

# **The Constitution of the Staff Senate of Texas A&M International University**

## **Article I: Name**

Section 1. The name of this organization is the Staff Senate of Texas A&M International University.

## **Article II: Purpose and Responsibility**

Section 1. The purpose of the Staff Senate is to examine and communicate matters affecting all classified staff, their quality of life and their employment, and to act as an advocate for all classified staff, and to formulate recommendations to the University Administration. The Staff Senate will consider any other topic relevant to the interests and welfare of the University and make recommendations. The Staff Senate also considers those affairs that are delegated to it by the President of the University.

## **Article III: Membership in the Staff Senate**

Section 1. All persons holding benefits-eligible classified staff appointments at Texas A&M International University, who are not represented by Faculty Senate, Dean's Council or University Executive Council, are members of the Staff Senate. They are empowered to conduct all affairs of the Staff Senate except for those specified otherwise in this Constitution and its Bylaws.

## **Article IV: Bylaws**

Section 1. The Staff Senate establishes Bylaws to this Constitution which govern matters required by, or not otherwise specified in, this Constitution.

Section 2. A majority of the eligible voting members present at a schedule meeting is required to initiate a ballot item concerning amendments to, or changes in the Bylaws. Amendments to or changes in the Bylaws are then submitted to the Governance Committee for review. The Governance Committee will report at the next regularly scheduled meeting. The ballots are then distributed to the Staff Senate by the Governance Committee with notice that they will become effective if and when ratified by an affirmative 60% of the total eligible member ballots.

## **Article V: Constitution Amendments and Interpretation**

Section 1. A majority of the eligible voting members present at a scheduled meeting is required to initiate a ballot item concerning amendments to, or changes in the Constitution. Amendments to or changes in the Constitution are then submitted to the Governance Committee for review. The Governance Committee will report at the next regularly scheduled meeting. The ballots are then distributed to the Staff Senate by the Governance Committee with notice that they will become effective if and when ratified by a 60% majority of ballots received in a referendum of the Staff Senate, provided the affirmative votes constitute no less than one-fourth of the membership of the Staff Senate. The Governance Committee handles the amendment voting. The Governance Committee has the authority to interpret this Constitution.

## **Article VI: Adoption and Distribution**

Section 1. This Constitution is adopted by the Staff Senate, enters into effect, and replaces all previous constitutional documents, on the date that it is approved by a 60% vote of the membership present.

Section 2. This Constitution and its Bylaws are distributed to all members of the Staff Senate Officers and are available to all members of the Staff Senate via the Staff Senate website.

Section 3. This Constitution was last revised on July 2009.