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 attendance of a semesterly leadership conference.

Section II: Mission of the Executive Board
The executive board shall serve as the governing body of RSLA. Through their efforts they will aim to ensure the mission of the organization is being met. These efforts include communicating with the Office of Housing and Residential/Commuter Life and the Dean of Students, supervising programming done by RSLA, helping RSLA’s members to grow as student leaders, and any other effort as it is deemed appropriate by the board.

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 NACURH-affiliated conference RSLA attends
VI. Assist as needed with all RSLA efforts
VII. Supervises the election process for the President position.

Article VI: Executive Board Officers

I. There shall be an executive board comprised of a President, Vice President for Administration & Finance, Vice President for Recruitment & Retention, Vice President for RA Relations, Vice President for NACURH Involvement, and Vice President for Public Relations
II. With the exception of the Vice President for RA Relations, Vice President for NACURH Involvement, and Vice President for Public Relations, Resident Advisors may not serve on the executive board
III. All executive board members must attend all events hosted by RSLA, and if they are unable they will inform the head of the program
IV. Each officer of the Executive Board must be an undergraduate student who currently resides in a residence hall at the University of New England or a who has spent a minimum of two (2) years residing in a residence hall at the University of New England and at least one (1) year of this as an active member of the Residential Student Life Association.
V. Must maintain communication between RSLA and the Office of Residential/Commuter Life

Article VII: Duties of the Executive Board Officers

Section I: General Executive Board Officer Duties

I. Must attend all General Assembly meetings and Executive Board meetings weekly, except in the case of an excused absence
II. Must meet with advisor(s) as needed
III. Must head at least one program per semester as determined by the Executive Board
IV. Must submit debrief forms for any RSLA event they head

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 General Assembly Meeting, he/she must e-mail the Vice President for Admin. & Finance before the Meeting. Failure to alert the executive board in the case of an absence will result in punishment as the Vice President for Recruitment and Retention sees fit

III. Voting

A. Each delegate of RSLA is entitled to one vote per every motion.
B. Resident Advisors shall be allowed one vote per duty rotation in general elections, as well as legislative and bill ratification.
C. Delegates can table a vote if not enough information is given in the bill
D. Every member (attends 75% of General Assembly Meetings) is entitled to one vote in any general election.

E. The RSLA President will only vote in case of a tie; generally E-Board cannot vote for any bills
F. A two-thirds majority vote is needed to ratify a motion.

IV. Vacancies

A. President of RSLA: In the case of a vacancy in the office of President, the Vice President for Recruitment and Retention shall succeed to the Presidency. *If the Vice President for Recruitment and Retention is unable or unwilling to fill the vacancy of the office of President, they are responsible for holding elections within the Executive Board and Delegation to fill the vacancy.*
B. General RSLA officers other than President: In case of a vacancy in any other offices, the President shall fill the office by appointment from a member of the Executive Board or Delegation, with two thirds approval of the executive board.

V. Quorum

A. A simple majority of the elected membership exclusive of the Executive Board shall constitute a quorum.

VI. Training

A. Executive board members must attend a pre-planned retreat prior to each semester, at a time determined beforehand.
B. The training should consist of budgeting & planning for programs, finalizing meeting times and locations, reviewing the constitution, and planning bulletin boards and other public relations content.

VII. Of the Month's

A. Of the Month nominations may be submitted by anyone present at the general assembly meeting
B. Nominations consist of five categories; Resident, Resident Advisor, Program, Spotlight, and Delegate.
C. The Vice President for NACURH Involvement runs Of the Month's, and thus cannot be voted for.
D. Delegates and Resident Advisors are allowed one vote per category

VIII. Removal of Office

A. If an E-board member notices any other board member of RSLA not performing duties as mentioned in the constitution, there will be a ballot given to the Delegation to vote to remove that person as a e-board member of RSLA.

IX. Amendments

A. The Executive Board will have the right to amend the constitution by a two-thirds vote of delegation. Any amendments must be published two weeks prior to a vote on ratification of the amendment.