

CONSTITUTION OF THE COLLEGE DEMOCRATS

ARTICLE I:

SECTION 1. *College Democrats* will provide a forum for our college community to participate in academic exchange of ideas and policies of our society. We seek to provide an environment of respect and consideration of each individual by promoting the humanitarian concern for equal rights and opportunities for all people. We will strive for an environment to foster the continued development of our students as caring conscientious citizens of our community.

SECTION 2. The goals of the student organization, *College Democrats* will be:

- a. To provide a forum for students to share democratic values with others of our college community.
- b. To allow for expression of democratic ideas within an academic setting.
- c. To develop students awareness of the diversity and complexity of our society.
- d. To instill appreciation of our democratic values that forms the foundations of our culture.
- e. To provide a learning environment for academic discussions of issues and policies.
- f. To enhance the development of democratic citizens and leaders of our community.

ARTICLE II:

SECTION 1. In order to support the ideals of the *National Democratic Party*, *College Democrats* will be affiliated with the *Texas Young Democrats*.

ARTICLE III:

SECTION 1. Membership in this organization shall be open to any individual. Furthermore, members of *College Democrats* that met the requirement of the *Texas Young Democrats* shall be members of the *Texas Young Democrats*.

SECTION 2. A *College Democrat*, for membership purposes, is defined as any person who subscribes to the following pledge "I, the undersigned person, do now support the principles of the *National Democratic Party*. Resignation from *College Democrats* will release me from the pledge."

ARTICLE IV:

SECTION 1. Regular meetings of this organization shall be held twice a month during the Fall and Spring semester, or as stated by the organization's President, and shall be called by the President and any other members of the Executive Committee.

SECTION 2. The organization in meeting assembled shall be the supreme policy-making authority for *College Democrats*, subject to this constitution. The constitution and by-laws of the *Texas Young Democrats* will provide the initial foundation for *College Democrats*.

SECTION 3. No transaction of business shall take place unless a quorum of 3 members is present.

ARTICLE V:

SECTION 1. The officers of the organization shall be a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, Treasurer, and a *Texas Young Democrats* State Executive Committee Representative. Other positions may be created as needed to provide specific, organizational functions.

SECTION 2. All Officers shall be elected at a regular meeting in the Month of September, and shall serve until their successors are elected.

SECTION 3. All officers shall be elected by majority vote with run-offs when necessary.

SECTION 4. Any officer may be removed from office by a two-thirds vote of members

present at a regular meeting. Any officer may be automatically removed upon failure to attend three consecutive meetings.

SECTION 5. In the event of a vacancy, in any office, the office shall be filled by special election at the next regular organizational meeting,

SECTION 6. At least one officer shall serve on the Executive Committee of the *College Democrats*, and have the duties stated in the Constitution or outlined by presiding *College Democrats* officers.

a. The president shall preside at all meetings of the *College Democrats* organization and of the Executive Committee. The president, with the approval of said Executive Committee, will appoint members and chairpersons of all committees, and call regular meetings of the *College Democrats*.

b. The Vice-president shall preside at meetings in the absence of the president and serve as Membership Committee Chair.

c. The Treasurer shall keep all monies of the *College Democrats* in a special bank account, disburse monies on the order of the organization, keep financial records, and present reports at each meeting of the organization and provide written documentation to the Secretary.

d. The Secretary shall take minutes of *College Democrats* and of Executive Committee meetings. Such minutes shall form the basis of records of the actions of the *College Democrats*. Records for each semester shall be maintained in the office of the advisor of the *College Democrats*.

ARTICLE VI:

SECTION 1. The Executive Committee shall be composed of the officers, and other committee chairs. They shall meet at the call of the President or any three members. The Executive Committee shall:

- a. set the time, date, place, and agenda of the meetings;
- b. plan programs for meetings;
- c. suggest policy to the organization;
- d. authorize expenditures of money when necessary;
- e. take action in the name of the organization, when necessary, subject to the approval of the organization at the next meeting.

ARTICLE VII:

SECTION 1. Each member shall pay annual dues, that are set in the first meeting of the month of September.

ARTICLE VIII:

SECTION 1. Except as otherwise provided, *Robert's Rules of Order Revised* shall be parliamentary authority of *College Democrats*.

ARTICLE IX:

SECTION 1. This Constitution shall become effective when adopted by a two-thirds majority vote of members present and voting at the meeting. Amendments to the Constitution, after its adoption, may be introduced at any regular meeting, and shall be voted on at the next meeting. Amendments approved by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting shall be adopted.

*This constitution has been modified (23 Feb 2004) from the constitution of the *Blinn Young Democrats*. Brenham Campus.