MEMORIAL STUDENT CENTER

CONSTITUTION

AND

BYLAWS

4/27/2015
THE CONSTITUTION

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Preamble

"The union is the community center of the college, serving students, faculty, staff, alumni, and guests. By whatever form or name, a college union is an organization offering a variety of programs, activities, services, and facilities that, when taken together, represent a well-considered plan for the community life of the college.

The union is an integral part of the educational mission of the college. As the center of the college community life, the union complements the academic experience through an extensive variety of cultural, educational, social, and recreational programs. These programs provide the opportunity to balance course work and free time as cooperative factors in education.

The union is a student-centered organization that values participatory decision-making. Through volunteerism, its boards, committees, and student employment, the union offers first-hand experience in citizenship and educates students in leadership, social responsibility, and values.

In all its processes, the union encourages self-directed activity, giving maximum opportunity for self-realization and for growth in individual social competency and group effectiveness.

The union's goal is the development of persons as well as intellects.

Traditionally considered the "hearthstone" or "living room" of the campus, today's union is the gathering place of the college. The union provides services and conveniences that members of the college community need in their daily lives and creates an environment for getting to know and understand others through formal and informal associations.

The union serves as a unifying force that honors each individual and values diversity. The union fosters a sense of community that cultivates enduring loyalty to the college."--Adopted by the ACUI in 1996, this statement is based on the Role of the College Union statement, 1956.

Article I.

Name

The name of this organization shall be the Memorial Student Center, hereinafter referred to as the Memorial Student Center or MSC. The Memorial Student Center herewith adopts the Role of the College Union statement, as stated in the Preamble, as a framework for the MSC's mission and purpose.
Article II.

Mission and Purpose

Mission:

"The Memorial Student Center promotes leadership development through campus programs and service opportunities while preparing students to engage in a global society."

Purpose:

In accordance with the mission of Texas A&M University, the Memorial Student Center accomplishes its mission through implementation of the following five directives:

Section 1. To provide balanced and diverse social, cultural, educational, and entertainment programming which complements the academic programs of the University and enhances the quality of life in the University community.

Section 2. To provide "hands-on" leadership and managerial experiences that develop effective skills for student leaders through involvement in the administration and management of MSC facilities, services, and programs.

Section 3. To encourage student leaders and the general student body to establish broad perspectives based on social, cultural, and international awareness, and a commitment to civic service.

Section 4. To work in partnership with the University Center & Special Events staff to provide a student voice with regards to decisions that impact the facilities and operations of spaces utilized by students.
Article III.

Membership

The student members of the MSC shall be the officers of the MSC and members and officers of committees.

Article IV.

Memorial Student Center Board of Directors

Section 1. Authority of Memorial Student Center Board of Directors

The Memorial Student Center Board of Directors, hereafter referred to as MSC BOD, shall operate in accordance with the rules, procedures, and administrative direction of Texas A&M University through the MSC Director and the Vice President for Student Affairs.

Section 2. Purpose of MSC BOD

The purpose of the MSC BOD shall be to provide operational and programmatic recommendations to the MSC Director, MSC President and Vice President for Student Affairs. The MSC BOD shall also serve as a forum for dialogue with various campus constituencies.

Section 3. Meetings

A. The MSC BOD shall hold regular meetings, but no less frequently than once per month, during the fall and spring semesters. The MSC Executive Team shall prepare the agenda for the MSC BOD meetings. The MSC President shall call and chair MSC BOD meetings. When circumstances prevent the MSC President from performing his or her duties, as determined by the MSC Executive Team, the line of succession shall be, first the Executive Vice President of Programs, and second the Executive Vice President of Business/Committee Development. Parliamentary Procedure shall be used in conducting the business of the MSC BOD based upon the most recent revision of Robert's Rules of Order, when not in conflict with the MSC Constitution and Bylaws.

B. A quorum in MSC BOD meetings shall be a majority of the total voting membership with at least one more student than staff present.

C. The meetings of the MSC BOD shall be open to the public. All members of the MSC BOD are voting members. Speaking privileges shall be granted to non-voting members as deemed necessary by the MSC President.

