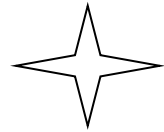
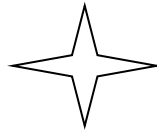


Constitution

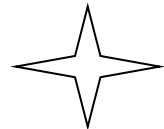
OF THE

H.L. Stoutt Community College Student Association



Accepted by the Student Association:

Enacted by the President of the H. Lavity Stoutt Community College:



PREAMBLE

We, the students of the H. Lavity Stoutt Community College, in order to promote the interaction of students with the local and international community through intellectual, social, cultural and physical development of the student body, and provide the student body with an organization through which they can channel their interests in our community as residents and members of the academic community through democratic representation, do hereby establish this Constitution.

PART I

NAME

1. The name of this organization shall be H. Lavity Stoutt Community College Student Association, herein after referred to as the Student Association.

PART II

PURPOSE

2. The purpose of the Student Association is to:
 - i. enhance the educational, social and cultural experience of students attending the H. Lavity Stoutt Community College, hereinafter referred to as this institution;
 - ii. give students the opportunity to govern their own activities by providing leadership from within the student body of this institution;
 - iii. provide a link between the students of this institution, and the outside community, as well as the Administration and Faculty of this institution.
 - iv. be recognized as a major intellectual body in the community with the views of students being respected and appreciated by establishing programs whereby the student body becomes involved in the development of the Virgin Islands and the region.

PART III

MEMBERSHIP

3. All enrolled students of this institution are eligible, but not obliged, to be members of the Student association.

PART IV

STUDENT COUNCIL

Section A: Composition of the Student Council

4. The Student Council shall consist of three members from each academic program of this institution that were not elected by the Student Association to be the President of the Student Association or the Chancellor of the Student Association, and shall also include a person appointed by the Administration of this institution that is responsible for Student Affairs and is recognized by this Council as being so appointed.

5. All persons who are not elected to a particular post or otherwise appointed to a position mentioned within this Constitution shall be Representatives of the Student Association to the Student Council.
6. The Chair of the Council shall be elected to office by the Student Association, and shall be responsible for all Legislative correspondence, and cannot participate in the Executive Council or Judicial Council, nor have any involvement therein. The Chair of the Council must express an ability to lead and keep order and must have obtained a cumulative Grade Point Average of 2.75 or higher in the prior semester, and must fulfill all other requirements for membership as the other members of the Student Council, and so elected shall maintain all the functions of an elected member of the Council as mentioned herein.
7. The Chair of the Council shall be assisted by the Vice Chair of the Council who will be responsible for keeping order in Council, and assisting the Chair in preparing and distributing the Student Council Agenda, keeping accurate minutes and preparing Bills and Resolutions as directed by members of the Student Council. The member so appointed shall maintain his/ her division representation, and so appointed shall maintain all the functions of an elected member of the Council as mentioned herein.
8. In the absence of the Chair, the Vice Chair of the Council, being so appointed from the membership of the Council, shall preside in the place of the Chair until the return of the Chair or until a new Chair is so appointed, which ever is the earlier.
9. The elected members of the Student Council shall be persons qualified for election in accordance with the following provisions of this Constitution and, subject to the provisions of this Constitution, shall be elected in the manner provided by or under any order for the time being in force in the Student Association. A person shall be qualified to be so elected if he/ she is:
 - i. an enrolled student of the Community College; and
 - ii. deemed to belong to the Student Association; and
 - iii. otherwise qualified as a voter by virtue of being part of the Student Association; and
 - iv. in possession of at least six (6) hours of credit in their most recently completed term; and
 - v. in possession of a cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) of 2.50 or above.
10. A person shall not be qualified to be elected as a member of the Student Council if he/ she:
 - i. is, by virtue of his/ her own act, under any acknowledgment of obedience or adherence to another institution or which prohibits their full enrollment at this institution; or
 - ii. holds, or is acting in, any office within the administration or Faculty of this institution; or

- iii. has been declared as having owed this institution with some outstanding debt for whatever purpose; or
 - iv. has been declared as breaking the rules and regulations of this institution and has been thereby placed on probation for any time during their term of office or has been thereby expelled from this institution, or for some other sentence imposed on him/ her by another competent authority that will infringe upon the duration of their term in office.
11. Every elected member shall vacate his/ her seat therein at the next dissolution of the Student Council after his/ her election. An elected member of the Student Council shall also vacate their seat therein if he/ she:
- i. resigns it by writing under their own hand addressed to the Chair; or
 - ii. is absent from the sittings of the Council for four consecutive sittings or as may otherwise be prescribed by an Order in Council; or
 - iii. ceases to be qualified for elections; or
 - iv. has a cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) of less than 2.00 during any one academic semester while holding office, and therefore shall be removed from office for the remainder of his/ her term in office; unless his/ her cumulative GPA on hours earned at this institution is above 2.50.
12. Membership to the Student Council is only for one academic year and in the year that members are so elected they shall remain in office until the installation of their successors at the end of the following Spring Term or if they fail to meet the requirements as so stated.
13. If a position in Council is vacated during the elected term of office, the represented body shall appoint a successor from among its constituents to fill the position. Such appointments may be disputed by the represented constituents by presenting a signed petition to the Chair within the first two months following the appointment. Such petitions must be signed by at least ten (10) percent or twenty-five persons of the member's constituency, which ever is the greater. In the case of a disputed appointment, an open election will be held by the represented body to fill the vacancy.
14. A Quorum of the Student Council shall consist of eight (8) members, which shall include any person appointed by the Administration to service Student Affairs. If at any sitting of the Student Council any member who is present draws the attention of the person presiding at the sitting to the absence of a quorum and, after an interval of fifteen minutes or otherwise requested by members, which ever is the most, the person presiding at the sitting ascertains that a quorum of the Council is still not present, the Council shall be adjourned.
15. The person appointed by the Administration to service Student Affairs shall not be allowed to vote on any matter, but shall be required to make up the quorum, and the person so appointed shall advise this student body in relation to administrative purposes.

Section B: Powers and Duties of the Student Council

16. Subject to the provisions of this Constitution, the Student Council shall have the power to make Orders for the promotion of the activities of the Student Association and the control of the finances of the Student Association.

- (a) The operation of the Student Association shall be subjected to a biannual Budget which must be approved by the Student Council, which shall direct the spending of funds by the Student Association for two separate periods of the Student Association's fiscal year which shall begin in September or after the passing of the Budget, which ever is earlier.
- (b) The operation of the Student Association shall be subjected to a biannual College Business Report which must be approved by the Student Council, which shall direct the proper facilitation of the students of this institution and manage the operation of the interaction between the Administration and the Student Association.
- (c) The operation of the Student Association shall be subjected to a Biannual Report on Student Activities which shall direct the activities conducted by students during the period established by the Report and the approval of the subsequent Report on Student Activities, and shall ensure that all programs of the Student Association carry out the purpose of the Student Association.

- 17. The Student Council shall be responsible for all activities of the Student Association. It shall initiate such Orders and programs as it deems necessary to carry out its responsibilities as delineated in this Constitution.
- 18. The primary duty of members shall be to represent their constituents and the Student Association, and to fulfill their specific duties as specified herein or by an Order in Council.
- 19. The Student Council shall meet at least once every month during the Spring and Fall Semesters. All regular meetings of the Student Council shall be open to the student body.
- 20. All meetings are to be called by the Chair upon the consent of the members, and only four (4) members of the Student Council need request a special sitting, which may include any person appointed by the Administration to service Student Affairs, and is so recognized by this body as a non-elected member of the Student Council.

Section C: Voting

- 21. All elected members are required to vote, and if any member has a problem with the matter it must be presented to and heard by the Student Council before coming to a vote. Members may make an agreement not to vote and wait for a better time when the solution to the problem can be proposed by members, if a motion to this effect is moved and seconded.
- 22. A matter that is re-introduced to the Council must be voted upon and a majority is required.

23. Any member may introduce a Bill or propose any motion for debate in, or may present any petition to, the Council, and the same shall be debated and disposed of in the Council. Any student may request of the Chair to speak on any matter if they feel that their representatives have failed to properly represent their interests so that all opinions of the Student Association may be represented, and in the event that the student is not satisfied with the outcome of the decision of the Council, the student may seek a Judicial Ruling of the Judicial Council to reverse the decision, with the assistance of one other person going before the Judicial Council, provided that it is on record that the student did petition the Student Council and was not satisfied.
24. The Orders in Council must be presented to the President of the Student Association for approval after the Chair has ascertained by signature that the Student Council has successfully passed the Order. The President has to approve by signature, or return to the Chair unsigned before the next sitting of the Student Council, all Orders in Council. An unsigned Order by the President shall be considered a Presidential Veto which must be revoked once a compromise is drafted between the Chair.
25. If for any reason there is a complaint concerning any matter involving the operation of the Student Council, its relation to the Executive Council or its relation to the Judicial Council shall be presented to the Standing Committee on Rules that shall be chaired by the Chair of the Council, as with all Standing Committees except otherwise stated herein.
26. All members appointed to any standing committee shall be appointed by the Chair of the Student Council, and the Chair shall appoint five (5) members to sit on each standing committee besides the Chair and Vice Chair who shall preside over all meetings of the Standing Committees.

