

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH DAKOTA
NATIVE AMERICAN LAW STUDENTS ASSOCIATION
CONSTITUTION

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(as amended Friday, April 11, 2008)

ARTICLE I Name, Purposes and Affiliations

Section 1. Name

The name of this organization shall be the UND Chapter, Native American Law Students Association (the "Association").

Section 2. Purpose

The purpose of the Association shall include but not be limited to;

- A. Providing an organization for Native American and other law students which will promote unity and cooperation, and will provide a basis for which work can be done for the advancement of Native Americans.
- B. Providing better communication between and among Native American and other law students and the Native American people, Native American lawyers, and the general public.
- C. Providing support and assistance to Native American law students, including, but not limited to:
 - i. educational opportunities such as curriculum development, tutorial programs, and research projects.
 - ii. developing scholarships for law students whose goal is to practice law regarding Native American legal issues.
- D. Assisting recruitment of Native Americans into the University of North Dakota School of Law.
- E. Assisting Native American and other undergraduate students interested in Indian issues in their preparation and application to law school.
- F. Advancing a more comprehensive Native American Law program at the University of North Dakota School of Law.
- G. Providing a forum for the discussion of legal problems relating to law affecting Native Americans.

Section 3. Affiliations

The Association will be affiliated with the National Native American Law Students Association. The rules and regulations of the national constitution shall be followed when not inconsistent with the rules and regulations of the University of North Dakota. When inconsistencies are present, this organization shall adhere to the rules and regulations of the University of North Dakota. A letter of affiliation is attached to this constitution.

ARTICLE II Non-Discriminatory Statement

Membership in this Association shall be without regard to race, religion, age, color, sex, disability, sexual orientation, national origin, marital status, veteran status, or political belief or affiliation.

ARTICLE III Membership

Section 1. Requirements for Membership

- A. Anyone may become a general member who:
 - i. Is a law student at the University of North Dakota, or
 - ii. Is an undergraduate student of the University of North Dakota and has expressed interest in Indian law issues.
- B. Anyone may become a voting members who:
 - i. Has paid their membership dues
 - ii. Is a current law students of the University of North Dakota, or
 - iii. Is a non-law students of the University of North Dakota that has been admitted to the next incoming class of law students.
- C. No academic credit shall be offered for participation and/or membership in this Association.

Section 2. Term of Membership

The term or membership shall commence on payment of dues and expire at the beginning of the subsequent academic year.

Section 3. Transferability

Membership in the Association is not transferable or assignable.

Section 4. Suspension

- A. Grounds for suspension of members include violation of:
 - i. UND policy, or
 - ii. UND Code of Student Life, or
 - iii. The Association's Constitution or bylaws, or
 - iv. Failure to maintain active participation.
- B. A written statement of allegations to suspend the member shall be submitted to the President, Vice-President or faculty Advisor.
- C. Upon review they shall present the allegations to the Executive Committee.
- D. The Executive Committee may, upon a finding of good cause, call for the creation of the Grievance Committee in accordance with the by-laws and refer this matter to them for adjudication.
- E. The Executive Committee shall call for the creation of the Grievance Committee in accordance with the by-laws and refer this matter to them for adjudication if the

allegation(s) are accompanied by a petition of at least 20% of the association supporting the allegation(s).

- F. Suspension under this section results in forfeiture of membership dues and is effective only for that academic year.

Section 5. Reinstatement

- A. A written statement by the member requesting reinstatement shall be submitted to the President, Vice-President or faculty Advisor.
- B. Upon review they shall present the request to the Executive Committee.
- C. The Executive Committee, upon a finding of good cause, may call for a special meeting to put the issue to a vote of the Association.
- D. 4/5ths vote of the Association is required for reinstatement.

ARTICLE IV Association Meetings

Section 1. Business Meetings

Business meetings of the Association shall be called by the President at least once a semester.

Section 2. Special Meetings

- A. Special meetings of the Association, for any purpose(s), unless otherwise prescribed by statute, may be called by the President, or
- B. By any two (2) members of the Executive Committee, or
- C. At the request of not less than twenty percent (20%) of the Membership of the Association.

Section 3. Notice of Meeting

- A. Electronic notice stating the place, day, and hour of the meeting and the purpose(s) for which the meeting is called, shall be delivered not less than five (5) days before the date of the meeting to each member entitled to be at such meeting.
- B. A copy of the proposed agenda shall be included in such notice.

