

BLACK STUDENT UNION

OUR OBJECTIVE:

Our objective as the Black Student Union is:

*To unite all the black families of the African Diaspora under one flag: the Red, Black, & Green.

This includes Africans, Latinos, Asians, and any other group relating to the Diaspora. The red represents the blood that flows through our veins, the blood that our people spilt in the fight for freedom, justice, and equality; the blood is the spirit of the people. Black represents the family or the nation. Blackness is eternal. Green represents the land. Not just Africa, but the entire planet.

*To maintain and promote active communication and interaction between all students, faculty and of the African Diaspora including the Organization of African Unity, Brothers Making a Difference, Ebony Women for Social Change, Haitian Organization for Progress and Empowerment, Ramapo Operation Link Up

* To create and maintain an environment that promotes the mission of the Black Student Union (through the use of a office or center when applicable).

*To encourage the involvement of African Diaspora in mainstream campus activities and organizations.

*To support the incoming students as they integrate into the campus environment. It is our responsibility as righteous & civilized people to teach the up & coming generations what they need to know so that they could add on to the BSU.

* To continue to expand the Africana Studies Program at Ramapo College

* To keep communications with other BSU members on other campuses and universities.

Article I – Executive Board

The Black Student Union shall be chaired by the following executive board members: **Spokesperson, Academic Affairs Chair, Public Relations Chair, Financial Affairs Chair, Secretary.**

Section 1

Clause 1: The Spokesperson shall be a student in good academic standing with the college, maintain an overall GPA of a 2.5, and be a former member of an executive board in an organization recognized as part of the Black Student Union at the time of election.

Clause 2: The Spokesperson shall serve from 1 May to April 30.

Clause 3: The Spokesperson shall keep up-to-date with institutional policies.

Clause 4: The Spokesperson shall serve as the official representative to administration, faculty, staff and other student groups.

Clause 5: The Spokesperson shall be in attendance and preside over all Black Student Union General and Executive Board meetings.

Clause 6: The Spokesperson shall have the tie breaking vote in matters that fall to the Presidents Council if necessary.

Clause 7: The Spokesperson shall lead discussions regarding developing organizational goals at the beginning of his/her term with the other executive board members and Presidents Council.

Section II

Clause 1: The Academic Affairs Chair shall be a student in good academic standing with the college, maintain an overall GPA of a 2.5, and be a former member of an executive board in an organization recognized as part of the Black Student Union at the time of election.

Clause 2: The Academic Affairs Chair shall keep up-to-date on all institutional policies and procedures pertaining to academic affairs.

Clause 3: The Academic Affairs Chair shall be charged with connecting members of The Black Student Union with existing tutoring programs offered by the college, including but not limited to the Center of Academic Success.

Clause 4: The Academic Affairs Chair shall recruit and supervise a committee made of individuals from each school to identify problems of students at Ramapo College of New Jersey represented by the Black Student Union within the respective schools.

Clause 5: The Academic Affairs Chair shall develop and implement educational activities supportive of organizational goals and objectives.

Clause 6: The Academic Affairs Chair shall serve as the official liaison to the Educational Opportunity Fund Program, Supplemental Instructors

Section III

Clause 1: The Public Relations Chair shall be a student in good academic standing with the college, maintain an overall GPA of a 2.5, and be a former member of an executive board in an organization recognized as part of the Black Student Union at the time of election.

Clause 2: The Public Relations Chair shall publicize organizational events and meetings.

Clause 3: The Public Relations Chair shall serve as the official liaison to the colleges webmaster, carrying all request for the Black Student Union website to the webmaster to be completed as soon as possible.

Clause 4: The Public Relations Chair shall oversee all marketing materials for the Black Student Union, but not the marketing materials of its individual organizations. This includes, but is not limited to, Black Student Union brochures, posters, Facebook groups, RCTV, WRPR or Ramapo News promotions.

Clause 5: The Public Relations Chair shall create at least one newsletter a semester that provides information about the progress of the Black Student Union and its member organization for the benefit of the whole campus.

Section IV

Clause 1: The Financial Affairs Chair shall be a student in good academic standing with the college, maintain an overall GPA of a 2.5, and be a former member of an executive board in an organization recognized as part of the Black Student Union at the time of election.

Clause 2: The Financial Affairs Chair shall keep the financial records correct and up-to-date in line with college policy, including SARM policies.

Clause 3: The Financial Affairs Chair shall serve on the Student Government Allocations Committee.

Clause 4: The Financial Affairs Chair shall prepare annual budget each spring semester and shall oversee the budget throughout the fiscal year.

Clause 5: The Financial Affairs Chair shall pay bills at earliest possible date.

Clause 6: The Financial Affairs Chair shall submit monthly, semester, and after-event reports to the Caucus and general membership.

Clause 7: Shall oversee the budget and abide by all rules and regulations of the Student Government Association Allocations Committee and Student Activities Revenue Management (SARM).

Section V

Clause 1: The Secretary shall be a student in good academic standing with the college, maintain an overall GPA of a 2.5, and be a former member of an executive board in an organization recognized as part of the Black Student Union at the time of election.

Clause 2: The Secretary shall be charged with organizing the upkeep of the office, reviewing and updating office filing procedures, and order all supplies and materials for the office.

Clause 3: The Secretary shall take, file and disseminate minutes, including attendance, at General and Executive Board meetings to all members of the Black Student Union and all of its associated organizations.

Clause 4: The Secretary shall be charged with running a yearly constitutional review to add amendments (if necessary) and keep the Black Student Unions rules and regulations up to date.

