

North Carolina State University
Campus Freethought Alliance Constitution and Bylaws

Thursday, July 24, 2003

PREAMBLE

We, the members of the Campus Freethought Alliance (CFA), hereby establish this constitution to outline the goals, regulations, details, and by-laws of CFA. Furthermore, be it proclaimed that this constitution will serve as the fundamental governing document of the Campus Freethought Alliance.

ARTICLE 1: NAME

The exact title of this organization is the Campus Freethought Alliance; abbreviated by the acronym "CFA."

ARTICLE 2: PURPOSE

- Section 1

CFA is a unique cultural organization. Its purpose three-fold:

- 1) To establish a positive social environment for North Carolina State University students who are rationalists, non-theists, humanists, or skeptics.
- 2) To enrich North Carolina State University campus life by sponsoring educational events and fostering student dialogue on matters of faith, science, and reason.
- 3) To engage North Carolina State University students in issues of national and international import surrounding freedom of conscience and secular education.

- Section 2

Be it hereby known that CFA abides by all established policies of North Carolina State University.

ARTICLE 3: MEMBERSHIP

- Section 1

Any interested undergraduate members of North Carolina State University are eligible for official membership in CFA. Candidates for membership must be willing to actively participate in the meetings and activities of the organization, and must promote keeping a hostile-free atmosphere. People need not be official undergraduate members to attend meetings and/or activities. The officers of the organization will grant membership to candidates after careful consideration and approval of the candidate's membership application. Members will pay five dollar dues each year.

- Section 2

Members may withdraw their memberships on a voluntary basis. A member who refuses to pay dues will be evaluated by the organization's officers, and may be eligible for probation of membership.

- Section 3

CFA is an inclusive union that does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, sex, or sexual orientation.

- Section 4

CFA reserves the right to withdraw or withhold membership from any group or individual member whose activities or policies undermine CFA principles, and will refund individual dues in this contingency

ARTICLE 4: OFFICERS

The officers of CFA shall include the President, Vice-president, Secretary and Treasurer. Various committee chairs may also be appointed by discretion of the organization.

The PRESIDENT shall:

- 1) Preside over meetings.
- 2) Evaluate membership applications and membership standing.
- 3) Organize activities, speakers, etc.
- 4) Act as the official spokesperson for CFA.
- 5) Have the final word in all organizational policies (but is encouraged to favor the desires of the majority of the organization's members).

The VICE-PRESIDENT shall:

- 1) Assist the President in any and all of his or her duties.
- 2) Preside over meetings and activities in the absence of the President.
- 3) Evaluate membership applications and membership standing.
- 4) Advise the President on all organizational policy matters.
- 5) Serve as an informal Parliamentarian.

The SECRETARY shall:

- 1) Assist the President and Vice-president.
- 2) Take minutes of each meeting and type/copy them to hand out to members at the next meeting.
- 3) Type letters and other related items for distribution.
- 4) Advise the President and Vice-president on all organizational policy matters.

The TREASURER shall:

- 1) Assist the President and Vice-president.
- 2) Collect dues and keep track of CFA account balance.
- 3) Advise the President and vice-president on all organizational policy matters.

The COMMITTEE CHAIRS shall:

- 1) Preside over all meetings and activities of their respective committees.
- 2) Serve as the liaisons between their respective committees and the organization's officers and members.

ARTICLE 5: FINANCES

The activities, etc. of CFA will be funded by:

- 1) Submitting an annual budget to North Carolina State University.
- 2) Holding fund-raisers and/or other money-making activities.
- 3) Collecting annual dues of five dollars from official members of CFA.

ARTICLE 6: AMENDMENTS

- Section 1

Amendments to the CFA Constitution may be proposed by any official member of the organization. Amendments will be read aloud by an officer, and debates may take place. The vice-president, serving as the Parliamentarian, will use informal Robert's Rules of Order to conduct the debate. Anybody may participate in the debate, but only official undergraduate members may vote.

- Section 2

Amendments are passed by a majority 2/3 vote of the official undergraduate members of CFA. Voting is by secret ballot.

BYLAWS

- 1) CFA meets every other Thursday of every month during the school year at 7:00 PM. More meetings may be scheduled as needed.
- 2) Officers are elected by secret ballot of all official members of CFA who are in good standing. For at least the first semester of operation of CFA, the two cofounders of CFA will serve as the President and Vice-president of the organization. Elections are held the first meeting in November, and terms of office are for one year, starting the day after elections. Officers may be reelected an unlimited number of times. Any official undergraduate member of CFA is eligible to serve in an office of the organization.
- 3) Officers may be removed from office if the following criteria are met:
 - a) A written, formal complaint against an officer has been filed by one or more official undergraduate members of CFA.
 - b) The other officers of CFA unanimously agree that there is reason for CFA to vote on removing the officer from his or her position.
 - c) After hearing a plea and explanation of guilt or innocence to the charge(s) by the officer being impeached, a majority of the undergraduate members of CFA, by secret ballot, vote to remove the officer from position.
 - d) If the officer is removed from position, a member of the organization will be appointed, by the officers, to take the person's place.
- 4) The role of the advisor of CFA is left to the discretion of the person in that position. To clarify, the advisor may take as active a role in CFA as he or she wishes, but under no circumstances will have the final say in any policies or proceedings of CFA.