Section 4. Quorum

- A. At any meeting of the Association, a simple majority of voting members shall constitute a quorum.
- B. The members present at a duly organized meeting at which a quorum is present may congregate to transact business until adjournment.
- C. The members present at a duly organized meeting at which a quorum is present may congregate to transact business after subsequent loss of quorum through withdrawal of members, provided, however, that no business may be transacted in the event that less than one-third (1/3) of the members entitled to vote, shall be represented at the meeting.

Section 5. Resolutions of Support or Standing

- A. A member may propose a resolution to be voted on at a meeting of the members by submitting to the Secretary a written copy of the proposed resolution, at least thirty (30) days prior to the meeting at which the proposed resolution will be acted upon.
- B. The Secretary shall provide a written copy of the full text of any proposed resolution to the regular members with the notice of the meeting at which the resolution will be acted upon.
- C. A resolution shall be approved upon a majority vote of members entitled to vote.
- D. No resolution which conflicts with the Articles of Incorporation of National NALSA or the Constitution of this Association shall be valid.

Section 6. Parliamentary Procedure

- A. Unless otherwise provided by the Chair of any meeting, Robert's Rules of Order, Revised, shall govern the conduct of all meetings.
- B. Parliamentary procedure may be altered or waived upon a simple majority vote of the members present at any meeting.

Section 7. Minutes

Minutes of the Association shall be;

- A. Distributed via e-mail to the Association no later than two (2) weeks after the meeting, and
- B. Posted on the bulletin board, and
- C. A hard copy shall be placed on file with the secretary.

ARTICLE V Executive Committee

Section 1. Scope and Appeal

- A. The affairs of the Association will be managed by its Executive Committee, and all corporate powers shall be exercised by the Executive Committee in accordance with this Constitution, the by-laws, and any otherwise applicable law.
- B. In order to maintain the anonymity of the complainant any grievances regarding the scope of business conducted by the Executive Committee must be taken to the Faculty Advisor.
- C. The Faculty Advisor will notify the Executive Committee of said grievance whereupon the Executive Committee shall call for the creation of the Grievance Committee in accordance with the by-laws and refer this matter to them for adjudication.

Section 2. General Powers

- A. The acts of the Executive Committee shall be effective for all purposes as the act or authorization of the Association, provided, that the Executive Committee shall have no power to repeal, rescind, veto or otherwise nullify any action taken by the Association at any annual or special meeting.
- B. The Executive Committee shall audit the financial records of the treasurer at its first meeting after election and shall file a written report on the audit with the secretary.
- C. The Executive Committee may designate and appoint one or more Ad Hoc committees, each of which shall consist of two or more members.
 - i. Ad Hoc Committees shall have and exercise the authority of the Executive Committee in the management of the Association.
 - ii. Ad Hoc committees shall be dissolved at the conclusion of their business.

Section 3. Number, Tenure and Qualifications

- A. The number of Executive Committee members shall be nine (9). The Executive Committee shall be composed of:
 - i. President
 - ii. Vice-President
 - iii. Secretary
 - iv. Treasurer
 - v. Sergeant at Arms
 - vi. 3L Representative
 - vii. 2L Representative
 - viii. 1L Representative
 - ix. UND non-law Student Representative/undergrad position

Section 4 Duties of Officers

- A. The President shall be the principal executive officer and shall have the following duties:
 - i. To submit an Officer Roster Card at the beginning of each semester to the Coordinator of Student Organizations.
 - ii. To call and oversee meetings of the Executive Committee and the Association.
 - iii. Perform other duties as assigned in the bylaws.
- B. Vice President shall have the following duties:
 - i. Provide Support to the Office of the President and oversee meetings in the President's absence
 - ii. Perform other duties as assigned by the Bylaws.
- C. The Secretary shall have the following duties:
 - i. Keep a record of all members of the organization.
 - ii. Keep a record of all activities of the organization.
 - iii. Perform other duties as assigned in the bylaws.

