

CONSTITUTION OF THE COLLEGE REPUBLICANS at UC San Diego

Article I.

Name

The name of this organization shall be the College Republicans at UC San Diego. Hereafter, it may be referred to as "the Club", CRs, or the chapter. College Republicans at UC San Diego is a Not-for-Profit Student Organization.

Article II.

Non-Profit Statement

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

Article III.

Purpose

The purpose of this Chapter is to:

- A. Strive to enhance principles of the Republican Party in the UCSD community;
- B. Promote a forum for political discussion open to all viewpoints;
- C. We also seek to serve the UCSD community through various volunteer efforts;
- D. Aim to develop the next generation of leaders;
- E. Become an active force in the political environment on campus;
- F. Aiding elections at all levels of government;
- G. Bring conservative speakers to campus

Article IV.

Membership

Section 1. College Republicans at UC San Diego is committed to maintaining a safe, inclusive, and respectful environment for all its members and does not condone hazing. Hazing, in any form, is strictly prohibited within the organization in compliance with state and federal law, Regents' policies and University regulations. Participation in hazing or any intentional, knowing, or reckless act, activity, or method committed by a person (whether individually or in concert with other persons) against another person or persons, including current, former, or prospective students, regardless of the willingness of such other person or persons to participate, that is committed in the course of a preinitiation, an initiation into, an affiliation with, or the maintenance of membership in, an official or unofficial student organization or other student group that i. causes or creates a risk, above the reasonable risk encountered in the course of participation in the institution of higher education or the organization (such as the physical preparation necessary for participation in an athletic team), of physical or psychological injury, including personal degradation or disgrace, and/or ii. the person knew or should have known was likely to cause serious bodily injury. As an organization, we understand that failure to abide by hazing policies and laws will result in referral to the Center for Student Accountability, Growth, and Education (SAGE) for an organizational violation and/or individual violation(s).

Section 2. There shall be no limit to the number of members in College Republicans at University of California, San Diego.

Section 3. Any undergraduate or graduate student, faculty member, staff, or spouse thereof at UCSD shall be eligible to become a member of College Republicans at UC San Diego.

Section 4. All students who are College Republicans at UC San Diego members are eligible to become voting members, up until the end of the academic year in which they graduate.

Section 5. Membership decisions will not discriminate on the basis of age, race, religion, creed, national origin, ethnicity, gender, disability, or sexual orientation.

Section 6. Members are in good standing and are eligible to vote if they have attended at least three official club meetings during the quarter (one of which may be a meeting where voting will occur), or one official meeting (excluding the meeting where voting will occur) and an additional 3 activities as designated by the constitution or as determined by the leadership council prior to the events.

Section 7. Definition of an official activity includes tabling for the club for two hours on designated days, attending Get Out the Vote events, and any other event determined prior to the event by a majority of the Leadership Council.

Section 8. Members who have acquired good standing during the previous quarter shall remain a voting member as long as the member maintains eligibility by following Section 5. of this article within the first two months of the current quarter.

Section 9. All members in good standing may have one vote for each issue brought up at any general or special meeting.

Section 10. Members may have their membership withdrawn for failure to adhere to the requirements for membership stated above.

Section 11. Any member of the organization may have their membership status changed to poor standing for direct violation of the Clubs Constitution, committing any malicious act that interferes with the normal operation of the Club, failing to fulfill duties and/or obligations of their office (additional censures may apply at the Leadership Council's discretion for officers), or publicly defames the organization. A member in poor standing may not vote for club official business, and may not bring impeachment proceedings against any officer. If any members are found providing club insider information with malicious intent to other organizations their membership will be revoked immediately and they will not be allowed to register again. In order to change membership status, an officer must submit a formal list of grievances against the member after which a discussion may follow at the membership's discretion. The Chair or his designee must then contact the member of the change in their membership status within 24 hours of the vote. The Leadership Council, following the vote, must set a time limit as to when the status may be challenged by the member or another member in good standing and what may be done to satisfy the Leadership Council of their intent to become a member in good standing. In the case of an officer, impeachment proceedings must be completed before a motion to change membership status may be made.