PART V

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Section A: Composition of the Student Council

27. The Student Association shall elect a President to direct the activities of this Council of equal authority to the Student Council yet subjected to the authority of the Student Council, thus established.
28. The President of the Student Association must show an ability to lead and direct and must have obtained a cumulative Grade Point Average of 2.75 or higher in the prior semester, and must fulfill all other requirements for membership as the members of the Student Council, though he/ she is not a member of the Student Council, nor can he/ she participate in the Student Council or the Judicial Council.
29. The following executive officers shall be appointed from the membership of the Student Council by the President, and upon the concurrence of the Student Council shall be approved by the Chair:

- I. the Vice President
- II. the Executive Officer of Finance
- III. the Executive Officer of College Affairs
- IV. the Executive Officer of Student Affairs

30. The President shall preside over the Executive Council, which shall be expected to meet when required and is called by the President who is expected to ensure that all members are informed of the activities.
31. If the President cannot perform his/ her duties, the Chair must direct the Vice President to perform the functions conferred on the President under this Constitution and any Order in Council. This authority shall be revoked by the Chair if the President should be able to perform his/ her duties. If the Vice President shall no longer be capable of handling the responsibilities of President then the Executive Officer of Finance shall be directed by the Chair to perform the functions conferred on the President, and in order of the Executive Officer of College Affairs, then the Executive Officer of Student Affairs.
32. The Executive Officer of Finance shall prepare and submit the Biannual Student Association Budget Report to the Student Council's Standing Committee on Finance, and shall be responsible for authorizing all financial transactions by the Student Association. The Executive Officer of Finance shall also be required to prepare and submit financial reports to the Student Council, and this Officer so appointed cannot sit on the Student Council's Standing Committee on Finance.
33. The Executive Officer of College Affairs shall be responsible for reviewing matters related to the interaction between the students and Administration of this institution, as well as ensuring the proper facilitation of the students of this institutions, whether members of the Student Association or not. The Executive Officer of College Affairs shall prepare and present a Biannual College Business Report to the Student Council's Standing Committee on the Student Association, and the Officer so appointed cannot sit on the Student Council's Standing Committee on the Student Association.
34. The Executive Officer of Student Affairs shall be responsible for the organizing, overseeing and coordinating of the various programs for student interaction among each other and with the local community and abroad. The Executive Officer of Student Affairs shall prepare and present a Biannual Report of Student Activities to the Student Council's Standing Committee on the Student Association, and the Officer so appointed cannot sit on the Student Council's Standing Committee on the Student Association.
35. The Executive Officers shall assume office at the last Student Council meeting of the academic year at the end of the Spring Semester after elections. The Executive Officers of the Student Association shall not be allowed to participate in any other Standing Committee or hold any appointed officer in the Student Council.

PART VI
JUDICIAL COUNCIL

Section A: Membership of the Judicial Council

36. The Judicial Council shall consist of four (4) elected members of the Student Council and a person elected by the Student Association to head the Judicial Council, who shall direct the activities of this Council of equal authority to the Student Council, yet subjected to the authority of the Student Council, thus established.
37. No division of the College, established for the purpose of representation, shall have all of its representatives participating in the Judicial Council. The presiding officer of the Judicial Council shall be elected during elections to serve as Chancellor of the Student Association, and all other members of the Judicial Committee.
38. One of the four (4) elected members of the Student Council appointed to the Judicial Council by the Chancellor from the membership of the Student Council shall be the Vice Chancellor of the Student Association, who shall assist the Chancellor in carrying out the activities of the Judicial Council.
39. The Chancellor shall prepare and revise procedures for the operation of the Judicial Council for the presentation to the Student Council's Standing Committee on Rules, and for that reason no member of the Judicial Council that is a member of the Student Council can serve on the Student Council's Standing Committee on Rules.
40. Members of the Judicial Council cannot be members of the Executive Council at any time during their tenure on this Committee.
41. The Judicial Council shall be dissolved upon the last sitting of the Student Council, to which a new Chancellor shall be appointed for the following Judicial Council.
42. The Chancellor must show a keen interest in justice and law and must have obtained a cumulative Grade Point Average of 2.75 or higher in the prior semester, and must fulfill all other requirements for membership as the members of the Student Council, and shall be responsible for all Judicial correspondence, and cannot participate in the Student Council or the Executive Council, nor have any involvement therein.

