

AUSTIN GRADUATE SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY STUDENT ASSOCIATION

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I. NAME

Section A. The name of this organization shall be Austin Graduate School of Theology Student Association (AGSTSA).

Section B. These by-laws are the formal written code of this organization.

ARTICLE II. PURPOSE

Section A. Austin Graduate School of Theology Student Association (AGSTSA) shall be the recognized student organization for Austin Graduate School of Theology (AGST).

Section B. AGSTSA shall facilitate the equitable representation of the student body on all appropriate standing and special committees of AGST.

Section C. AGSTSA shall facilitate communication between the student body and the faculty and administration of AGST.

Section D. AGSTSA shall promote community life and provide a forum for addressing student concerns.

ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP

Section A. Membership shall consist of all AGST students enrolled in a minimum of three credit hours. AGSTSA does not discriminate on the basis of age, gender, religion, race, national origin, or ethnic background.

Section B. A student may decline membership in the association by notifying the Dean of Students in writing.

Section C. There shall be no hazing of any kind allowed in this organization.

Section D. Suspension of membership may occur if the conduct of a member is such that it would bring reproach on the AGSTSA.

ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS

Section A. The officers of AGSTSA shall be President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. These officers shall comprise the AGSTSA Executive Committee.

Section B. Officers shall meet the following qualifications at the time of nomination and throughout the term of office.

1. An officer must be a student in good standing at AGST and be enrolled in a minimum of six credit hours in an AGST degree program. A student in his or her final semester prior to graduation may be enrolled for less than six hours.
2. An officer must have a minimum GPA of 2.5.

Section C. The duties of the officers shall be as follows.

1. It shall be the duty of the President to preside at the meetings of AGSTSA and the Executive Committee, to enforce observance of the by-laws, assign duties, call special meetings, appoint all committees not otherwise provided and perform such other duties as the office may require.
2. It shall be the duty of the Vice-President to attend meetings of AGSTSA and the Executive Committee and to preside at any such meeting at which the President is absent.
3. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to attend meetings of AGSTSA and the Executive Committee and to take minutes at all such meetings. These

minutes shall be presented at the next AGSTSA or Executive Committee meeting and shall be available for inspection by all members and faculty.

4. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to attend meetings of AGSTSA and the Executive Committee and to keep a record of income and expenditures in conjunction with the AGST financial officer. The Treasurer shall present a financial report to the President upon request.

Section D. Officers shall be elected as follows:

1. Nominations for officers may be made by any member of AGSTSA to the Dean of Students. Nominations will be accepted from February 14 until the Friday preceding Spring Break.
2. Nominations for officers may be made by any member of AGSTSA to the Dean of Students on or before 5 p.m. on the Friday preceding Spring Break.
3. All elections shall be by vote of AGSTSA members by means of a secret ballot. Elections shall be completed on or before April 15.
4. Each officer shall be elected for one school year; the term of office shall be May 1 to May 1.
5. In the event that the President is unable to complete the term of office, the Vice President shall assume the office of President.
6. In the event of a vacancy in any office other than the President, the President shall, with the approval of the Dean of Students, appoint a replacement for the remainder of the term.

7. Any officer who fails to meet the qualifications for an officer or to perform the duties of his or her office may be removed from office by majority vote of the remainder of the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE V. OPERATIONS

- Section A. The Executive Committee, the Dean of Students, and the representative appointed by the AGST administration, hereafter referred to as the AGST representative, shall meet monthly. These meetings shall occur on the first Thursday of each month during the Fall and Spring semesters unless otherwise appointed by the SCAGST officers in consultation with the AGST representative and the Dean of Students. In no case shall the Executive Committee hold less than two meetings per semester. Three of the four members of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum, and a majority of those present is required to pass a motion. The Executive Committee shall not meet without the Dean of Students or his/her designated substitute.
- Section B. AGSTSA shall hold a minimum of one general meeting per semester. Notice of this meeting shall be by means of the AGST newsletter. The number of members attending the meeting shall constitute a quorum, and a majority of those present is required to pass a motion.
- Section C. Each semester, the Executive Committee shall organize at least one service project and one social activity for the AGST community.
- Section D. All communications to the AGSTSA membership at large shall be sent to the school receptionist for approval, editing, and transmission or publication. This includes, but is not limited to, reminders, events, deadlines, and prayer requests.

ARTICLE VI. FINANCES

Section A. AGSTSA shall be funded through donations and/or association activities. All funds shall be submitted to the AGST financial officer to be maintained in an account for the use of AGSTSA.

Section B. All expenditures require the approval of the Executive Committee and the Dean of Students.

ARTICLE VII. AMENDMENTS AND RATIFICATION

Section A. A three-fourths majority of those present at an AGSTSA meeting is necessary to ratify these by-laws.

Section B. Proposed changes or amendments to the by-laws shall be submitted to the President in writing.

Section C. Proposed changes or amendments to the by-laws shall be approved by the Dean of Students and the Executive Committee prior to submission for a vote of the AGSTSA general membership.

Section D. The adoption of changes or amendments shall require the approval of three-fourths of the AGSTSA members voting.