Section 12. In order to reinstate a member's voting privilege or to restore a member from poor standing to good standing, a unanimous vote by the officer core and majority vote by membership is required. If the officer core does not support reinstatement but the members do, a 3/4 vote by the membership will reinstate their voting privilege and good standing.

Article V.

Officers

Section 1. The elected officers of the Leadership Council shall be the Chair, Vice-Chair Internal, Vice-Chair External, Social Coordinator, Secretary, and Treasurer. The Immediate Past Chair is also a designated voting officer by the constitution. The club advisor shall serve in an advisory capacity.

Section 2. The Chair shall preside over meetings of the Club and all meetings of club officers; shall plan the activities of the Club; shall draft the agenda for meetings; and shall represent the Club in an official capacity. The Chair has the authority to create or eliminate new positions, which the Chair will designate as appointed or elected by the procedures outlined in Article VIII.

Section 3. The Internal Vice Chair shall preside in the absence of the Chair and shall carry out all responsibilities as assigned by the Chair. The responsibilities include, but are not limited to, reserving meeting rooms and developing relationships with other groups on the campus. The Internal Vice Chair shall prepare updated leadership changes for the SOLO office and record email addresses and phone numbers for the official Club membership roster.

Section 4. The External Vice Chair shall preside in the absence of the Chair and Internal Vice Chair and shall carry out all responsibilities as assigned by the Chair. These responsibilities include, but are not limited to, developing relationships with groups and individuals from groups outside campus and serve as spokesperson when the Chair and Internal Vice Chair are not available.

Section 5. The Secretary shall be responsible for correspondence with other organizations or individuals. The Secretary shall also take attendance at both Leadership Council meetings and general body meetings. He shall have the attendance record, which will be made available upon request of any member in good standing within three calendar days, following each meeting. Attendance records must be emailed to the Chair within one calendar week and the secretary must return the hard copy to the office by two meetings. These must be uploaded to the website by the second meeting for the behalf of the members.

Section 6. The Treasurer - Handles all financial affairs and budgeting of organization, maintaining all necessary accounting records. He/she shall maintain a bank account in the organization's name. He/she will make financial reports at all regular Club meetings; coordinate fund raising activities; prepare a Club budget for the next academic quarter; ensure compliance with all governmental laws and regulations governing club finances; and shall receive and distribute club funds upon authorization of the Leadership Council.

Section 7. The Immediate Past Chair shall serve as a voting member of the Leadership Council and shall serve in an advisory role for the membership and Leadership Council. Should the Chair have been impeached, they will not serve as Immediate Past Chair.

Section 9. In the event of a tied vote on the leadership council, a majority of the membership is required to break the tie. A majority is defined as receiving fifty percent of the vote plus one.

Section 10. Leadership Council members may be removed from office by a three-fourths vote of his or her fellow officers and a majority of the membership, or by traditional impeachment proceedings highlighted in Article IX.

Section 11. All Leadership Council members shall serve a one-year term. A term shall be defined as the period of time from the beginning of the summer quarter until the end of spring quarter of the same academic year as defined by UCSD.

Section 12. The nominations for each office shall occur in a duly called meeting with notification by e-mail at least two weeks in advance (seventh week or prior) of the last regular business meeting (ninth week) of the Club during third quarter of each academic year. The nomination portion of this meeting shall be presided over by the Chair.

Section 13. Once the nominations have been made and the floor is closed to nominations, the Chair will send a list of all nominations to all Club members a minimum of 6 calendar days before the election date. The nominations may be extended up to one week through email by a 2/3 vote of members present at the nominating meeting.

Section 14. Nominations for candidates may be made by any member of the Club in good standing as defined in the constitution other than the nominee. All nominations must be seconded by another member in good standing different from the nominating member and both different from the candidate. All candidates must accept or reject their nomination at the time it is made. A candidate may only accept one position for which they are nominated.

