**CONSTITUTION OF THE BLACK STUDENT UNION at the UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA** Amended Thursday, March 2nd, 2023

Preamble

We, the students of the Black Student Union at the University of Florida were established in 1968 and we strive to promote, educate, and exemplify the rich cultural heritage and unique diversity of the people of the African Diaspora. This will be accomplished through various programs, forums and presentations throughout the year.

Be it resolved, that the black students at the University of Florida recognize the importance of cooperation and the necessity of uniting to share and address common problems, goals and aspirations.

Be it further resolved, that there is a recognized need to educate, inform and involve all other persons of the university community in the accomplishments, goals and progress of black students and the progress of black people in general.

Therefore, we hereby establish the Black Student Union at the University of Florida to achieve the above goals.

**ARTICLE I** **NAME OF ORGANIZATION**

***Section 1. Name.***

This organization shall be known as the Black Student Union

hereafter abbreviated BSU.

***Section II. Use of Name.***

Authority to use the Black Student Union name is vested in the executive board, with the approval and consent of the executive board by a 2/3 majority vote. Black Student Union general body members do not have inherent authority to use the Black Student Union name, logo, or reputation without receiving prior written approval from the president.

**ARTICLE II ORGANIZATION AFFILIATION**

As outlined in the RSO Classification Policy, BSU is considered a General Registered Student Organization. As a GRSO, our organization is a separate 3rd party entity, not considered a part of the University of Florida. Through registering with the University, our student group agrees to follow its policies and operate on campus with access and/or eligibility for specific campus benefits.

**ARTICLE III PURPOSE STATEMENT**

***Section 1. Purpose.***

The purpose of the Black Student Union is to promote, educate and exemplify the rich cultural heritage and unique diversity of the people of the African Diaspora.

A. The Black Student Union will accomplish its stated purpose through programs, forums and presentations throughout the year.

B. The Black Student Union is not a political organization; it will not take a position or participate in student government, local, state, or national campaigns and elections. The Black Student Union will not support or endorse any individual candidate or campaign. However, individual members of the Black Student Union are free to engage in any political cause or campaign without fear of retribution.

**ARTICLE IV COMPLIANCE STATEMENT AND UNIVERSITY REGULATIONS**

Upon approval by the Department of Student Engagement, The Black Student Union shall be a registered student organization at the University of Florida. The Black Student Union shall comply with all local, state and federal laws, as well as all University of Florida regulations, policies, and procedures. Such compliance includes but is not limited to the University’s regulations related to Non-Discrimination, Sexual Harassment (including sexual misconduct, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking), Hazing, Commercial Activity, and Student Leader Eligibility.

Section A. Non-Discrimination

The Black Student Union agrees that it will not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, religion, age, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, marital status, national origin, political opinions or affiliations, genetic information and veteran status as protected under the Vietnam Era Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act. Discrimination on the basis of the protected classes described in University of Florida Regulation 1.006 (Non-Discrimination/Harassment/Invasion of Privacy Policies) is prohibited.

Section B. Sexual Harassment

The Black Student Union agrees that it will not engage in any activity that is unwelcome conduct of sexual nature that creates a hostile environment. Behaviors that could create a hostile environment include sexual harassment (which could include inappropriate sexual comments), sexual misconduct, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking and repeated instances of cyber abuse. Sexual harassment as described in University of Florida Regulation 1.006 (Non-Discrimination/Harassment/Invasion of Privacy Policy) is prohibited.

Section C. Hazing

The Black Student Union agrees that it will not initiate, support, or encourage any events or situations that recklessly, by design, or intentionally endanger the mental or physical health or safety of a student for any purpose including but not limited to initiation or admission into or affiliation with any student group or organization. Hazing as defined in the University of Florida Regulation 1.0081 (Prohibition of Hazing; Procedures and Penalties) and 4.040 (Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code) is prohibited. If found responsible for hazing, sanctions may be imposed against the organization, its leaders and/or members.

