

The Constitution of the Model UN

We the People of Iona College do ordain and establish this Constitution for the Model United Nations (UN) Club.

Article I: Name and Purpose of the Organization

- Section I: The official name of this SGA organization shall be the Model UN.
- Section 2: The objectives of the Model UN include the following:
 - Provide a unique opportunity for all students to get involved.
 - Develop skills in research, conflict resolution, negotiation, and debate.
 - To spur awareness of the United Nations by participating in:
 - Weekly club meetings
 - Both state and national conferences

Article II: Membership

- Section I: Membership is classified as *General Membership* and *Executive Board Membership*.
- Section II: Any undergraduate and graduate student may become an official member of the Model UN contingent upon maintaining the minimum GPA required by Iona College for the set term.
- Section III: The Model UN will not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, religious affiliation, ethnicity, or personal views towards the United Nations.
- Section IV: Only active members shall be eligible to participate in votes. Only active members shall be able to hold a position on the Executive Board or serve on a Committee.
- Section V: General Members: General are any members who are not part of the Executive Board.
- Section VI: Executive Board Member: An Executive Board Member is anyone who serves in a leadership position deemed to be of Executive Nature, which include President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and SGA Representative.
- Section VII: The club shall have a moderator, who must be a current member of the Iona faculty, and must be approved by the Director of Student Activities.

Article III: The Executive Board

- Section I: There shall be five (5) officers of the Model UN executive board.
- Section II: The **President** will preside over all meetings and conferences of this club. The President shall be vested with the power to appoint the SGA representative. The President shall be elected by a majority vote of the members of the club.
- Section III: The **Vice President** will assist the President in the execution of his/her duties. In the absence of the President, the Vice President shall serve

as the Acting President. The Vice President shall be elected by a majority vote of the members of the club.

- Section IV: The **Secretary** will record attendance and make complete minutes of all meetings. The Secretary shall be elected by a majority vote of the members of the club. The Secretary shall also maintain the attendance records of the club.
- Section V: The **Treasurer** will supervise the collection and distribution of club funding and monies. The treasurer shall be elected by a majority vote of the members of the club.
- Section VI: The **SGA representative** will attend all of the SGA meetings to ensure that the club remains in good standing and is updated on SGA events.
- Section VII: If any Executive Board member cannot fulfill his/her duties for any reason, they must speak with the remainder of the Executive Board, in private, about their intentions. The individual in question may wish to resign or take further action. However, if requested to resign by the Executive Board, the individual must do so but is not permanently removed from this position. If he/she is able to resume his/her task with full commitment than he/she may ask the Executive Board to be reinstated. If an Executive Board member has neglected his/her duties, he/she will be asked to resign. If he/she does not resign and the remaining Executive Board members find it necessary for said member to be removed from his/her position, a general vote will be taken, with a simple majority yea or nay.
- Section VIII: Previous Executive Board members, upon exiting of the Executive Board, waive all Executive Board rights. If they remain a member, they retain general membership status. They may be re-elected to the Executive Board if they wish at the next election or if the current Executive Board calls upon them to do so. Their official role, other than that of a general member, is to be an advisor to the Executive Board, in their specific position, or any other, only if requested.

Article IV: Club Meetings:

- Section I: Regular meetings shall be held once a week. All members are expected to be present at all of the meetings.
- Section II: Special/emergency meetings may be held at the discretion of the President or upon the request of members of the Executive board.
- Section III: Members are required to attend at minimal, seventy-five percent of all meetings held including special/emergency meetings.

Article V: Elections & Voting

- Section I: Nominations for candidates seeking the offices of President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer shall be conducted approximately two (2) weeks prior to elections.
- Section II: Elections shall be done by a secret, hand-written ballot. The Secretary will then tally the results. The candidate with the majority vote will win the election.

