

CONSTITUTION OF THE SHASTA COLLEGE STUDENTS

WE THE STUDENTS OF SHASTA COLLEGE RESOLVED

- to establish a system of self-governance and advocacy in the participatory governance process, and
- to promote activities which will stimulate our intellect, social life, and health, and
- to build a sense of community within our population; between students, faculty, and administration; and between the campuses and the communities it serves,

AND MINDFUL OF OUR SHARED DEDICATION

- to the sustainability of both our human and ecological environments, and
- to the importance of our acknowledged diversity and multi-cultural realities, and
- to the vital nature of quality education in the future success of ourselves and our world,

HAVE UNIFIED OUR REPRESENTATION TO ACCOMPLISH THESE AIMS

Accordingly, we ordain this Constitution of the Shasta College Students, pursuant to the policies of the Shasta-Tehama-Trinity Joint Community College District and the California Education Code, and do hereby establish a district-wide organization known as the Shasta College Student Senate.

ARTICLE I. NAME, COLORS, AND MASCOT

Section 1. The name of this organization shall be known as the Shasta College Student Senate, herein referred to as the SCSS.

Section 2. The school colors shall be green and silver.

Section 3. The college mascot shall be the Shasta Knight, known as Oakey Dokes.

ARTICLE II. MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Represented membership of the Shasta College Student Senate shall include all students that are currently enrolled in a credit class at Shasta College.

ARTICLE III. STUDENT SENATE & GOVERNING STRUCTURE

Section 1. The body, which governs, sets policies, and represents all Shasta College student shall be called the Shasta College Student Senate, herein referred to as the SCSS.

Section 2. Purpose of the SCSS

Clause 1. To ensure representation of all Shasta College students on all campus governance and policy-making committees.

Clause 2. To advocate for education and student rights on the campus, community, county, state, and national level.

Clause 3. To oversee the collection and distribution of the Student Activity Fee, the Student Representation Fee, and any other fee that may be placed within the jurisdiction of the Senate.

Clause 4. To promote cultural, social, and leadership opportunities for all students.

Section 3. Powers of the Student Senate Executive Board

Clause 1. To approve appointments made by the Senate President by a simple majority vote.

Clause 2. To oversee all appropriations of SCSS funds, including the approval of the annual budget.

Clause 3. To set standards for the membership and policies of all subsidiary organizations.

Clause 4. To adopt any resolution, on behalf of the students, by a simple majority vote.

Clause 5. To create and dissolve paid staff positions as defined by the Student Senate By-Laws.

Section 4. General Meetings

Clause 1. The Student Senate shall meet no less than 2 times a month during the academic year excluding non-instruction days, on a day and time selected before the first day of instruction.

Section 5. Makeup of the Student Senate:

Clause 1. The President and Cabinet: Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Shared Governance Officer, Public Relations Officer, Events & Activities Officer, Regional Affairs Officer, and the Justice.

Clause 2. Additional positions of the Student Senate shall be stated in the Student Senate By-Laws.

Clause 3. The Student Senate shall retain the right to maintain both voting and nonvoting positions of the Student Senate as defined by the Student Senate By-Laws, excluding the President and the Cabinet Members, which shall remain permanent positions within the Senate.

Section 6. Qualifications for Membership

Clause 1. Members shall have an overall cumulative G.P.A. of 2.0 and maintain the standard each semester while holding office.

Clause 2. Members shall be enrolled in at least 6 units at the time of election and during the term of office.

Clause 3. Members of the Student Senate may be a member of any subsidiary organization on campus provided the following conditions are met: they recuse themselves from any votes pertaining to a subsidiary organization of which they are a member; must not present issues to the Student Senate on behalf of a subsidiary organization personally; and must not act as representative to the Inter-Club Council on behalf of any other subsidiary organization of which they are a member.

Part 1. If the ICC votes, with a 2/3 majority vote to permit a Senate member to represent a club or organization, then the Senate member may serve on the ICC.

Clause 5. Candidates for President and Vice President must have accumulated 15 units by the time they take Office.

Clause 6. A student shall be ineligible to serve as a member of the Student Senate

if on academic probation or progress probation and their cumulative G.P.A. is below a 2.0.