D. The Committee Chairs may elect to place a proposal on the agenda of the MSC BOD by completing a petition. This process is considered complete when two-thirds of the Committee
Chairs have signed the petition, which must state clearly a recommendation for MSC Executive Team action and declare a spokesperson for the petition. Upon receipt and certification of the petition by the MSC President, the petition must be placed on the agenda for the next MSC BOD meeting.

Section 4. Members of MSC BOD

A. The MSC BOD shall consist of the following members:

MSC President
MSC Executive Vice President of Programs
MSC Executive Vice President of Diversity/Committee Development
MSC Executive Vice President of Business/Committee Development
Graduate and Professional Student Council, President
Greek Life representative (as determined by the VPSA panel)
Student Body President
Corps of Cadets, Commander
International Student Association, President
Residence Hall Association, President

MSC Director
Advisor to the EVP of Programs
Advisor to the EVP of Diversity/Committee Development
Advisor to the EVP of Business/Committee Development

University Center & Special Events Director
Director of Student Activities
Faculty Senate representative
The Association of Former Students representative
Former Student representative (appointed as established by Article IV Section 6 of the Constitution)

B. In the event that one of the above members is unable to serve they may appoint a permanent proxy to serve as a substitute with full voting privileges.

Section 5. Duties of MSC BOD Members

Non-MSC members:

A. To attend MSC BOD meetings and actively participate in discussion.
B. To reflect the views of their organizations and the needs of the student body/University community.
C. To provide constructive feedback and evaluation for MSC programs, services, and facilities.
D. To review and vote on changes to the MSC Constitution and Bylaws.

MSC members:

A. To attend MSC BOD meetings and actively participate in discussion.
B. To reflect the views of their organizations and the needs of the student body/University community.
C. To actively participate in decisions regarding the development and maintenance of the MSC facilities.
D. To provide constructive feedback and evaluation for MSC programs, services, and facilities.
E. To review and vote on changes to the MSC Constitution and Bylaws.
F. To act as liaison between the MSC BOD and the executives and students who serve in the MSC, ensuring that the opinions and interests of the MSC officers and committees are represented in discussions.

Section 6. Appointment of MSC BOD Members

A. Members of the MSC BOD are appointed in an effort to create a diverse body that will best represent the interests and needs of Texas A&M students and ensure the continued excellence of MSC programs and facilities.
B. The Former Student representative shall be appointed annually by the MSC Executive Team.
C. If any member designated in Article IV Section 4 is unable to attend the MSC BOD meetings, he or she may appoint a permanent designee who shall be agreed upon by that member and the MSC Executive Team.

Article V.

MSC Executive Team

Section 1. Authority of MSC Executive Team

The MSC Executive Team and its bodies shall operate in accordance with the rules, procedures, and administrative direction of Texas A&M University through the MSC Director and the Vice President for Student Affairs, as described in the MSC Constitution.
Section 2.  Purpose of MSC Executive Team

The purpose of the MSC Executive Team shall be to govern the internal affairs of the MSC, to formulate MSC general and specific policies, to guide the MSC officers and committees, and to advise the administrative functions of the MSC.

Section 3.  Meetings

A.  The MSC President shall call, chair, and prepare the agenda for MSC Executive Team meetings. When circumstances prevent the MSC President from performing his or her duties, as determined by the MSC Executive Team, the line of succession shall be, first the EVP of Programs, and second the EVP of Business/Committee Development. Parliamentary Procedure shall be used in conducting the business of the MSC Executive Team based upon the most recent revision of Robert's Rules of Order, when not in conflict with the MSC Constitution and Bylaws.

B.  For all meetings, a quorum shall consist of two-thirds of the MSC Executive Team members, of whom three shall be students. One staff member shall be present at all meetings of the MSC Executive Team.

C.  The Committee Chairs may elect to place a proposal on the agenda of the MSC BOD by completing a petition. See Article IV, Section 3, subparagraph D.

D.  The MSC Executive Team shall conduct closed meetings for the purpose of discussing confidential personnel matters. These sessions shall include only the members of the MSC Executive Team and a recording secretary may be designated by the MSC Director. Additional persons, as deemed necessary by the MSC Executive Team, may be allowed to attend a closed session.

E.  The MSC President shall call at least two all-officer meetings during each the spring and fall semesters. Additional meetings may be called at the discretion of the MSC President if business warrants.

