

# CONSTITUTION OF THE REGENT DEMOCRATS



## PREAMBLE

The Regent Democrats is a Christ-centered organization for Democrats and Independents who wish to be Christian leaders to change the world. This Constitution is adopted for the governance of the Regent Democrats.

## MISSION

The Regent Democrats seek to advance the cause of Christ through the achievement of the following goals:

- Give students, faculty, and staff who belong to the Democratic and Independent parties in the Regent community an opportunity to actively participate in the political process
- Educate the Regent community on the Democratic Party's agenda.
- Advance the progressive ideals of the gospel by focusing on those who are less fortunate and to the needs of society as a whole.
- Shed a favorable light on the Democratic Party throughout the Regent community.
- Engage in healthy debate with the conservative mindset.
- Organize events that are inclusive of all political groups

## ARTICLE I STRUCTURE AND ORGANIZATION

### **Section A.**

The name of this organization is the "Regent Democrats" of Regent University.

### **Section B.**

All authority expressed by the Regent Democrats is subject to approval by the administration of Regent University.

**Section C.**

It is understood that the University administration reserves the right to change or eliminate any procedure or action that is deemed inappropriate and not in accord with the spiritual standards established by the University.

ARTICLE II  
MEMBERSHIP

**Section A.**

Membership in the Regent Democrats is open only to students currently enrolled at Regent University.

**Section B.**

Nonstudents may contribute to the Regent Democrats but cannot become official members.

ARTICLE III  
ADVISOR

**Section A.**

The Regent Democrats shall always have a Faculty Advisor committed to helping the organization carry out its objectives.

**Section B.**

The commitment of the Faculty Advisor shall be renewed annually.

**Section C.**

The responsibilities of the Faculty Advisor shall be as follows:

1. Meet regularly with the leadership of the Regent Democrats.
2. Provide general oversight.
3. Assist organization with mission, goals and objectives.
4. Provides guidance and counsel for organization with its mission and vision as it relates to the University's mission of "Christian Leadership to Change the World."
5. Assist with transition and development of new leadership within the organization.

ARTICLE IV  
EXECUTIVE AUTHORITY

**Section A.**

The executive authority of the Regent Democrats shall be vested in its officers consisting of the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Public Relations Chair, Chaplain, Social Chair, Speaker Liaison Chair, Historian / Media Chair.

**Section B.**

The officers of the Regent Democrats must respect the opinion and advice of its Faculty Advisor and must fully consider all counsel from the Faculty Advisor.

**Section C.**

Each officer shall be a student in good standing with the University.

**Section D.**

An effort shall be made at each election to elect a different member to each officer position. In the event a member holds more than one officer position, that member still only gets one vote at Executive Officer meetings. The President may appoint temporary officers to fill vacant positions until a vote is held to elect a new officer.

ARTICLE V  
RESPONSIBILITIES OF OFFICERS

**Section A. - President**

1. Leadership in calling meetings, decision-making, and outreach of the Regent Democrats.
2. Coordinate and oversee the activity of all officers.
3. Attend scheduled Student Organizational Leadership meetings or assure that a representative is present at these meetings.
4. Serve as the primary liaison between the members and the Faculty Advisor, the faculty, and the administration.
5. Maintain open communication with his or her counterpart in the Regent Republicans/Conservatives.

**Section B. – Vice President**

1. Organization of recruitment and outreach to the general community.
2. Keep members informed of political and Christian developments in the world through presentations and discussions.
3. Fill in for the President when needed.

**Section C. – Secretary**

1. Record and send out all meeting minutes within three days following a meeting.
2. Take attendance at all meetings.
3. Arrange for meeting and/or event locations.

**Section D. – Treasurer**

1. Administration of funds and financial records.
2. Responsible for fund raising and collection of dues (if applicable).

**Section E. – Public Relations Chair**

1. Coordinates with the Regent University Public Relations office and outside organizations to publicize the Regent Democrats.

