

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE
Angelo State University Student Sociological Association

ARTICLE I. NAME

Section 1. The name of this organization shall be Angelo State University's Student Sociological Association

Section 2. The organization may be referred to as Angelo State University Student Sociological Association, Student Sociological Association, or abbreviated, SSA.

ARTICLE II. PURPOSE

Section 1. The purpose of the Angelo State University Student Sociological Association is to create opportunities for students to connect with other Sociology students, engage in service in the ASU and San Angelo communities, and provide volunteer opportunities that will contribute to the Sociology coursework and experience.

Section 2. Sociology may be defined as a perspective and an academic social/behavioral science that examines humans as social beings; who are a product of social interaction, socialization, and social patterns. Sociology concerns itself with the nature of the human being, and the meaning and basis of social order. Sociology focuses on social organization, social institutions, social interaction, and social problems.

ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Any current student that is in good academic standing at Angelo State University is welcomed to participate in the Student Sociological Association.

Section 2. A lifetime membership fee is paid once, in the amount of \$15.

Section 3. Members of SSA are expected to support the association by participating in sponsored activities and civic engagements.

ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS AND ELECTIONS

Section 1. The officers of the Angelo State University Student Sociological Association shall be the President, Vice-President, Secretary/Treasurer. All officers shall be elected by the membership of SSA in the manner described in this constitution. These officers shall comprise the Executive Committee.

Section 2. Candidates for office must be current ASU students, who are in good standing with the Angelo State University. Elected officers must continue to meet these standards throughout their term of office.

Section 3. Officers for the following academic year shall be elected annually. Officer succession will occur immediately following election.

Section 4. The election ballot shall be created by submitting nominations via the Student SocialWork webpage. Candidates for officer may run unopposed if no other candidate is available.

Section 5. Candidates shall declare a willingness to serve in the positions for which they have been nominated.

Section 6. Each officer shall be elected by a majority of the votes cast of those present.

Section 7. The officers of President, President-Elect, Vice President, and Secretary/Treasurer, shall each have a one-year term of office.

Section 8. The following duties shall be assigned to the officers:

- **PRESIDENT:** The President shall be the chief executive officer, shall preside at all meetings, and shall chair the Executive Committee. The President shall have the authority to appoint committees and shall be an ex-officio member of all committees. The President shall perform the duties customary to the office and such additional duties as directed by Executive Committee.
- **VICE PRESIDENT:** The Vice President shall serve on committees in an ex-officio capacity and shall perform other duties as assigned by the President. If the President is not at an association meeting or function, the Vice-President shall preside over the meeting or function.
- **SECRETARY/TREASURER:** The Secretary/Treasurer shall keep the current records (financial and non-financial) of the association. The Secretary/Treasurer shall keep track of all finances and associated records including: a) report all finances at each Executive Committee meeting and provide a monthly financial report during association meetings; b) create and maintain an operating budget; c) and receive, record, and maintain all money received by the association accurately.

Additionally, the Secretary/Treasurer shall be responsible for non-financial records including: a) recording minutes of association meetings; b) recording minutes of Executive Committee meetings; c) maintaining a current list of membership with telephone numbers and mailing addresses; d) and contact members to remind them of upcoming events. The Secretary/Treasurer shall submit recorded minutes to be posted on the Student Social Work webpage for corrections no more than one week following a meeting. The corrected minutes shall be posted no more than two weeks following a meeting. The Secretary/Treasurer will also perform additional duties as assigned by the President.

Section 10. Officers are responsible for ensuring all duties assigned by this constitution and the President are fulfilled. In addition to the duties assigned, all officers must be present at all executive and general meetings as well as any event the president deems necessary.

Section 11. In the event an elected officer other than the President resigns or is otherwise unable to continue in office the position will remain vacant until a special election can take place to fill the vacancy.

ARTICLE V. FACULTY ADVISOR

Section 1. The Department of Social Work and Sociology will select a member of the sociology faculty of Angelo State University to serve as an association advisor.

Section 2. The advisor is to be notified of meetings and activities the association will participate in at least 30 days before they occur.

Section 3. The advisor will not have any responsibility or authority over the organization's finances or the financial records.

ARTICLE VI. QUORUM

Section 1. At least five (5) voting members.

ARTICLE VII. HAZING

Section 1. Hazing as defined by SB 24, 70th Legislature, Regular Session, 1987, is prohibited by State law and University policy.

A. "Hazing" means an intentional, knowing, or reckless act, occurring on or off the campus of an educational institution, by one person alone or acting with others, directed against a student, that endangers the mental or physical health or safety of a student for the purpose of pledging, being initiated into, affiliating with, holding office in, or maintaining membership in any organization whose members are or include students at an educational institution.

Section 2. All members (faculty, students, professional members, and so forth) will not engage in hazing as defined in Article VII, Section 1, Part A; and will follow the university policy that prohibits hazing.

Section 3. From the University Student Handbook:

Students and the organizations to which they may belong commit a criminal offense if they are involved in any form of hazing. This includes engaging in, soliciting, encouraging, directing, aiding, or attempting to aid another in engaging in hazing; intentionally, knowingly or recklessly permitting hazing to occur; and having firsthand knowledge that hazing is going to occur or has occurred and knowingly failing to report this information in writing to the Dean of Students or other appropriate University official. Hazing is punishable by fines ranging from \$1,000 to \$10,000 and confinement in jail ranging from 90 days to two years, or both a fine and confinement in jail may be assessed. Organizations involved in hazing are subject to fines of not less than \$5,000 nor more than double the amount lost or the expenses incurred because of such injury, damage or loss. In addition, individuals and organizations involved in any form of hazing subject themselves to University discipline.

The above state is a brief, factual summary of the Hazing act and is not intended as a substitute for or a legal interpretation of the Act. Copies of the complete Act are available in the Office of Student Life.

ARTICLE VIII. RISK MANAGEMENT

Section 1. Effective September 1, 2007, the 80th Texas Legislature enacted HB 2639/SB 1138 (Texas Education Code Section 51.9361) regarding risk management education for members and advisors of student organizations registered at postsecondary educational institutions. Under the law, it is mandatory for officers, members, and advisors of registered student organizations selected by the university to complete an annual risk management educational program.

Section 2. The President and the Secretary/Treasurer are required to attend all training provided by the university in accordance with HB 2639/SB 1138 (Texas Education Code Section 52.9361).

This constitution and by-laws were adopted on June 15, 2022.