

Constitution

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Article I: Name

The official name of the organization will be UNITY. The former name was “LGBSA: Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual Student Alliance.”

Article II: Purpose

UNITY intends to promote a number of goals related to a better understanding of sexual orientation as an individual and social phenomenon on the Hendrix campus and in the community, including the following:

- I. Education of campus and community issues.
- II. Education of campus and community on equality issues (sexual orientation, gender, race, class, etc.) and the links among these issues.
- III. Advocacy of LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender) issues on campus, community, and national levels.
- IV. Interaction with other campus organizations and other LGBT college organizations.
- V. Interaction with other state- and nation-wide LGBT organizations.
- VI. Institution and maintaining of official campus resource library on LGBT issues for students, faculty, staff, and the community.
- VII. Enhancement of campus diversity awareness and leadership training.

Article III: Membership

There are no restrictions to general membership in the UNITY. It is intended to be an inclusive organization. Voting members must be current students of Hendrix College.

Article IV: Election of Officers

The election of UNITY officers will occur in a procedural series including the following:

- I. Officers of the organization are elected by secret ballot by a majority of the voting members of the organization present at the meeting at which election are held.
- II. Officers to be elected are President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Publicity Chair, New Student Representative.

- III. The election of officers will occur at the first scheduled meeting in April. The Secretary will give a written notification of this meeting to all voting members of the organization no less than two weeks in advance of the election.
- IV. In order to become an officer on the Executive Committee, one must be on the yearly roster.
- V. In the case of more than two candidates running for the same office and the absence of a majority vote, the two candidates with the greatest number of votes will compete in a subsequent run-off election. The other candidates will be dropped from consideration in the second round of voting.
- VI. Newly elected officers immediately assume the responsibilities of their office for the remainder of the academic year until the next election.
- VII. If a vacancy occurs on the Executive Committee, the remaining members will call and conduct an emergency election.
- VIII. An officer may be removed by petition of three members of the Executive Committee that will be approved by the faculty/staff advisor(s).
- IX. If ten voting members petition for the removal of an officer, an impeachment process will be initiated. For the officer to be removed, two-thirds of all voting members must vote to impeach that officer at the next meeting.

Article V: Officer's Duties

I. The President

- serves as the official head of UNITY
- acts as a liaison to other organizations both on and off campus
- calls and conducts meetings, schedules meetings, makes necessary decisions with the majority consent of the organization
- delegates responsibilities to other UNITY members
- assists in the execution of all UNITY events
- represents LGBT needs and addresses LGBT concerns on campus
- is responsible for assuring that the UNITY fulfills its purpose as outlined in the constitution

II. The Vice President is responsible for

- setting up and maintaining the UNITY web page
- a newsletter to come out every two weeks between meetings
- maintaining the resource library

III. The Publicity Chair

- distributes information to the club members

- advertises upcoming UNITY events

IV. The Secretary will

- monitor all organization business
- keep a record of all proceedings of each organization meeting
- keep track of the membership roll

V. The Treasurer will

- keep the budget for the organization
- present financial reports to the organization members on a regular basis

VI. The New Student Representative will represent the new students.

VII. Officers are to assist with all UNITY functions

Article VI: Meetings

UNITY is to meet weekly to discuss organizational business and the agenda of upcoming events.

Article VII: Finances

UNITY will apply to the Student Association Budget Committee in the spring of each academic year. The organization will also participate in fundraisers to raise money for the UNITY budget. Money will be spent under the discretion of the Executive Committee. The Treasurer will maintain the UNITY budget. UNITY will encourage other campus organizations and officers to include LGBT issues in their yearly budgets and programming agendas, and to co-sponsor activities with UNITY.

Article VIII: Amendments

Amendments to the UNITY constitution may be proposed by any voting member at the April election meeting/event of UNITY. Three-fourths of the voting members present must approve any changes to the constitution by secret ballot. Any changes will be duly noted and recorded by the Secretary. The executive committee may propose amendments at any time. Voting members may also propose amendments, which must be seconded, at any time. Amendments proposed at events/meetings other than the April election meeting will not be voted on until the meeting following the proposal.