

STUDENTS FOR JUSTICE IN PALESTINE AT UCSD CONSITUTION

Last Updated: October 2, 2019

ARTICLE I. NAME OF STUDENT ORGANIZATION

The organization shall be called Students for Justice (SJP) in Palestine at UCSD.

ARTICLE II. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Section 1: Mission

- a. Part and parcel of the larger student movement sweeping university campuses across the United States, Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP) is a diverse group of students, faculty, staff, and community members centered at the University of California, San Diego and organized in accordance with democratic principles to promote justice, human rights, and the right of self-determination for the Palestinian people.

Section 2: Guiding Principles

- a. As an advocacy group, SJP believes that key principles grounded in international law, human rights, and basic standards of justice, dictate concrete steps that will be fundamental to a fair and lasting resolution of the Israel-Palestine conflict. Most important among those steps are:
 - i. An end to the Israeli occupation of the West Bank, East Jerusalem, and Gaza Strip.
 - ii. An end to Israel's system of apartheid in the Occupied Palestinian Territories, as well as its system of discrimination against the Arab population within its own borders.
 - iii. A just solution to the Palestinian refugee problem.
- b. Just as SJP condemns the racism and discrimination underlying many of the policies of the state of Israel, SJP also categorically opposes any form of prejudice or discrimination based on race, religion, ethnicity, or gender. At the same time, SJP manifestly rejects attempts to equate principled criticism of Zionism, or of the character or policies of Israel, with anti-Semitism.
- c. SJP condemns all acts of unlawful violence, or violence that indiscriminately targets civilians or civilian infrastructure, committed by either side in the course of the conflict.
- d. Ultimately, SJP's strength flows from the diversity of its membership, comprising individuals of varied racial and ethnic backgrounds and political orientations, all united under these stated principles in the struggle for peace through justice in Palestine.

Section 3: Code of Conduct

- a. SJP's activities include educational events, film screenings, discussion forums, and demonstrations meant to promote awareness of the plight of the Palestinian people and encourage activism in solidarity with their struggle. SJP will also initiate a campaign urging the University of California, San Diego to divest from companies complicit in Israeli violations of human rights or international law. SJP will conduct only nonviolent actions, and rejects actions that violate its guiding principles, to which all individuals or groups acting as members, representatives, or sponsors of SJP are required to adhere. More broadly, SJP will work to link the pro-Palestine movement with other movements seeking political, social, economic, or environmental justice in the Middle East and across the world. To this end, SJP may elect to endorse the programs or activities of other organizations whose principles and objectives are consistent with its own.

ARTICLE III. NONPROFIT STATEMENT

Students for Justice in Palestine at UCSD is a non-profit student organization.

ARTICLE IV. REQUIREMENTS FOR MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: Eligibility for Membership

- a. SJP's strength is in the great diversity of its membership. SJP welcomes individuals of all backgrounds to join in solidarity with the struggle for justice in Palestine. This includes all UCSD students, faculty, and staff, and members of the community.
- b. There are no duties or fees required for membership.

Section 2: Categories of Membership

- a. Membership in the organization shall be extended to UCSD students and staff who agree with the Mission Statement, Guiding Principles and General Code of SJP.
- b. Active members shall be those members of the organization who have attended at least 2 General Body Meetings or 1 General Body Meeting and an official SJP activity of the year in question. Attendance will be taken by the Education & Resources Director.

Section 3: Withdrawal or Removal of Members

- a. Members may withdraw from the organization at any time and for any reason, however they must first notify the organization of their withdrawal at the time they wish to leave.

- b. Members may be removed in the instance that they violate the principles or the established code of conduct of the organization. If the person wishes to stay, the members of the organization will hear the person's case and then vote on whether or not the person may remain a member. A two-thirds majority in favor of the member is required to keep them in the club.

ARTICLE V. FREQUENCY OF ORGANIZATION MEETINGS

Section 1: General Body Meetings

- a. The Board will host at least three General Body Meetings per quarter.

Section 2: Board Meetings

- a. The Board shall meet on a weekly basis.
- b. Minutes will be taken at all official board meetings.
- c. The Board shall maintain constant and open communication.

ARTICLE VI. QUALIFICATIONS FOR HOLDING OFFICE AND METHODS OF SLECTING AND REPLACING OFFICERS

Section 1: Voting Qualifications

- a. **Only registered UCSD students may hold office in the organization. Only registered UCSD students may vote in elections for the selection of the organization's officers.**

Section 2: Duties and Responsibilities

- a. CHAIR
 - i. The Chair shall serve as head of the Board and SJP at UCSD.
 - ii. The Chair shall oversee the establishment of all SJP events, programs and activities.
 - iii. The Chair shall ensure that the organization continues to strive towards its vision, as outlined in Articles I and II.
 - iv. The Chair shall organize and lead Board Meetings, unless they appoint others to do so.
 - v. The Chair shall delegate tasks among other board members.
- b. EXTERNAL AFFAIRS DIRECTOR
 - i. The External Affairs Directors is responsible for meeting with and maintaining relationships with other on-campus student organizations, as well as potentially off-campus groups in the community.

