

14.1.1. Any proposed amendment must be presented in writing to the executive board that, in turn takes the amendment to general body of African Students Association.

14.1.2. Discussion should occur between the general body, and executive board of African Students Association.

14.1.3. A vote for acceptance of the amendment should occur at the following executive board meeting; upon two-thirds vote by the executive board of African Students Association the amendment shall become part of the Constitution of African Students Association

15. **Acceptance and Revisions**

15.1. Upon the signing of this constitution of African Students Association by its president (for the general body) and its faculty advisor(s), this constitution shall be official and followed.

15.2. The constitution will be revised upon amendments, change in faculty advisor(s) or every three years unless otherwise requested by The University of Akron's Office of Student Development.

16. **Nondiscrimination Clause**

16.1. African Students Association shall not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, national origin, ancestry, sex, age, handicap or sexual orientation in the selection of its members or in its programs unless federal or state laws allow for such exceptions.

16.2. The African Student Association will not condone or tolerate any form of discrimination, based on race, creed, national origin, sex, age, handicap, ancestry, or
sexual orientation in the selection of its members or in its programs unless federal or state laws allow for such exceptions.

______________________________  ______________________________
President                           Faculty Advisor