Section 15. Election of officers shall be held one week after nominations and no later than ninth week. The Chair will preside over the election proceedings.

Section 16. Officers shall be elected by a majority vote of those registered Club members present and in good standing with the Club. Members will have the option of rejecting all candidates through a “none of the above” option that indicates a sign of no confidence of any of the candidates shall be present within the secret ballot. All candidates must receive a majority, not plurality, of the votes of members that are in good standing that are present and those who fail to choose an option shall by default count as a “none of the above.” In the event of the voting body refusing to choose a candidate the chair shall nominate a new candidate that was not on the ballot and the Leadership Council will vote in a 2/3 majority to appoint the nominee. The election shall be by secret ballot, which shall be approved and considered finalized by all nominated candidates at the nomination meeting and by a majority vote of the Leadership Council; collected and counted publicly by the Secretary. Voting members must be registered members in good standing and approved as per the membership list. Members must sign in with the Secretary before ballots are distributed and sign out after ballots are collected.

Section 17. The winner must have a majority vote. If no majority is met, then a run-off election between the two candidates who received the most votes will immediately commence.

Section 18. In the event of a tie, a recast of ballots shall then take place only for the position contested.

Section 19. Should an officer with College Republicans at UC San Diego serve in an official or leadership capacity for another political organization outside UC San Diego, then the option exists for the members to bring a vote to the floor at the first meeting of the quarter. This vote is to decide if the officer should maintain their position in the College Republicans of UC San Diego. Any club member in good standing can bring this procedure to a vote. A majority vote is all that is required.

Section 20: In the events that prevent a sufficient vote from being allowed to take place including but not limited to acts of god, suspension of term etc. The previous year’s officers are allowed to appoint the next years officers with majority approval of good standing members.

Section 20. All Elected Officers shall be registered as Principal Members on the Center for Student Involvement

Section 21. Only registered UC San Diego students may hold office in the organization. Only registered UC San Diego students may vote in elections for the selection of the organization’s officers.

Section 22. In the event that an Elected Officer resigns or is impeached, that person shall be removed as a Principle Member on the CSI website immediately.

Section 23. The Leadership Council serves at the pleasure of the membership.

Article VI.

Meetings

Section 1. There shall be at least one meeting of the College Republicans each month during the regular school year, with the Chair setting the time and location, and no more than one meeting where voting or other official business is conducted may be held per week.

Section 2. The Leadership Council is encouraged to meet prior to a scheduled general meeting or as frequently as deemed necessary by the Chair. Leadership Council meetings are open to members in good standing and/or designated individuals as requested by an officer or officers to attend.

Section 3. Meetings shall be held at the request of the Leadership Council, or upon the written request of one quarter of club members in good standing, or by a majority vote of the members present during a duly called meeting. Notice of a regular meeting shall be given to all Club members in the most complete manner practicable via listserv not less than 2 calendar days prior to the meeting.

Section 4. A quorum for regular meetings shall be ten registered members. They do not have to be members in good standing.

Section 5. In order for voting and other official business to be conducted in the club, a minimum of ten members in good standing as defined in the constitution must be present.

Section 6. No official meetings will be held in Week 10 or Finals Week or between academic quarters. In addition, no official meetings will be held during summer quarter.

Section 7. At the end of each meeting the chair and one member in good standing of the club must sign off at the end of the attendance list..

Article VII.

Leadership Council

Section 1. The officers shall constitute the Leadership Council of the club and shall each have one vote.

Section 2. The Leadership Council shall meet a minimum of once during any given academic quarter. Meetings of the Leadership Council shall be open to any club member in good standing or designated individuals as requested by an officer or officers.

Section 3. Majority approval by the Leadership Council is needed for all financial disbursements.