Section D. Responsibility to Report

The University of Florida identifies Responsible Employees and Campus Security Authorities to support the health, safety, and wellbeing of campus. If the Black Student Union  becomes aware of any such conduct described in this article, they are encouraged to report it immediately to staff in Student Engagement, the Director of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution, the University’s Title IX Coordinator, or to their Student Organization Advisor, who are identified as mandated reporters.

Section E. Officer Eligibility

The Black Student Union understands, acknowledges, and agrees to uphold and abide by the specific minimal requirements regarding officer eligibility as defined in the Registered Student Organization Classification and Officer Eligibility Policy.

**ARTICLE V** **MEMBERSHIP**

Membership in this organization is open to all enrolled students at the University of Florida. Non-enrolled students, spouses, faculty, and staff are prohibited from holding membership, office or voting powers. All members are free to leave and disassociate without fear of retribution, retaliation, or harassment.

**ARTICLE VI. BYLAWS FOR Black Student Union**

The Black Student Union may elect to maintain separate bylaws document to outline the day-to-day operations of the organization and to clarify policies and procedures otherwise not included in the previous articles. Bylaws and/or other guiding documents may not take precedence over the requirements sent forth by local, state, and federal laws, the university of Florida’s regulations, policies, and procedures, and the Student Engagement constitution requirements. Amendments and changes may be made to the bylaws and shall be consistent with the Student Engagement approved constitution on file and student engagement’s constitution requirements. Should the organization transition leadership, all bylaws and guiding documents will be transitioned to new student organization leaders and/or advisor(s). The Black Student Union agrees to provide all unaltered by laws and guiding documents and/or clarify its procedures in writing to any University of Florida student, faculty, or staff upon request.

**ARTICLE VII. STUDENT ORGANIZATION ADVISOR**

Each registered student organization must have an eligible student organization advisor. The student organization advisor must be a full-time, salaried faculty or staff member not on extended leave for 4 consecutive weeks or longer during their advisor term. The student organization advisor shall serve as a resource person providing advisory support to officers and members and may not vote or hold office in the organization.

The advisor shall serve as a resource and provide advisory support for the officers and members of the organization. The advisor is welcome to attend executive and general meetings. The advisor shall be nominated by the officers and confirmed by a majority vote of the elected officials. The advisor will serve for one academic year. After that time, members will vote to reinstate the faculty member for another academic year or to nominate another, majority vote rules.

**ARTICLE VIII. OFFICERS**

Registered student organizations are required to have a minimum of a President, Treasurer, and Vice President as elected officers. These officers must abide by the Registered Student Organization Classification and Officer Eligibility Policy.

The elected officers of the Black Student Union shall be President, Internal Vice President, External Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary. At no time should one person hold more than one of these positions.

***Section 1. Composition.***

All executive powers of the Black Student Union shall be vested in the following elected offices that are collectively known as the Executive Officers:

1. President
   1. Internal Vice President
   2. External Vice President
   3. Treasurer
   4. Secretary

***Section 2. Duties***

The duties of the elected officers shall include but not be limited to the following:

