

# **Constitution of Master of Public Administration Student Association**

Amended Thursday, April 08, 2004

## **SECTION I – NAME**

- A. This Organization shall heretofore be known as the Master of Public Administration Student Association (M.P.A.S.A.). Other recognized names include MPA Student Association, and MPASA.

## **SECTION II – PURPOSE**

- A. The purpose of M.P.A.S.A. is to facilitate activities and events for Master of Public Administration students, both evening and executive programs, that will be beneficial in several areas, including but not limited to 1) practical- by helping students to solidify and actualize their career goals, 2) academic- by supporting students in their pursuit for excellence in their schooling, and 3) social- by administering activities which allow students to become acquainted with their fellow colleagues 4) community outreach and service.

## **SECTION III – MEMBERSHIP**

- A. Membership shall be open to any individual who is a matriculated M.P.A. student at the University of Utah, including M.P.A students in both the Evening and Executive programs. Membership is also open to University of Utah M.P.A. Alumni.
- B. Executive board meetings shall be open to all members MPASA Members are invited to attend these meetings in a non-voting capacity, unless otherwise stated.
- C. The rights and privileges of a full member include invitation to M.P.A.S.A sponsored activities and announcements via email about upcoming activities and events.

## **SECTION IV – MEETING**

- A. There shall be an executive board meeting monthly, or as circumstances dictate – according to the best judgment of the MPASA President and Faculty Advisor.
- B. The time for regularly scheduled monthly board meetings will be set by the executive board at the beginning of each new semester, and may vary depending upon the consensus of meeting times for the board members involved. Special meetings may be requested by a member of the executive board and shall be approved by the faculty advisor.

## **SECTION V – EXECUTIVE BOARD**

- A. The Executive Board shall be appointed by fellow M.P.A.S.A. members and students. There shall be two representatives from each current program cohort; therefore, the Executive Board will be made up of eight members including: two members from the second year executive cohort, two members from the first year executive cohort, two members from the second year evening cohort and two members from the first year evening cohort. The term for each of the eight representatives will be one academic year, from September to August.
- B. Within the Executive Board there shall be one president, one vice-president, one secretary and one treasurer, elected by the Executive Board. The president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, and all other officers of the board will hold their positions until graduation or the completion of one academic year – whichever is first. The president will conduct meetings, facilitate meeting agendas, email group members, and assign committees. The vice-president assists in the execution of the president's duties. The secretary will take meeting minutes and provide them to the executive board. The treasurer will track the organization's budget, income, and expenditures.
- C. If a member of the executive board becomes unable to finish their term, the executive board will vote on whether or not the absence necessitates a replacement. The executive board will determine the appointment of another member based on the timing and necessity of the situation.

## **SECTION VI – ELECTIONS**

- A. Representatives to the Executive Board will be selected by the interested members of the organization. Two board members will be elected from each of the Executive Program cohorts by

the members of each cohort majority vote. For each of the Evening Program cohorts, representatives will be elected by Evening Program cohort members by a majority vote. Elections will be scheduled in conjunction with the Faculty Advisor. Scheduling, notification to MPASA membership, and execution of elections are to be made in the best judgment of the Executive Board.

- B. Officers (i.e., President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer) will be elected by the executive board.
- C. The election of officers will be scheduled in conjunction with the Faculty Advisor. The candidates for President, Vice-President, Treasurer, or Secretary shall be nominated by their fellow board members.
- D. Qualifications to be officers within the executive board are based on willingness to participate, desire to serve, and time commitments.

#### **SECTION VII – FUNDS**

- A. Currently, there is no fee for full membership within M.P.A.S.A. However, this may be subject to change, in the future, once the club becomes fully activated and if the need arises. This change must and will be voted upon by the executive board and approved by the faculty advisor.
- B. There are some funds available for M.P.A.S.A. through the Center for Public Policy and Administration. However, if additional monies are a necessity, fund raising can occur. An example of fund raising might include, but is not limited to, the sale of M.P.A.S.A. t-shirts to club members.
- C. Expenses within the club might include, but are not limited to, payment for speakers, underwriting costs for seminars, food, and supplies, and other necessities that the executive board and faculty advisor deem both useful and essential.

#### **SECTION VIII – COMMITTEES**

- A. Committees within the club will be appointed by the President of the executive board. Committee assignments are fluid and will serve at the judgment of the MPASA President. The type of committees, and names thereof, will be entirely dependent on the needs of M.P.A.S.A. members, M.P.A. students and their affiliates, and the projects that will be executed during a given semester.

#### **SECTION IX – AFFILIATIONS**

- A. The affiliations of this organization include but are not limited to the Center for Public Policy and Administration and the University of Utah.

#### **ARTICLE X – ADVISOR**

- A. The faculty advisor for the M.P.A.S.A. organization must be a faculty member of the M.P.A. program. The appointment of the faculty advisor shall be made by the director of the M.P.A. Program as he/she deems appropriate.

#### **ARTICLE XI – RATIFICATION**

- A. The constitution will be ratified at the 'all-member' meeting on November 6, 2002 at 5 p.m. The constitution will be voted upon by those present at the meeting and must be ratified by a two-thirds majority vote.

#### **ARTICLE XII – AMENDMENTS**

- A. An amendment to this constitution can be made if voted upon by the executive board and approved by the faculty advisor. The amendment must then be presented to all full M.P.A.S.A. members at an 'all-member' meeting and ratified by a two-thirds majority vote.

#### **ARTICLE XIII – BYLAWS**

- A. An inclusion of any rules or regulations specific to the organization can be made if voted upon by the executive board and approved by the faculty advisor. The inclusion must then be presented to all M.P.A.S.A. full members at an 'all-member' meeting and ratified by a two-thirds majority vote.