Section B: Functions and Powers

43. The main function of the Judicial Council shall be to provide a means for students of the College to get fair representation, treatment and punishment where appropriate through democratic court proceedings.
44. The Judicial Council shall act as an independent and equal arm of the student government, but shall be subjected and yet supreme to the Student Council and the Executive Council, whereby all actions made by the Student Council and the Executive council must conform to the decisions made by the Judicial Council.

45. The power of the Judicial Council shall arise exclusively from any case of controversy brought before it, pertaining to any question of interpretation of the Constitution of the Student Association or any Order passed by Council or any conflict resulting within the jurisdiction of the Student Association from within the Student Council.
46. The Judicial Council shall make their decisions based on discovered truth and from a practical point of view within the confines of any Order in Council made under this Constitution, and shall make laws effective upon criminal behaviour, in cases of disputes between two members of the Student Body or member of the Student Association and the Faculty or Staff of this institution.
47. The Judicial Council shall be the final authority regarding questions of interpretation of the Constitution and the Orders passed by Council. All Judicial Rulings made by the Judicial Council concerning the interpretation of the Constitution and Orders shall be stated in the Student Association's Bulletin and be considered final and binding. The Chancellor shall provide all Executive Officers and other members of Council with a copy of the official Judicial Ruling within five (5) business days, and shall also compile all questions of interpretative decisions for a permanent and public record. Judicial Rulings may be modified or reversed in the matters of constitutional or statutory amendments that affect the specific ruling if the issue is so raised and brought before the Judicial Council for re-evaluation.
48. The Judicial Council may also serve in an advisory capacity to any Student Association affiliated group or organization, and the Chancellor shall be responsible for presenting all decision passed by a majority vote by the Judicial Council to the Student Council to which the Committee shall answer.
49. The Judicial Council may only recommend to the Administration of this institution that an instructor or any person having the authority of an instructor with another professional title, by means of a Judicial Ruling be removed or otherwise disciplined to ensure that all students are properly serviced at this institution without frustration.
50. The Judicial Council may only recommend to the Administration of this institution that a student of this institution by means of a Judicial Ruling be suspended or otherwise disciplined to ensure that all students abide by the rules established by the Administration and the Student Association to ensure that all students are properly serviced at this institution without frustration.
51. The Judicial Council may only recommend to the Administration of this institution by means of a Judicial Ruling that any staff or personnel be removed or otherwise disciplined to ensure that all students are properly serviced at this institution without frustration.

52. The Judicial Council may only recommend to the Administration of this institution by means of a Judicial Ruling that any project or operation of the College be terminated or otherwise corrected to ensure that all students are properly serviced at this institution without frustration.
53. All matters that are taken to the Judicial Council must be directed to the Judicial Council from the Student Council, to which no vote is necessary, just the presentation of a motion by a member and another member to second the motion is necessary, as well as a student with the support of one other student that has not been satisfied with their request before the Student Council. All matters presented to the Judicial Council the same shall be heard and disposed of therein.

PART VII

ELECTIONS

Section A: The Elections Committee

54. The Elections Committee shall be chaired by the Vice President and shall comprise of the three (3) members elected to represent the entire Student Association and the person appointed by the Administration of the College to be responsible for Student Affairs.
55. The Elections Committee shall provide its final proposal for elections for elections by April 31 of the year of elections, and shall be responsible for providing polling places, man the polling places, make sure that the candidates have all the qualifications required by this Constitution, provide ballots or voting machines, and canvass the ballots to ascertain election results.
56. The Elections Committee shall set election dates and filing deadlines, propose election rules to the Student Council, and also be responsible for publishing these to the Student Association. The Elections Committee shall submit a proposed budget to the Executive Officer of Finance for that year's elections by the end of the Fall Semester.

Section B: Election Procedures and Regulations

57. There shall be a Primary Election by which all programs established for purposes of elections are to elect three (3) members to represent their program.
58. There shall be a General Election in which each program supports one of their candidates for the position of Chair of the Student Council, another for the President of the Student Association and another for the Student Association.
59. The Elections Committee shall set the length and times for the opening of the polls, and provide means to ensure that one person votes only once for the duration of the elections.

60. The Vice President must announce the deadline for the dissolution of the Student Council, which must be at least four weeks before Elections, and therefore all activities of the Council shall cease, as well as the Executive Council and the Judicial Council.
61. The new Student Council shall be sworn in by their preceding Council, with the new Chancellor being sworn in by the former, the new President by his/her former President and members of the Council by the former Chair.
62. All candidates for elections must be nominated for election by two persons of the constituency which the candidate wishes to represent. All nominations must be presented to the Elections Committee at least three weeks prior to the date of elections.

