

CONSTITUTION
Lake Superior State University College Democrats

Preamble:

In order to promote a better United States of America, with equality, opportunity, and freedom within a just and strong society, we dedicate ourselves to organizing the participation of Democratic college students at Lake Superior State University. In this mission, we call for full participation of all Lake Superior State University students, regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, physical handicap, socioeconomic status, or sexual orientation.

Understanding the importance of participation in the Democratic party to the preservation of our values and principles, we Democratic college students do hereby associate ourselves and adopt this Constitution as the LSSU College Democrats.

Article 1: Name and Purpose

A. Name: The name of this organization shall be the Lake Superior State University College Democrats of America, hereafter referred to in this document as the "College Democrats."

B. Purpose: The College Democrats pledges itself to support the philosophy and candidates of the Democratic Party. Furthermore, the College Democrats declares its intention to support all efforts to increase the participation of college students in Democratic affairs. To these ends, the College Democrats shall educate and train its members so that they may be better able to:

1. Educate students about the philosophy of the Democratic Party;
2. Assist in the election of local, state and national Democratic Candidates.
3. Affect political change on the local, state, and national level.

Article 2: Membership

- A. Members: Membership in the College Democrats shall be open to any College student currently enrolled in Lake Superior State University who wishes to be known as a College Democrat and who has the best interests of the College Democrats and the Democratic Party at heart, regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, physical handicap, socioeconomic status, or sexual orientation.

Article 3: The Executive Board

- A. Composition: The Executive Board shall be composed of the President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. All positions will be elected once per semester at General Elections.
- B. The Executive Board shall determine the agenda and policy of the College Democrats and coordinate all activities and events.

Article 4: Duties of the Executive Board Positions

- A. All Executive Board members must maintain active involvement in all of the College Democrats activities and endeavors.
- B. Duties of the President. The President shall:
 - 1. Be the Chief Executive Officer of the College Democrats
 - 2. Define the agenda of the College Democrats during his or her tenure
 - 3. Act as the official representative of the College Democrats to other groups and to the media;
 - 4. Carry out the mandates, policies, and directives of the Executive Board;
 - 5. Preside over all meetings of the College Democrats.
- C. Duties of the Vice President. The Vice President shall:
 - 1. Assist the President in the performance of his or her duties; including brainstorming ideas and evaluating the progress of the Executive Board and the organization as a whole;

2. Act as President when the President is unable to perform her or his duties;
3. Assume the office of the President upon the President's resignation, removal, or inability to perform duties;
4. Take projects of his or her choosing.

D. Duties of the Treasurer. The Treasurer shall:

1. Direct fundraising activities and prepare all grants;
2. Manage the bank account and budget;
3. Perform such duties as the President may assign and take on projects of his or her choosing.

E. Duties of the Secretary. The Secretary shall:

1. Coordinate all postering and publicity activities
2. Notify media of all events of the College Democrats in an attempt to ensure media coverage;
3. Perform such duties as the President may assign and take on projects of his or her own choosing.

Article 5: Elections

- A. Elections shall occur once a semester.
- B. Any member of the LSSU College Democrats is eligible to run for office.
- C. Any member of the LSSU College Democrats is eligible to vote.
- D. General Elections: General Elections will be held in the second week of each semester, to determine the officers for the current semester.

Article 6: Removal

- A. Cause for removal: Cause for removal shall be defined as malfeasance or nonfeasance of duties assigned by the Executive Board or delineated within this document, or as ineligibility for Executive Board membership pursuant to Article 2. Cause for removal shall also include grounds found by ³/₄ of members of the Executive Board to constitute good and sufficient cause.

B. Process for removal: To begin the process for removal, another member of the Executive Board must charge the officer with the reasons for his or her removal publicly at a meeting of the Executive Board. The officer in question must be offered an opportunity to defend himself or herself at that meeting. After a period of two weeks the issue shall be put to a vote. Three-fourths members of the Executive Board must vote for removal for an officer to be removed.

Article 7: Vacancies

A. Declaration of vacancy: A vacancy shall be declared when a member of the Executive Board resigns, or is removed from office. If the vacancy occurs in an Executive Board position other than President, the President shall appoint a successor with a 2/3 majority consent of the remaining Executive Board. If the vacancy is the President, then the Vice President shall automatically be the replacement.

Article 8: Amendments

A. Procedure: The Constitution can be amended by a 2/3 majority vote of the Executive Board with 2/3 approval by the membership.