- ii. The entire board is responsible for assisting the External Affairs Directors with the fulfillment of these tasks, at their direction.

c. OUTREACH DIRECTOR

- i. The Outreach Directors are responsible for:
 - i. All online outreach and media relations, such as:
 - 1. The Outreach Director shall organize proper online outreach methods for SJP events, including the creation of Facebook pages for every event and general body meeting.
 - ii. And all tangible outreach and design, such as:
 - 1. The Outreach Director is responsible for creating flyers for all SJP programs and events.
 - 2. The Outreach Director is responsible for designing banners and merchandise for SJP as necessary.
 - 3. The Outreach Director shall organize and oversee tabling on Library Walk.
 - 4. The Outreach Director shall organize and oversee flyering and other outreach strategies for all SJP events.
- ii. The Outreach Directors may divide these tasks at their discretion.
- iii. The entire board is responsible for assisting the Outreach Directors with the fulfillment of these tasks, at their direction.

d. PROGRAMMING DIRECTOR

- i. The Programming Director is responsible for booking rooms for Board meetings, GBMs, and SJP events, as well as all other logistical aspects of programming.
- ii. The Programming Director shall work with the Treasurer to complete the funding module for TAP.
- iii. The Programming Director is responsible for contacting speakers, ordering food, booking projectors and other necessary equipment required for SJP programming.
- iv. The programming director will be responsible for organizing the board members to perform necessary tasks for events and will oversee the success of the event.
- v. All board members are responsible for assisting the programming director in the completion of programming tasks.

e. TREASURER

- i. The Treasurer shall manage all financial affairs for SJP.
- ii. The Treasurer is responsible for submitting appropriate funding applications for all SJP programs and events.
- iii. The Treasurer shall work with the Programming Directors to complete the funding module for TAP.
- iv. The Treasurer shall maintain records of all financial transactions that occur.
- v. The Treasurer shall handle reimbursements
- vi. Handle rentals of equipment
- vii. Leading fundraising for the organization

f. EDUCATION & RESOURCES DIRECTOR

- i. The Education & Resources Director shall act as club Historian and keep record/timeline of SJP UCSD events throughout the school year.
- ii. The Education & Resources Director shall be responsible for the SJP Resources Binder(s). This includes all SJP contacts and resource materials vital to facilitating the means by which SJP accomplishes its vision.
- iii. The Education & Resources Director shall organize and coordinate Board and General Body development tutorials and activities throughout the school year. Typical associated duties include but are not limited to: Weekly Board Meeting and GBM updates on current events in Palestine, forwarding appropriate news stories to the Board/general body, and organizing Palestine-related games/activities for Board Meetings and GBM's.

Section 4: Elections

- a. Elections will occur at the second to last meeting of the spring quarter. The winners of the elections will be required to work with the current person holding their office in order to effectively transition responsibilities.
- b. Self-nominations will be made, the person nominating her/himself will provide the members with a speech expressing their reasons for running.
- c. Members will be notified of results of the elections at the last meeting of the Spring quarter.
- d. Elections will be held by secret ballot, a two-thirds majority wins.

Section 5: Terms of Office

- a. One term will last an entire academic year; officers will assume their positions in the fall.

Section 6: Procedure for Filling Vacated Offices

- a. In the instance that an office is vacated before term, members of the organization will be notified and may apply to fill the position. The officers, in a majority vote, will select the replacing officer.

Section 7: Procedure for Removing Officers

- a. The procedure for removing officers will be the same as the procedure for removing members: a two-thirds vote of the elected officers.
- b. There is a two-week time period in which an officer or member may appeal. The officer or member will provide a justified argument to the members of the organization, which will be followed immediately by an anonymous vote. Again, a two-thirds majority is required to keep them in the club.

ARTICLE VII. RISK MANAGEMENT

Students for Justice in Palestine at UCSD is a registered student organization at University of California, San Diego, but not part of the University itself.

Students for Justice in Palestine at UCSD understands that the University does not assume legal liability for the actions of the organization.

ARTICLE VIII. IN CASE OF INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL

Students for Justice in Palestine at UCSD recognizes that the University generally recommends against all international travel by Student Organizations due to the myriad of risks travelers face in foreign countries. Student organizations are discouraged from traveling to foreign countries due to the wide variety of risks involved with foreign travel, and the extensive planning efforts required by the Student Organization's Members to manage those risks. Security risks and health care services vary widely from one country to another, so thorough research on those topics is especially important.

International travelers are advised to research US State Department Travel Advisories and the CDC Travel Health site and abide by all recommended alerts and warnings, and procure travel insurance with medical coverage that covers their chosen destination because most USA Health Plans are not valid in foreign countries.

ARTICLE IX. AFFILIATION WITH OTHER GROUPS

SJP shall remain an officially registered student organization UCSD that is independent of any umbrella organization. SJP does not represent UCSD.

ARTICLE X. IN CASE OF INTERACTION WITH MINORS AND/OR THE ELDERLY

Students for Justice in Palestine at UCSD 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). Students for Justice in Palestine 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.

ARTICLE XI. AMENDMENTS

Any member of the organization may propose a written amendment to the officers. The person must explain their proposal and why they think it will benefit the organization. This amendment will then be voted upon by the officers and will require a two-thirds majority in order to be passed.

UCSD SJP refuses to take part in whitewashing Israel's public image and therefore reject any Israeli-Palestinian meetings that do not recognize our inalienable rights, and explicitly aim to resist Israel's occupation, colonization and apartheid. Israeli-Palestinian meetings that are not committed to such principles give a false picture of equality between the two parties by ignoring and legitimizing Israel's oppression of the Palestinian people. We will not contribute to any event that undermines our rights or portrays Israel as anything but what it really is: an apartheid state (as taken from Columbia University chapter of SJP).