

# **Ladies Adding Distinction in Every Stride (L.A.D.I.E.S) Constitution**

## **Article I – The Name:**

The name of this organization shall be Ladies Adding Distinction in every stride [abbreviated L.A.D.I.E.S] at Christopher Newport University.

## **Article II – Purpose**

Our purpose is to be leaders using our differing skill sets to build trust and unite us as a family. Empower others and ourselves, through our creativity to transform, nurture, serve, and educate. Being “beYOUtiful” in all situations.

## **Article III – Membership**

Section 1. Any student regularly enrolled in Christopher Newport University may become a member of the L.A.D.I.E.S. with voting and office-holding privileges. The club shall determine the standards for qualifications and the amount of dues to be paid.

Section 2. Dues, having been decided on by the organization, as a non-refundable \$10.00 fee per semester (or \$20.00 for the academic year) and shall be paid by members only. Non-members may attend meetings, but must fund any activity they wish to participate in with the L.A.D.I.E.S organization themselves.

Section 3. L.A.D.I.E.S. shall not haze any prospective member for the purpose of admission into or affiliation with the organization. Members of L.A.D.I.E.S. are free to leave or dissociate without fear of retribution or harassment. L.A.D.I.E.S. shall not discriminate based on race, creed, color, sex, age, national origin, disability, and/ or sexual orientation.

## **Article IV – Executive Officers**

The executive officers of the L.A.D.I.E.S. shall be as follows: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Executive of Public Relations.

Section 1. The President represents the organization to the campus at large and her duties consist of presiding over all membership as well as all E-board meetings, to assure that the purpose, vision, and mission of L.A.D.I.E.S. are fulfilled, and to appoint special committees with the approval of the E-board. The President shall be the final say in all matters concerning L.A.D.I.E.S. The President shall also delegate tasks to be assigned when deemed necessary. President shall also build and maintain relations on behalf of L.A.D.I.E.S. and within the Hampton Roads Community.

Section 2. Vice President shall preside over the meetings in the absence of the president, maintain relations with the current population of University and coordinate all programs and activities of L.A.D.I.E.S., including Take Back the Night. Officer shall be present at majority of events put on by L.A.D.I.E.S., and be the spear-heading factor of all events placed by L.A.D.I.E.S. The Vice President shall also build and maintain relations on behalf of L.A.D.I.E.S. with the Hampton Roads community, and coordinate all off campus programs and activities. She shall provide service opportunities for L.A.D.I.E.S. members and be knowledgeable of all community events that could relate to L.A.D.I.E.S. She shall also be a resource to all other positions and entities of L.A.D.I.E.S.

Section 3. The Secretary is to attend to all general correspondence of the organization and to keep minutes of all E-board and membership meeting and to preserve the records of the organization. She will also perform other such duties as may be required of the Executive Board. The secretary shall also be in charge of announcements at G-Board and E-Board meetings, filing all proper documents and paperwork as deemed necessary.

Section 4. The Treasurer and Fundraising Chair is to supervise the financial administration of all revenue periodically to the E-board and membership on the financial condition of the organization, ordering and distributing L.A.D.I.E.S. merchandise as needed by the organization, and perform other such duties as may be required by the by-laws or resolutions of the E-board. She will also spear-head any fundraising events and appoints committee members should they be needed. The Treasurer shall also be in charge of creating a budget for L.A.D.I.E.S.

Section 5. Executive of Public Relations shall execute all publicity and technological communications for activities and special events to include but not limited to Facebook, Twitter, blog/ website, and any on campus advertising. All promotion materials should be approved via President and/ or Vice President within 24 hours of being presented.

#### Article VI – Meetings

Section 1. The date of general board meetings of the L.A.D.I.E.S. shall be determined by the Executive Board at the beginning of each academic semester.

Section 2. The President may call special meetings at his/her discretion.

Section 3. Committee meetings will be called as deemed necessary varying upon when and if committees are needed.

#### Article VII – Elections

Section 1. Election of officers shall take place yearly during the third week of March. Chosen applicants must give a thorough presentation of why they feel they are appropriate for the position.

Section 2. Any student is eligible for nomination as an officer of the E-board who: (a) meets CNU's eligibility for student office holding which consists of a 2.0 grade point average, (b) fulfills the qualification as set up by the Executive Committee, and (c) must be a current, paid, and active member of L.A.D.I.E.S. Being active consists of not only participating, when time allows, in L.A.D.I.E.S. events, but also involvement on campus and in the community.

Section 3. A vacancy in any office, except the Presidency, shall be filled only by an election held among the members of L.A.D.I.E.S.

#### Article VIII – Recall of Officers

Officers of the organization may be dismissed for cause if due process is not followed. Grounds for dismissal include negligence of duties, and/or reflecting L.A.D.I.E.S. in a negative light that affects the organization. A motion for a recall of an officer requires a two-thirds vote from E-board.

#### Article IX – Amendments

Amendments to this Constitution may be proposed to the voting membership by majority vote of the executive committee or by petition signed by one-fourth of the voting membership. Amendments shall be

declared adopted, which are presented at two general meetings and receive a majority favorable vote at both meetings by the voting members present

#### Article X – By-Laws

Amendments to this Constitution may be proposed to the voting membership by majority vote of the executive Committee or by petition signed by one-fourth of the voting membership. Amendment shall be declared adopted, which are presented at two general meetings and receive a majority favorable vote at both meeting by the voting members present.

#### Article XI – Role of the Advisor

A CNU faculty or staff member shall serve as advisor. The advisor of the organization shall provide support, counseling, and guidance in all situations. The advisor is committed to the group as well as the individual and is welcome to attend majority of E-board meetings, and regular meetings, and offer advice. The advisor shall work closely with the organization in coordinating activities to ensure that they are conducted in compliance with CNU's policies and federal, state, and local laws. The advisor shall have a mandatory meeting with each individual E-board member at least once a month and when deemed necessary.

#### Article XII – Responsibilities

L.A.D.I.E.S. shall adhere to University policies and all city, state, and federal laws.

#### Article XIII – Ratification

This Constitution shall become effective upon ratification by a majority of the organization's membership and Office of Student Activities.