

Political Science Club Constitution

Preamble

We the members of the University of South Carolina Aiken Political Science Club do hereby establish this Constitution in order that our purpose be realized to its fullest extent.

Article I. Name

The name of the organization will be the Political Science Club, henceforth referred to as the PSC.

Article II. Purpose

The PSC is established for the express purpose of providing service to the university and larger community toward the ends of promoting greater citizen participation in public life, greater awareness about public issues and the democratic process, and guidance for students in planning careers in public life.

Article III. Membership

Active membership will be limited to persons officially connected with the University as faculty, staff, or undergraduate and graduate students. Students enrolled in the spring semester under the above conditions and indicating intent to continue in the fall semester as well as students enrolled in summer school are eligible for summer membership. In addition, the following requirements are necessary to constitute active membership:

1. attendance of at least 75% of all meetings during a given semester
2. payment of club dues
3. active participation in all activities sponsored by the PSC unless the activity interferes with scholastic activities, economic self-support, or other USCA sanctioned activities

Article IV. Leadership

1. A President elected by the membership will preside at all meetings of the PSC. She/he will maintain the power to appoint all committee chairpersons. The President may designate some other member to preside in her/his absence.
2. PSC members will also elect a Secretary-Treasurer, who will handle club monies and accounts, new members, and rule observances at stated meetings.

All officers shall be elected by a majority vote of eligible voting members of the PSC. All elections will be on an annual basis.

Article V. Election Code

1. Those members with voting privileges are those members meeting all requirements of active membership as set forth in Article III.
2. There must be a quorum of at least 33% of all members to open nominations. The President will take nominations from the floor; the nomination process must be closed and the move to close must be seconded. The nominated parties must accept the nomination. Nominees will be allowed to vote.
3. A quorum must be present throughout the election process. All voting must be done by secret ballot to be collected and tabulated by the Secretary-Treasurer and one voting member of the PSC, appointed by the outgoing President. In the event that the Secretary-Treasurer is a nominated party, the President will count the ballots. In the event that only one nomination is made for an office, the members may move and second to elect by acclamation on a voice vote.
4. A plurality of votes cast is necessary to win.
5. Any officer of the PSC in violation of the organization's purpose or of the Constitution may be removed from office by the following process:
 - a. A written request stating reasons for dismissal and signed by at least (3) three members of the PSC submitted to a club advisor and the other officer
 - b. Written notification of the request and the reasons to the officer, asking the officer to be present at the next meeting and be prepared to speak
 - c. A quorum of 50% of all members must be present. Removal requires a 2/3 vote of all members present and voting.

Article VI. Operations

1. Meetings: All meetings will occur as announced by the President, usually on a monthly basis. Business for the agenda will occur as follows:
 - a. Report by the President
 - b. Committee reports
 - c. Votes on committee motions and decisions
 - d. New business put forth by members of the PSC
 - e. Adjournment by the President
2. Finances: the PSC will finance the activities it engages in by the following means
 - a. Contributions and dues, as set by membership
 - b. The PSC will submit a budget to the Senate Finance Committee on an annual basis and request what the PSC deems necessary to have to operate for the coming year
 - c. The PSC is a non-profit organizations

Article VII. Amendments

This Constitution is binding on all members of the PSC.

The Constitution may be amended as follows:

- a) Amendments to the Constitution may be proposed in writing by any voting member of the PSC at any meeting at which a quorum of 33% of all members are present.
- b) These amendments will be placed on the agenda for the next regular meeting of the PSC.
- c) Passage of proposed amendments require a $2/3$ vote of all members present and voting at that meeting, at which a quorum of 33% of all members must be present. Upon passage, the amendment becomes effective immediately.