

STUDENTS FOR BLACK CULTURE
CONSTITUTION
HENDRIX COLLEGE
CONWAY, ARKANSAS

Article 1: Name

The name of this organization shall be the Students for Black Culture and shall be known by the acronym SBC.

Article 2: Purpose

The purpose of SBC shall be to create awareness and to stimulate an appreciation of African-Americans' contributions to society:

Objectives:

1. Increase the community's awareness of and sensitivity to needs and concerns of African-Americans on the local, national, and international levels.
2. Introduce speakers to address economic, educational, political, and cultural concerns for African-Americans;
3. Promote unity and cooperative interaction between students and faculty/staff; and

Article 3: Membership

Section 1.

Active membership in SBC is open to any registered Hendrix College student who believes in the concepts set forth in the constitution and who pays his or her dues to the organization. Faculty membership can be obtained through a contribution of fifteen dollars.

Section 2.

Honorary membership can be given to any person who has made a significant contribution to the development of African-American Culture. A unanimous recommendation of the Executive Committee and approval of a majority of the full membership shall confer this special membership status.

Section 3.

All members of SBC will be eligible to receive points for going to SBC sponsored or co-sponsored events. Attendance at any of these events will merit the member fifteen (15) points. If member participates in said event, he or she will receive double points (30 points). Each year, the Secretary and the New Student Representative will work together to keep a running tally of the points for this Point System. At the end of each year, the person who has scored the most points will be given an award at the Senior Banquet.

Section 4.

In addition to the award described in Section 3 of Article 3, SBC will give out four other awards: Member of the Year, Officer of the Year, Most Dedicated Officer, and Most Improved Officer. The Member of the Year will be decided by taking nominations and then by voting. The nominated person to receive the majority of the votes will be named Member of the Year. Officer of the Year, Most Dedicated Officer, and Most Improved Officer will be voted on by the Executive Committee at their final Executive Committee meeting of the Year (only those individual on Executive committee may be nominated for one of these awards). In all instances all votes must occur by secret ballot.

Section 5.

All active members will automatically become associate members of this organization upon graduation from Hendrix College.

Section 6.

All members are under the jurisdiction of policies governing students at Hendrix College.

Section 7.

SBC must pay all requisite dues to the Arkansas Black Student Association each year so that the Hendrix delegation will have voting rights at the annual ABSA conference.

Article 4: Dues

Section 1.

Member of the Executive Committee shall recommend the dues for membership, and the recommendation shall be acted upon by the membership at the first business meeting of the fall term of each year.

Section 2.

The date for payment of dues will be set for the first Friday after the second work-study check of each New Year.

Section 3.

Students that go abroad or take a leave of absence during the fall semester must pay their dues by the first Friday after the second work-study check of the spring semester. Students that go abroad or take a leave of absence during the spring semester may pay their dues in accordance with Section 2.

Section 4.

If a senior member wishes to be eligible to wear an official SBC stoll at his or her graduation from Hendrix College, he or she must have been a full paid member of SBC for at least two years. The dues must have been paid on time each year in accordance with the requirement established in Section 2 of Article 4.

Article 5: Duties of Officers

Section 1.

The official officers of SBC shall be President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Parliamentarian, Historian, and New Student Representative.

Section 2.

The President shall preside over all meetings of the organization. He or she shall jointly with the secretary sign all contracts and shall designate, upon consultation and unanimous approval with the Executive Committee, the official representative of the organization. The President will also chair the Community Affairs Committee.

Section 3.

The Vice President shall, in the absence of the President, preside over the meetings. He or she shall advance the purpose of the organization as stated in Article 2 of this document by promoting the work of the organization as performed by its several officers and committees. The Vice President shall be a member of all committees. The Vice President will also co-chair the Program Committee with the Historian.

Section 4.

The Secretary shall record the minutes of all meetings and upon request make available the minutes of all meetings to each member, Executive Committee, and/or advisors before the next meeting. He or she shall jointly with the President sign all contracts and other matters of business incurred by the organization. **The Secretary will also chair the Publicity Committee.**

Section 5.

The Treasurer shall control the receipts and disbursements of all monies of the organization and submit recommendations concerning financial policies of the organization, as they may be required. He or she shall jointly with the President sign all checks for monies disbursed. He or she shall present a monthly treasury report. He or she shall keep an accurate list of all active members of the organization. **The Treasurer will also chair the Fundraising Committee.**

Section 6.

The Historian shall keep a scrapbook, which shall consist of pictures, clippings, etc., of all organizational activities and meetings. **This scrapbook shall be ready for presentation by the Spring Arkansas Black Students Association Conference. The Historian will also co-chair the Program Committee with Vice President.**

Section 7.

The Parliamentarian shall follow parliamentary procedure and should be consulted when needed. He or she will also keep order at all meetings. The Parliamentarian will also chair the Constitution Committee.

Section 8.

The New Student Representative shall work to represent the interests of first-year students to the SBC Executive Committee. **The New Student Representative will be in charge of the Point System.**

Article 6: Committees

Section 1.

There shall be the following standing committees each year: Constitution, Program, Executive, Publicity, **Fund-raising**, and Community Affairs.

Section 2.