Section 4. The Leadership Council shall be required to hold a quarterly Q&A during a weekly general body meeting. The process will entail the required presence of all Leadership Council members and contain the structure of members asking questions, while the Leadership Council members answer them. The Q&A will furthermore, allow for the opportunity for members to pitch ideas and grievances to specific members of the Leadership Council. This quarterly Q&A must occur no later than week 9 and not earlier than week 5, except for Spring quarter for which it must occur before the meeting for nominations of candidates for the yearly elections but cannot happen before week 3.

Article VIII.

Risk Management

Section 1. College Republicans at UC San Diego is a registered student organization of the University of California, San Diego, but not part of the university itself.

Section 2. College Republicans at UC San Diego understand that the University does not assume legal responsibility for the actions of this organization.

Article IX.

Amendments, Resolutions, and Endorsements

Section 1. This constitution may only be amended at general meetings and requires an affirmative two-thirds vote of the membership in good standing present. The proposed amendment(s) must be submitted in writing to be read by the secretary at the general meeting a minimum of one calendar week before voting is set to occur.

Section 2. All members in good standing may propose amendments to this Constitution by presenting them to the Chair at least one calendar week before the member intends to bring it to the floor. The Chair must bring the amendment to the floor at the next Official meeting and debate will begin with the Chair serving as the moderator following Robert's Rules of Order.

Section 3. Any member in good standing may bring forth a statement of some conviction that they feel the Club should declare. The resolution will be adopted by a simple majority of the members present and in good standing at a regular business meeting. These resolutions can be considered binding on the Leadership Council if a three-fourths vote of the membership is achieved. These resolutions are to be kept in the permanent club files.

Section 4. A copy of this constitution shall be made available to all interested individuals and be filed in the Center for Student Involvement Register at University of California, San Diego.

Section 5. All endorsements and resolutions offered by the club must receive a majority vote by the club members in good standing.

Section 6. The Club may not endorse candidates in primary elections; however, it may endorse candidates in general elections as well as on issues and ballot propositions.

Section 7. The initial ratification of this constitution requires new elections to be called for all officer positions, with nominations made during the ratification meeting. The election proceedings shall follow the same procedures as outlined in Article X.

Article X.

Succession of Officers/Appointments

Section 1. Should a position on the Leadership Council be vacated before the term is expired, the Chair shall appoint any member in good standing to fill the vacancy. The appointment will then be subject to approval by a simple majority of the membership in good standing at the next general meeting. Should the chair vacate his/her position, a special election shall occur for the replacement.

Section 2. Leadership Council members may be removed from office by a three-fourths vote of his or her fellow board members, followed by a majority vote of the club members in good standing present at a general meeting without engaging in the traditional impeachment process.

Section 3. Should the Chair become incapacitated while in office, the Vice-Chair Internal shall assume the responsibilities of the Chair until the Chair is able to return to office. During this time, the Vice-Chair Internal will serve in dual capacities.

Section 4. The Chair may appoint any member to an existing vacant leadership position with the approval of the majority of the Leadership Council. Any member of the Leadership Council may recommend any member in good standing for appointment.

Section 5. When the Chair deems it necessary, he/she may appoint an Executive Director, Deputy Internal Vice Chair, and Deputy External Vice Chair whose activities include, but are not limited to, assisting with the standard positions of the Chair, Internal Vice Chair, and External Vice Chair (respectively) in their constitutionally mandated roles. These positions will be the only ones that may be added to the Leadership Council who also have votes in matters being debated by the Leadership Council from the point of their appointment. For all other positions that are added to the Leadership Council that will also have voting privileges, they will need to be approved by a 2/3 majority of the Council and have the vote of the Chair. A time limit must be placed on how long these offices may last upon appointment to these positions.

Section 6. All officers appointed to those positions outlined in Article IV of the Constitution, serve as voting members of the Leadership Council. However, any appointed officer can be dismissed by a 2/3 vote of the Leadership Council and a majority of the membership in good standing or by traditional impeachment proceedings.

Article XI.

Impeachments

Section 1. Any member of the club in good standing, may bring to the floor of any official club meeting, a call for the impeachment of any appointed or elected officer.

