**Constitution**

**of**

**Pakistani American Students’ Association**

**at**

**The Ohio State University**

**CONSTITUTION**

**OF**

**PAKISTANI AMERICAN STUDENT**S’ **ASSOCIATION**

**AT**

**THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY**

**Article I - Name, Purpose, and Non-Discrimination Policy**

**Section 1 - Name**

1. The name of this organization shall be PAKISTANI AMERICAN STUDENTS’ ASSOCIATION AT THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY.

**Section 2 - Purpose**

1. To promote Pakistani culture and heritage at OSU as well as

within Columbus, Ohio.

2. To act as an interconnecting system for students to network amongst themselves, with alumni, and with industry leaders, thereby creating an environment that will help in enriching their professional experience.

3. To get involved with the community by volunteering our time and services toward non-profit organizations and causes.

**Section 3 - Non-Discrimination Policy**

1. This organization and its members shall not discriminate against any individual(s) for reason of race, color, creed, religion, sexual orientation, national origin, sex, age, or physical condition.

**Article II - Membership**

**Section 1 - Definition**

1. General Membership: All students, staff, alumni, and trainees enrolled in Ohio State University, or residing in the immediate Columbus community, or attached to any organization training group of OSU regardless of country of citizenship shall be eligible to be a general/associate member of the association.

2. All others who accept the constitution of the association and the aims and the objectives for which it stands shall be eligible to be an Associate Member of the association.

3. An Executive Member is one who is part of the Executive Board, described below. A General Member is a paid member. Anyone who attends a PASA event, without having a valid membership for that year, will be considered an Associate Member.

**Section 2 – Requirements**

1. All members (General, Associate, and Executive) shall accept the constitution of the Pakistani American Student’s Association.

**Section 3 - Membership Fees**

1. A due of $10.00 (Ten US dollars) shall be charged to all members. The association will also accept donations from all members and any person or group in favor of the association’s objectives. Membership is not required by the associate members but is required by the general members. However, only paid members can vote and associate members don’t necessarily receive all membership privileges.
2. Associate members are the non-paid members and may be subject to additional fees for events / t-shirt costs.

**Section 4 - Functions**

1. The General Members shall have the right to elect and be elected as officers of the association.

2. Associate Members are eligible to be a member of a special committee formed by the Executive Committee which is chaired by one of the Executive Committee members.

 **Section 5 – Removal**

1. The General Members and Associate Members can be removed, by the Executive Committee, for any reason, including conduct contrary to the OSU Student Conduct, conduct contrary to state and federal law, and conduct that hurts the image and brand of the organization. (See Article VI, Section 3 for removal process).

**Article III - Officers of the Board**

**Section 1 - Titles**

1. The Board of the Association shall consist of the following officers:

a. The President of the Association.

b. The Vice-President of the Association.

c. The Secretary of the Association

d. The Treasurer of the Association

e. The Public Relations Chair

f. The Events Chairs (up to 3)

g. The Marketing Chairs (up to 2)

2. The President and Vice-President shall be elected by a majority of affirmative votes of the General members.

3. The remaining positions will be elected by an Executive Panel, consisting of the outgoing President, incoming President, and outgoing Vice-President. If the outgoing President and incoming President are the same person, then the incoming Vice-President will take the outgoing President’s position.

**Section 2 - Terms of Office**

1. Under normal circumstances any member of the board shall be able to hold the same office for more than one term if voted to do so.
2. A term begins on the last day of classes of spring semester to the day before the first day of classes in summer semester of the following year.
3. Election shall be held in spring semester and completed prior to finals of spring semester.

**Section3 - Quorum and Voting**

1. Five members of the board shall constitute a quorum, provided that either the President or the Vice-President is present.

2. Each member of the board shall have one vote and decisions shall be reached by a simple majority.

**Section 4 - Powers**

1. The executive power of the association is vested in the board, to be implemented by the president.

**Section 5 - Vacancies**

1. In case of vacancy in the office of the President, The Vice-President shall hold the office of the President for the duration of the term.

2. In case of a vacancy in the office of the Vice-President, the Secretary shall hold the office of the Vice-President until a General member vote can be held to fill the vacancy.

3. In case of a vacancy in the office of the Secretary, the Treasurer shall hold the office of the Secretary until a General member vote can be held to fill the vacancy.

1. In case of a vacancy in the office of the Treasurer, the Secretary shall hold the office of the Treasurer until a General member vote can be held to fill the vacancy.
2. In the case of a vacancy in any other position of the board, a General member vote may be held to fill the vacancy.
3. A vacancy may result in the event that a board member dies or is unable to complete their term for any reason.