### **Section F. – Chaplain**

1. Responsible for praying to open and close all meetings of the Regent Democrats.
2. Responsible for collecting and distributing prayer requests from and to members.
3. Plans occasional presentations concerning the intersection of faith and politics.

### **Section G. – Social Chair**

1. Responsible for planning social events for the membership.
2. Responsible for planning community service/outreach events.

### **Section H. – Speaker Liaison Chair**

1. Coordinate outside speakers to come talk to the membership and/or greater Regent community.

### **Section I. – Historian / Media Chair**

1. Record and compile the various events the Regent Democrats participate in.

## ARTICLE VI CONTINUATION OF THE ORGANIZATION

### **Section A.**

In mid-March, the President shall open up nominations for the executive officer positions of the Regent Democrats. Any member may nominate him or herself or another member for any position. The President shall compile a list of those who accept their nominations and provide this list to the general membership no later than March 25 of each year. In addition, any member seeking the office of President shall meet with the outgoing President and must be approved by the outgoing President before being added to the nomination list.

No later than March 30 of each year the membership of the Regent Democrats shall come together for an extended period of prayer and discussion. This prayer time will include seeking of the "mind of Christ" in regard to the selection of new leadership for the Regent Democrats, for the following academic year.

The membership shall select a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Public Relations Chair, Chaplain, Social Chair, Speaker Liaison Chair and Historian / Media Chair to serve for one academic year. The selection will be made by a majority vote of all members present. The outgoing President shall not vote unless there is a tie.

### **Section B.**

The President has the authority to appoint other officers and/or committees of the Regent Democrats as needed for special events

Appointed positions vacated by officers of the Regent Democrats shall be filled by appointment of the President of the Regent Democrats. In the event the office of

President is vacated, the Vice President will serve as President and fill his former position by appointment.

**Section C.**

A listing of the student officers shall be submitted to the Registrar's Office to establish that each is a student in good standing with Regent University. Vacancies created because a student officer is not in good standing with the institution shall be filled following the procedures set forth in Article VI, Section A.

**Section D.**

An officer may be removed from a position upon a 2/3 vote of all Executive Officers and approval of the Faculty Advisor.

ARTICLE VII  
MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

**Section A.**

Unless the President designates an Executive Officer meeting, meetings are open to all members. The President may restrict all or part of a meeting to Executive Officers. Only the Executive Officers, the Faculty Advisor, or anyone they invite may attend the Executive Officer meetings.

**Section B.**

Barring unusual circumstances, the Regent Democrats shall hold a general membership meeting at least twice each month during the Fall and Spring semesters.

**Section C.**

If a petition for a special meeting is signed by three or more members, including at least one Executive Officer, the President must convene a special meeting within three business days of the President's receipt of the petition, unless the petitioners agree to a postpone or unless the meeting cannot be held within three business days (e.g., due to exams, school breaks, etc.). The President has the discretion to restrict the agenda for the special meeting to only those matters raised by the written petition.

ARTICLE VIII  
VOTING PROCEDURES

**Section A.**

A quorum of the general membership shall be recognized when at least 3/4 of all members who have attended at least one of the past three general membership meetings are present.

**Section B.**

All matters, including budget expenditures, shall be passed upon either (1) a majority vote of the general membership when a quorum is present, or (2) a 2/3 vote of the Executive Officers.

**Section C.**

All budget expenditures shall be consistent with the mission of the organization.

ARTICLE IX  
RATIFICATION AND AMENDMENTS

**Section A.**

This Constitution shall go into effect upon the agreement of all Executive Officers and the Faculty Advisor as evidenced by the signatures at the end of this document.

**Section B.**

This Constitution may be amended by a vote of both 3/4 of the general membership when a quorum is present and a 3/4 vote of the Executive Officers. At least one week must pass between the proposal of an amendment and the vote to add the amendment.

Signed into Effect this \_\_\_\_\_ day of January 2009.

\_\_\_\_\_  
President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Vice President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Treasurer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Public Relations Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chaplain

\_\_\_\_\_  
Social Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Speaker Liaison Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Historian / Media Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Faculty Advisor