- D. The Treasurer shall have the following duties:
 - i. Keep financial records of the organization.
 - ii. To submit financial records for an annual audit to the Coordinator of Student Organizations at the end of Spring Semester
 - iii. Attend any training or classes required for treasurers of a Student Organization
 - iv. Perform other duties as assigned in the bylaws.
- E. The Sergeant at Arms shall have the following duties:
 - i. Maintain order during meetings to ensure every member of the Association is heard in making motions to the Association.
 - ii. Ensure that proper parliamentary procedure is followed by the Association in conducting its meetings.
 - iii. Perform other duties as assigned by the bylaws.
- F. 3L Representative shall have the following duties:
 - i. Promote the interests of the class of third year students as expressed by the members of the third year class.
 - ii. Work within the Executive Committee to further the goals of the organization.
 - iii. Perform other duties as assigned in the bylaws.
- G. 2L Representative shall have the following duties:
 - i. Promote the interests of the class of second year students as expressed by members of the second year class.
 - ii. Work within the Executive Committee to further the goals of the organization.
 - iii. Perform other duties as assigned in the bylaws.
- H. 1L Representative shall have the following duties:
 - i. Promote the interests of the class of first year students as expressed by members of the first year class.
 - ii. Work within the Executive committee to further the goals of the organization.
 - iii. Perform other duties as assigned in the bylaws.
- I. UND non-law Student Representative shall have the following duties:
 - i. Work within the Executive Committee to improve the organization for future members and promote the interests of the organization.
 - ii. Perform other duties as assigned in the bylaws.

Section 5. Vacancy

Vacancies for the Executive Committee shall be restricted to paid Members of the Association.

- A. Each officer shall be elected for a term of one (1) year by the Association at the annual meeting of the Association.
- B. Each officer shall hold office until death, resignation, removal, or expiration of his or her one (1) year term, and until his or her successor shall have been duly elected and shall have been qualified.
- C. Officers may not hold more than one office.

- D. Duties of individual officers shall be in accordance with the by-laws adopted by the Association.

Section 6. Executive Committee Meetings

- A. Meetings of the Executive Committee, for any purpose(s), unless otherwise prescribed by statute, may be called by the President, or
- B. By any two (2) members of the Executive Committee.

Section 7. Notice of Meeting

- A. Electronic notice stating the place, day, and hour of the meeting and the purpose(s) for which the meeting is called, shall be delivered not less than three (3) days before the date of the meeting to;
 - a. Officers entitled to be at such meeting.
 - b. Any members of the Association who request to receive such notifications.
- B. The attendance of a member at a meeting shall constitute waiver of notice of such meeting, except where a member attends a meeting for the express purpose of objecting to the transaction of any business because the meeting is not lawfully called or convened.

Section 8. Quorum

- A. At any meeting of the Executive Committee, a simple majority of the currently filled positions shall constitute a quorum.
- B. The officers present at a duly organized meeting at which a quorum is present may congregate to transact business until adjournment.
- C. The officers present at a duly organized meeting at which a quorum is present may congregate to transact business after subsequent loss of quorum through withdrawal of officers, provided, however, that no business may be transacted in the event that less than one-third (1/3) of the officers entitled to vote, shall be represented at the meeting.

Section 9. Vacancies

Any vacancy occurring in the Executive Committee shall be filled by election by vote of a simple majority of the Association.

Section 10. Elections.

- A. Elections for the executive officers shall be conducted annually.
- B. The elections shall be conducted in accordance with the by-laws adopted by the Association.

Section 11. Changes in Officers

All changes in officers or mailing or electronic addresses shall be submitted to the Coordinator of the UND Student Organizations Office within two (2) weeks of such change.

Section 12. Removal

Any Officer may be removed from their position on the Executive Committee upon a unanimous vote of the unaffected Committee members whenever, in its judgment, the best interests of the Association would be served. All changes in officers or mailing addresses shall be submitted to the Coordinator of Student Organizations within two weeks of such a change. The Removal of any officer must be approved by 4/5 ths vote of the Association.

Section 13. Reports to the Association

- A. The Executive Committee shall, at each business meeting of the Association, submit a written report regarding their proceedings.
- B. The Executive Committee may submit to the Association any questions or matters which, in the judgment of the Executive Committee, is of immediate or practical consequence to the Association's membership.

ARTICLE VI Standing Committees

Section 1. Scope

- A. Standing Committees shall be established in accordance with the by-laws adopted by the Association.
- B. The Standing Committees shall not have power to promulgate, repeal, rescind, veto or otherwise nullify any action taken by the Executive Committee or the Association at any annual or special meeting.
- C. Any grievances regarding the scope of business conducted by any Standing Committee must be appealed to the Grievance Committee.

