



CONSTITUTION OF THE \_\_\_\_\_ STUDENT CHAPTER  
OF THE AMERICAN CONSTITUTION SOCIETY

**Article I – Name**

This organization shall be known as the \_\_\_\_\_ Student Chapter of the American Constitution Society," or the "ACS \_\_\_\_\_ Student Chapter," and is a chapter of the American Constitution Society.

**Article II – Mission and Activities**

1. The American Constitution Society ("ACS") is a 501(c)(3) non-profit educational organization. We believe that the Constitution is "of the people, by the people, and for the people" and interpret the document based on its text and against the backdrop of history and lived experience. Through a diverse nationwide network of progressive lawyers, law students, judges, scholars and many others, we work to uphold the Constitution in the 21st Century by ensuring that law is a force for protecting our democracy and the public interest and for improving people's lives.
2. ACS and its growing network of members, student, and Student Chapters realize the promises of the U.S. Constitution by:
  - a. building and leading a diverse legal community that dedicates itself to advancing and defending democracy, justice, equality, and liberty;
  - b. securing a government that serves the public interest; and
  - c. guarding against the abuse of law and the concentration of power.
3. The ACS \_\_\_\_\_ Student Chapter shall engage only in activities consistent with ACS's mission, policies, and 501(c)(3) status. The ACS \_\_\_\_\_ Student Chapter shall not lobby, litigate, or take positions on specific legislation or political nominations. The ACS \_\_\_\_\_ Student Chapter shall engage in absolutely no partisan political activity. ACS and the ACS \_\_\_\_\_ Student Chapter encourage their members to: express their views; disseminate their work to the legal community, policymakers, the media, and the public; and engage in projects that will bring positive change to the law.

### **Article III – Membership**

Membership shall be open to all \_\_\_\_\_ students, faculty, and staff.

### **Article IV – Executive Board**

1. **Powers.** The Executive Board shall be empowered to transact the business of and to exercise management of the ACS \_\_\_\_\_ Student Chapter. The Board shall have the power to perform all appropriate and lawful acts not prohibited by law, by ACS National, or by this Constitution and any Chapter by-laws.
2. **Meetings.** The Executive Board shall meet each semester, in person or otherwise, to manage the activities of the ACS \_\_\_\_\_ Student Chapter. No business shall be transacted or decisions made other than at a meeting at which a quorum composed of a majority of voting board members are present. The Executive Board may make such additional rules and regulations covering its meetings as it may, in its discretion, determine necessary. Decisions at meetings will be made by a majority vote of the present board members. However, if another provision herein requires a majority or two-thirds majority vote of the total Board, that provision controls.
3. **Duties.** In addition to the specific responsibilities that attach to their offices as detailed below, each member of the Executive Board shall promote and encourage membership in the ACS \_\_\_\_\_ Student Chapter and work to ensure that all ACS \_\_\_\_\_ Student Chapter programs, events, and projects are as successful as possible.

- a. **Faculty Advisor.**

The Faculty Advisor(s) shall serve as a resource for ACS members, facilitate the acquisition of speakers, and serve as a liaison between the local chapter and the advisors of American Constitution Society chapters at other schools.

- b. **President.**

The President shall call ACS meetings, coordinate the operations and direction of the chapter, and serve as a liaison between the ACS and the [University] administration.

- c. **Vice President.**

The Vice President shall call ACS meetings in the President's absence and coordinate the activities of the Chairs.

d. Secretary.

The Secretary shall compile and maintain the minutes of meetings and the records of the organization, keep a current list of members, update the ACS national calendar with chapter events, and be responsible for notifying members of meetings.

e. Treasurer.

The Treasurer shall maintain the financial accounts and records of the chapter, set forth the chapter's budget, and submit the chapter's financial reports to the Student Bar Association according to SBA guidelines.

f. Membership Chair.

The Membership Chair shall organize a membership drive in the fall and shall organize additional membership drives as needed to recruit new members and to assign them to committees.

g. Programming Chair.

The Programming Chair shall lead the Program Committee, which shall plan and organize the fall and spring events.

h. Social Media/Publicity Chair.

The Social Media and Publicity Chair shall lead the Social Media and Publicity Committee, which will be responsible for advertising for ACS events, the membership drive, and general membership meetings.

i. Historian.

The Historian will tackle one of the hardest things about running a student organization, which is maintaining an institutional memory in the face of constant membership turnover. Good records will allow the chapter to pass on the contacts and expertise you accumulate so that each year's chapter does not have to start from scratch. The Historian will track participant and member information. This will be especially helpful for the chapter to reach back to prior chapter leaders.

j. Liaison to Lawyer Chapter

The Liaison to the local ACS Lawyer Chapter will serve its primary contact and connection to the student chapter. They will coordinate with the local lawyer chapter to cosponsor and organize events such as substantive panels and debates, networking events, career panels, and happy hours.

k. Liaison to Student Chapters.

The Liaison to Student Chapters will coordinate with other ACS student chapters in our geographical vicinity to co-sponsor events, invite speakers, and organize networking events and socials.

l. Career Development Chair.

The Career Development Chair will work with alumni, the school's career services department, and others to help advance the careers of current ACS student members.

m. Diversity & Inclusion Chair.

The Diversity and Inclusion Chair will help to ensure that programming is inclusive, diverse and holistic, that membership is diverse, and that your chapter regularly collaborates, communicates, and partners with diverse organizations.

n. Community Engagement Chair.

The Community Engagement Chair will broaden ACS's base and name recognition and promote a progressive vision of the Constitution outside of the law school. The leader serving in the position will develop local pre-law pipeline contacts, identify and develop community contacts for collaboration and outreach, and connect with students at the undergrad campus or other graduate school programs.

o. Class Representatives.

1L, 2L, and 3L class representatives will be responsible for outreach to their respective classmates about chapter activity.

4. Selection. ACS officers shall either be:

- a. appointed by a two-thirds vote of the outgoing Executive Board in January or February of each year, with the new board taking over at the end of the spring semester. Each officer will serve for a term of one year; or,

- b. elected by a majority of the members present at the election meeting. Notice of the election meeting shall be provided to the Law School in advance. Election meetings shall be scheduled in January or February, with the new board taking over at the end of the spring semester. Each officer will serve for a term of one year.
5. Removal. Officers may be removed for good cause by the unanimous vote of the remaining members of the Executive Board.

**Article V – Constitution, Amendments, and By-Laws**

- 1. Amendments to this constitution and to the by-laws shall be adopted by two-thirds vote of the Executive Board, except that no amendment shall be adopted without the affirmative vote of both the President and the Faculty Advisor.
- 2. This organization shall be governed by this Constitution, its bylaws, and the rules and regulations of \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3. This constitution shall become effective upon its acceptance by the national ACS office, as signified by the signature of the ACS National Representative in the space provided below.

ACCEPTED BY:

\_\_\_\_\_  
ACS National Representative

Effective Date: