

**CONSTITUTION  
of the Red Rocks Community College  
The Student Voice  
Revised 14 October 2005**

**PREAMBLE**

We, the students of Red Rocks Community College, in order to organize ourselves into an effective political body and voice for ourselves in the councils of this college and our community, to defend and protect all students' rights, responsibilities and privileges, and to promote the general welfare of the students of the institution, do establish and enact this Constitution of the Student Voice of Red Rocks Community College.

**Article I The Student Voice.**

- A. The organization of students shall be officially known as the Red Rocks Community College Student Voice (hereinafter called the Voice).
- B. All authority and executive power of the Voice shall be derived from the membership of the student body.
- C. The Voice shall be governed by its Constitution and any other actions as mandated by the membership that are consistent with this Constitution.

**Article II The purposes of the Voice shall be to:**

- A. Cultivate communication among students, faculty, staff and administration of Red Rocks Community College (hereinafter called RRCC).
- B. Develop and promote opportunities for the benefit of RRCC's student body.
- C. Maintain a clear representation of the student body's views regarding college policies, regulations and issues pertinent to the well-being of the college and students.

- D. Encourage all members of the student body to participate in the activities and decisions of RRCC.
- E. Promote the social and intellectual growth of the student body members by facilitating the exchange of ideas and fostering collegiate community on campus.
- F. Provide learning and leadership opportunities for its members through seminars and training programs.
- G. Function as the approval entity for proposed student clubs and review, evaluate and sanction the constitutions of proposed groups so that, upon approval of the submitted constitution, the group can be recognized as an official student club with the same privileges and responsibilities as other authorized student organizations.

### **Article III Membership of the Student Body at RRCC.**

- A. The membership of the student body shall consist of all students who are officially enrolled in credit-bearing courses and have paid by any means their student activity fee at RRCC. Membership rights include, but are not limited to, the right to vote in student elections and the right to serve on the Voice.

### **Article IV Membership in the Student Voice.**

- A. The Voice shall not deny membership to any person because of race, ethnicity, sex/gender/sexual preference, religion, national or ethnic origin, political affiliation, marital status, age or disability.
- B. To be eligible for membership on the Voice, a student must:
  - 1. Be a member of the student body at RRCC enrolled in at least one class.
  - 2. Maintain a grade point average (GPA) of 2.5. When a member's cumulative GPA falls below 2.5, he/she has one semester in which to raise the GPA to 2.5.

Members who fail to raise their GPA to 2.5 after one semester shall be automatically removed from membership.

- C. Candidates petitioning for Voice membership shall provide the following, which shall be checked and certified by the Advisor:
  - 1. An application with student information.
  - 2. A letter of intent stating why the candidate wishes to serve on the Voice and what he/she would like to accomplish as a Voice member.
  
- D. The number of Voice members shall be based on RRCC's official headcount enrollment figure during the previous fall semester. Voice members shall be selected at the approximate ratio of 1 Voice member to every 500 students, with a maximum of 18 Voice members serving at any one time.
  
- E. All Voice members shall take the Affirmation of Office and assume duties upon inauguration. The Affirmation of Office states:

*I \_\_\_\_\_, do solemnly affirm that I will faithfully execute the office of \_\_\_\_\_ of the Student Voice at Red Rocks Community College and will, to the best of my ability, enforce the provisions of the Constitution and Bylaws of the Student Voice.*
  
- F. Term limits:
  - 1. A term consists of one full academic year (Fall, Spring and Summer semesters).
  - 2. Members may serve on the Voice for a total of four terms. Of those three terms, they may serve as an officer twice.
  
- G. Provisional Member
  - 1. Students with GPAs lower than 2.5 but who meet all other requirements for Voice membership, and Voice

members whose GPAs drop below the required level, can serve as Provisional members.

2. Provisional members are not paid and cannot vote, but they can participate in Voice meetings, help with Voice events, and serve on Voice committees.
3. Provisional members attain official Voice membership once their GPAs reach the required level.

**Article V Officers of the Student Voice.**

- A. Officers of the Voice shall be:
  1. President
  2. Vice President
  3. Secretary
  4. Public Relations Officer
- B. To be eligible for an officer position on the Voice, a student must:
  1. Be a member of the student body at RRCC enrolled in at least one class.
  2. Maintain a grade point average (GPA) of 3.0. When an officer's cumulative GPA falls below 3.0, he/she has one semester in which to raise the GPA to 3.0. Officers who fail to raise their GPA to 3.0 after one semester shall be removed from office automatically, though they may retain membership on the Voice if their GPA is 2.5 or above.
  3. Provide a letter of recommendation from an RRCC faculty or staff member.
  4. Provide a letter of intent stating why the candidate wishes to serve as an officer and what he or she would like to accomplish.