Section 4.  Membership of the MSC Executive Team

A.  MSC President
B.  MSC EVP of Diversity/Committee Development
C.  MSC EVP of Programs
D.  MSC EVP of Business/Committee Development
E.  MSC Director
F.  Advisor to the EVP of Diversity/Committee Development
G.  Advisor to the EVP of Programs
H.  Advisor to the EVP of Business/Committee Development
Section 5. Grade Review Procedures

Grade Review Procedures shall be set forth by the MSC EVP for Business/Committee Development and approved by the MSC Executive Team.

Article VI.

MSC Officers

Section 1. Officers of MSC

The following will constitute officers of the MSC:

President
Executive Vice President of Programs
Executive Vice President of Diversity/Committee Development
Executive Vice President of Business/Committee Development
Vice President of Programs (I)
Vice President of Programs (II)
Vice President of Committee Development (I)
Vice President of Committee Development (II)
MSC Committee Chairs

Section 2. Qualifications of Officers

The MSC student officers and prospective student officers of the MSC must fulfill the requirements for officers of student organizations as stated in the University Rules and Regulations as well as the requirements stated in the MSC Bylaws.

Section 3. Selection of Officers

All MSC officers shall be selected by a majority vote of the interview team, as established in Article IV Section 2 of the Bylaws.

Section 4. Term of Office

All officers of the MSC shall hold office for one-year terms, beginning after the first MSC BOD meeting following April 21st.
Section 5. Removal from Office

A. Any MSC Officer, MSC staff member, or MSC student may request the removal of an MSC officer by submitting a written request to the MSC Executive Vice President for Business/Committee Development. The EVP for Business/Committee Development shall complete the procedures as outlined in the MSC Performance Review Policy.

B. Appeals may be made by officers as outlined in the MSC Performance Review Policy. All appropriate procedures as outlined in the University Rules and Regulations shall be followed.

Section 6. Responsibilities and Duties of Officers

MSC officers shall perform their duties as outlined in the MSC Bylaws in articles III, IV, and VII.

Section 7. Filling Vacant Positions

A. The MSC President may appoint an interim replacement for vacant officer positions, for a period determined by the MSC Executive Team. If the office of the President is vacated, the Executive Vice President of Programs shall assume the duties of the President on an interim basis.

B. The Executive Vice President of Diversity & Committee Development shall, at the direction of MSC Executive Team, hold a selections round as established in the Bylaws.

C. In extenuating circumstances, the MSC Executive Team may vote to empower another body to serve as the selections committee.

Article VII.

MSC Committee Advancement Teams

Section 1. Authority of MSC Committee Advancement Teams

The MSC Committee Advancement Teams shall operate in accordance with the rules, procedures, and administrative direction of the MSC Executive Team.

Section 2. Purpose of MSC Committee Advancement Teams

The purpose of the MSC Committee Advancement Teams shall be to serve as bodies of program approval, support, peer review, and development for programs, committees, and individual student
leaders. The MSC Committee Advancement Teams shall report to the MSC Executive Team through both the VPs of Committee Development and the VPs of Programs.

Section 3. Meetings

A. The Committee Advancement Teams shall be chaired by a Vice President and shall meet no less than twice per month in the fall and spring semesters. The Vice Presidents shall call other meetings as needed. Parliamentary Procedure shall be used for all voting procedures of the teams based upon the most recent revision of Robert's Rules of Order, when not in conflict with the MSC Constitution and Bylaws.

B. A quorum in an MSC Committee Advancement Team meeting shall be no less than six voting members including one Vice President, four committee chairs, and one committee advisor.

C. During the summer and winter break, the Executive Vice President of Programs shall determine the process of approving programs with approval of the MSC Executive Team.

Section 4. Membership of MSC Committee Advancement Teams

The MSC Committee Advancement Teams shall consist of the committee chairs and the Vice Presidents of Committee Development and/or Vice Presidents of Programs.

Article VIII.

MSC Committees and Groups

Section 1. Purpose and Establishment of MSC Committees

MSC Committees and Groups and their respective purposes shall be established and abolished by a two-thirds vote of the MSC BOD. Further processes for the creation, maintenance, and abolishment of MSC Committees and Groups shall be governed by MSC Programs Approval Team Policy. MSC Committees shall plan and implement programs within their mission under the authority of the MSC, according to regulations and procedures established by the MSC Executive Team and Programs Approval Team.