Section 7. Duties and Responsibilities of Members

Clause 1. The duties of the members of the Student Senate shall be defined in the By-Laws of the Student Senate.

Clause 2. Each Senate member will be responsible to act in a professional manner at all times while representing the Student Senate.

Part 1. At such time that it is determined that a Senate member has misrepresented the ideals of the Student Senate; they may face disciplinary procedures before the appropriate body.

Section 8. Terms in Office

Clause 1. All newly elected Student Senate Members shall take office during the last meeting of Student Senate for the Spring semester, unless otherwise stated in the Student Senate By-Laws.

Clause 2. Any Student Senate member may be re-elected to the same or different office pursuant to the policies of the Shasta-Tehama-Trinity Joint Community College District and the California Education Code.

Clause 3. Any member may resign at any time by giving written notice to the Senate President and/or Senate Advisor.

Clause 4. Any member who fails to attend three general meetings of the Student Senate and does not have these absences cleared by the President, are automatically dismissed.

Part 1. They may appeal to the Senate for the same or different position after they have been dismissed.

Section 9. Selection of Student Senate Officers

Clause 1. All Student Senate Officers shall be elected by the student body.

Clause 2. Only elected Officers of the Senate may vote as stated in the District's Board Policy and/or Administrative Procedure.

Clause 3. All non-voting offices shall be appointed by the SCSS President.

Clause 4. Vacancies of Student Senate Officers shall be filled by appointment by the SCSS President upon ratification by the Executive Board.

Part 1. No member of the Student Senate shall hold more than one office at any given time, except for the President who may serve as the Interim of any Office until a replacement can be found.

Section 10. Standing Committees

Clause 1. The SCSS Executive Board shall maintain Standing Committees to carry out the work of the SCSS.

Clause 2. The initial Standing Committees shall be the Shared Governance Standing Committee, the Regional Affairs Standing Committee, the Ways & Means Standing Committee, the Events & Activities Standing Committee, and the Public Relations Standing Committee.

Clause 3. If the charge of a specific task does not fall under one of these categories, or exceeds the authority of one of these Standing Committees the SCSS may choose to create an Ad-Hoc Committee or a Joint Committee.

ARTICLE IV. SUBSIDIARY ORGANIZATIONS OF THE STUDENT SENATE

Section 1. Prerequisites

Clause 1. Any organization composed of Shasta College students, which uses the name, funds, materials, or services of Shasta College is a campus organization and is subject to regulation by the Shasta College Student Senate as defined in the SCSS Bylaws.

Section 2. Inter-Club Council

Clause 1. The SCSS shall support the ICC through monetary and personnel support.

Clause 2. The SCSS shall have a seated member on the ICC as an ex-officio member.

Clause 3. The ICC shall have its own Charter that will declare its powers with the consent of the SCSS.

Clause 4. The ICC shall comply with all of the provisions set forth in the Ralph M. Brown Act and Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised in its most current edition.

Clause 5. In the event that the ICC violates any of the conditions set forward in this Section, the Student Senate may revoke funding that they have provided with a 2/3 majority vote.

ARTICLE V. ELECTIONS AND RECALL OF STUDENT SENATE MEMBERS

Section 1. The represented membership of the SCSS shall have the right to vote.

Section 2. Elections shall be held at the Downtown, Intermountain, Tehama, Trinity, and Main campus locations on two contiguous schooldays in April.

Section 3. The Elections Council shall be charged with the organization of all elections as stated in the Bylaws of the SCSS.

Clause 1. No members of the SCSS which are running for office the following term may participate in the Elections Council, nor be privy to confidential election materials produced from the Elections Council.

Section 4. Election of Student Senate Officers

Clause 1. The candidate receiving a majority of votes cast for that office shall be declared winner.

Clause 2. In the event that no candidate receives a majority of votes for office, there shall be a run-off election and another vote shall take place.

Section 5. Grounds for the Removal of SCSS Officers

Clause 1. Unexcused absence at three meetings of the SCSS in any one semester.

Clause 2. Conviction of a felony while in office.

Clause 3. Failure to carry out duties and responsibilities of office as defined in the SCSS Bylaws.

Clause 4. May be removed through a recall election or by an affirmative vote of $\frac{2}{3}$ of the SCSS.