1. President
   1. Preside at all meetings of the BSU Executive Board, BSU General Body, and any special meetings
   2. Appoint Committee Directors, Cabinet Directors, and Non-Elected Officers with 2/3 consent of the executive board
   3. Supervise and approve financial transactions related to BSU and any sub-organizations
   4. Serve as an ex-officio member of all BSU committees
   5. Call a special meeting when necessary
   6. Supervise the other elected officers of the BSU Executive Board
   7. Represent BSU and its communities to the University of Florida and Gainesville communities
   8. Represent BSU and any sub-organizations to Student Government
   9. Sign all requisitions and financial agreements on behalf of the Black Student Union .
   10. Organize and oversee co-sponsored events between BSU and other campus organization, the UF administration and the greater Gainesville community
   11. Maintain communication and interaction with the local Black community
   12. Maintain communication with other Black organizations of other institutions of higher education
   13. Maintain public relations on and off campus
   14. Report on the affairs and vacancies of Student Government to the General Body
   15. Maintain a directory and establish communication between BSU and its alumni
   16. Oversee the Shades of Unity dance troupe and ensure at least 3 performances per semester
   17. If a sub organization were to exist, the President and Vice President would be equally assigned specific sub organizations, with the President having the sub organizations with the highest budgets
2. Vice President (Internal)
   1. Be responsible for recruitment and member retention
   2. Facilitate joint programming among BSU and any BSU sub-organizations or cabinets
   3. Ensure compliance with this Constitution and its Bylaws along with Parliamentarian
   4. Execute the powers and duties of the President in the event that the President is unable to do so.
   5. Assign, coordinate/bi-weekly meetings and oversee the activities and directors for the following cabinets:
      * + 1. Special Events
          2. Black Student Union
          3. Mentorship
          4. Community Affairs
3. Vice President (External)
4. Shall, in the absence of the President, Vice-President of Programming have all authority and responsibilities vested in the President.
5. Responsible for organization of GBM Planning
6. Responsible for developing a communications plan which aligns with the organization's mission and goals.
7. Assign, coordinate/bi-weekly meetings and oversee the activities and directors for the following cabinets:
8. Oversee the Media Relations cabinet
   * 1. Political Action
     2. Talent Management
9. Shall coordinate all marketing and communication strategies for the Black Student Union
10. Responsible for Co-Sponsorships and collaborations with non-BSU orgs
11. Serve on External committees where BSU is needed
12. MLK, Black Affairs, Association of Black Alumni
13. Treasurer
    1. Manage and keep track of the financial activities of BSU and any BSU sub-organizations
    2. Make a financial report to the BSU Executive Board once per Month Committee
    3. Give and keep receipts for all monies disbursed by or given to BSU
    4. Serve as the liaison among BSU and any BSU sub-organizations and the Student Government Finance Office
    5. Represent BSU before Student Government and help prepare all budget requests
    6. Ensure compliance with Student Government Finance Statutes
    7. Assist BSU and BSU sub-organization officers and chairpersons with their budgets as needed
    8. Educate BSU members about the Student Government funding process
    9. The treasurer, along with the President, is responsible for developing the comprehensive budget each semester with the advice and consent of the executive officers, as well as, general body members.
    10. The treasurer shall represent the Black Student Union during the budget hearing process.
    11. The treasurer reserves the right to appoint an assistant treasurer.
14. Secretary
    1. Ensure timely and accurate mass communication in BSU
    2. Maintain minutes of all BSU general body meetings
    3. Maintain minutes of all BSU Executive Board meetings
    4. Create membership roll and record attendance at all meetings
    5. Create and update records of activities of BSU and any sub-organizations
    6. Ensure compliance with this Constitution and its Bylaws
    7. Ensure maintenance of BSU office space, including logs, supplies, and appearance
    8. Oversee the Media Relations Director
    9. Act as Director of Membership and assume its roles and responsibilities
    10. Reserve the right to appoint an assistant
    11. Maintaining the Black Student Union website and newsletter, creating the Black Student Union ’s spring calendar

***Section 3. Terms of Office.***

Officers shall assume their official duties at the close of the last general meeting of the academic year and shall serve for a term of one academic year and/or until their successors are elected/appointed*.*

***Section 4. Executive Powers.***

The executive officers have the power to execute their responsibilities as enumerated in Article III. In addition, the executive officers have the power to perform all other functions necessary and proper for the administration of the Black Student Union . Executive officer actions must be in accordance with the Black Student Union Constitution and Bylaws and are regulated by University of Florida guidelines. The Treasurer and Secretary reserve the right to appoint an assistant.