PART VIII

FINANCE

63. The Student Council shall make provisions for the establishment of an account for the Student Association, hereinafter referred to as the Account, and all monies raised or received by or for the purposes of the Student Association, except where expressed by an Order in Council that a separate account be established for a specific purpose, shall be placed within the Account.
64. No monies shall be withdrawn from the Account except upon the signature of two of three authorized persons which shall include, the President of the Student Association, the Executive Officer of Finance, hereinafter referred to as the Finance Officer, and the Chair of the Finance Committee, inasmuch that the Chair of the Finance Committee therefore cannot be the Finance Officer. Also for this reason, the person so appointed to the position of Finance Officer by the Chair, approved by the Student Council and assented to by the President, must hold a Grade Point Average of 2.75.
65. No commission shall be issued by any two of the three authorized individuals for the purpose of meeting any expenditure unless:
 - (a) the expenditure has been authorized for the financial year during which the withdrawal is to take place:
 - i. by an Order in Council; or
 - ii. by a supplementary estimate approved by resolution in the Student Council.
 - (b) the Student Council by resolution may empower the Finance Officer to withdraw moneys from the Account with either the signature of the President or the Chair of the Finance Committee for the purpose of meeting expenditure necessary to carry on the services of the Student Association until the expiration of a four month period from the beginning of that fiscal year or the coming into operation of the Order of Council, whichever is the earlier.

66. No monies shall be withdrawn from any account other than the Account unless the issue of those monies has been authorized by or under any Order passed by the Student Council.
67. The Student Council shall make provision for the establishment of an Emergency Account and for authorizing the Finance Officer to make advances from that fund if he/she is satisfied that there is urgent and unforeseen need for expenditure for which no other provision exists. When any advance is made from the Emergency Account a supplementary estimate shall, as soon as practicable, be laid before the Student Council for the purpose of authorizing the replacement of the amounts so advanced.
68. All debt charges for which the Student Association are liable shall be a charge on the Account that must be approved by the Student Council and to which the President of the Student Association is liable.

PART IX

AMENDMENTS

69. The Student Association may amend this Constitution with the approval of a majority vote in Council that would be to send the amendment before the Student Association, to which a majority vote is needed to amend the Constitution. Amendments may be initiated by a signed petition of no less than ten (10) percent of the members of the Student Association or by a Bill passed by the Student Council.

PART X

THE OATH OF OFFICE

Section A: For the Chancellor of the Student Association

70. I,, do solemnly and sincerely affirm and declare that I will be faithful to the provisions of the Constitution of the H. Lavity Stoutt Community College Student Association and carry out the provisions designated to this Office.

Section B: For the President of the Student Association

71. I,, do solemnly and sincerely affirm and declare that I will be faithful to this institution and the Student Association to which I am committed to carry out its purpose which is designated to this Office.

Section C: For the Chair of the Student Council

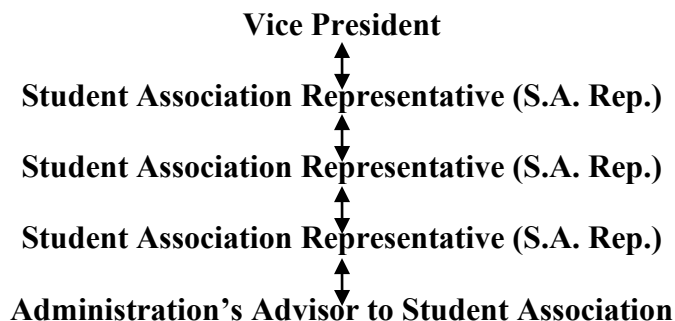
72. I,, do solemnly and sincerely affirm and declare that I will be faithful to the members of the Student Council and the Student Association to which I am committed to carry out its purpose which is designated to this Office.

Section B: For the President of the Student Association

73. I,, do solemnly and sincerely affirm and declare that I will be faithful to my constituents to whom I am dedicated in service and will carry out the purpose which is designated to this Office.

STUDENT ASSOCIATION WORKING DRAFT

Elections Committee (Not relating to the first election)



Primary Elections

- Program 1 elects 3 Representatives (2.50 GPA or above)
- Program 2 elects 3 Representatives (2.50 GPA or above)
- Program 3 elects 3 Representatives (2.50 GPA or above)
- Program 4 elects 3 Representatives (2.50 GPA or above)
- Program 5 elects 3 Representatives (2.50 GPA or above)
- Total: 15 Representatives

From among the 15 Representatives the Elections Committee will choose the representatives who meet the requirements for Chair, President and Chancellor to vie for office. The students that are not elected to specific positions will fill various roles within the Student Council, and it is from the membership of the Student Council that the other two Councils will make up their numbers.

General Elections