**Article IV - Functions and Qualifications of the Officers**

**Section 1 - The President**

1. Qualifications

a. Any general member, who has been a member of the association for at least one year and was a part of the board, is eligible for election to this office.

b. No candidate shall be elected for more than two consecutive terms unless the general membership, by an affirmative votes of two-thirds, waive this restriction.

2. Duties

a. The President shall be the presiding officer of the board.

b. The President shall represent the association in correspondence or through personal contacts with individuals and groups outside the membership of the organization.

c. In case of his/her inability to do so, the President shall appoint any member(s) to represent the association.

d. The President is responsible for outlining the responsibilities of other board positions not defined in this constitution.

**Section 2 - The Vice-President**

1. Qualifications

a. Any general member, who has been a member of the association for at least one year and has been involved in the association prior to the election day, is eligible for election to this office.

2. Duties

a. The Vice-President shall assist the President in the performance of his/ her duties.

b. The Vice-President shall prepare or assign someone to prepare an annual general report on the activities of the association for presentation to all members.

**Section 3 – The Secretary**

1. Qualifications

a. Any general member, who has been a member of the association, and has been involved in the association prior to the election day, is eligible for election to this office.

2. Duties

a. The secretary shall be responsible for written record of board meetings and the property of the association.

b. He or she shall assist the President in the implementation of policies and activities adopted by the board.

**Section 4 - The Treasurer**

1. Qualifications

a. Any general member, who has been a member of the Association and has been involved in the association prior to the election day, is eligible for election to this office.

 2. Duties

a. The Treasurer shall present to the board’s semesterly financial statements of income and expenditures of the association.

b. The Treasurer shall administer the finances of the association and have the power to receive and disburse the money in the name of the association, within the limit provided by the board.

**Article V - Special Committee**

**Section 1 - Definition**

1. Special Committee(s) shall be formed by the board if it is necessary to successfully accomplish any major task(s).

2. The chair of the Special Committee must be an board member.

3. General and Associate Members are encouraged to be a member of the Special Committee.

**Section 2 - Terms and Powers**

1. The Special Committee shall retire at the conclusion of the event/task.

2. The Special Committee shall report to the board about the progress of the event in a timely manner.

3. The Special Committee shall make decisions related to that particular event but must obtain approval from the board.

**Article VI - Assembly**

**Section 1 - Composition**

1. The Assembly shall consist of all General Members of the association.

**Section 2 - Meetings**

1. The Assembly shall meet at least once a semester to discuss the activities of the association.
2. The Assembly shall meet for an annual election.
3. The Assembly may also meet occasionally to conduct any business deemed necessary.

**Section 3-Officer/Member Removal**

1. Officers and members of the organization should at all times conduct themselves in a manner that represents the organization in a respectful way.
2. In the event that an officer/member of the organization does not meet the above requirement, they may be eligible for removal from either their board position or their general membership.
3. Discussion of removal of a member (general member or a board officer) will be conducted by the advisor, with members of the executive board voting and coming to an overall consensus (two-thirds majority). Advisor input is imperative to this overall decision, and the advisor must approve of the final verdict, in regard to discussion of removal of a board officer.

**Section 3 - Notice**

1. The President shall call for any such meeting.

1. All members must be informed about the meeting at least one week in advance unless special circumstances dictate.

**Article VII - Elections**

**Section 1 - Time and Method of Election**

1. The election shall be held by the Assembly at the Annual Meeting.

 (Under normal circumstances it should be in spring semester).

2. The election shall be conducted by secret ballot.

3. A simple majority will determine election to an office.

4. Any General Member can nominate himself/herself or any other member for any of the offices of the board.

5. The nomination(s) shall be invalid if the nominee(s) refuses to run for that office.

6. A member must vote in person at the voting center during the hours set by the election committee or by absentee ballot, under normal circumstances.

7. All members taking part in the elections, nominee(s) or voter(s) must have paid regular dues for membership by the first day of Spring Break.

**Section 2 - Supervision**

1. The board shall appoint an officer to form a committee,

“Election Committee”- consist of at least one officer and two members, to

 supervise the election.

2. No member of the Election Committee shall be eligible to run for any office.

**Article VII- Use of Funds**

**Section 1 - Utilization**

1. No parts of the funds, assets, or income of the association shall be used for private benefit of any member, donor, director, or officer of the association.

1. All forms of payment must be approved by the board.
2. All pre-approved funds of reimbursement must be accompanied by a receipt.

**Article IX - Transfer of Office**

**Section 1 - Method**

1. The office shall be handed over to the new officers in the last week of spring semester, and the newly elected officers will work together with the outgoing committee for a better transition of the office.

**Article X - Constitutional Amendments**

**Section 1 - Procedure**

1. Amendments of the Constitution shall be made at the meeting of the Board called for the purpose of amending the Constitution. An affirmative vote of two-thirds majority of members present and voting is necessary.
2. All amendments of the constitution can be made at any time throughout the school year.

END

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