Section 2. Any elected officer may be impeached for failure to perform his/her prescribed duties properly and in good faith after being presented with their letters of impeachment in writing at a official meeting at least one calendar week prior to the meeting at which the impeachment will be considered. Any candidate for impeachment shall be given the opportunity to address the Club prior to a vote. Upon a secret ballot majority vote of the membership in good standing, an officer shall be removed from his/her position. Ballots are to be collected and counted publicly by the Secretary in full view of all the members present at the meeting. Voting members must be registered and approved as per the membership list by the Leadership Council; members must sign in before ballots are distributed and sign out after ballots are collected. The Secretary will verify the results of the vote.

Nominations for the position will be held immediately, with the exclusion of the removed officer. The position shall remain vacant until the next regular meeting when an election will be held to fill the position. The removed officer may not run for election to fill any open position until a new general election is called at the end of the academic year.

Section 3. The Chair may also move to dismiss any appointed officer with good cause with a 2/3 vote of the Leadership Council.

Section 4. During official proceedings, all members and officers shall adhere to the policies of Robert's Rules of Order. Members/Officers who disrupt order in proceedings shall be subject to disciplinary action under the following guidelines on a meeting-by-meeting basis (disciplinary action after the first two offenses must be approved by the Leadership Council) the Chair will have the ability to issue the disciplinary action for up to the first two offenses unilaterally without Leadership Council approval:

First Offense: Verbal warning issued

Second Offense: Second verbal warning

Third Offense: Voting privilege is denied

Fourth Offense: Speaking privilege is denied

Fifth Offense: Member/Officer is dismissed from the meeting; the Leadership Council

shall decide further penalties at the next Council meeting including placing individuals in poor standing.

Section 5. Officers who fail to fulfill their duties to a satisfactory level, as decided by a majority of the membership, face censure and other penalties and possible impeachment charges. Any disciplinary actions taken must be approved a majority of the membership in good standing. They are as follows:

First Offense: Verbal warning issued

Second Offense: Voting privilege suspended for a period of time as determined by a majority of the membership.

Third Offense: Voting privileges suspended indefinitely, Privileges of office suspended.

Fourth Offense: Officer is placed on *Ex-Officio* status; all duties are to be passed on to the designee of the Chair with a majority of the Leadership Council approval.

Article XII.

Affiliations

Section 1. The Leadership Council shall submit the proper information and fees for Credentials to the California Federation of College Republicans (CFCR) before the due date.

Section 2. The Chair shall be the only automatic voting delegate to all State Conventions that CFCR is allowed to attend. The Chair shall choose half of the other voting delegates, the Internal Vice Chair shall choose a quarter of the voting delegates, and The External Vice Chair shall choose the final quarter of the voting delegates.

Section 3. The Chair shall be the official spokesman of the Club in all Convention activities, unless he/she is absent. In that case, the authority falls upon the elected officers in the order in which they are announced in Article IV.

Section 4. The Chair shall read, or appoint someone to read the votes for the club on the convention floor.

Section 5. The Club reserves the right to secede from or choose not to affiliate with any organization. The Club remains a sovereign entity in all external political affairs and shall protect its conservative ideals against organizations that do not share our beliefs.

Section 6. University of California, San Diego affiliation

A. This organization is a recognized student organization at UCSD but is not part of the University itself.

B. In all correspondence and business transactions, it may refer to itself as an organization at UCSD, but not as part of UCSD itself.

C. College Republicans at UC San Diego accepts full financial and production responsibility for all activities it sponsors.

D. College Republicans at UC San Diego agree to abide by all pertinent UCSD policies and regulations. Where UCSD policies and regulations and those of College Republicans at UC San Diego differ, the policies and regulations of UCSD will take precedence.

E. College Republicans at UC San Diego understand that the University does not assume legal liability for the actions of the organization.

Article XIII. Committees

Section 1. The Chair shall have the power to create committees and to appoint committee members and committee chairs and is subject to approval by a majority vote of the club in a general meeting.

