Vietnamese Student Association (VSA) AT UC San Diego 2020 - 2021 Constitution

Article I. Name of Student Organization

The organization, under this Constitution, shall be known as the Vietnamese Student Association, hereinafter referred to as VSA. The organization shall be called VSA at UC San Diego.

Article II. Statement of Purpose

The purpose of VSA at UC San Diego is to promote and preserve Vietnamese culture. To achieve these means, the organization will organize social, cultural, community, as well as educational activities.

Article III. Nonprofit Statement

VSA at UC San Diego is a non-profit student organization.

Article IV. Requirements for Membership

Section 1: Requirements

Any registered undergraduate student at the University of California, San Diego (UC San Diego) may be granted membership.

Section 2: The Cost of Membership

The membership fee will be set at zero dollars.

Article V. Frequency of Organization Meetings

Section 1: General Body Meetings (GBM) will be held during odd weeks of every quarter with specific dates and times decided by the VSA Cabinet.

Section 2: Cabinet meetings will be held every week with specific dates and times decided by the VSA Cabinet. Minutes will be taken for each meeting.

Article VI.Qualifications for Holding Office and Methods of Selecting and Replacing Officers

Section 1: Time

General elections will occur annually during the spring quarter of the academic year. Additional elections may be added at the cabinet's discretion.

Section 2: Requirements

Only registered UC San Diego students may hold office. Only registered UC San Diego students may vote in elections.

Only active members and former cabinet members will qualify to vote in a general and/or special election.

1.   Active members during this period will be considered those members who have attended a minimum of 2 Spring Quarter GBMs, excluding the 5th week meeting and 1 VSA event.

Section 3: Structure of Election

1.   Candidates may present a speech they have prepared with the time limit being 3 minutes. A 5-minute questioning period follows for active members to ask for general board and 10 minutes for executive board. The questioning period can be extended if there is a majority vote from active members. The extended time period is upon cabinet's discretion.

2.   Only those present for the candidate's entire speech are allowed to vote for said contestant. Those that are not present must abstain.

3.   Voters that abstain for one candidate running against other candidates for the same position must abstain for all candidates running for that position.

4.   Voters must indicate on the ballot why they voted a certain way or have abstained.

Section 4: Positions

The VSA Cabinet will consist of:

a.   President/Internal Vice President

b.   UVSA Inter-Collegiate Council (ICC) Representative

c.   Treasurer

d.   Secretary

f.   Events Coordinator Chair (Events Chair)

g.   Anh Chi Em Chair (ACE Chair)

h.   Community Relations Chair

i.   Cultural Education Chair

j.   Vietnamese Cultural Night (VCN) Director

          k.   Media Directors

          l.   Fundraising Chair

          m. Creative Director

Section 5: Executive Board

The Executive Board will consist of the President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, and ICC Representative. Only Executive Board members will be considered as principal members of the organization.

Section 6: Presidential Succession

In the case that there is a vacancy for the position of President or the elected President can no longer fulfill their duty, the elected Internal or External Vice President (ICC) shall become President(s).

Article VII. Hazing Prevention

VSA at UC San Diego does not participate in any hazing activities for members to participate in the organization. VSA is anti-hazing and prioritizes the safety of its members.

Article VIII. Risk Management

VSA at UC San Diego is a registered student organization at University of California, San Diego, but not part of the University itself.

VSA at UC San Diego understands that the University does not assume legal liability for the actions of the organization.

Section 1: In Case of Interaction with Minors and/or the Elderly

VSA at UC San Diego is aware that all registered student organizations that serve minors or the elderly have access to training on child and elder abuse prevention for its members via the Center for Student Involvement, online or in person (in person by request only). VSA will develop plan(s) for activities and events where members will be interacting with minors or the elderly such that members will receive education and/or training on Child Abuse Neglect Reporting Act (CANRA), common sense measures to both avoid child or elder abuse allegations (i.e. avoiding one-on-one situations; working with minors in plain view of others; limiting calls/texts/social media posts or other communications with minors), and how to properly report potential harm or neglect to minors or the elderly with whom they are working.

Section 2: In Case of the Provision of Medical Assistance

In the event that VSA at UC San Diego provides medical assistance to a community, all volunteers will work under the direction of licensed professionals (doctors, nurses, counselors, etc.). The University does not recommend that students provide medical assistance.

Section 3. In Case of Handling of Hazardous Chemicals, Material, Equipment, and/or Machinery

VSA at UC San Diego recognizes that all student organization activities must be conducted safely, in accordance with all applicable federal, state and local laws. Additionally, VSA at UC San Diego will abide by UC San Diego requirements for students in labs, including policies for minors in UC laboratories, and ensure members receive safety training regarding the use of chemicals and/or machinery before entering the lab. Members must follow any best practices and lab safety protocols for the use of such chemicals, research equipment or machinery, including the appropriate use of Personal Protective Equipment, and should work under close supervision of those trained in the handling of chemicals/use of research equipment or machinery.