

## Constitution- Valdosta Association of Nursing Students

### ARTICLE I. – Name

The name of the organization shall be The Valdosta Association of Nursing Students.

### ARTICLE II. – Purpose, Objectives, Aims

#### SECTION 1. The Purpose of the Valdosta Association of Nursing Students

- A. To assume responsibility for contributing to nursing education to provide for the highest quality of health care.
- B. To provide programs representative of fundamental and current professional interest and concerns; and
- C. To aid in the development of the whole person, including and understanding of the professional role of a nurse, and his/her responsibility for the health care of all people.

#### SECTION 2. The function of The Valdosta Association of Nursing Students shall include the following:

- A. To have direct input into standards of nursing education and influence the educational process;
- B. To influence health care, nursing education, and practice through legislative activities as appropriate,
- C. To promote and encourage participation in community affairs and activities towards improved health care and the resolution of related social issues;
- D. To represent nursing students to the consumer, to institutions and other organizations;
- E. To promote and encourage student's participation in interdisciplinary activities;
- F. To promote and encourage recruitment efforts, participation in student activities and educational opportunities regardless of race, color, creed, sex, lifestyle, national origin, age, or economic status;
- G. To promote and encourage collaborative relationships with the Georgia Association for Nursing Education, Georgia Nurses Association, as well as other nursing and related organizations

### ARTICLE III. – Membership and Eligibility Criteria

#### Section A:

**Membership** is open to any regularly enrolled VSU student who: is currently enrolled in the BSN program in the School of Nursing at VSU.

**Associate Membership** is open to any regularly enrolled student who is currently a Pre-nursing student at VSU. Associate members shall have all the privileges of membership, except the right to hold office as the President or Vice President.

Membership must be renewed annually.

**Membership in GANS and NSNA:** Membership in GANS and NSNA is strongly encouraged but not required. Membership dues are paid directly to the organizations. Information for membership may be accessed at

<http://www.ganursingstudents.org/membership.html>

#### Section B: Dues and collections procedures

The fiscal year of the organization shall be from 09/01 to 08/31

The amount of annual dues shall be determined each year by a majority vote of membership.

Dues shall not exceed \$25.00 per year.

Any member who fails to pay current dues shall forfeit all privileges of membership.

## **ARTICLE IV. – Voting**

**Section A:** A quorum will be 10% of active members.

**Section B:** Each member in good standing may vote.

**Section C:** Proxy voting is allowed by the following process:

When a member cannot attend a meeting he/she may provide a written authorization to another member to act in his/her behalf, i.e., voting.

## **ARTICLE V. – Officers**

**Section A:** The **Valdosta Association of Nursing Students** shall have a President, Vice President, and Secretary and a Faculty Advisor(s). These officers comprise the Executive Committee or Board. The Faculty Advisor is a non-voting member of the Executive Board and will serve as treasurer.

**Section B:** All officers must be members of Valdosta Association of Nursing Students.

**Section C:** The term of the officers shall be from 09/01 to 08/31.

**Section D:** Election of officers shall be held annually, in August, upon commencement of the Fall semester. At least two weeks notice shall be given before the election meeting. Nominations shall be initiated from the floor and elections done by ballot. The person receiving majority vote will be elected.

**Section E:** Any officer may be removed from his/her office by two-thirds vote of the Executive Board. Any officer removed may appeal to the general membership.

Said officer shall be considered reinstated with two-thirds approval of the members.

**Section F:** Any vacancy which may occur in an office shall be filled by appointment by the president pending ratification at the next group meeting.

## **ARTICLE VI. – Duties of Officers Defined Section**

### **A: The President**

1. The president shall be the chief executive officer.
2. The president shall appoint all committee chairpersons.
3. The president, in conjunction with the faculty advisor and with approval of the executive board, directs the budget.
4. Vacancies in offices will be filled by appointment of the President with approval of the general membership.

### **Section B: The Vice President**

1. The vice president shall be the parliamentarian for the organization.
2. The vice president shall assume the duties of the president should the office become vacant, or in the absence of the president.
3. The vice president will keep and have available current copies of the constitution and bylaws.

4. The vice president will be responsible for scheduling programs.

**Section C: The Secretary**

1. The secretary shall be responsible for keeping the minutes of all the general membership meetings and the meetings of the executive board.
2. The secretary will provide a copy of the minutes for each officer and advisor and keep a master file. The master file will be passed into the keeping of each succeeding secretary.
3. The secretary shall maintain a complete and accurate account of attendance and membership status.

**Section E: The Faculty Advisor**

1. The faculty advisor shall assist the group in their execution of roles and responsibilities.
2. The faculty advisor shall provide feedback to the organization regarding its operations and functions.
3. The faculty advisor shall serve as a resource.
4. The faculty advisor should provide advice upon request and also should share knowledge, expertise, and experiences with the group.
5. The faculty advisor will be a nonvoting member of the organization and the executive board.
6. The faculty advisor shall manage the finances of The Valdosta Association of Nursing Students.

**ARTICLE VII. – Structure of Group Committees** – Group committees will be formed on an as needed basis. Members of committees will be volunteers from membership.

**ARTICLE VIII. – Notice of Meetings**

**Section A:** The times for regularly scheduled meetings shall be Wednesdays, at 5pm. Meeting times may change each semester based on members' class schedules.

**Section B: At least 7 day's notice** shall be given for each regular business meeting.

**Section C: Special or emergency meetings** may be called with not less than 2 days notice by the Executive Board.

**Section D: The meetings shall include** quorum, order of business, and disposition of the minutes.

**ARTICLE IX. – Changes to the Constitution**

This Constitution may be changed by a two-thirds majority vote.

**ARTICLE X. – Parliamentary Procedures**

**Section A: Roberts Rules of Order** shall be followed by the organization in all cases involving parliamentary procedures when it does not conflict with the constitution.

**Section B: The rules may be suspended** by two-thirds vote of the present membership.