- Section III: Those members who have not kept at least seventy-five percent attendance rate shall not be eligible to vote in the election process or hold an Executive Board position. The Secretary will submit the names of those eligible to vote one (1) week prior to the vote. In special cases, where a member is at the minimum requirement line they shall be informed of such. In instances where a member shall lose eligibility if they miss one (1) more meeting and that meeting happens to be any in the election process, they shall be personally informed as well as the Executive Board by the Secretary
- Section IV: A simple majority of all votes cast shall be needed to win an election. In the event of a tie with no individual having more votes than any other procedures will work as follows. If the tie does not encompass all candidates then the candidate with the fewest votes shall be stricken from the ballot. Another vote will ensue. If the situation is repeated than the candidate with the next fewest ballots will be stricken again. If the tie encompasses all candidates than the President shall be called upon to break the tie.
- Section V: Following elections, the new officers shall assist the current office holders in the same elected position for a period of transition. New officers shall assume the whole title and responsibility for their respective positions following inauguration which shall take place the last club meeting of the Spring Term.
- Section VI: All voting shall be done by secret, hand-written ballot. However, the President may allow a verbal vote in which a show of hands will be used in addition to "Yay" or "Nay." In both cases, the Secretary shall tally the votes and present the results to the President and the club. Verbal votes hold the same weight as a secret, hand-written ballot. The importance of the issue shall determine whether secret, hand-written ballot or verbal voting shall be used and that is at the discretion of the President. The only vote that will always remain a secret, hand-written ballot is an election vote of any type.

Article VI: Club Government

- Section I: The Executive Board, this constitution, any bylaws of the club, and the regulations of Iona College shall govern the club.
- Section II: Any bylaws of this constitution shall serve to clarify the constitution and/or define specific points necessary for compliance with the constitution.
- Section III: Dissolution
 - If nine-tenths of members vote to dissolve the club at a meeting called after all members have been notified at least three weeks in advance, the club shall be dissolved.
 - In the event that the club has not met for two consecutive Terms (excluding Winter and Summer Terms), the club shall be dissolved.

Article VII: Rights of Members

- Section I: The Executive Board of this club shall endeavor to clarify other rights of members, which are not mentioned specifically, when necessary.
- Section II: Any member shall be entitled to receive, upon paying for the cost of duplication, a copy of the club constitution, bylaws, or the minutes of any meeting

of the club or Executive Board, or the official roster of members who are eligible to vote.

- Section III: In private meetings of the Executive Board, only the Executive Board members will be present.
- Section IV: Resolutions of the club may be passed at a general meeting by majority approval of the members present. Resolutions shall be presented by parliamentary motion.

Article VIII: Amendments:

- Section I: Proposed any member(s) of the club may submit amendments to the President.
- Section II: The President shall read the proposed amendment(s) at the meeting time.
- Section III: The proposed amendment, having been perspicaciously considered and discussed at the previous meeting and in a private session of the Executive Board, shall become effective contingent upon a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present at the voting meeting. All rules and regulations to voting shall apply. Executive Board members must meet privately to discuss the proposed amendment. Their meeting shall determine when the voting meeting shall occur. It should not take place more than two consecutive meetings after the Executive Board meeting. During the time between proposal of the amendment and voting on the amendment, any modifications can be done from either the General Membership or the Executive Board. Changes must be proposed during a regular, general meeting and modifications must be voted upon during that meeting. The membership present must approve the modifications with a simple majority.
 - In the event that an Executive Board member cannot be reached within three weeks of the proposed changes, they are excluded from the process and their vote is not required. However, if they are reached before the constitution is officially changed their vote will be accepted.
- Section IV: For an amendment to be removed, the same procedures for adding a new amendment shall occur, with a two-thirds (2/3) vote necessary to remove the amendment.
- Section V: Changes to the constitution will take effect according to the following scale.
 - If changes are proposed prior to the second meeting of the semester they will take effect that semester.
 - If changes are proposed after the second meeting of the semester, they will take effect for the following semester.
 - Changes may be proposed over the Winter or Summer Terms to the Executive Board only. Active, general members will be presented the changes at the next semester.

Article IX: Enactment

- Section I: This constitution shall become effective and all previous constitutions shall be repealed and nullified upon the approval of three-fourths of the active members present at the first meeting of the term.

- Section II: Present officers elected and committee chairpersons appointed before the adoption of this constitution shall be retained in their offices until the installation of new officers after the annual election meeting in April.
- Section III: These proposed changes on April 15, 2004 will become effective and all previous constitutions shall be repealed and nullified upon the approval of three-fourths of the active members present at the first meeting of Spring Term, 2003.

*Modified 4/15/04
Final Executive Board Modification N/A*