Section 2. Membership and Participation

Participation in Standing Committee business is not contingent on membership in the Association.

Section 3. Chairperson(s) and Qualifications

- A. Vacancies for chairperson(s) of the Standing Committees shall be restricted to paid Members of the Association.
- B. Chairperson(s) shall be elected for a term of one (1) year by the Committee at their meeting.

- C. Chairperson(s) shall hold office until death, resignation, removal, or expiration of his or her one (1) year term, and until his or her successor shall have been duly elected and shall have been qualified.
- D. Duties of individual officers shall be in accordance with the by-laws adopted by the Association.

Section 4. Standing Committee Meetings

- A. Meetings of the Standing Committees, for any purpose(s), unless otherwise prescribed by statute, may be called by the Chairperson, or
- B. By any two (2) members of the Committee.

Section 5. Notice of Meeting

- A. Electronic notice stating the place, day, and hour of the meeting and the purpose(s) for which the meeting is called, shall be delivered not less than one (1) days before the date of the meeting to each member entitled to be at such meeting.
- B. The attendance of a member at a meeting shall constitute waiver of notice of such meeting, except where a member attends a meeting for the express purpose of objecting to the transaction of any business because the meeting is not lawfully called or convened.

Section 6. Vacancies

Any vacancy occurring in the chairperson(s) of Standing Committee shall be filled by election by vote of a simple majority of the committee.

Section 7. Changes in Chairperson(s)

All changes in chairperson(s) shall be submitted to the Executive Committee immediately after such change.

Section 8. Removal

Any Chairperson may be removed by the committee upon a four-fifth (4/5ths) vote of the Committee whenever, in its judgment, the best interests of the Association would be served.

Section 9. Reports to the Association

- A. The Standing Committees shall, at each business meeting of the Association, submit a written report regarding their proceedings.
- B. The Standing Committee may submit to the Executive Committee or the Association any questions or matters which, in the judgment of the Committee, is of immediate or practical consequence to the Association's membership.

ARTICLE VII Advisor

Section 1. Selection

- A. The Advisor to this organization must be a member of the UND School of Law Faculty or Staff
- B. The Advisor to this organization will be voted on by the Association.
 - i. The elections for the faculty advisor shall be conducted annually.
 - ii. The elections shall be conducted in accordance with the by-laws adopted by the Association.

Section 2. Role

- A. The Advisor must co-sign all financial transactions of the organization.
- B. The Advisor shall assist the officers and the members in accomplishing the purpose of the organization.
- C. The Advisor shall regularly review the financial records of the organization and forward mailings to the appropriate officers
- D. The Advisor will be asked for further involvement in the organization as listed in the bylaws.

ARTICLE VIII Financial Structure

Section 1. University Account

- A. All funds from University sources must be deposited and maintained in a University of North Dakota Account.
- B. The President and /or Treasurer shall be authorized to sign all financial transactions dealing with Association funds.
- C. The Advisor of the Association must co-sign all financial transactions of the organization.
- D. The financial record/ledger must be submitted for an annual audit to the Coordinator of UND Student Organizations Office at the end of Spring semester.

Section 2. Dues

Dues for the Association shall be approved by a simple majority vote of the Association at a regular business meeting. Chapter affiliation dues are donations in nature.

- A. General Membership
- B. Voting Membership

ARTICLE IX By-Laws

Section 1. Provisions for By-laws

- A. The Association may approve by-laws for specific operation of the Association.
- B. No by-law shall be adopted that is contrary to the provisions of the University, Law School, NNALSA, or this constitution.
- C. Approval of by-law and revisions shall be by four-fifth (4/5ths) vote of the Association present at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Association.

ARTICLE X Amendments to Constitution

Section 1. Approval

- A. A proposed amendment to this constitution shall be presented to the Association at least one meeting prior to the meeting in which the vote shall be held.
- B. Approval of an amendment to this constitution shall require a four-fifth (4/5ths) vote of the Association present at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Association.

Section 2. Ratification by the UND Student Policy Committee

All amendments to this constitution shall be subject to the ratification by the UND Student Policy Committee.

This constitution was approved by the Association on Monday, April 21, 2008.

Joseph Morsette 21 Apr 08
President Date

Keith K. H. H. 5/1/08
Advisor Date

Clayton B. B. 5/2/08
UND Student Policy Committee *Coord. Student Orgs.*
Date