

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS OF

The Student Veterans of UNM

We, the Student Veterans of the University of New Mexico realize that through formal organization, we can benefit ourselves, our university, and our community. It is for this reason that we establish The Student Veterans of UNM.

ARTICLE I. Name

The name of our student society is The Student Veterans of UNM.

ARTICLE II. Purpose

The purpose of The Student Veterans of UNM shall be to serve as the official apolitical organization for the student veterans of UNM, to create a supportive community for UNM's student veterans and help them succeed in both school and life, and to aid anyone in the transition from military to student life.

ARTICLE III. Membership

Section 1. Any military veteran (with form DD-214), active duty, national guard, or reserve service member, or anyone eligible for veterans educational benefits who is enrolled at the University of New Mexico. Membership is also available to any UNM student interested in advancing the interests of the student veterans of UNM.

ARTICLE IV. Dues and Fees

Section 1. There shall be no due or fee for membership in The Student Veterans of UNM.

ARTICLE V. Officers and Their Duties

Section 1. The officers of The Student Veterans of UNM shall be: president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer. In addition, there shall be a staff/faculty advisor (appointed by the officers), and any other positions that the student society deems necessary.

Section 2. The President shall preside over the monthly meetings, set the meetings' agendas, and submit the same to the secretary for copies and distribution, coordinate the activities of the committees, and keep the membership informed of the activities of these committees.

The Vice President shall assist the president, preside in his/her absence, and inform the membership on various student issues and activities of the organization.

The Secretary shall maintain all records of the student society, record minutes of all meetings, notify members of forthcoming meetings, notify candidates of their election, and carry on the general correspondence of the student society.

The Treasurer shall maintain the student society bank account and report to the membership the student society's financial status at each general meeting.

The Staff/Faculty Advisor shall provide insight and direction into the proper, ethical and professional standards befitting a chartered university organization. He/she shall have no voting privilege.

ARTICLE VI. Elections

Section 1. All officer nominees shall be active members of The Student Veterans of UNM.

Nominees must submit their intent to run for office, either verbal or written, no later than two weeks prior to election the date.

Elections will be held no later than May 1st of each academic year.

Section 2. Each officer will serve a term of 1 year. Elections are to take place on or near May 1st of each year and termination of the previous officers will take place exactly 1 month later on June 1st of the same year. This is to allow for training time of the newly elected officers.

Section 3. Impeachment proceedings can be initiated against any officer by a majority vote (51%). If such a vote passes, the impeachment vote is to take place at the next monthly meeting. To impeach an officer there must be a 2/3 majority vote. If such a vote passes, the officer is immediately terminated. The president shall temporarily appoint someone to the vacant position, and schedule an election for the next meeting. If the president is impeached, the vice-president shall assume the presidency with an election scheduled for the next meeting.

ARTICLE VII. Officer Training

Section 1. It will be the responsibility of the outgoing officers to train the new officers of their duties and responsibilities. This training must be completed within 30 days of the annual election.

ARTICLE VIII. Meetings

Section 1. The Student Veterans of UNM shall meet monthly at a time and place to be determined at the previous month's meetings. Any changes to the time or place of the meeting must be announced at least one week prior to the meeting.

Section 2. Additional meetings may be called at the discretion of the president provided no less than one week's notice has been given to the membership via e-mail, word of mouth or phone.

Section 3. There must be at least $\frac{3}{4}$ (75%) of the officers present to hold a meeting. Exceptions are individual committees and the officers, who can meet without consent or notice of the membership.

ARTICLE IX. Committees

Section 1. The standing committees of The Student Veterans of UNM shall be the Fundraising/Public Relations, Website, and Community Outreach committees. Other committees shall be formed as necessary by the board.

Section 2. Each committee shall be formed by volunteer basis. If no volunteers are willing then there shall be a $\frac{3}{4}$ (75%) vote by the society as a whole.

Section 3. All committees shall report their proceedings to the board at the monthly meetings.

ARTICLE X. Amendments and Parliamentary Procedure

Section 1. The Parliamentary source used by The Student Veterans of UNM shall be *Robert's Rules of Order*. In all proceedings, the Constitution and Bylaws of The Student Veterans of UNM take precedence.

Section 2. The Constitution and Bylaws may be amended by a majority ($\frac{2}{3}$ or greater) vote, provided all amendments proposed are submitted to the president at the preceding month's meeting and are in turn submitted as least two weeks prior to the vote.

Section 3. Any bylaws necessary to supplement this constitution shall be approved at a monthly meeting and voted upon at the following monthly meeting.

RATIFIED: May 8, 2008

AMENDED: January 21, 2009