Languages Graduate Student Association (LANGSA)

Article I. Name

The formal name of this organization is Languages Graduate Student Association, henceforth referred to as LANGSA.

Article II. Purpose

1. The purpose of LANGSA shall be to:
   
a. advance the critical study and research of cultural production in the languages of UCONN’s Department of Literatures, Cultures, and Languages.
   
b. promote a dialogue between graduate students and professionals of diverse academic interests and disciplines related to the fields of literatures, cultures, and languages.
   
c. foster the relationship between languages and cultures to promote a global perspective within the university community.
   
2. LANGSA understands and is committed to fulfilling its responsibilities of abiding by the University of Connecticut’s policies.

Article III. Membership

1. Any person may attend LANGSA meetings. However, to be a voting member of LANGSA one must be a graduate student of UCONN in the Department of Literatures, Cultures, and Languages.

2. LANGSA openly admits graduate students to its membership and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, disability, gender, ethnicity, national origin, religion or sexual orientation.

Article IV. Officers

1. LANGSA will be governed by the following executive board officers:

   a. President: This officer’s duties will be as follows:
      
      i. Preside at all meetings of LANGSA
      
      ii. Represent all LANGSA members at all times
iii. Be the primary contact for the organization with the Graduate Student Senate (GSS), the Office of Student Activities, and other University officials and organizations

iv. Attend Executive, Mission, and Values and Culture SOLID workshops and complete any other mandatory workshop required for that position.

v. Oversee the actions and duties of the organization

b. **Vice-President:** This officer’s duties will be as follows:
   
i. Handle internal functions of the organization
   
ii. Assist President in fulfilling goals of the organization
   
iii. Assume duties of President if office become absent
   
iv. Attend Executive, Mission, and Values and Culture SOLID workshops and complete any other mandatory workshop required for that position

c. The **Treasurer** will maintain records of the organization’s finances, and handle all accounts,
   
i. Keep financial records updated and accurate
   
ii. Balance organization checkbook
   
iii. Write checks and deposit funds in Business Office Account
   
iv. Attend Treasury, Mission, and Values and Culture SOLID workshops and complete any other mandatory workshop required for that position

d. **Secretary:** This officer’s duties will be as follows:
   
i. Keep accurate history and records of organization activities and meetings
   
ii. Write and distribute meeting minutes for each meeting
   
iii. Rule observances at stated meetings
   
iv. Keep records of communications and correspondences
v. Attend Secretary, Mission, and Values and Culture SOLID workshops and complete any other mandatory workshop required for that position

2. LANGSA Executive Board will be able to count with the following non-mandatory officers:

   a. Public Relations: This officer’s duties will be as follows:

      i. Promote LANGSA events or events sponsored by LANGSA
      ii. Manage LANGSA website and Facebook page
      iii. Design promotional materials for LANGSA events and, if necessary, any promotional material for events sponsored by LANGSA
      iv. Keep records of communications and correspondences
      v. Attend Secretary, Mission, and Values and Culture SOLID workshops and complete any other mandatory workshop required for that position

   b. Hospitality Chair: This officer’s duties will be as follows:

      i. Prepare materials for new incoming graduate students
      ii. Coordinate communications between mentors and graduate students
      iii. Assist the Executive Board in LANGSA events

3. LANGSA will maintain at least one representative in the Graduate Student Senate to serve as liaison with the organization. This officer may hold another officer position in the LANGSA.

4. Executive Council

The officers of the LANGSA shall have the primary responsibility for the implementation of the programs approved by the Assembly and are accountable to the Assembly for these purposes. Between meetings of the Assembly, officers are empowered to conduct the day-to-day operations of the LANGSA. The officers' conduct of day-to-day operations is subject to review by the Assembly.
Article V. Operations

1. Voting eligibility

Those members meeting all requirements of active membership as set forth in Article III will be eligible to vote.

2. Election process

a. All officers shall be elected by a majority vote of present eligible voting members of LANGSA. All elections will be held on an annual basis in February of each academic year at a meeting comprised of a quorum (66%) of LANGSA members.

b. The President will take nominations from the floor, the nomination process must be closed and the motion seconded. The nominated parties will be allowed to vote in a closed vote if they are eligible voting members.

c. All voting shall be done as determined by the President.

d. Newly elected officers will assume office during the annual LCL Orientation, except in the case of mid-term elections. Officers selected mid-term will assume office immediately after their election.

e. No officer of the LANGSA has the right of a veto.

3. Removal

Any officer of LANGSA in violation of the organization’s purpose or constitution or failure to fulfill duties as stated may be removed from office by the following process:

a. A written request by at least three members of the organization.

b. Written notification to the officer of the request, stating the reasons for requesting removal and asking the officer to be present at the next meeting prepared to speak in their own defense.

c. Written notification to the membership.

d. 66% of the voting membership must be in attendance to vote on removal of an officer. A two-thirds (2/3) majority of those present is necessary to remove the officer.

1. Replacement

Should an officer resign or be removed, a special election will be held one week after written notification to all voting members. Mid-term elections shall be conducted as specified in Article V.
Article VI. Meetings

1. The Executive Council shall meet prior to all regular Assembly meetings in order to develop an agenda as set forth below.

2. All Assembly meetings will occur on a regular basis at a time selected by the officers based on the input to the members and will follow the procedure set forth below:
   a. Attendance
   b. Report by the President
   c. Committee Reports
   d. Vote on all committee motions and decisions
   e. Any other business put forward by members of the organization
   f. Dismissal by the President

Article VII. Faculty Advisor

A full time faculty member from the Storrs University of Connecticut campus is eligible for the faculty advisor position. The faculty advisor will be chosen by the officers, but voted by the Assembly, and their term will last indefinitely, with an annual reappointment. The Advisor shall not have voting rights.

Article VIII. Finances

LANGSA will finance the activities it engages in by the following means:
1. LANGSA will submit a budget to the Graduate Student Senate (GSS) on an annual basis and request funding appropriate for the effective operation of the organization for each year.

2. Other fundraising events will be implemented through the academic year as necessary.

3. LANGSA will conduct all financial activities in accordance with university policy and place all funds in its bank account in the Student Activities Business Office.

Article IX. Amendments

1. Amendments to the constitution may be proposed in writing by any voting members of LANGSA at any meetings at which 2/3 of the voting members are present.

2. These amendments will be placed on the agenda for the next regular meeting of the executive council. The Secretary will send an electronic notice to all voting and active members of upcoming vote.

3. 66% of the voting membership must be in attendance to vote on a constitutional amendment. Proposed amendments will become effective following approval of two-thirds (2/3) vote of voting members.
4. A revised copy of the Constitution shall be distributed to the active membership and the Department of Student Activities.

**Article XII. Enabling Clause**

This constitution was voted on and put into effect on Friday, March 4th, 2016.

Signed by:

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