Clause 5: The Secretary shall maintain bulletin boards in the office with the most updated publications regarding the Black Student Union.

Clause 6: The Secretary shall create a calendar for the Black Student Union for the purpose of keeping track of Black Student Union programming and all of its organizations meetings.

Article II President's Council

Clause 1: The requirements to be a member of the Presidents Council shall be the same as the requirements outlined in the individual organizations constitutions.

Clause 2: The Presidents council shall be the main voting body of the Black Student Union, with each organization counting as one (1) vote, regardless of number of members that attend the Black Student Union meeting. This body will vote on any amendment to the Black Student Union constitution, the election of executive board members, on

whether to add another organization to the Black Student Union, or on resolution asserting a united voice for all the organizations in the Black Student Union.

Clause 3: The Presidents of the member organizations of the Black Student Union will be the voting members. In the event that the President of an organization is unavailable, another member of the organization that is appointed by the President can vote in his/her absence.

Clause 4: In the event of a tie, the Spokesperson for the Black Student Union will serve as the tiebreaking vote on the President's Council.

Article II – Organizational Structure(Membership/Election Procedure)

Clause 1: Presidents Council is made up of the President of the **Organization of African Unity, Brothers Making a Difference, Ebony Women for Social Change, Haitian Organization for Progress and Empowerment, and Ramapo Operation Link Up**

Clause 2: The Executive Board includes, **Spokesperson, Chairmen Public Relations, Chairman of Financial Affairs, Chairman of Academic Affairs, and Secretary**

Clause 3: General Members

Clause 4: The Presidents Council election policy is based off of individual organizations constitutions

Clause 5: Executive board voted on by the Presidents council. This election should take place by April 15th in order to ensure time to create a transition of power from one administration to the next.

Article III –Voting

Clause 1: Only members of the President's Council of the *Black Student Union* will be entitled to voting privileges.

Clause 2: In the case of split decision, spokesperson has the final vote.

Clause 3: The Executive Board is in charge of carrying out what the President Council's votes on.

Article IV – Meeting

Clause 1: The Caucus shall convene general meetings of the Black Student Union at least twice a month. The Caucus may also, at its discretion, hold private and public meetings each month in addition to the public meetings. Unless otherwise herein provided, business transacted and action taken shall be by majority or a quorum in attendance at each meeting.

Clause 2: The on-going business of the organization shall be discussed and all decisions will be ratified at the general meetings by majority rule.

Clause 3: For purposes of the caucus, a quorum is defined as the number, which is not less than fifty-percent (50%) of the number of Caucus.

Clause 4: The caucus will vote each semester on which chairmen will Chair the general board meetings. All meetings shall be conducted in accordance with Robert Rules of Order, Revised except as otherwise provided herein the Caucus may decide as to what extent Robert Rules of Order, Revised may be used in General Board meetings. A proxy can cast no votes if a member of the caucus cannot be present for a vote.

Article VII – Removal of Officers

Section 1

Clause 1: Removal proceedings against an officer may be initiated by presentation of a petition of two-thirds (2/3) of the Presidents Council. The Spokesperson may not provide a tie breaking vote in impeachment matters.

Clause 2: Ground for impeachment shall include:

1. Consistent failure to perform the assigned duties outlined in the constitution.
2. Deliberate pursuit of policies contrary to the constitution of the Black Student Union;
3. Does not attend Black Student Union meetings regularly.
4. Any deliberate action that may compromise the purpose of the Black Student Union.

Section 2

Clause 1: Failure to adhere to academic standards. Any officer who is in violation of the organization's purpose or constitution, as described above, may be removed from office via the following procedure:

Clause 2: A written request or petition by one-fourth of the active general board or two-thirds of the Presidents Council is necessary to begin the process of removal of an executive board member.

Clause 3: A Chairman must confront the Chairman in question (via formal letter and meeting) to determine whether or not there is substantial evidence that an open hearing is required. A Chairman must inform the Chairman in question of their violations and/or conduct and the concerns as addressed by the members. The Chairman in question must discuss the causes and situations that have allowed or perpetuated these actions.

Clause 4: Failure by the Chairman in question to meet another chairman's request for a meeting is just cause for (1) the request for that chairman's resignation or the immediate impeachment of the officer in question by at least 51% of the vote of the Cabinet.

Clause 5: If the officer in question responds to the request for a meeting with a Chairman, and substantial evidence for impeachment is acquired, the Chairman in question must be prepared to address these concerns to the organization during an open hearing, which will be announced to all active members;

Clause 6: The acting Chair of the meeting of that specific semester will chair the hearing.

Clause 7: 51% of the vote by the Black Student Union's voting members is necessary to remove a Chairman;

Clause 8: The removal of the individual through this process prevents him or her from holding another position in the organization during the next academic year.

Section 3

Clause 1: Resignation of one's position shall remain an option for leaving one's office or being asked to leave:

Clause 2: Any resignation request should be made to the Caucus in a formal letter, addressed to the Black Student Union two (2) weeks prior to anticipated day of resignation;

Clause 3: A vote of fifty percent (51%) of the Caucus is needed to have an officer receive a formal request for resignation.

Clause 4: If the chairman in question does not accept a resignation request, the option of formal removal procedures must be utilized.

Article VIII – Amendments

Clause 1: The Constitution can be amended by (51%) of the vote of the caucus.

Clause 2: Amendments may not be voted on until the next caucus meeting after the introduction of the amendments.

Article X– Quorum

Quorum for general meetings shall be fifty-percent (51%) of the membership

Disciplinary actions:

Freezing of organizations accounts

Voting privileges suspended

Organization suspended

Suspension means they cannot participate in quorum