Section 2. Membership of MSC Committees

A. The Committee Chair and the MSC staff advisor shall be responsible for selecting their respective committee members and officers from the Texas A&M University student body under the Article V of the MSC Bylaws.
B. MSC Committee Executives, as defined by each committee, are not considered MSC Officers, but must uphold a minimum of a semester and cumulative 2.0 GPR while in office. Each committee must submit an organizational chart to the MSC Executive Team annually and define who their committee officers are. Exemption requests for MSC Committee Executives will be handled internally by respective committee processes.

C. Committee members must meet requirements as stated in the University Rules and Regulations and those established in the MSC Bylaws. Any non-students chosen for membership must be approved by the MSC Director, with advice from the MSC Executive Team.

Section 3. Removal of Committee Members and Executives

The MSC Committee Chairs, with the approval of their respective MSC Staff advisor, may remove committee members and committee executives at their discretion, with cause consistent with the goals of the MSC and criteria outlined in the University Rules and Regulations.

Article IX.

MSC Staff and Advisors

Section 1. MSC Staff

A. Responsibilities:

MSC staff members are employees of Texas A&M University. They shall be responsible for the duties outlined in their job descriptions.

B. Hiring:

Appropriate MSC staff and the MSC student officers shall serve as screening committees for the filling of all professional positions. The MSC Director shall recommend candidates to the Vice President for Student Affairs in accordance with University procedure.

Section 2. MSC Committee Faculty/Staff Advisors

The MSC Director shall appoint committee faculty/staff advisors with input from appropriate student leaders and staff.
Article X.

Amendments to the Constitution

Amendments to this Constitution shall be approved by a two-thirds vote of the total membership of the MSC BOD announced at least five days in advance for this purpose. Any changes approved by this body shall be forwarded through the MSC Director to the Vice President for Student Affairs for final approval.

Article XI.

Enactment of the Constitution

From the time of ratification henceforth, this will serve as the governing document of the MSC and shall make null and void all previous Constitutions.
The Bylaws
Of The
Memorial Student Center
Of
Texas A&M University

Article I.
Purpose

The Bylaws of the Memorial Student Center shall govern the operations of the MSC administrative and programming areas within the guidelines of the MSC Constitution and University Rules and Regulations.

Article II.
Officers

The respective duties of the officers of the MSC shall be as follows:

Section 1. MSC Executive Team Members and Their Respective Duties

A. The MSC President shall provide direction and motivation for all MSC functions and perform such other duties as are incumbent upon the office. The President shall chair the MSC BOD and the MSC Executive Team. The President shall appoint personnel to ad hoc committees. The President will directly supervise the Executive Vice Presidents.

B. The Executive Vice President of Programs shall coordinate the establishment of vision and policies for programming in the MSC and ensure the overall planning, coordination, and evaluation of all MSC programs in conjunction with the Vice Presidents for Programs (as defined in Section 2 of this article). The Executive Vice President of Programs will lead the Programs Approval Team, represent the interests of the programming interests of the committees in the MSC Executive Team, and represent programming interests within the MSC BOD. This officer shall also perform other duties as assigned by the MSC President.

C. The Executive Vice President of Business/Committee Development shall coordinate the establishment of vision and recommendation of policies for administrative functions and committee development in the MSC and ensure the overall planning, coordination, and evaluation of all MSC administrative areas in conjunction with the Vice Presidents of Committee Development (as defined in section 3 of this article). The Executive Vice President of Business/Committee Development shall lead the Business Administration Team, represent the administrative interests
of the committees in the MSC Executive Team, and represent these interests within the MSC BOD. This officer shall also maintain the MSC Constitution and MSC Executive Policies, and serve as the MSC's Parliamentarian. This officer shall also perform other duties as assigned by the MSC President.

D. The Executive Vice President of Diversity/Committee Development shall coordinate the establishment of vision and ensure the overall planning, coordination, and evaluation of the committee development and diversity efforts of the MSC in conjunction with the Vice Presidents of Committee Development. This officer shall lead the committees in maintaining an environment that is welcoming for all students and their perspectives. This officer shall also perform other duties as assigned by the MSC President.

