

# Constitution of the University of New England Residential Student Life Association

## Preamble

We, the executive board of this association, in order to advocate and support the residential student body at the University of New England, hereby establish the formation of this Constitution, which shall serve as the framework for our organization. Through this Constitution, we aim to provide support for residential students at the University of New England, regardless of race, color, national origin, religion, age, marital status, handicap, sex, sexual preference, gender, gender expression, or gender identity.

## Article I: Name

The name of this organization shall be the University of New England Residential Student Life Association, referred to as “Residential Student Life Association”, or simply “RSLA”.

## Article II: Mission Statement

### Section I: Mission of the Organization

The purpose of this organization shall be to be a liaison between the residential students and the Office of Housing and Residential/Commuter Life and the Dean of Students at the University of New England. RSLA shall serve as a medium through which residential students may voice their concerns, opinions, and comments on the state of residential life at the university. RSLA shall also aim to provide a sense of community, by means of social and educational programming, both actively and passively. Lastly, RSLA shall aim to foster leadership skills within its members, both by means of in-meeting activities, and atrd Xsööö, both by

## **Article III: Membership**

### **Section I: Membership Qualifications**

Membership into RSLA is open to all students living in a residence hall at the University of New England, or any commuter student who has spent a minimum of two (2) years as a residential student at the University of New England.

### **Section II: Membership Responsibilities**

- I. Attend 75% of RSLA's meetings per semester
- II. Send a proxy to the meeting in the event they are unable to attend, if so desired
- III. Perform duties as requested and assigned
- IV. Represent RSLA in their residence hall
- V. Vote in any general election

## **Article IV: Delegacy**

### **Section I: Delegate Qualifications**

To be a delegate of RSLA, you must be a residential student at the University of New England. New members may submit a paper with 25 signatures obtained from residential students in order to be voted in as a delegate, however returning delegates must email a statement of intent to retain delegate status.

### **Section II: Delegate Responsibilities**

- I. Attends all General Assembly meetings as they are able
- II. Sends a proxy to the meeting in the event they are unable to attend, if so desired
- III. May vote on matters including but not limited to bills, elections, and OTM's
- IV. May propose bills themselves
- V. Attend as many RSLA events as possible
- VI. Assists in planning and advertising of programs
- VII. Performs duties as requested and assigned
- VIII. Stays up to date with the latest RSLA information
- IX. Stays up to date with issues in their residence hall
- X. Is a resource for students in their residence hall
- XI. Serve as a liaison for their residence hall and RSLA

## **Article V: Staff Advisor**

### **Section I: Role of the Advisor**

The advisor(s) of the Residential Student Life Association shall serve as a role to help foster the development of the executive board as student leaders. They shall oversee the executive board's planning and programming implementation, while also assisting

as needed. The advisor shall represent the best interest of the university and RSLA and shall be able to veto any idea that is not in that best interest.

**Section II: Advisor Responsibilities**

- I. Advisor(s) shall be requested from the Office of Residential/Commuter Life
- II. When possible, at least one advisor should be present at every General Assembly meeting
- III. Attend all executive board meetings
- IV. Hold 1:1 meetings as needed with members of the executive board
- V. One advisor shall either attend or appoint a proxy to each NACU

- V. Has the right to approve amendments to the bylaws and constitution in the absence of a full delegation by a unanimous vote.
- VI. Must attend fall and spring semester retreats

**Section II: President**

- I. Chairs both General Assembly and Executive Board meetings
- II. Makes Executive Board meeting agendas
- III. Makes General Assembly presentations
- IV. Acts as the accountability center for all matters relating to RSLA
- V. Supervises the election process, for all executive board positions except for the President

**Section III: Vice President for Administration and Finance**

- I. Assumes President's role in the case of an absence
- II. Tracks overall budget and reports to the Executive Board weekly
- III. Advises on financial allocations
- IV. Formulates a semesterly budget
- V. Takes minutes at both General Assembly and Executive Board meetings

**Section IV: Vice President for Recruitment and Retention**

- I. Works to recruit new delegates and members
- II. Works to promote member retention
- III. Maintains records of membership, delegate status, voting rights, and the delegate point system

**Section V: Vice President for Public Relations**

- I. Supervises advertising and programming campaigns
- II. Maintains group pages and social media pages
- III. Plans bulletin boards about RSLA for each area as needed

**Section VI: Vice President for Resident Advisor Relations**

- I. Must be a Resident Advisor
- II. Identifies ways for RSLA to support resident advisors
- III. Seeks opportunities for collaborative programming by resident advisors and RSLA
- IV. Serves as a resource for RSLA members who are currently, or who seek to become resident advisors
- V. Leads at least one leadership development program per semester for RSLA members

## **Section VII: Vice President for NACURH Involvement**

- I. Runs “Of the Months” (OTM) selection at the final General Assembly Meeting of each month
- II. Attends all NEACURH virtual meetings
- III. Shall be responsible for all conference planning and preparations
- IV. Attends all NEACURH conferences
- V. Attends NACURH conferences when possible

## **Bylaws**

### **I. Elections**

- A. Any resident wishing to run for RSLA office and who meets the criteria in Article VII section one, may submit their name and statement of intent, via email, to the Vice President for Delegate Recruitment and Retention by the last week in March. Voting will take place during the first week in April.
- B. Balloting for officers will be conducted during regularly scheduled General Assembly Meetings, and decision will be by majority vote.
- C. Delegates – Delegates will be appointed at the beginning of the fall semester or as needed. Residents who wish to become delegates must submit a petition form with 25 signatures before being appointed.
- D. Tie – The President will be the deciding vote in any case of a tie.
- E. If not all positions are filled during spring elections, the executive board shall announce an alternate election timeline for positions not filled.

### **II. Meetings**

- A. RSLA will meet weekly. The time of all regular meetings will be decided at, or prior to the initial Executive Board Meeting before each semester.
- B. Special meetings may be called by the President of RSLA or upon written request of one half of the members.
- C. If a delegate cannot make a -

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