

# CONSTITUTION

## BRAZILIAN STUDENT ASSOCIATION

Revised on December 7, 1990

### ARTICLE I

The name of the organization shall be the Brazilian Student Association.

### ARTICLE II

Section 1. The general purpose of this organization shall be to provide Brazilian students with fair representation at the LSU campus.

Section 2. The specific purpose shall be to promote the Brazilian culture in its individuality as a Portuguese-speaking Latin American country.

Section 3. Achievement of these purposes shall be provided through formal and informal meetings, continuous communication with Brazilian students and persons interested in the Brazilian culture, promoting cultural events, and working closely with LSU SGA.

### ARTICLE III

#### BASIC POLICIES

The following are basic policies of this association:

- a. The association shall be noncommercial, nonsectarian, and nonpartisan.
- b. The name of the association or the names of any members in their official capacities shall not be used in any connection with a commercial concern or with any partisan interest or for any purpose not appropriately related to promotion of the Objects of the association.
- c. The association shall not -- directly or indirectly -- participate or intervene (in any way, including the publishing or distribution of statements)

in any political campaign on behalf of, or in opposition to, any candidate for public office; or devote more than an insubstantial part of its activities to attempting to influence legislation by propaganda or otherwise.

d. The association shall cooperate with the University to support the improvement of education in ways that will not interfere with administration of the University and shall not seek to control its policies.

e. The association may cooperate with other organizations and agencies, but persons representing the association in such matters shall make no commitments that bind the association.

## ARTICLE IV

### MEMBERSHIP AND DUES

Section 1. Any individual who subscribes to the purpose and basic policies of the Association may become a member of this Association, subject only to the compliance with provisions of the constitution. No student who meets the other criteria for membership can be denied membership on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, handicap, marital status, Veteran's status or sexual preference.

Section 2. Active membership is restricted to LSU students, Associate membership is restricted to LSU faculty and staff. Associate members are non-voting members.

Section 3. The Association shall conduct an annual enrollment of members, but person may be admitted to membership at any time.

Section 4. Only members in good standing with the association shall be eligible to participate in its business meetings, or to serve in any of its elective or appointive positions.

Section 5. Each member of the Association shall pay monthly dues. The amount of said dues may be changed at any business meeting by majority vote.

Section 6. In the event this organization becomes inactive, any monies left in the treasury after all outstanding debts and claims have been paid, will be donated to the LSU Alumni Association.

## ARTICLE V

### OFFICERS AND THEIR ELECTION

#### SECTION 1.

- a. The officers of this association shall be a president, a vice-president, a secretary, a treasurer, and a program coordinator.
- b. The president of this association shall be a native Brazilian elected by ballot annually at the second regular meeting of the association; however, if there is but one nominee for the office, it shall be in order to move that the secretary cast the elective ballot of the association for the nominee.
- c. The other officers in this association shall be elected at the same meeting when the president is elected by majority vote; however, if there is but one nominee for any of the offices, it shall be in order to move that the secretary cast the elective ballot of the association for the nominee.
- d. Officers shall assume their official duties immediately after their election and shall serve for a term of one year and/or until their successors are elected.
- e. A person shall not be eligible to serve more than two consecutive terms in the same office.

SECTION 2. Candidates to the office of president shall be nominated by any Brazilian member provided the consent of the nominee has been secured.

#### SECTION 3.

- a. A vacancy occurring in the office of the president shall be filled for the unexpired term by a person elected by majority vote of the remaining members of the executive committee.
- b. A vacancy occurring in any of the other offices shall be filled for the remaining of the unexpired term by a person elected by majority vote of the executive committee members.

#### SECTION 4.

a. To be eligible to be elected to or to hold an office or standing committee chairpersonship, a student must:

- 1) Be enrolled as a full-time student.
- 2) Not be on disciplinary or scholastic probation.

#### SECTION 5.

a. The president shall preside at all meeting of the association and of the executive committee; shall perform such other duties as may be prescribed in these bylaws or are assigned to him by the association or by the executive committee; and shall coordinate the work of the officers and committees, in order that the Objects may be promoted.

b. The vice-president shall act as aide to the president and shall perform the duties of the president in the absence or inability of that officer to serve and shall perform other duties as may be delegated to him/her.

c. The secretary shall record the minutes of all meetings of the association and of the executive committee and shall perform such other duties as may be delegated to him/her.

d. The treasurer shall receive all monies of the association; shall keep an accurate record of receipts and expenditures; shall pay out local funds in accordance with approved budget as authorized by the association. The treasurer shall present a financial statement at every meeting of the association and at other times when requested by the executive committee. The treasurer's accounts shall be examined annually by an auditing committee o three members, who, satisfied that the treasurer's annual report is correct, shall sign a statement of that fact at the end of the report. The auditing committee shall be appointed by the executive committee at least two weeks before the meeting.

e. The program coordinator shall be responsible for planning and executing cultural and social events. He/she shall involve as many members as possible in the planning, organization, and execution of such events. Whenever, necessary, the program coordinator shall request that committees be created in order to help him/her in special programs.

## ARTICLE VI

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1. The members of the Executive Committee shall consist of the officers of the association and the chairperson of each special committee.

Section 2. The duties of the Executive Committee shall be to transact necessary business association meetings and such business as may be referred to it by the Association; to approve the plans of work of each special committee chairperson, and to present a report at the regular meeting of the Association.

Section 3. Regular meetings of the Executive Committee shall be held monthly during the academic year, the time to be fixed by the Committee at its first meeting of the year. Two thirds of the executive committee members shall constitute a quorum. Special meetings of the Executive Committee may be called by the president, or by a majority of the Committee.

## ARTICLE VII

### SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Section 1. Such special committees shall be created by the Executive Committee as may be required to promote the objects and interests of the association. The chairpersons of the Special Committees shall be appointed by the association officers. Their term of office shall be one semester.

Section 2. The Chairperson of each Special Committee shall present plans of work to the Executive Committee, and no work shall be undertaken without the approval of the Executive Committee. Any vacancies occurring in the chairpersonship of a Special Committee shall be filled by a member elected by the Executive Committee.

Section 3. The president shall be an ex-officio member of all committees.

## ARTICLE VIII

### MEETINGS

Section 1. Regular meetings of this association shall be held on the first Friday of each month, unless otherwise provided by the association or Executive Committee by a change of date no less than five days prior to the date of the scheduled meeting.

Section 2. Two-thirds of the BSA members present shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business in any meeting of the association.

Section 3. The privilege of holding office, introducing motions, debating, and voting shall be limited to active members.

## ARTICLE IX

### PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

Robert's Rules of Order Revised shall govern the association in all cases in which they are applicable.

## ARTICLE X

### AMENDMENTS

#### SECTION 1.

a. This constitution may be amended at any regular meeting of the association by a majority vote of the members present and voting, provided that notice of the proposed amendment shall have been given at the previous meeting and that the proposed amendment shall be subject to approval of the Faculty Committee on Student Organizations.

b. A committee may be appointed to submit a revised constitution for the existing constitution only by a majority vote at a meeting of the association or of the Executive Committee. The requirements for adoption of a revised constitution shall be the same as in the case of an amendment.

Baton Rouge, December 7, 1990