Section 2. Vice Presidents for Programs and Their Respective Duties

The Vice Presidents of Programs shall ensure the overall planning, calendaring, coordination, and evaluation of all MSC programs and shall chair the MSC Committee Advancement Team meetings as directed by the EVP of Programs. These officers shall also perform other duties as assigned by the MSC President and EVP of Programs.

Section 3. Vice Presidents for Committee Development and Their Respective Duties

The Vice Presidents of Committee Development shall ensure the overall planning, coordination, and evaluation of a variety of developmental opportunities for the Committee Advancement Team meetings. They shall be responsible for providing training in the areas of business, leadership, personal and professional development, diversity, and communications as well as performing other duties as assigned by the EVPs and the MSC President.

Section 4. MSC Chairs and Their Respective Duties

The Committee Chairs shall provide leadership and motivation to their respective committees. They are responsible for coordinating the programming, student development, and fiscal responsibility of their committees. These officers shall perform other duties incumbent on their respective positions, including attending and participating actively in the Committee Advancement Team meetings by reflecting the programmatic demands/needs of the student body and providing constructive evaluation and feedback of MSC programs. They are responsible for ensuring that their committees abide by the MSC Constitution, Bylaws, and policies.
Section 5. Secretary/Treasurer

The duties of Secretary/Treasurer shall be fulfilled by the MSC Director.

Article III.

MSC Standing and Ad-Hoc Committees

Section 1. Standing Committees

A. MSC Executive Team. The MSC President shall chair the MSC Executive Team. The membership shall consist of the EVP of Programs, EVP of Business/Committee Development, EVP of Diversity/Committee Development, the advisors to the three EVPs, and the MSC Director. The purpose of the team shall be to provide leadership and direction to the MSC, the Business Administrative Team, Programs Approval Team, and MSC Committees and to act as a liaison between those areas and the MSC BOD. The MSC Executive Team shall also interpret and recommend changes to the MSC Constitution and Bylaws. Such changes shall be voted to approval by the MSC BOD.

B. The Programs Approval Team. The EVP of Programs shall chair the Programs Approval Team. The membership shall consist of the Vice Presidents for Programs and the Advisor to the EVP of Programs and two additional advisors. The purpose of this team will be to provide leadership and direction to the Committee Advancement Team and the committees of the MSC regarding programs, and to mediate any conflicts that may arise in the programs area. They shall be responsible for the coordination of programming activities, the recommendation of programming policies to the Executive Team, and the administration of funds budgeted to the Programs Approval Team for distribution.

C. Performance Review Committee. The EVP for Business/Committee Development shall chair the Performance Review Committee to review allegations against individual officers of the MSC. The purpose of the committee shall be to provide recommendations to the MSC Executive Team on the performance of officers of the MSC.

D. Unless otherwise specified, standing committees and ad hoc committees in the MSC shall have one more student voting than staff voting.

Section 2. Ad-Hoc Committees

Ad-Hoc Committees may be created based upon Robert's Rules of Order.
Article IV.

MSC Personnel Processes and Requirements

Section 1. Qualifications of Officers

A. MSC student officers and prospective student officers shall have at least a 2.25 cumulative and semester GPR for the semester immediately prior to application, and maintain at least a 2.25 cumulative and semester GPR while in office.
B. Prospective Officers of the MSC shall meet training requirements set forth in MSC policies prior to taking office.

Section 2. Selections

The Executive Vice President for Diversity/Committee Development shall be responsible for the planning and coordination of the selections process and policy recommendation to the Executive Team. Members of the MSC Executive Team shall be selected by majority vote of an interview team consisting of no fewer than five individuals, of which at least one shall be a senior staff member of the MSC. Vice Presidents shall be selected by a majority vote of an interview team consisting of no fewer than four individuals, of whom at least one member shall be a member of advisor staff. Chairs shall be selected by a majority vote of an interview team consisting of no fewer than three individuals, of whom at least one shall be a member of advisor staff.

Section 3. Grade Exemption Request

Any student has the opportunity to submit a grade exemption request to remain in office. Such a request should be submitted in writing to the Executive Vice President for Diversity/Committee Development. Exemptions will be granted at the discretion of a team as outlined by the MSC procedures. When voting on a grade exemption request, there must be one more student vote than staff. Grade Review procedures will be enforced by the MSC Executive Team.
Article V.