b. Mr. and Ms. Black Student Union . Mr. and Ms. Black Student Union shall plan, coordinate and direct the annual pageant the year following their coronation. As producers of the pageant, they must ensure that the necessary monies are raised for the scholarship. Each contestant must sell the minimum amount of dollars in advertisements as directed by Mr. and Ms. Black Student Union . Mr. and Ms. Black Student Union shall also plan, coordinate and direct all activities related to the pageant, such as Evening of Royalty, and they are responsible for all financial transactions related to the aforementioned events. Mr. and Ms. Black Student Union shall also work with the Homecoming Director in coordinating the Homecoming Court and attend other organization’s meetings to serve as a visual representation of the Black Student Union .

1. Media Relations. The Public and Media Relations Cabinet Director is responsible for maintaining and creating all visual records, publicity, and media relations for the Black Student Union . This cabinet is responsible for promoting all Black Student Union events through all available media, creating/updating a local and corporate media contact list, and creating the Black Student Union media kit. The Media Relations Cabinet Director is responsible for appointing a historian within the cabinet to photograph and scrapbook Black Student Union events. The Media Relations Cabinet is responsible for all marketing campaigns for the Black Student Union . Some roles of the Media Relations cabinet are as follows, but not limited to:

* Assistant Director: The Assistant Director serves as an aid to the PR Director. Responsibilities of this position will be as follows, but not limited to; Helping to maintain the website, a bi-weekly IG segment, creating the daily repost schedule, assisting in creating the Month Committee event calendar, and replying back to any social media inquiries. Experience in marketing and strong knowledge of grammar and spelling is highly valued for this position.
* Graphic Designer : The Graphic Designer serves as an visual artist to the Black Student Union . This position is responsible for designing merchandise and graphics to promote the Black Student Union . Graphics include those for General Body Meeting, promotional merch and any other that may be needed. Experience in Adobe CC or any other design software is necessary.
* Social Media Lead: The Social Media lead serves in running the daily social media accounts. This individual will be in charge of posting on the BSU instagram, Twitter and facebook account, Posts include (but are not limited to) event promotion, and merchandise. Making sure all social media stays aesthetically pleasing. This person will also share the responsibility of responding to private and direct messages on social media platforms.
* Historian: The Historian will be responsible for being present during General Body Meetings along with larger events to photograph and record said events. Having access to a camera (phone camera) is necessary for this position.

***Section 5. Appointed Officers***

All appointed officers are selected through an application process and through elected official recommendation.

1. Parliamentarian.

The parliamentarian shall assist the president and vice-president in conducting meetings, maintaining order and ensures that Robert’s Rules of Order are followed. The parliamentarian may be called upon to answer questions regarding the Black Student Union Constitution and Bylaws and impeachment proceedings. In the absence of the parliamentarian during meetings, the president shall appoint an **individual knowledgeable** in the Robert’s Rules of Order and the Black Student Union Constitution and Bylaws to serve as acting parliamentarian. The parliamentarian is responsible for collecting any material that is needed in conjunction with the election process collecting applications, PowerPoints, questions, etc. The parliamentarian will oversee and may step in when necessary to ensure election protocol is following along in compliance with rules. The rules and regulations of the elections will be provided ahead of time and will be co-agreement with standing president. The parliamentarian will also be responsible for overseeing and collecting voting responses from approved voting members and ensuring no tampering.

B. Executive Assistant

1. Each Executive Assistant will serve under and report to one of the following Elected Official positions: President, Internal Vice President and External Vice President

2. The tasks and requirements required of the Executive Assistants are regulated by the Elected Official of which they reside under

3. The Executive Assistants will serve as support personnel and liaison for the committees/cabinets under their respective Elected Official

4. Executive assistants will plan leadership conferences among the Black Student Union and other various campus organizations to promote unity and

cooperation among leaders on campus

1. Assistant Secretary

The Assistant secretary shall assist the Secretary in keeping the official minutes and records of all Black Student Union meetings. The Assistant secretary will also be in charge of taking attendance at BSU Events. The Assistant secretary will also assist in distributing and posting the official minutes and records of all Black Student Union general body meetings to members; and distributing the official minutes and records of all Black Student Union executive board meetings to executive board officers. The Assistant secretary shall also perform other duties as delegated by the Secretary.

