

Article I

Name & definition

The name of this organization shall be Brazos Region Astronomy Service Society (herein referred to as BRASS). It shall be a student sponsored service society with membership opened to the community

Article II

Mission Statement

The purpose of BRASS shall be:

- a. to develop, review, initiate, and provide a forum to the community for the sharing of astronomy and astronomy related topics in support of the educational advancement of students and citizens of the Bryan/College Station area.
- b. to form, develop, and maintain effective channels of communication between BRASS, Blinn College Faculty, and Blinn College Student Government Association.

Article III

Membership and Dues

Section 1 Attendance of student body members is encouraged at general meetings. Only the Blinn College students in the program have the right to vote on school based issues.

Section 2 Dues to be determined at first business meeting of each semester.

Article IV

Officers

Section 1 The student officers of BRASS shall consist of a President, Vice-President, Secretary, & Program Coordinator. The President may appoint other officers including but not limited to Public Relations Officer, & Sergeant-at-arms to complete his/her cabinet.

Section 2 All officers of this organization, including the President's appointees, must maintain a 2.0 semester and cumulative grade point average. At any semesters end, if the semester and/or cumulative grade point falls below the 2.0, or if any officer misses , more than two (2) meetings through the year, that officer may lose his/her position.

Officers are to act as facilitators and organizers of BRASS meetings, activities, and social functions.

Section 3 The Term of Office shall be set for one (1) year from the date of election or until a successor has been elected or approved. No person shall serve in the same office more than two (2) consecutive terms.

Section 4 **The student President shall preside at all meetings of the Student and Executive Committee.**

He/she shall uphold the constitution, and shall perform all other duties by the membership/committee usually vested upon the President including additional duties as assigned. This may include conducting all elections, per established guidelines unless he/she is standing for reelection.

The role of the President is that of a facilitator. The President shall recommend appointees to serve the remaining term to any office that becomes vacant. Such recommendations to office must be voted upon and approved by the BRASS membership before appointees officially assume office.

Should the duly elected President be unable or unwilling to continue to perform the duties of his/her office, the Vice-President-At-Large shall assume this office for the remainder of the term.

Section 5 **THE VICE-PRESIDENT** shall in the absence of, or inability to act, assume and perform functions as the President. In the absence of or inability to act by the President, the Vice-President shall assume and perform functions as the President.

Section 6 **THE SECRETARY** shall keep and maintain up-to-date minutes of all meetings of the membership and Executive Committee. He/she shall be responsible for all official correspondence, to include posting and timely distribution of minutes and notices to the membership, Dean of Student Affairs, Advisory Board, and the College Chancellor. In the absence of, or inability to act by the President and Vice-President, the Secretary, shall assume and perform the functions of the President.

Section 7 **THE SGA REP** shall be responsible for attending bi-weekly and special meeting of the **Blinn College Student Government Association**. Failure to attend the SGA meetings could result in the dissolution of the club. In the absence of or inability to act by the President, Vice-President, and Secretary, the Treasurer, shall assume and perform the functions of the President.

Section 8 **THE PUBLIC RELATIONS** Officer is appointed as needed by the Executive Board and shall be responsible for taking photographs and videos of BRASS activities, working with the Blinn College public relations department to publicize various BRASS events and publish the BRASS newsletter, posting notices of events, maintaining the BRASS bulletin board, assisting with various BRASS mailings, and other duties as assigned by the BRASS President. In the absence of, or inability to act by the President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer, the Public Relations Officer shall assume and perform the functions of the President.

Section 9 All officers must be enrolled in three (6) credits or more per semester, excluding summer semester .

Article V

Removal of Officers, Representatives, and Members

Section 1 Any person may be removed as an officer, as a member, or from the Executive Board, for conduct determined to be contrary to the College's "Standards of Conduct" as specified therein and incorporated by addendum, or for failure to perform duties and responsibilities of the office he/she holds. Written notice towards removal action shall be issued in writing and delivered twenty-four (24) hours in advance of the removal, thereby giving the offender opportunity for rebuttal.

Section 2 Members or officers may be removed for failure to attend two (2) consecutive meetings without an acceptable excuse. Members may be removed by written recommendation of the President and vote of majority of members in attendance. Officers may be removed upon written recommendation from the Advisory Board with majority vote by members in attendance.

Article VI

Committees

The Executive Committee shall be the only standing committee and shall have the power to designate special committees as needed with specific tasks. The President retains the power to appoint all committee members.

Section 1 The Executive Committee shall consist of all BRASS officers and the BRASS advisors. This Committee shall be the only standing committee.

Section 2 The Executive Committee shall have general supervision of the affairs of the BRASS , between its business meetings, determine time and place of committee meetings, make recommendations to the membership, and perform duties as specified in the by-laws.

The Committee shall be subject to the membership, and shall not conflict with actions taken by the membership.

Section 4 All committee meetings must have 24-hour posted notice.

Article VII

Meetings and Star Parties

Section 1 All students in active status shall have the privilege to attend any meeting.

Section 2 Meetings shall be held monthly unless otherwise determined by the Executive Committee. Each monthly meeting consists of three (3) segments:

- a. official business- Blinn related issues
- b. forum-for members to meet and discuss observation methods, observation results, theories in astrophysics, and other topics of interest.
- c. star parties- Viewing sessions for solar system objects, deep sky objects, meteor showers, and fellowship.
- d. service visits-to public schools, groups such as Boy/Girl Scouts, local church youth groups, rest homes, etc.

Section 3 A minimum of twenty-four (24) hours is required as notice to a meeting; a posted written notice at prominent locations throughout the campus is necessary .

Article VIII

Quorum

At any BRASS meeting called for the transaction of business, a quorum shall consist of: the President or his/her designee, a BRASS member, one (1) member of the Executive Committee, and four (4) or more student members of the BRASS. If a quorum shall not be present, those active members present shall adjourn until a quorum is present.

Article IX

Elections/Nominations

Section 1 ELECTIONS:

Elections will be held during the Fall Semester.

Section 2 NOMINATIONS:

Nominations will be made from the floor during the BRASS Fall term at a regular meeting. Self nominations are accepted. Nominations do not need a

second. Nominations for persons not attending the meeting have a written acceptance from that person.

Section 3 BRASS officer elections will be held on the day of the nominations.

Article X

Parliament Authority

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised, shall govern this organization in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these by-laws and any special rules of order the organization may adopt.

Article XI

Amendments

This Constitution may be amended by the following methods:

1. Formation of a Constitutional Amendment Committee by the Executive Committee;
2. Submission of all proposed amendments to this committee for discussion and vote;
3. This Committee shall then prepare a written report of suggested amendments for submission to the full BRASS for discussion and vote;
4. The amendments will come into effect after there is a majority vote of the membership which is present and voting at the meeting at which it is proposed.

Mr. Dennis Utley