Special Projects of the MSC Director’s Office

The MSC Director, with input from the MSC Executive Team, may establish special projects or organizations to provide programs or services to accommodate unmet needs or to resolve unique problems. In general, special projects which successfully accommodate continuing needs will be considered for committee status.

Article VI.

Approval of MSC Policies

MSC policies shall be approved by the MSC Executive Team.

Article VII.

MSC Committees

Section 1. Assignment and Purpose of Committees

The MSC Committees shall contribute to the mission of the Memorial Student Center and the Division of Student Affairs and shall adhere to all policies as approved in Article VI. Committees shall exist to produce or support the production of programs for the student body according to their purpose statements as established in Article VII Section 2.

Section 2. Committee Purpose Statements

MSC Committees shall center their involvement around the purpose statements enumerated below.

1) MSC Abbott Family Leadership Conference presents annual conference programs that encourage sophomore and junior student leaders at Texas A&M University to learn about and reflect on ethics, morals, and values and how they apply to their business, community, and family lives.

2) MSC Aggie Cinema screens contemporary, international, cult, and classic feature films and presents film-related programming to the Texas A&M University community.
3) MSC Aggie Leaders of Tomorrow is a freshman organization that provides programs and service opportunities that foster leadership and personal growth for students at Texas A&M.

4) MSC Bethancourt provides cross-disciplinary professional exposure and diversity of thought for Texas A&M students through leadership development events and campus-wide programs.

5) MSC Business Associates provides students opportunities to develop their career skills through participation in the marketing, fundraising, budgeting, data analysis, and business functions of the Memorial Student Center.

6) MSC Committee for the Awareness of Mexican American Culture presents programs that enrich the awareness and understanding of Mexican American and Latino cultures among the Texas A&M University community.

7) MSC Fall Leadership Conference fosters the development of useful leadership and interpersonal skills and promotes a spirit of unity and cooperation among incoming student leaders at Texas A&M University in a conference format.

8) MSC Freshmen In Service and Hosting is a freshman organization that provides leadership opportunities aimed at enhancing its members’ purpose and identity through engaging students in community service and programming on campus and within the community.

9) MSC Freshman Leadership International is a freshman organization that presents international outreach and service programs that promote cultural understanding and international awareness among students at Texas A&M University.

10) MSC Hospitality is a service organization that hosts and produces programs in which our members serve as ambassadors across the Texas A&M campus and local community.

11) MSC L.T. and J.W. Jordan Institute for International Awareness prepares Texas A&M University students to lead in a global society through international internship and service programs, research grants, and campus programming.

12) MSC LEAD is a sophomore organization that produces service, professional development, and leadership programs that serve the Texas A&M University community.

13) MSC OPAS entertain, enlightens, and inspires Texas A&M students and others throughout the Brazos Valley by presenting quality performing arts programs.

14) MSC Student Conference on National Affairs provides programs for students across Texas, the nation, and the world to exchange ideas and discuss the role of the United States in the global community.
15) MSC Town Hall presents a variety of live music and entertainment programs to the Texas A&M University community.

16) MSC Visual Arts Committee engages the Texas A&M community in the visual arts through programs including gallery exhibitions, lectures, residencies, competitions, workshops, and other visual arts programs.

17) The MSC Carter G. Woodson Black Awareness Committee (WBAC) enhances the understanding of the culture, contributions, and impact on society of people of African descent by providing educational and community-building programs and experiences for the Texas A&M University communities.

18) MSC Wiley Lecture Series broadens the educational experiences of the Texas A&M community by providing thought-provoking programming on national and foreign policy issues.

Article VIII.

Amendments

Section 1. Suspension

These Bylaws may be suspended by a 2/3 vote of the MSC BOD members present at an announced meeting. The suspension will end upon the termination of that meeting.

Section 2. Amendments

The Bylaws may be amended by a majority vote of the MSC BOD at an announced meeting, subject to approval through the MSC Director to the Vice President for Student Affairs.
Approved:

Ryan M. Trantham '15, 65th MSC President/CEO

Date

Mr. Luke Allendorf, Director Memorial Student Center

Date

Mr. Tom Reber, Interim Vice President for Student Affairs

Date