1. Assistant Treasurer

The Assistant treasurer shall help the Treasurer in maintaining an accurate account of all Black Student Union financial transactions. The Assistant treasurer will aide in the development of a comprehensive budget each semester. The Assistant treasurer shall also perform other duties as delegated by the Treasurer.

***Section 6. Executive Board.***

The executive board shall consist of the executive officers, appointed

officers, cabinet directors, special committee directors and special events committee directors.

Assistant directors are not part of the executive board.

**A. BSU Committees.**

1. Black Student Union Committee
   1. Purpose. The Black Student Union Committee shall serve to plan and execute the annual

Black Student Union (hereafter abbreviated as BSU) and its related events.

* 1. Executive Director. The BSU Committee shall be lead by the Executive Director who shall plan, direct and coordinate BSU and all surrounding step show related events.
     1. Duties.
        1. Submitting bi-weekly reports to the President
        2. Attending bi-weekly scheduled meetings with the designated CSAI advisor
        3. Reporting all expenditures to the President and Treasurer Appointment
        4. Being responsible for all financial transactions related to the aforementioned events.
     2. Appointment.
        1. Selections Board. The Executive Director shall be appointed by the current President, President-Elect, Current Executive Director, BSU advisor and CSAI advisor shall attend the interviews.
        2. Schedule. The Executive Director of BSU shall not be appointed for the upcoming school year before the President of the upcoming school year has been elected.
     3. Powers. The Executive Director shall have the power to appoint subcommittees and their chairpersons, select committee meeting times and dates and determine the size of the committees.

2. Black History Month Committee

* 1. Purpose: The Black History Month Committee will create a 28 day celebration to increase awareness of the contributions of people of the African Diaspora to society and history.
  2. Executive Director(s). The Black History Month Director shall plan, coordinate and direct all activities for Black History Month, excluding those events outlined under the Black Student Union Director and Fashion X-Clusive Director duties.
     1. Duties.
        1. The Black History Month Director is responsible for organizing and approving events in conjunction with the Student Government Special Events Budget
        2. The Black History Month Director must submit bi-weekly reports to the President
  3. The Black History Month Director must meet with the designated CSAI advisor bi-weekly
  4. The Black History Month Director must submit a Final Report to the President

1. Powers. The Black History Month Director shall have the power to appoint subcommittees and their chairpersons, select committee meeting times and dates, and determine the size of the committees.
2. Selections Board. The Executive Director shall be appointed by the current President, President-Elect, Current Executive Director, BSU advisor and CSAI advisor shall attend the interviews.
3. Black History Month Fiscal Manager. The Black History Month Director shall appoint a Black History Month Fiscal Manager to keep a complete and accurate account of all Black History Month transactions. The Black History Month Fiscal Manager shall sign all requisitions and financial agreements on behalf of Black History Month.

**C. Cabinet Directors.**

The director of each Black Student Union Cabinet shall be selected through an application process. The director of each Black Student Union Cabinet shall have the power to appoint assistant directors, select cabinet meeting times and dates, and determine the size of the cabinet if they choose to do so, though it is not limited or required. Cabinet directors shall present assistant director appointment recommendations to the executive board prior to appointments.

