

Voices of Indigenous People (VIP) Club Constitution

- Article I Name:
The name of this Middlebury College club shall be the Voices of Indigenous People (VIP).
- Article II Purpose:
1. To educate and enlighten students and the Middlebury Community about the rich cultures of indigenous people around the world.
 2. To encourage our own small indigenous population on campus to make a dynamic impact and have their views expressed on all issues.
 3. To offer on-campus events that will include faculty panels, guest speakers, demonstrations and cultural enrichment performances.
 4. To attend off-campus events to conferences, pow-wows and participate in community service projects and volunteer work.
 5. To join the network of indigenous scholars at other universities and participate in each others events.
 6. To work in collaboration with other student organizations to expand Middlebury College's promotion of diversity and cultural awareness.
- Article III Membership:
Open to all Middlebury College students.
- Article IV Officers:
The officers of this organization shall be,
-The President who is responsible for coordinating trips and other off-campus events, overseeing the orderly functioning of the group, maintaining the constitution, delegating responsibilities to club members and creating committees as deemed necessary.
-The Vice President who assists in the responsibilities of the President, will be responsible for the on-campus events and will be able to delegate tasks to club members.
-The Secretary who has control over emails, website upkeep, taking down minutes at meetings and advertising.
-The Treasurer who is in charge of the inflow and outflow of expenses, liaison between the SGA finance committee, CCAL and VIP.
-The Symposium Chair who is responsible for organizing a symposium in collaboration with other student organizations.
- Article V Elections:
A quorum of 50% of the membership must be present for the election. Elections for all positions in the fall for an academic year shall be carried by a fifty-one percent majority of the members voting. A second round of voting of the leading two candidates will be in order if a fifty-one percent majority is not achieved. Elections for the following academic year must be in order by March 15th. Elections will be held as needed in cases where elected members must leave their posts.

- Article VI Meetings:
Meetings will be held once every week with special events scheduled around them. Attendance for meetings is mandatory for club officers, and recommended for members. Meeting agenda will begin with upcoming events, trips and their attendance. The remainder of the meeting will be devoted to discussing relevant indigenous issues and political activity which are both previously scheduled and spontaneous. Minutes of meetings shall be made available on the VIP website.
- Article VII Committees:
The President has the authority to appoint temporary committees as the need arises.
- Article VIII Faculty Advisor:
The membership may choose a member of the faculty / staff to advise the organization.
- Article IX Affiliations:
No affiliations currently exist with local, state, national or international organizations.
- Article X Discrimination Policy:
This student organization operates in full accordance with Chapter Four, Section II, A of the Middlebury College Handbook concerning Student Organization Policies of Discrimination, Freedom of Association, Anti-Hazing, Freedom of Inquiry and Expression, Student Publication, Funding, Advertising, and Scheduling. Any and all changes made to the Student Organizations Policies section of the Middlebury College Handbook will immediately become policies adopted by the Voices of Indigenous Peoples (VIP) club.
- Article XI Ratification:
A. This constitution must be ratified by 2/3 majority vote of the present active membership.
B. This constitution must be ratified by the SGA constitution committee.
- Article XII Amendments:
A. Amendments to this constitution must be approved by a 2/3 majority vote of the present active membership.
B. Amendments to this constitution must be approved by the SGA constitution committee.

Approved as to Form: March 6, 2006