

MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE AFRICAN AMERICAN ALLIANCE CONSTITUTION

Article I – Name:

As of September 1989 the name of this organization shall be African American Alliance (formerly Black Student Union).

Article II – Purpose:

The purpose of the African American Alliance of Middlebury College is to represent concerns and interests of minority students in the Middlebury College Community. To represent these concerns and interests, the AAA will undertake many activities that will be political, cultural, and social. The organization will also work to help its members in their adjustment and education at Middlebury. It will also work in every way possible to integrate its ideas and programs into the mainstream at the College community.

Article III – Membership:

Membership is open to the entire Middlebury College community. To be considered an active member of the AAA, one must attend at least two-thirds of the regularly scheduled weekly meetings. A student attending less than two-thirds of the regularly scheduled weekly meetings can be considered a voting member if they have a class conflicting with the meeting AND they have made significant contributions to AAA. This decision is to be made by the Executive Committee. Voting members will henceforth be referred to as active members.

Article IV – Officers:

The executive officers of the AAA shall be the President, the Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Parliamentarian. These officers shall comprise the Executive Council, whose duty as a body is to make special appointments.

President:

The President shall preside over all meetings and shall call any special meeting of the organization. The President must have completed at least one academic year at Middlebury before election and shall be the official spokesperson for the organization.

Vice-President:

The Vice-President shall assume the responsibilities of the President whenever the President is not present. He/she shall be responsible for any special duties that the President might assign him/her.

Treasurer:

The Treasurer shall handle all finances of the AAA. He/she shall file a monthly report with the Executive council. He/she is responsible for educating all persons who have to make any financial dealings for/with the organization and shall coordinate the financial projects of any committee. He/she will also serve as liaison between the organization and the Finance Committee.

Secretary:

The Secretary shall be responsible for recording, distributing, and filing the minutes of all the AAA meetings and for all the organization's correspondence. The Secretary shall also be responsible for keeping accurate attendance and membership records.

Parliamentarian:

The Parliamentarian shall be responsible for calling meetings to order, maintaining orderly meetings, and directing the scope of discussions. He/she shall outreach to new students and work with the Admissions Office, meeting and introducing students to AAA.

Article V – Committees

The AAA shall have five committees: Executive, Publicity, Social, Cultural and Outreach.

Executive Committee

The Executive Council and the chairpersons of the five committees will comprise the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall be informed of all activities of the AAA and shall coordinate all such activities.

Publicity Committee

The Publicity Committee shall stay informed of and shall publicize all events and activities of the AAA on and off campus. They shall be responsible for keeping *The Campus*, news services, WRMC and the College community abreast of AAA events and affairs. The committee chairperson shall be elected at the annual general elections.

Social Committee

The Social Committee shall be responsible for planning and implementing all social events for AAA. The committee chairperson shall be elected at the annual general election.

Cultural Committee

The Cultural Committee shall be responsible for allocating and usage of Coltrane Lounge and AAA TV room. The chairperson of this committee shall be elected at the annual general election.

Outreach Committee

The Outreach Committee shall be responsible for attracting new members and helping current members and the student community who may have adjustment problems. This committee shall recognize that some problems need to be referred to Human Resources and will direct students accordingly. The chairperson of this committee shall be elected at the annual general elections and shall work with the Human Resources Department.

Article VI – Elections

Elections will be held annually and before March 15th. Campaigning will begin two weeks before elections. During the first week candidates will present their goals and aspirations and in the second week active members will vote. Candidacy is allowed only to active members. The elections will be conducted by the Parliamentarian unless he/she is a candidate. In such an event, the elections will be conducted by a member who will not be returning for the next semester. Elections shall be by a majority vote of at least two-thirds of the active members. Non-attending active members may vote by campus mail in sealed envelopes by at least two days, but no more than five days before elections. The person conducting the elections shall open votes only during the active session of AAA. Late votes shall not be counted.

Article VII – Meetings

This organization shall meet at least weekly. The agenda shall be determined by a presiding officer. Individual committee meeting will be held at the discretion of the committee chairperson.

Article VIII – Removal of Officers

The membership shall have the power to remove from office any elected officer who has failed to fulfill his/her duties. Upon filing a written complaint against an officer, a committee shall be formed composed of at least one member of the Executive Committee. This committee shall review the complaint and decide of the charge warrants removal from office. If the

committee decides the charge warrants removal from office, the charge will be submitted to membership for review and confirmation.

Article XI – Advisor

The organization may recommend to the President of the College for the appointment of a member of the faculty and/or staff to act as Advisor. The recommendation for the faculty advisor must be approved by two-thirds of the membership before being sent to the president.

Article X – Ratification

This constitution shall become effective upon approval by two-thirds of the active membership of AAA and the Executive Council or subcommittee thereof. The constitution must be approved by the Student Government Association Constitution Committee.

Article XI – Amendments

Proposed amendments to the constitution may be submitted to the Executive Council by any active member. The Executive Council shall present the amendment to the organization at least one week before it is to be voted upon. An amendment shall become effective upon two-thirds of the active membership and the Executive Council or subcommittee thereof. Amendments to the constitution must be approved by the Student Government Association Constitution Committee.

Approved: October 30, 1981

Edited and Approved: Spring 1999