1. The Black Student Union Leadership Development Institute Director(s) is responsible for guiding and training current and upcoming student leaders at the University of Florida in the areas of leadership and service. The director is responsible for coordinating the Black Student Union Leadership Institute, a one-year student leadership program for interested members. The director(s) also coordinates the graduation ceremony of the Black Student Union Leadership Development Institute members.
2. Community Affairs. The Community Affairs Director will oversee the following:
   1. Community Affairs. Serve as the liaison between the University of Florida community and the Greater Gainesville community. The Community Affairs Cabinet Director is responsible for coordinating joint campus/community events and oversees special projects. These events include but are not limited to the annual Haunted House event, a mentoring program for local youth and the Black

Student Union’s health awareness walk/run. This cabinet director must also identify and sponsor a local community group or need.

* 1. . Health Affairs. Responsible for arranging events (forums, seminars, health days, etc.) that educate the general body on diseases prevalent within the Black Community. The director of this cabinet will also be charged with putting together two exercise classes per year. The director will also be responsible for coordinating various intramural teams throughout each semester.
  2. Excellence Scholars. A program developed to prepare secondary school students in the Gainesville/Alachua community to become servant leaders in society

1. Special Events Cabinet. The Special Events Cabinet Director plans and coordinates events for the enrichment and enjoyment of black students and the University community. These educational and socially benefiting programs include, but are not limited study groups, freshmen orientation/transition programs, the Black Student Union’s annual Basketball Jamboree, and the fall, spring, and summer UMOJA senior graduation ceremony.

a. BSU Homecoming Committee

1. Purpose. The BSU Homecoming Committee shall serve to plan and execute the annual BSU Homecoming Celebration Week.
2. Executive Director. The BSU Homecoming Committee shall be lead by the Executive Director who shall plan, direct and coordinate BSU Homecoming and all surrounding step show related events.

a. Duties.

i. Submitting bi-weekly reports to the President

ii. Attending bi-weekly scheduled meetings with the designated CSAI advisor

iii. Reporting all expenditures to the President and Treasurer Appointment

iv. Being responsible for all financial transactions related to the aforementioned events.

v. Submitting a Final Report

b. Appointment.

vi. Selections Board. The Executive Director shall be appointed by the current President, President-Elect, Current Executive Director, BSU advisor and CSAI advisor shall attend the interviews.

vii. Schedule. The Executive Director of BSU Homecoming shall not be appointed for the upcoming school year before the President of the \upcoming school year has been elected.

b. Mr. and Ms. Black Student Union. Mr. and Ms. Black Student Union shall plan, coordinate and direct the annual pageant the year following their coronation. As producers of the pageant, they must ensure that the necessary monies are raised for the scholarship. Each contestant must sell the minimum amount of dollars in advertisements as directed by Mr. and Ms. Black Student Union. Mr. and Ms. Black Student Union shall also plan, coordinate and direct all activities related to the pageant, such as Evening of Royalty, and they are responsible for all financial transactions related to the aforementioned events. Mr. and Ms. Black Student Union shall also work with the Homecoming Director in coordinating the Homecoming Court and attend other organization’s meetings to serve as a visual representation of the Black Student Union.

1. Media Relations. The Public and Media Relations Cabinet Director is responsible for maintaining and creating all visual records, publicity, and media relations for the Black Student Union. This cabinet is responsible for promoting all Black Student Union events through all available media, creating/updating a local and corporate media contact list, and creating the Black Student Union media kit. The Media Relations Cabinet Director is responsible for appointing a historian within the cabinet to photograph and scrapbook Black Student Union events. The Media Relations Cabinet is responsible for all marketing campaigns for the Black Student Union. Some roles of the Media Relations cabinet are as follows, but not limited to:

