

# CONSTITUTION

**The Student Senate of the Associated Students of Sierra College shall dedicate itself, above all, to the service of the students it represents.**

**To this end, the Student Senate shall:**

- Strive to be a unified voice for a diverse student body, while taking into consideration the unique needs of individual students.
- Promote student's rights and provide an unbiased forum for voicing student concerns.
- Participate in decisions that affect students through the shared governance process.
- Responsibly manage Associated Student resources, while at the same time striving to provide students with optimum benefits.
- Organize, promote and sponsor student activities and clubs.
- Promote understanding and cooperation between students, faculty, staff, and administration at Sierra College in order to help students achieve their educational goals.

**Furthermore, the Student Senate shall endeavor to achieve these goals with excellence, and impart that standard to future student leaders.**

## ARTICLE I

### Name

- Section 1** This organization shall be known as the Associated Students of Sierra College (Associated Students).
- Section 2.** The governing body of the Associated Students is the Student Senate.

## ARTICLE II

### Membership

- Section 1** Upon enrolling at Sierra College, all students shall automatically become members of the Associated Students.
- Section 2** All members of the Associated Students shall receive equal and unbiased representation by the Student Senate on all matters affecting them.

## ARTICLE III

### The Student Senate

- Section 1** The Student Senate consists of the following officers:
1. President/Student Trustee
  2. Vice President,
  3. Treasurer
  4. Activities Coordinator
  5. Club Coordinator
  6. Public Relations Officer
  7. Secretary
  8. Student Senators; one per thousand students at the Rocklin campus.
- Section 2** Satellite Campuses
- A. Each satellite campus will be governed by a site council and have a Site Coordinator. The Site Council and Coordinator shall work with the ASSC Vice President.
  - B. There will be one Student Senator per thousand students enrolled, appointed at each satellite campus that sits on the Site Council. With a minimum of 5 (five) student senators per satellite campus.
  - C. At a minimum, the Student Senate will do their best to have one Student Senator serving at each satellite campus.
  - D. Each Site Council may appoint Student Representatives to sit on their Council as outlined in the Student Senate Bylaws.
- Section 3** The Student Senate shall maintain the affairs and properties of the Associated Students of Sierra College. With the exception of the initiative referendum, the Student Senate shall have the final say on all ASSC policies and procedures. The Dean of Student Services and/or the Associated Students' Advisor shall reserve the right to limit capital outlay expenditures.

- Section 4** All officers shall serve one term.
- A.** A term is defined as beginning with their swearing in and ending at the last scheduled meeting of the spring semester.
  - B.** All officers elected in the spring election shall be sworn in at the last scheduled meeting of the spring semester.
- Section 5** All Student Senate members shall be responsible for the following in addition to their particular position responsibilities:
- 1. Be enrolled in and complete a minimum class load of five (5) units per semester at the campus they represent while in office.
    - A.** Online students shall represent the campus closest to their place of residence.
  - 2. Maintain good academic standing at the college as outlined in a current Sierra College catalog (See academic probation).
  - 3. The following Office Hours are required for Student Senate members, in addition to the weekly Student Senate meeting and/or shared governance meetings:
    - A.** Executive Officers: two hours per week
    - B.** Student Senators: one hour per week
  - 4. Sit on and regularly attend at least one assigned shared-governance committee and report back to the Student Senate on committee matters.

**For Specific Duties of the Student Senate see the Student Senate Bylaws.**

## ARTICLE IV

### Meetings

- Section 1** Any Student Senate member missing two (2) consecutive meetings or three (3) of five (5) regular or special meetings without approval from the Student Senate may be subject to action of the Student Senate Duties & Responsibilities, By-Laws.
- Section 2** Meetings of the Student Senate are to be held weekly during the regular academic school year. Meetings are not to be scheduled during the last week of the fall and spring semesters.
- Section 3** Issues pertaining to the outcome of motions will not be formally heard by the Student Senate until the next recognized meeting of the Student Senate.
- Section 4** All business shall be conducted according to Parliamentary Procedure as outlined in *Robert's Rules of Order* and according to the procedures established by this Constitution. The regulations of the Brown Act shall apply to the ASSC.