Section 6. Special Elections

Clause 1. A special election shall be called for any one of the following:

Part 1. Initiative- the power of any Shasta College student to propose legislation or amendments to the Constitution and to adopt or reject them.

Part 2. Referendum- the power of the students to approve or reject any action taken by the SCSS or the ICC and may be proposed through the initiative procedure.

Part 3. Recall- the power of Shasta College students to remove any SCSS Officer from office through the initiative process.

Clause 2. Procedures for declaring a special election

Part 1. All petitions shall be registered with the appropriate Student Services Office prior to circulation.

Part 2. Completed petitions shall be submitted to the SCSS Office no later than 20 school days after the day on which they were registered, bearing the names, signatures, and student ID numbers of 5% of the student body at the time of the last regular election, as defined by the Full Time Equivalency of Main Campus students or students paying SCSS fees, whichever is greater.

Part 3. The SCSS has the power to call a Special Election by a $\frac{2}{3}$ majority vote.

Part 4. Within 15 school days of verification of the successful completion of all conditions by the SCSS, the Elections Council shall conduct a special election.

Clause 3. A simple majority of students voting in a special election shall be required to adopt any resolution, unless it has to do with fee increases.

Part 1. In regards to fee increases, a $\frac{2}{3}$ majority has to vote in favor, unless there is a higher law stating otherwise.

ARTICLE VI. STUDENT RIGHTS & PRIVILEGES

Section 1. Shared Governance Process

Clause 1. No student shall be denied the right of their access to the decision making processes on campus.

Section 2. Information Access

Clause 1. The Students have a right to information and as such demand that a school newspaper always be made available to them for the purposes of acquiring necessary information about the events that may affect them.

Part 1. In the event that the school is unable, for whatever reason, to provide a newspaper to the students, then the students charge the duty of providing that newspaper to them, onto the Student Senate.

Clause 2. All information, not considered privileged by Board Policy and Administrative Procedure, shall be available to the students so long as it is not in violation of any applicable law.

ARTICLE VII. BYLAWS

Section 1. A Bylaw shall be considered a definite part of the Constitutional framework and shall carry the full weight of legal and regulatory power to be commenced by the authorized entity.

Section 2. A Bylaw may be adopted or repealed by either an affirmative vote of $\frac{2}{3}$ of the Voting Membership of an authorized body or by a simple majority of voting students in any election in regards to the SCSS.

ARTICLE VIII. AMENDMENTS

Section 1. Amendments may be proposed through the initiative process.

Section 2. This Constitution may be amended by $\frac{2}{3}$ of the students voting in any election.

Section 3. Proposed amendment(s) shall be made public at least 10 school days prior to

the election. “Making public” consists of at least posting proposed amendments on all school bulletin boards.

Section 4. No single amendment to this Constitution shall strike more than one entire Article at a time.

Clause 1. No single amendment to this Constitution shall strike out language from more than one Article at a time.

ARTICLE IX. CLOSING STATEMENT

Section 1. This Constitution supersedes all previous Constitutions and Bylaws. Any legislative action or procedure not indicated by this Constitution or other applicable Governing Documents shall be governed by parliamentary procedure, as defined by Robert’s Rules of Order, Newly Revised in its most current edition.

First Draft By: Michael C. Pratt, SCSS Academic Affairs Rep. (8 February 2011)

Reviewed in Committee: Marcus Wetter, SCSS President (7 March 2011)

Second Draft By: Michael C. Pratt, SCSS Academic Affairs Rep. (30 March 2011)

Reviewed in Committee: Marcus Wetter, SCSS President (21 April 2011)

Third Draft By: Michael C. Pratt, SCSS President (17 June 2011)

Reviewed in Committee: Sherry Nicholas, SCSS Advisor and Dr. Kate Mahar, SCSS Advisor (6 December 2011)

Final Draft By: Michael C. Pratt, SCSS President (9 December 2011)

Advisor Approval By: Sherry Nicholas, SCSS Advisor and Dr. Kate Mahar, SCSS Advisor (9 December 2011)

Executive Board Approval By: Unanimous Consent (9 December 2011)

Senate Approval By: Committee Of The Whole (9 December 2011)

Ratified On: *9 December 2011 at 1:19pm on the Student Center Stage*