* Assistant Director: The Assistant Director serves as an aid to the PR Director. Responsibilities of this position will be as follows, but not limited to; Helping to maintain the website, a bi-weekly IG segment, creating the daily repost schedule, assisting in creating the monthly event calendar, and replying back to any social media inquiries. Experience in marketing and strong knowledge of grammar and spelling is highly valued for this position.
* Graphic Designer : The Graphic Designer serves as an visual artist to the Black Student Union. This position is responsible for designing merchandise and graphics to promote the Black Student Union. Graphics include those for General Body Meeting, promotional merch and any other that may be needed. Experience in Adobe CC or any other design software is necessary.
* Social Media Lead: The Social Media lead serves in running the daily social media accounts. This individual will be in charge of posting on the BSU instagram, Twitter and facebook account, Posts include (but are not limited to) event promotion, and merchandise. Making sure all social media stays aesthetically pleasing. This person will also share the responsibility of responding to private and direct messages on social media platforms.
* Historian: The Historian will be responsible for being present during General Body Meetings along with larger events to photograph and record said events. Having access to a camera (phone camera) is necessary for this position.

1. Mentorship. The Mentorship Director will oversee as follows:
   1. Mentorship. Responsible for setting-up and monitors a yearlong mentorship program between interested individuals and qualified mentors. Responsibilities will also include the planning of the mentor/mentee retreat, as well as, various social events.

**D. Cabinet Assistant Directors.**

Cabinet assistant directors are appointed by cabinet directors with approval of the President and assist in the operation of the respective cabinet. Cabinet assistant directors shall serve one (1) academic year.

**E. Executive Board Meetings.**

1. Frequency. Executive Board meetings shall be held once a week and additionally at the executive board’s discretion. The President or a 50% + 1 majority of the executive board may call meetings. Notice of these meetings must be served to all executive board members, no less than 48 hours before the meetings.
2. Attendance. Members of the executive board are required to attend all executive board meetings. Members unable to attend a meeting must notify the secretary at least 48 hours before the meeting. Members of the executive board may not accumulate four (4) unexcused absences from either executive board or general body meetings per semester. Failure to comply with this requirement shall constitute nonfeasance of office and shall be grounds for removal from office. Executive board members who cannot attend an executive board or general body meeting must send an Assistant Director or a representative in his or her place.
3. Quorum and Voting. 50% + 1 of the membership of the executive board shall constitute a quorum. The President shall vote only in the event of a tie.
4. Reports. Executive board members are responsible for delivering reports during the weekly executive board meetings.
5. Rules of Order. Unless waived by majority vote, Robert’s Rules of Order will be followed at all meetings.

***Section 6. Dispute Resolution.***

The executive board shall resolve all disputes regarding matters involving members of the Black Student Union . Disputes include, but are not limited to, office hours, attendance and other issues arising under the Black Student Union Constitution and Bylaws. The dispute resolution process shall include reasonable provisions for notice and opportunity to be heard and shall be set forth in the Black Student Union Bylaws.

***Section 7. Resignation and Removal of Officers and Executive Board Members.***

1. Resignation of Officers and Executive Board Members. In the event that any executive officer and/or executive board member resigns prior to the expiration of his or her term, the president shall recommend a replacement. The executive board of the Black Student Union shall vote on a replacement for that position no later than five (5) school days following the original executive board member’s resignation by a 2/3 majority vote in order to complete the original term. Any executive board member wishing to resign must submit his or her letter of resignation prior to the next scheduled executive board meeting.
2. Impeachment of Officers and Executive Board Members. Any executive board member and executive officer may be removed from office for nonfeasance, misfeasance or malfeasance in office. The decision for the removal of the executive board member shall be made by the executive board with a 2/3 majority vote when quorum is present. Any member of the Black Student Union may bring impeachment charges against an executive board member by submitting a petition to the parliamentarian. The parliamentarian shall notify, in writing, the executive board and the member whom the impeachment proceedings are being brought. At the next scheduled executive board meeting, an evidentiary hearing will be held and the affected officer shall have the right to speak for no more than 15 minutes to present his or her case against removal. If an executive board member is removed, the president shall recommend a successor to complete the office term. The voting will consist of the members of the Black Student Union by means of a secret ballot of the president’s recommendations.