Section 3. Standing Committees

A. Membership Committee: Shall recruit new members. Shall table, sign-up new members and register new Republicans.

B. Fundraising Committee: Shall raise money for guest speakers and events put on by the organization.

Section 4. Ad Hoc: Ad Hoc committees may be authorized by the Chair for purposes of furthering the organization.

Article XIV.

Regulations of Club Funds

Section 1. Expenditures of club funds or reimbursements over \$100 shall only be made to cover proper club-related activities and must be approved by the College Republicans at UC San Diego members at a general meeting.

Section 2. Expenditures of club funds or reimbursements over \$20 but no more than \$100 shall only be made to cover proper club related activities and must be approved by the Leadership Council.

Section 3. Expenditures of club funds or reimbursements no more than \$20 can be made at the discretion of the Chair but must be reported to the Leadership Council at the following Leadership Council meeting.

Section 4. Approval of the use of club funds shall consist of a simple majority of voting members at a general meeting or a majority of officers present at any Leadership Council meeting.

Section 5. With respect to section three of this article, the Chair's approval of multiple \$20 or less expenditures shall not accumulate to more than \$100 during a given quarter without approval of the Leadership Council.

Section 6. No officer or club member shall break down the appropriations of funds for a given event or cause in order to circumvent one of the aforementioned levels of regulation.

Section 7. The Chair and the Treasurer shall both be responsible for ensuring the provisions of this section are carried out.

Article XV.

Arbitration

Section 1. Availability of Arbitration – Any controversy or claim arising out of or relating to this constitution, or the use of the name "College Republicans at UC San Diego" within the jurisdiction of this Organization shall, at the option of the Organization,

be referred to any of the following arbitration methods in this order: (1) Center for Student Involvement at UCSD; (2) the American Arbitration Association (“AAA”), and settled according to the rules of AAA; (3) the California Republican Party, (4) the San Diego County Republican Party; and (5) the California College Republicans.

Section 2. A resulting arbitrator’s award may be enforced by any court having jurisdiction, which shall be the Superior or Municipal Courts of San Diego County, California, USA. The Organization and the adverse party shall submit to personal jurisdiction, in personam jurisdiction, in San Diego County, California, USA.

Section 3. Only parties claiming the right to use the name, symbol, insignia, or initials of this organization, or claiming the right to hold office in this Organization or local affiliate, may demand that the Organization settle disputes using one of the arbitration methods under the Article XII.

Article XVI Ratification and Effective Date

Section 1. This Constitution shall become effective upon a 2/3 vote of the membership, in good standing, present at the meeting on January 27, 2009. A copy of this Constitution will be submitted to the CCR upon its passage if the club is a member of the CCR during that academic year.

Section 2. The Constitution can be dissolved by following the procedures laid out by the Center for Student Involvement at UCSD.

Section 3. In the event that this Constitution is dissolved, the Principle Members will elect an Overseer to call and run the two meetings, and execute any other responsibilities, described below until a new Constitution is adopted. Despite the status of the Constitution, the club will continue to follow Robert’s Rules of Order.

Section 4. Any member in good standing can propose a Constitution. They shall submit their proposed Constitution to the Overseer who will then distribute it to the membership via the listserv. The time allowed for members to propose a Constitution shall be at least one week, or seven days. After that period, the Overseer can call a meeting for at least one week, or seven days, later. During that week, members in good standing can still propose Constitutions, which the Overseer will then distribute on the list serve, but will lose the advantage of giving fellow members the time to read their respective proposed Constitution. Also during the week preceding the first meeting, members are expected to read the proposed Constitutions and prepare themselves for debate during the first meeting.

Section 5. At the first meeting, the Overseer will mediate a discussion in which any member can explain what they like and dislike about any proposed Constitution. Any member can propose an amendment to any of the proposed Constitutions.

Section 6. The Overseer shall then call for a second meeting at least one week later. At this meeting, members can propose last minute amendments. Those that proposed a Constitution can speak to the club in defense of their respective proposed Constitution. Then, members will take a majority vote to ratify the new Constitution.