



***CONSTITUTION OF THE STUDENT WORLD ASSEMBLY,
(YOUR SCHOOL'S NAME HERE) CHAPTER
Adopted (Date)***

This suggested document may be used as the constitution for your student chapter. The document may have to be modified to fit the rules and procedures of your college/university.

PREAMBLE

The Student World Assembly (SWA) is a non-governmental organization created to represent people in much the same manner as the United Nations represents governments. It provides a deliberative assembly through which students around the world can express their views, hear and understand the opinions of others, and deliberate and vote on global issues. Through participation in the SWA's online forums, videoconferencing, campaigning and elections, writing resolutions on pressing issues of global concern, conventions, and Chapters activities, it is hoped that students will learn to practice "creative democracy"—the ideas, techniques, commitments, fellowship, and leadership that will be needed if the world's people, with their multiplicity of cultures and conflicting interests, are to live together peacefully and justly in our increasingly globalized planet.

The Student World Assembly encourages students to act as global citizens, sharing concerns for the health and prosperity of the global community and the global environment. It is independent of any political, ideological, or religious affiliation, and funded by donations from its members and supporters around the world. It abides by all pertinent International, National, State, and University laws and regulations.

ARTICLE I

Incorporation

Section 1. The name of this chapter shall be Student World Assembly, (your school's name here) Chapter. All usage of the Student World Assembly name to identify this chapter shall be in this form.

Section 2. The purpose of this organization shall be to act as a satellite chapter of the international body of the Student World Assembly. The primary responsibility of this organization shall be to encourage campus and community involvement in the exploration, discussion and voting of global issues through the internet.

Section 3. This chapter shall adhere to the vision established by the SWA. This vision provides the opportunity for students to express their views, discuss issues, and vote on non-binding but potentially morally persuasive resolutions.

ARTICLE II Goals & Objectives

Section 1. The goals of the Student World Assembly, (your school name) Chapter shall be to:

- a. Propose and deliberate global issues.
- b. Plan, host and publicize local events.
- c. Discuss various perspectives of proposed issues.
- d. Campaign for international SWA offices.
- e. Attend or elect delegates for representation at the international convention.
- f. Seek out local financial and volunteer support.

ARTICLE III Membership

Section 1. Membership shall be open to any student, faculty member and administrator regardless of race, sex, creed, national origin, disability or other status protected under the Universal Declaration of Human Rights as established by the United Nations. Neither the Student World Assembly nor any of its members shall conspire to commit any act that causes or is likely to cause bodily danger, or physical or emotional harm to any member of the organization.

ARTICLE IV Governance, Officers & Elections

Section 1. The offices of the chapter shall be:

- a. President
- b. Vice President
- c. Secretary
- d. Treasurer

Section 2. All student members shall be eligible to hold office.

Section 3. The term of Student World Assembly Chapter Officers shall begin on the first day of the regular academic year and end at the beginning of the following academic year.

Section 4. Elections for new officers shall be held during the final meeting of the Spring term. A certified election shall meet the following criteria:

- a. A quorum (50% of student members) must be present;
- b. All prospective officers must be nominated and seconded by active student members;

- c. A nominee shall be elected to an officer position by receiving the greatest number of votes from the active student members in the chapter and is also permitted to vote at the election meeting.

ARTICLE V Duties of the Officers

Section 1. The duties of the Chapter President shall be to:

- a. Schedule all Chapter meetings;
- b. Preside over all Chapter meetings;
- c. Represent the Chapter at all student body meetings.
- d. Keep the Faculty Advisor informed of all Chapter activities;
- e. Report to Chapter on broader SWA activities;
- f. Be informed about other Chapters' activities regionally;
- g. Inform the Chapter of relevant SWA news.

Section 2. The duties of the Vice President shall be to:

- a. Fill in for the President should he or she for any reason be unable to carry out his or her duties at any given event or meeting;
- b. Assist the President in administrating the business of the Chapter
- c. Coordinate efforts to recruit new members.
- d. Ensure that all Chapter events are well-publicized in campus newspapers and bulletins, on announcements boards and by means of posters and fliers.

Section 3. The duties of the Secretary shall be to:

- a. Record attendance at every meeting;
- b. Take brief minutes of each meeting;
- c. Take care of any major correspondence concerning the Chapter as a whole;
- d. Keep a record of all Chapter business, activities, and events;
- e. Keep a formal record of all chapter members.
- f. Keep the Chapter's history organized and well-documented.
- g. Complete an annual report at the end of each academic year as a record of the chapter's activities, and a reference for future members. Submit this report to the Chapter Activities Coordinator.

Section 4. The duties of the Treasurer shall be to:

- a. Keep a detailed and accurate record of all financial documents and submit all financial records to the appropriate school auditors when required for audit.
- b. Sign all financial documents.
- c. Turn in all financial records for re-issue to the new Treasurer when required or appropriate.
- d. The Treasurer shall maintain the authority of the expenditure of funds for the Chapter.

ARTICLE VI Removal & Succession of Officers

Section 1. In the event that a Chapter feels it necessary to remove an officer from his or her position, the person of highest rank should execute a vote of the members. The decision shall be based on a majority vote of the chapter members and presented to the Faculty Advisor for review. The final decision for removal of an officer shall be approved by the Faculty Advisor after all reasonable attempts to resolve the situation have been exhausted.

Section 2. In the event that the President is removed or resigns from office, the Vice President shall assume all responsibilities of the office until an official vote can be executed.

ARTICLE VII Chapter Committees

The Officers of the Chapter shall establish permanent (Standing) and/or ad hoc (Special) committees as necessary. The Officers shall establish procedures for the selection of committee chairs as well as a description of Committee goals and responsibilities. (e.g. fundraising committee)

ARTICLE VIII Chapter Finances

Section 1. All finances shall be handled in accordance with the established fiscal procedures in effect for the college/university in the Fiscal Affairs Office Procedures Manual/Honor Code, etc.

ARTICLE IX Meetings

Section 1. Meetings of the Chapter shall be held at least monthly during the regular school year.

Section 2. Meetings shall be called by the President, who shall convey the time and location of each meeting to the membership.

Section 3. A majority of officers are required to call a special meeting.

Section 4. Active Student Member(s) shall petition officers to vote on a special meeting.

Section 5. Quorum shall be 50% of the Active Student Members.

Section 6. Robert's Rules of Order or equivalent shall govern all standard parliamentary procedures.

ARTICLE X

Faculty Advisor

Section 1. The Officers of the Chapter shall recruit a Faculty Advisor.

Section 2. The Faculty Advisor shall:

- a. Oversee all aspects of the chapter and address any internal issues that arise.
- b. Make a full commitment to monitoring the overall growth of the chapter as directed by student members.
- c. Ensure that student members are meeting all requirements of the college/university.

ARTICLE XI Amendments

Amendments shall be approved by a majority vote of the chapter members. Approved amendments shall be listed under this Article.

ARTICLE XII Pledge

“I, -----, do solemnly promise to uphold the standard of Student World Assembly and to make this objective an aim foremost in my mind, and I do solemnly pledge commitment to my fellow members and promise to aid them in all worthy endeavors.”