## ARTICLE V

### Committees

- Section 1** Committees of the Associated Students' shall be defined as a group of members from the Student Senate and the general membership, who will act as the researchers in the area for which they were created. They shall follow all guidelines written in the Constitution. Vacancies and the formation of new committees must be publicly posted with a call for members from the general membership of the student body.
- Section 2** No committee shall have less than one (1) Student Senate member. An unlimited number of interested students, at large, may seek an appointment to any Associated Students' committee.

## ARTICLE VI

### Resignations and Vacancies

- Section 1** In the case of the resignation or departure for any reason of the President/Student Trustee, a Special Election shall be held within thirty (30) days after notice of the vacancy comes to the attention of the college superintendent.
- Section 2** If a vacancy beyond the President occurs, the Student Senate by a majority vote may fill the vacancy with an officer of the Student Senate, or any student from the student body at large, who submits a Student Senate Application and Letter-of-Intent as to their interest in the vacancy. Interested individuals shall conform to the eligibility rules set forth in the Associated Students' Constitution.
- Section 3** Upon dismissal or resignation for any reason, a student may not reapply to the Student Senate until one complete semester has passed.

## ARTICLE VII

### Student Clubs

- Section 1** All on-campus student clubs must be officially recognized and chartered by the Student Senate.
- Section 2** Charters will be granted to organizations who file a Club Constitution and a Club Information Form with the Student Senate.
- Section 3** Campus Clubs will be considered active each semester they have turned in a completed Club Information Form to the Campus Life Office.
- Section 4** Campus Clubs inactive for two consecutive semesters will be closed.
- Section 5** All campus clubs that have been closed will have their funds transferred to the Student Senate General Fund.

**Section 6** All campus clubs will be subject to suspension if they are not in compliance with the State Education Code, District Policies, Associated Students' Constitution, Student Senate Bylaws and the Sierra College Club Handbook as they apply to financial accounting, organizational programs and scheduled activities.

## ARTICLE VIII

### Recall, Initiative, and Referendum

**Section 1** All Student Senate Officers are subject to recall by the student body. Each petition to recall presented to the Student Senate must be signed by five (5) percent of the members of the student body. A mandatory special election shall be called within thirty (30) school days after presentation of the petition. Approval of the petition shall require a majority of the votes cast.

**A.** At satellite campuses, each petition to recall shall be signed by five (5) percent of the students registered for classes at the satellite.

**Section 3** A Special Election will be held within thirty (30) days of the presentation, to the Student Senate, of a petition signed by five (5) percent of the members of the Associated Students desiring to vote on a bill or initiative previously acted on by the Student Senate. Approval of the petition shall require a majority of the votes cast.

**Section 4** All officers of the Student Senate may be subject to removal by a 2/3 vote of the Student Senate.

## ARTICLE IX

### Constitution and By-Laws

**Section 1** Constitutional changes shall be adopted by a 2/3 vote of the Student Senate.

**Section 2** To pass a Constitutional change, a favorable, majority vote of those voting in the election is required. If passed, the revised constitution shall be enabled immediately, and shall bear the date of adoption.

**Section 3** By-laws may be approved by a 2/3-vote of the Student Senate.

**Section 4** The Dean of Student Services, the Associated Students' Advisor and/or the Business Office shall reserve the right to overrule a Student Senate vote for an increase or a change in the requirement(s) for the Student Senate stipends.

**Section 5** Any procedure not defined herein shall be defined in the Student Senate By-Laws.

**Adopted** by a vote of the Student Senate on March 13, 2008  
**Ratified** by a vote of the Associated Students on April 1 & 2, 2008

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**Sandra Gallo**

Associated Students' President / Student Trustee 2007-08

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**Tim Haenny**

Associated Students' Advisor