- C. Election of Officers.
  - 1. Elections for Voice officers shall be held at the fourth Voice meeting of each fall semester. Officers shall be elected from the membership of the Voice by the membership of the Voice, by majority vote.

**Article VI Compensation for Voice Members.**

- A. Voice members will receive a stipend for performance of their official duties. Payment of stipend must be agreed upon by the Voice and the Advisor.
- B. The stipend shall be determined by the student hourly wage scale mandated by the college, following the three-tier system.

**Article VII Advisor to the Student Voice.**

- A. The Coordinator of Student Activities shall serve as the primary advisor to the Voice.
- B. RRCC faculty and staff members may serve as additional advisors to the Voice, at the discretion and/or request of the Voice.
- C. Advisors serve in an advisory capacity to the Voice for matters such as group mission, project guidelines and goals, coordination of events, budget development and monitoring, selection of members, election of officers, and procedural questions within meetings.
- D. At least one advisor shall be present at each event sponsored by the Voice.
- E. The advisor shall be responsible for overseeing the completion and submission of all required college forms in the process of conducting Voice activities and business.
- F. The advisor shall be responsible for the guidance of Voice activities and shall act on behalf of the college administration.

- G. The advisor shall be responsible for Representative training and orientation.

**Article VIII Student Voice Meetings.**

- A. The Voice shall hold regular meetings during fall and spring semesters. Dates for such meetings shall be agreed upon by a majority of Voice members at the second meeting of each semester.
- B. The Voice must have a quorum in order to hold an official meeting. A quorum shall consist of a majority of Voice members. It takes a majority of those present to pass any business. Abstaining is not considered voting; abstentions are not counted as either affirmative or negative votes.
- C. Meetings shall be conducted using Robert's Rules of Order and accepted parliamentary procedure.
- D. The Secretary shall record minutes of each official meeting, including a record of attendance.
- E. The President shall provide a meeting agenda and shall follow and enforce parliamentary procedure during the meeting.
- F. All Voice meetings shall be open unless designated as closed by a majority vote of the Voice officers.
- G.. All votes are final and the results binding on the entire group, but a decision may be reconsidered and may be changed by a majority vote of all Voice members.

**Article IX Absences and Tardies.**

- A. Officers are allowed up to two absences from regularly scheduled meetings during a semester, after which they are automatically removed from the Voice.
- B. Non-officers are allowed up to three absences from regularly scheduled meetings during a semester, after which they are automatically removed from the Voice.

- C. Members who are more than ten minutes late for a meeting are considered tardy. Three tardies in a semester equal one absence.
- D. Members removed from membership or office for failing to meet attendance requirements may appeal their removal by letter or in person to the Voice membership, who shall evaluate the appeal and may reinstate the removed member (with or without provisions) by majority vote.

**Article X Resignation and vacancies.**

- A. Voice members wishing to resign their position must give two-week written notice to the Voice president.
- B. If the office of the President becomes vacant, the Vice President will assume the office and duties of President.
- C. If an officer's position becomes vacant during the fall or spring semesters, the Voice membership shall vote to fill the vacancy from its own ranks.

**ARTICLE XI Reinstatement (DURING FALL OR SPRING SEMESTERS ONLY)**

- A. As long as a Voice member has left the Voice following the vacancies guidelines (above), then he/she may be automatically reinstated by majority vote of the Voice.
- B. Members requesting reinstatement must explain in writing why they originally left the Voice and why they wish to return. Such written explanation must be submitted to a Voice officer, who will present it for consideration at the next Voice meeting.

**Article XII Discipline.**

- A. Any Voice member is liable for removal. Charges will be submitted by a Voice member concerning the removal of

any member. At that point a hearing may be initiated by a two-thirds vote of Voice members.

- B. Charges brought against any Voice member will result in a hearing and, if necessary, appeals process.
- C. All unaffected members of the Voice will vote on the removal of any member after said hearing. The vote to remove must be by three-fourths of the Voice members.
- D. Censure, impeachment and immediate removal from the Voice may occur under the following conditions, but are not limited to:
  - 1. Negligence
  - 2. Incompetence
  - 3. Misappropriation of funds
  - 4. Violations of the Constitution or Bylaws
  - 5. Conduct unbecoming a member of the Voice
  - 6. Failure to follow RRCC rules/regulations
- E. Voice members will be automatically removed from office if they fail to meet the following requirements:
  - 1. Membership in the student body
  - 2. GPA of 2.5 or for non-officers or 3.0 for officers
  - 3. Attendance requirements for Voice meetings

### **Article XIII Student Voice Committees.**

- A. The Voice shall have full authority to create, dissolve and define the jurisdiction of any standing and/or ad hoc committee according to what it deems to be the best interest of the Voice and the student body at RRCC.
- B. All Voice committee chairs must be Voice members. Otherwise, membership is open to RRCC students, employees and community members.
- C. Standing Voice committees will be governed by the bylaws of this Constitution.
- D. Ad hoc committees can be created by vote of the Voice membership and dissolved when their objectives are accomplished.

