# CONSTITUTION:

Central American Latin Organization

## Article I Name of organization

The name of this organization is Central American Latin Organization. This organization will utilize the acronym CALOR in all publicity materials and correspondence. Central American Organization is affiliated with the Hispanic Student Association operating in Gainesville, Florida. The website of the Hispanic Student Association is [<http://www.ufhsa.org/>].

## Article II Purpose Statement

*Central American Latin Organization* is established for the purpose of developing leadership skills, networking opportunities and to encourage UF students to learn about the Central American culture, customs and food.

## Article III Compliance Statement

Upon approval by the Department of Student Activities and Involvement, *Central American Latin Organization* shall be a registered student organization at the University of Florida. *Central American Latin Organization* 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.

## Article IV University Regulations Section A. Non-Discrimination

*Central American Latin Organization* 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.

## Section B. Sexual Harassment

*Central American Latin Organization* 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.

## Section C. Hazing

*Central American Latin Organization* 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.

## Section D. Responsibility to Report

If this organization becomes aware of any such conduct described in this article, *Central American Latin Organization* will report it immediately to Student Activities and Involvement, the Director of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution, or the University’s Title IX Coordinator.

## 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 may be associate members; however, they may not vote or hold office. All members and associate members are free to leave and disassociate without fear of retribution, retaliation, or harassment.

## Article VI Officers

**Section A:** The elected officers of *Central American Latin Organization* shall be President, Vice-President, and Treasurer.

Part 1: The President shall preside at all meetings of the organization and shall coordinate the work of the officers and committees.

Part 2: The Vice-President shall serve as an aide to the President and shall perform the duties of the President in her/his absence or inability to serve.

Part 3: The Treasurer shall receive all monies of *Central American Latin Organization*; shall keep an accurate record of receipts and expenditures; shall pay out local funds in accordance with the approved budget as authorized by the organization. The Treasurer shall present a financial statement at every meeting of *Central American Latin Organization* and at other times when requested by the President or Vice President.

**Section B:** The appointed officer of *Central American Latin Organization* shall be Secretary. Part 1: The Secretary shall be appointed by the Vice President.

Part 2: The Secretary shall record the minutes of all meetings of *Central American Latin Organization* and shall perform other duties as may be delegated.

**Section C:** 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 D:** Any officer of *Central American Latin Organization* may be removed from office through the following process:

Part 1: A written request by at least three voting members of the organization shall be submitted to either the President, Vice President, or Treasurer. Written notification shall be sent to the officer in question asking that officer to be present at the next meeting and prepared to respond to the removal request.

Part 2: A two thirds majority vote of voting members present is necessary to remove the officer.

Part 3: In the event of the removal of an officer, a special provision may be granted to the remaining officers to appoint an interim replacement until an election may be held.

* This may include interviewing the runner up for the position at questioned, or holding interviews for students on campus, that show interest and experience in this position.

## Article VII Elections

Any member may nominate another voting member, including himself or herself. Nominations can begin three weeks in advance, and can even be made during the election meeting prior to closing of nominations. All members will be part of the election process, and voting will occur by secret ballot and a simple majority vote is required to elect an officer. If there are more than two candidates running and no

candidate receives a majority vote, there shall be another voting session between the recipients at the next general meeting. After reviewing the votes, the person with the less votes will be excluded and the voting for the top two recipients shall begin. For a winner, two-thirds of the members present have to vote for a recipient. No person shall be eligible to serve more than two consecutive terms in the same office. Elections should take place in the month of March to allow for turnover between old and new board.

## Article VIII Student Organization Advisor

The student organization advisor shall serve as a resource person and provide advisory support for the officers and members of the organization. The student organization advisor should attend executive and general meetings; however, the student organization advisor may not vote in any *Central American Latin Organization* matters. The student organization advisor shall be nominated by the officers and confirmed by a majority vote of the members. The student organization advisor will serve a term of one (1) academic year. In the event that the faculty advisor is unable to continue in their position, officers may nominate a replacement at any time, to be confirmed by a majority vote of the members.

## Article IX Finance

*Central American Latin Organization* will not require membership dues; however, it will raise funds through carwashes and similar activities, for t-shirts, travel to leadership conferences, and other operational expenses of the organization. Members are expected to participate in these fundraising activities. *Central American Latin Organization* will also apply for Student Government funding.

## Article X Dissolution of Organization

In the event this organization dissolves, all monies left in the treasury, after outstanding debts and claims have been paid, shall be donated to the department for Latin American Studies on campus.

**Article XI Voting Members**

A voting member is considered to be any individual who acknowledges themselves as members of the *Central American Latin Organization*, attends the organization’s events, and votes on the new officers for the next upcoming year.

## Article XII Amendments to the Constitution

Amendments to this constitution may be made at any regular meeting of *Central American Latin Organization* provided notice of the proposed amendment was given one week prior to a vote. Amendments require a two-thirds vote of the voting members in attendance at the meeting, and are subject to final approval by the Department of Student Activities and Involvement.