Constitution Committee – Each year this committee will examine and interpret this constitution. The committee shall present any recommendations for revision or amendments to the general membership during the fall term, each school year. **[[The chair is to be appointed by the President and is subject to approval by the Executive Committee.]]**

Section 3.

Community **Affairs** Committee – The Community **Affairs** Committee is responsible for formulating ideas to get SBC involved in the Conway community; for keeping the members informed about on-campus issues; **for serving as a liaison between SBC and the Hendrix College Student Senate; and for organizing the receptions for all SBC events.**

Section 4.

Executive Committee – The Executive Committee shall consist of the officers of SBC and one new student representative who shall be elected in the fall at the beginning of each new school year.

Section 5.

Fund-raising Committee – The Fund-raising Committee is responsible for formulating ideas for fund-raisers. The chair of this committee shall consult the operating budget at beginning of the year to determine the amount of money that needs to be raised. The chair of this committee is to be appointed by the President and is subject to approval by the Executive Committee.

Section 6.

Program Committee – The Program Committee is responsible for planning activities for the organization. This committee will solicit speakers, plan annual events, and assist in planning receptions. The chair is to be the Vice President.

Section 7.

Publicity Committee – This committee is responsible for advertising all events as well as other special events in which SBC is involved. **The chair is to be appointed by the President and is subject to approval by the Executive Committee.**

Section 8.

Other committees shall be created as the organization needs them. The President, based on the advice of the Executive Committee, will appoint chairs for such committees.

Article 7: Qualification of Officers

Each officer at the time of his/her appointment must have been a member in good standing for at least one semester, have paid his/her dues during the current year that they are running for election, and be a full time student at Hendrix College at the time of his/her election. Each officer shall possess that ordinary business ability and shall be capable of representing the organization under all ordinary conditions. Each officer shall be willing and able to devote time to the execution of his/her office.

Section 2:

In order to qualify to run for the position of President or Vice President one must have previously served on the Executive Committee for at least one year prior to their election as President or Vice President. In the instance that no former executive officer runs for the position of SBC president or SBC vice president, the positions shall be open to any paid member of the organization that has participated in or attended 50% of the organizations official activities (including general meetings and SBC sponsored events).

Section 3:

In order to be eligible to run for a position on the executive committee one **must attend the ABSA Spring Conference. This is excusable if an extenuating circumstance prevents attendance. The following circumstances are excusable: illness, financial hardship, school related obligations, prior commitments.**

Article 8: Election of Officers:

On the fourth Thursday of April, each active member interested in seeking a position for the following year must submit a letter of intent to the current Parliamentarian of SBC. The letter of intent must consist of the applicant's name, the position that they are seeking, and the date. If the deadline for turning in the letters of intent is not met for the offices of President and Vice President, the deadline may be extended if agreed upon by the Executive Committee. If the deadline for turning in letters of intent is not met for Secretary, Treasurer, Historian, and Parliamentarian are not met then the elections for these offices will be opened up at the beginning of the following school year. If a member cannot be present at the time of elections, they can vote by absentee by working out an arrangement with the Parliamentarian. A simple majority (fifty-one) of those eligible to vote shall be required for election. Votes shall be by secret ballot and counted and collected by a non-biased person appointed by the Executive Committee.

Article 9: Meetings

Section 1.

A regularly called meeting shall be held twice a month. The exact time, place, and day of the meeting shall be determined by the organization each year.

Section 2.

Generally, the Executive Committee shall meet before each meeting.
The Executive Committee shall determine their meeting time, place, and day each year.

Section 3.

Fifty-one percent of all active members in the organization together with at least two officers shall constitute a quorum. No business shall be transacted without the presence of a quorum.

Section 4.

In general, the order of all SBC meetings shall be the following:

1. Opening of the meeting by the President
2. Minutes of the last meeting shall be properly displayed for members
3. Treasury Report (beginning of the month)
4. Report of the Committees
5. Unfinished Business
6. New Business
7. Adjournment

The minutes of the last meeting will need to be typed and properly displayed so members may easily read them.

Section 5.

Conduct and voting business meetings shall be governed by symposium format.

Section 6.

All motions from the floor shall be passed by a plurality of votes cast unless otherwise stated in the constitution.

Article 10: Faculty Advisor

The Faculty Advisor shall be a full-time staff member of Hendrix College. The Executive Committee, on approval of the body shall nominate him or her. His/her duties shall be to advise the association about the administration policies and procedures of the college as related to the organization on the campus.

Article 11: Impeachment of Officers/Removal of Members

Any officer or member whose actions are considered detrimental to the organization's policies or functions shall be subject to impeachment or removal from the organization upon the recommendation by the Executive Committee. A two-thirds majority of those eligible to vote is required to impeach.

Article 12: Amendments

Amendments to this constitution may be made at any meeting of this organization upon written proposal signed by ten members and publicly posted in the meeting at which the amendment will be voted on by active members. A two-thirds majority of the votes cast at the meeting will be required for the passage of any amendment to this constitution.

Article 13: Liquidation of Funds

Should the termination of SBC come about, the President and the Executive Committee shall donate any and all monies to a charitable cause.

* Updated by Ger'Shun Avilez Spring Term 2002