**ARTICLE IX. ELECTIONS**

***Section 1. Time*.**

The election of officers shall be held during the spring semester by a majority 50% + 1 of the eligible voting memberships. Elections must be held on or before the last week of March

***Section 2. Eligibility for Office*.**

Candidates for the office of President, Internal Vice-President, External Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer must have:

* 1. Attended the University of Florida for at least three (3) semesters
  2. Served as an active member of the Black Student Union for two (2) consecutive semesters excluding summers immediately prior to gaining eligibility for candidacy.
  3. Served on the Executive Board of the Black Student Union previously for at least one year.
  4. At least a 2.75 GPA to be eligible to vote.
  5. Have not been removed from office at any time serving as an executive board member.

***Section 3. Eligibility to Vote*.**

* 1. Membership profiles must be submitted to the secretary by the last meeting of the fall semester. In order to vote, Black Student Union members must be an active member as defined by ARTICLE XI.
  2. Voting is only allowed upon the presentation of University of Florida identification card or other valid proof of identification.

***Section 4. Election Procedure*.**

Black Student Union elections shall follow the election guidelines as noted in the Black Student Union Bylaws

A. Application Process

All candidates for BSU elected officials must submit all necessary requirements set by the Black Student Union Executive Board prior to the last week of March.

B. Candidate presentation Order

1. President, Vice President External, Vice-President Internal, Treasurer, Secretary

2. Provided there is a candidate for each position.

3. In the event of an absence of candidates the next in order would proceed.

C. Time Orders

1. Each candidate shall be given three minutes to present their platform.

2. Following completion of the presentation by each candidate. A group question and answer segment will begin that will not exceed 15 minutes in length. Cannot be extended.

. the question and answer segment will begin with a set of predetermined questions asked to the group of candidates by the moderator before being opened to the floor. These questions will be determined beforehand by the current executive board.

. candidates will be given no longer than 30 seconds to answer each question.

D. Voting

1. Voting shall take place after all candidates and positions have presented and gone through question and answer.

2. Voting shall be done anonymously through a process deemed acceptable by the current years executive board and advisors.

3. The ballot should be counted by a member of the current executive board and an advisor.

4. Any runoff shall be the same day of elections or alternative date. A runoff shall be held for the top two candidates, of the previous count, if 51% of the votes are not held by one candidate

E. Runoff

1. In case of a runoff candidates will leave the room and a discussion will be opened to the floor for eligible voting members to testify to the candidate's character. There will be 3 minutes per candidate for a testament to their character.

In the absence of clear direction on election, amendment, and /or voting procedures, the Black Student Union agrees to follow the guidance and instruction of Robert's Rules of Order for the election or amendment process.

**Article X: FINANCE**

As a General Registered Student Organization, the Black Student Union does not receive any funding or resources from other UF Departments or Colleges, rather, this organization is funded by: Student Government Funding and independent fundraising methods.

The Black Student Union will not require membership dues; however, it will raise funds through activities and events for decorations, promotional items, and food for socials. Members are not expected to participate in fundraising activities, this is the responsibility of the executive board to organize.

**ARTICLE XI. DISSOLUTION OF ORGANIZATION**

Upon dissolution, student organizations are prohibited from leaving their organizational assets to any individual or any other student organization. Rather, student organizations may designate a specific charity that will receive such organizational assets. At the time of dissolution, after all outstanding debts are paid, the Black Student Union will leave any assets and outstanding funds to “Hope for Haiti.”

**Article XII: AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION**

Student Engagement has established a process through which constitutions may be amended, reviewed, and approved. Student organizations wishing to amend their constitutions must utilize their constitution on file listed on GatorConnect to make amendments and submit those changes to Student Engagement.

This Constitution may be amended by the executive board and the eligible voting membership with a 2/3 majority vote in one meeting. An updated Constitution will be made available in the Black Student Union office within seven days of any amendment.

All amended constitutions must be submitted directly to Student Engagement for review and approval.