



Constitution of the Associated Students of Eastern Oregon University Student Government

PREAMBLE

We, the students of Eastern Oregon University, acting within the authority delegated by the Eastern Oregon University Board of Trustees do establish this Constitution in order that we may fully employ the advantages of shared governance to achieve our core mission of advancing the educational, social, and cultural experience of students at Eastern Oregon University.

ARTICLE I (Name)

Section 1: The students of Eastern Oregon University shall legally be known as the Associated Students of Eastern Oregon University (ASEOU).

Section 2: The governing body of the ASEOU shall be legally known as the Student Government of the Associated Students of Eastern Oregon University (ASEOU Student Government).

ARTICLE II (Membership)

Section 1: All students of Eastern Oregon University paying the incidental fee regardless of credit hours being taken or completed shall be members of the ASEOU.

Section 2: Enrollment for the summer term is not necessary to maintain membership status.

ARTICLE III (Organization)

Section 1: Where Powers Vested. Except as this constitution otherwise provides, all the powers of the ASEOU Student Government shall be vested in its Senate. The Senate shall adhere to, create, or modify bylaws to carry out its core mission.

Section 2: Liaison. The ASEOU Student Government reports to and works with the Vice President for Student Affairs and the Director for Student Involvement.

Section 3: Senate. The Senate shall be composed of the ASEOU President and seven (7) on campus and one (1) full-time online ASEOU Senators elected from the student body at large. The responsibilities of the Senate include, but are not limited to: creating and regulating the incidental fee structure, attending required training(s), and creating any legislation needed to carry out its core mission.

- A. The Interim Senate shall be composed of the Interim Senators and the Interim President prior to their taking of office.
 - 1. The Interim Senate shall have authority limited to the appointment of vacant Senate seats, appointment of vacant Judicial Board seats, appointment of vacant Executive Staff positions, and any further authority as deemed necessary by the existing Senate.
- B. Officials elected during the general elections cannot resign their position until their term begins.

Section 4: Senators. ASEOU Senators shall be elected by popular vote in a general election in the winter of each academic year. ASEOU members who apply for vacant Senate seats after the general election may be appointed by the Interim Senate or ASEOU Senate via a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Senate. They will serve a term that begins on the last Friday of the spring term after the general election and ends on the last Thursday of the spring term in the following year. Between the end of the election and the last Friday of the spring term, all newly elected or appointed ASEOU Senators will be known as Interim Senators. Interim Senators shall attend training during this time to fulfill the training requirement associated with officially becoming an ASEOU Senator.

Section 5: ASEOU President. The ASEOU President shall be elected by popular vote in a general election in the spring of each academic year. The ASEOU President shall serve a term that begins on the last Friday of the spring term after the general election and ends on the last Thursday of the spring term in the following year. The ASEOU President shall preside over Senate meetings. The ASEOU President shall vote in the Senate only in cases when it is necessary to determine the passage of legislation. The ASEOU President cannot vote in cases that involve presidential veto override legislation.

- A. The ASEOU President shall have line-item veto power in the Senate. The ASEOU President must execute the veto power within seven (7) academic days after the vote. The Senate may then override this veto with a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the ASEOU Senate and must do so within seven (7) academic days of the veto presentation.
- B. Between the end of the election and the last Friday of finals week of the winter term, the newly elected ASEOU President will be known as the Interim President with the sole responsibility of presiding over meetings of the Interim Senators. The Interim President is granted all powers defined within the constitution as belonging to the ASEOU President during this time, as pertaining to the Interim Senate. The Interim President may attend training during this time to fulfill the training requirement associated with officially becoming the ASEOU President.

Section 6: Judicial Board. The Judicial Board shall be composed of three (3) justices. These justices shall apply to and be appointed by the Senate or the Interim Senate during the

winter term after the general election. Each justice shall serve a term that begins on the last Friday of the spring term after the general election and ends on the last Thursday of the spring term in the following year. The Judicial Board shall resolve student government disputes and interpret this constitution. These justices may not be members of another part of the ASEOU Student Government.

Section 7: Recognized Officers. Recognized officers of the ASEOU Student Government shall include: the ASEOU President, all ASEOU Senators, all Judicial Board members, the Director for Political Affairs, the Director for Campus Affairs, Director for Diversity and Equity, and the Director for Financial Affairs, who is also the Student Fee Committee Chair.

- A. Office Assistants are recognized officers of the ASEOU Student Government. Office Assistants are appointed by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Executive Staff during a regular Senate meeting.
 - 1. The Executive Staff shall include the ASEOU President and all ASEOU Directors.
- B. Each of the officers not elected during the general election shall apply to and be appointed by the Senate or the Interim Senate during the spring term after the general election.
- C. Interns are not recognized officers of the ASEOU Student Government, but are members and may fully participate in ASEOU Student Government activities. Interns are appointed by the officer under whom they serve.

ARTICLE IV (Eligibility for all ASEOU Officers)

Section 1: To be eligible to apply or run for an ASEOU Student Government office, candidates shall:

- A. Be a member of ASEOU.
 - 1. Winter elections and appointments. Students which have been accepted to Eastern Oregon University and are not yet members of ASEOU may apply and/or run for only one ASEOU position only during the annual winter elections and appointment process.
- B. Have a 2.5 cumulative GPA of the courses taken at Eastern Oregon University.
 - 1. Transfer credits shall solely be considered until a basis for GPA at Eastern Oregon University has been established.
 - a. A basis for GPA at Eastern Oregon University shall be considered established after two (2) full-time quarters, or three (3) part or half-time quarters at Eastern Oregon University.

- b. After a basis for GPA has been established at Eastern Oregon University, the GPA from this institution shall receive sole consideration.
- C. Be in good academic and behavioral standing with Eastern Oregon University.
- D. Pay student incidental fees.