#### **ARTICLE XIV Campus Clubs**

- A. It is the duty of the Voice to approve the establishment of any new clubs wishing to create an official membership at RRCC.
- B. The Voice shall consider funding requests from clubs wishing to spend more than the per-club maximum allocated in the Student Life budget.
- C. It will be the responsibility of the president of each club to attend a mandatory Presidents' Round Table Meetings four times each semester. If the president is unable to attend he/she must delegate another club officer to speak in his/her behalf.
  - 1. The Presidents' Round Table shall be chaired by the Voice Vice-President.
  - 2. The Round Table shall create a line of communication between the Voice and campus clubs to increase club effectiveness, improve relations within the campus club communities, and provide guidance on club projects and events.
  - 3. Round Table meetings will be held once a month unless otherwise voted on by a majority rule amongst the club presidents.

#### **Article XV Vice President's Round Table**

- A. The Vice President's Round Table, a group comprised of campus club presidents and the Vice President of Student Voice, meets once a month to facilitate communication between the Voice and clubs.

#### **Article XVI Voice Representation on College and Community Committees.**

- A. Student representatives to college and community committees, boards and councils (hereinafter called "Representatives") shall be elected by vote of the Voice members.

- B. Representatives are required to attend a Representative Orientation and subsequent training as requested by the President.
- C. Representatives will be replaced if they miss more than one meeting per semester of the committee they are serving on (with exceptions to be determined by the Executive Officers depending on the committee's function).

**Article XVII Voice Financial Authority**

- A. Voice operating expenses shall be determined annually by the Voice members, the Voice Advisor, and the Student Life Director.
- B. In addition to operating expenses, the Voice has the authority to allocate up to 10% of the student fee cash reserves annually.
- C. Allocations of \$10,000 or more must be approved at a Voice referendum.
- D. The Advisor is authorized to require approval by referendum of amounts between \$1,000 and \$10,000 if he/she feels the appropriateness of the expenditure is questionable.

**Article XVIII Campus Referendum.**

- A. The Student Voice may hold only one referendum per each fall, spring and summer semester.
- B. All referendum issues must be publicized college-wide for at least two weeks prior to the referendum.
- C. Referendum issues pass with a simple majority.
- D. Referendums must be at least one week long, and must end at least one week before the end of the semester.

- E. All voters must be members of the student body, and their participation must be recorded by some system in which their names can be noted for purposes of voter eligibility.
- F. Each member of the student body is allowed to fill out one ballot per referendum.
- G. Protests of referendum procedure must be filed in writing with the Voice Advisor within 14 days of the referendum in question. Upon appearance of a just cause for complaint of referendum fraud or malfeasance, a new referendum can be held following a majority vote of approval by the Student Voice members.
- H. Referendum results shall be tabulated by the Advisor and at least two Voice officers.
- I. Ballots must be kept for at least 30 days following the determination of election results in case of protest or contest of the tabulation.

**Article XIX Interim Summer Board**

- A. The Interim Summer Board shall consist of all Voice members who are willing to be available for the summer term.
- B. Members who wish to be present during summer term but are not registered at RRCC for the summer may continue to serve on the Voice in a volunteer (unpaid) status. It is assumed that such students intend to continue at RRCC the following fall semester.
- C. If unable to attend summer meetings, members in good standing will automatically be reinstated to fall semester assuming they meet the original membership guidelines and qualifications.
- D. The Interim Summer Board shall meet once a month unless it decides, by majority vote, to meet more often.

**Article XX Amendments.**

- A. Amendments to this Constitution may be initiated by a 2/3 vote of the entire Voice membership, or by petition of initiative from the student body as provided for herein. Such proposed amendments shall be placed on an appropriate ballot for voting by the student body. A minimum of two weeks shall elapse between time of proposal of such amendment(s) and the date set for a student body election, during which time the proposed amendment(s) shall be publicized vigorously.
- B. Amendments shall become part of this Constitution upon a consenting vote by the majority of the students voting at the official election, and in accordance with RRCC policy.

**ARTICLE XXI Bill of Rights.**

- A. The Voice hereby declares the following to be basic, inalienable rights of the RRCC student body:
  - 1. The student body has the power to levy, collect, deposit and manage assessments on itself in cooperation with the college.
  - 2. The student body has the right to expend for any and all legal purposes all revenue raised by such assessment of its members or funds allocated to it from the collection of student auxiliaries and student fees.
  - 3. The student body has the right to delegate to the Student Voice those functions, powers and authorities described in its constitution and bylaws.
  - 4. The student body has the right to be represented on all bodies that govern the student body and its activities and that affect student life at RRCC.

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