Section 2: To maintain office one shall:

- A. Attend required training(s) during one's term of office.
- B. Maintain a 2.5 cumulative GPA at Eastern Oregon University.
 - 1. Transfer credits will not be considered for GPA to maintain office.
- C. Be enrolled in and complete at least twelve (12) credit hours per quarter at Eastern Oregon University.
 - 1. Seniors may take fewer than twelve (12) credit hours as long as graduation results no later than the end of spring term of the current academic year.
 - 2. Eastern Oregon University online and partner school credits may be included for the acquisition of this total.
- D. Be in good academic and behavioral standing with Eastern Oregon University.
- E. Perform all duties and responsibilities of the given office.

Section 3: Interns are not subject to the above requirements for eligibility.

Section 4: ASEOU officers not meeting eligibility guidelines shall immediately be considered by the Senate for resignation, impeachment, or other disciplinary action.

- A. Eligibility shall be checked during the fifth (5th) week of the academic term by the advisors of ASEOU.
 - 1. GPA will be checked during the first (1st) week of each term.
- B. Summer term shall not be used for measuring eligibility regarding twelve (12) credit minimums.

Article V (Statement of Non-discrimination)

Section 1: The practices and policies of the ASEOU officers shall not:

- A. Exclude, expel, or limit membership because of an individual's race, color, creed, ethnicity, religion, age, sex, gender, gender expression, gender identity, sexual orientation, national origin, legal status, socioeconomic status, disability, or status as a veteran.

- B. Exclude from being hired, elected, appointed, or otherwise discriminate against any individual with respect to her/his compensation, terms, conditions, or privileges of employment, because of such individual's race, color, creed, ethnicity, religion, age, sex, gender, gender expression, gender identity, sexual orientation, national origin, legal status, socioeconomic status, disability, or status as a veteran.

ARTICLE VI (Impeachment)

Section 1: Impeachment.

- A. Impeachment shall be defined as the bringing of charges against an ASEOU officer regarding an act inappropriate to his/her office.
 - 1. Interns may not be impeached. The supervising officer has sole discretion for the removal of interns.
 - 2. Office Assistants may be impeached, the Senate will have full authority to determine such matters.
- B. Impeachable offenses include, but are not limited to:
 - 1. Misappropriation of ASEOU funds.
 - 2. Election fraud.
 - 3. Inappropriate acts as deemed by the ASEOU Senate.
 - 4. Failure to perform the duties and responsibilities of a given office.
- C. The ASEOU Senate shall have the sole power to initiate (through legislation) and try all impeachments.
 - 1. Impeachment procedures shall be established in the bylaws.
 - 2. Impeachment is not subject to Presidential veto.
 - 3. Impeachment is not subject to action by the ASEOU Judicial Board, with exception for appeals dealing with Senate procedural errors.
- D. Once an ASEOU Student Government officer is removed from office as a result of an impeachment trial, for any reason, he/she is never eligible to hold another office within the ASEOU Student Government.
- E. The member removed will be held accountable by the appropriate Student Affairs Office.

ARTICLE VII (ASEOU Official Records)

Section 1: All official documents of the ASEOU Student Government shall be maintained by the ASEOU President or their Designee.

- A. ASEOU official documents include, but are not limited to:

1. ASEOU Senate Roll Call
2. ASEOU Senate Voting Records
3. ASEOU Judicial Board Opinions
4. ASEOU Election Results
5. ASEOU Presidential Vetoes
6. ASEOU Bylaws
7. ASEOU Constitution
8. ASEOU Senate Meeting Minutes
9. ASEOU Legislation

Section 2: All official documents shall be considered public records.

ARTICLE VIII (Amendments)

Section 1: Amendments.

- A. Amendments shall be known as changes to the ASEOU Constitution.
- B. Amendments to the ASEOU Constitution shall adhere to the following process:
 1. Must be initiated by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the ASEOU Senate.
 2. Once the Senate has approved an amendment it must be ratified by a popular vote of the ASEOU members.
 - a. One (1) percent of the ASEOU members must vote in this election.
 - b. Two-thirds (2/3) of those votes cast must be in the affirmative.
- C. Housekeeping items which do not alter or affect the policies, procedures, or rules identified within this Constitution may be made by a unanimous vote of the Senate.

ARTICLE IX (Bylaws)

Section 1: Bylaws of the ASEOU Constitution shall include, but not be limited to: rules, procedures, and job descriptions of the ASEOU Student Government Officers.

Section 2: The ASEOU Constitution shall take precedence over any ASEOU Bylaw, and in doing so, nullifies any conflict between the two (2) documents.

Section 3: Amendments to the ASEOU Bylaws must be initiated by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the ASEOU Senate.

Section 4: Bylaws may not be suspended.

ARTICLE X (Enactment)

Section 1: This ASEOU Constitution shall be considered effective immediately following ratification by a majority of those voting in a campus-wide election. One (1) percent

of the ASEOU members must vote in this election. The previous ASEOU Executive Staff shall administer elections to fill the positions established herein within thirty (30) academic days.

Section 2: This ASEOU Constitution shall supersede all previous Constitutions and Bylaws of the Associated Students of Eastern Oregon University. The Constitution of Eastern Oregon University, the Constitution of the State of Oregon and the Constitution of the United States of America shall supersede the ASEOU Constitution where applicable and where contradictions arise.

Section 3: If, for any reason, a position should need to be filled in the year(s) following the ratification of this document, said position shall be filled in the manner prescribed herein.

Section 4: Those persons elected under the guidelines of the previous Constitution shall maintain their office(s), but fall under the jurisdiction of this Constitution.

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