

**Constitution of the Associated Students  
Of Columbia Basin College**



## Derivation of Power

The Board of Trustees of Columbia Basin College, acting from the authority vested in the local Board of Trustees as specifically stated in section 14, paragraphs 13 and 14, SHB 548, Chapter 8, Laws of Extraordinary Session 167, by written order included in the minutes of the regular Board of Trustees meeting held on March 13, 1969, hereby delegates the responsibility for student affairs' governance to the Associated Student Body of Columbia Basin College. Such delegation of responsibility shall confine itself to the defined articles and Bylaws as prescribed in the following Constitution of the Associated Students of Columbia Basin College.

## Mission

We, the Associated Students of Columbia Basin College, do hereby establish, for our government, a mission statement, which shall be:

To establish self governance and student representation

To enhance the leadership experience as comparable to a four-year university level

To provide opportunities to develop individual leadership qualities and an understanding of group action

To serve students in their academic endeavors

To promote and serve a diverse student community through extracurricular activities

To represent and address student interests, needs, and welfare

## Article I: Name

The name of the Association under this Constitution shall be the "Associated Students of Columbia Basin College", hereafter referred to as ASCBC.

## Article II: Membership

All students currently registered for credit or audit in at least one (1) credit hour at Columbia Basin College shall be members of this organization and shall be granted all rights and privileges afforded them by this Constitution.

## Article III: Organization

The government of the ASCBC shall consist of three branches which are the Legislative, Executive, and Service/Activities.

## Article IV: Legislative Branch

### SECTION 1: The Legislature

All legislative powers herein granted shall be vested in a bicameral legislative branch of the ASCBC, which shall consist of a Club Council and a Leadership Council.

### SECTION 2: The Club Council

- A. The purpose of the Club Council shall be to increase the accountability of ASCBC chartered clubs, to educate clubs on ASCBC/CBC policy and procedure, to spread knowledge of student interests, and to enact legislation on behalf of the entities who are represented.
- B. The Club Council shall consist of one (1) representative chosen by each Club and Pre-Funded Club and a majority shall decide all matters, except when any special rule or article instructs otherwise.
- C. Each representative shall cast one (1) vote on behalf of their Club or Pre-Funded Club.
- D. During legislative sessions, the Club Council shall be chaired by the ASCBC Vice President, but the Chair shall have no vote except in the instance of a tie.

### SECTION 3: The Leadership Council

- A. The purpose of the Leadership Council shall be to foster the growth of leadership among students and to enact legislation on behalf of the general student body.
- B. The Leadership Council shall consist of all registered members of the workshop or credited class.
- C. Each member shall have one (1) vote and a majority shall decide all matters, except when any special rule or article instructs otherwise.
- D. During legislative sessions of the Leadership Council, it shall be chaired by the ASCBC President, who shall have no vote.

### SECTION 4: Powers and Duties of the Legislature

- A. The legislature of the ASCBC shall serve as the official representative body for the students of Columbia Basin College, uphold and support the ASCBC Constitution and Bylaws, oversee all student funds as required by CBC policies and Washington State Law, and approve the allocation of the S&A (Service & Activities) budget for the following fiscal year (summer through spring).
- B. The legislature is hereby given authority to act in the best interests of the student body, as represented in the votes cast by members of the Club and Leadership Councils, so long as said action is within the bounds established by this Constitution and its Bylaws, CBC policy, and all state and federal laws.

### SECTION 5: Legislative Process and Presidential Veto

- A. Legislation shall follow all processes provided in the Bylaws of this Constitution.
- B. The ASCBC President has the authority to veto legislation according to the procedure given in this Constitution.
- C. The final version of all proposed legislation shall be approved by the ASCBC President. If he/she approves, the ASCBC President will support and act in accordance with the approved legislation. If not, legislation shall be returned with all objections clearly stated to the Club and

Leadership Councils. If after reconsideration, two thirds (2/3) of each Council (voting separately) agree to pass the bill it shall become enacted.

- D. If any legislation is not approved or returned to the Club and Leadership Councils within eight (8) instructional days, it shall become enacted. All legislation must be completed within the academic year (fall through spring quarter). Previously reviewed legislation can be reintroduced in the upcoming year, if resubmitted. However, the legislation will be treated as new and will go through the entire process again.

## Article V: Executive Branch

### SECTION 1: The Executive Council

- A. The ASCBC Executive Council shall consist of the ASCBC President, ASCBC Vice President, and the Secretary of Legislative Affairs.
- B. Members of the Executive Council shall be paid positions.

### SECTION 2: Requirements

All current officers or candidates for ASCBC Executive Council positions shall faithfully meet all requirements as set forth in the Bylaws of this Constitution.

### SECTION 3: The ASCBC President

All powers and responsibilities of the ASCBC President shall be listed in the Bylaws of this Constitution.

### SECTION 4: The ASCBC Vice President

All duties and responsibilities of the ASCBC Vice President shall be listed in the Bylaws of this Constitution

### SECTION 5: The Secretary of Legislative Affairs

All duties and responsibilities of the Secretary of Legislative Affairs shall be listed in the Bylaws of this Constitution.

### SECTION 6: Removal from Office

- A. Members of the ASCBC Executive Council may be removed from office either through a termination of their employment, as set forth in the Bylaws of this Constitution, or through the impeachment process, as established in this Constitution.
- B. A petition, signed by five (5) percent of the FTE enrollment, as calculated for the current quarter, is required to begin impeachment proceedings. The petition must first be approved by the Student Activities Director who shall ensure that the purpose of the petition is clearly stated, that it does not violate FERPA regulations, that it is not intended for personal harassment, and/or that it relates to a violation of College or ASCBC policy. The completed petition will be verified by the Student Activities Director to ensure its validity. The Director will then inform all affected parties that impeachment has been initiated.
- C. All signatures required for the above petition shall be gathered within three (3) weeks during the current academic year.
- D. All impeachment proceedings shall be conducted as set forth in the Bylaws of this Constitution.

- E. The officer being impeached will retain all privileges and power set forth in this Constitution and Bylaws during impeachment proceedings unless otherwise decided by the Student Activities Director. If the final decision is to terminate, all privileges and power shall be removed from the individual at that time.

#### SECTION 7: Vacancy of Office

In the event of a vacancy of office concerning a member of the Executive Council, the procedure set forth in the Bylaws of this Constitution shall be followed.

### Article VI: Service and Activities Board

#### SECTION 1: Membership

- A. The Service and Activities Board (SAB) shall consist of students selected to organize extracurricular activities for the student body and to help facilitate success/service programs around campus. The Service and Activities Board shall consist of students selected to organize extracurricular activities and services for the student body. These activities should promote the mission of ASCBC as set forth in this Constitution.
- B. Members of SAB shall be paid positions.

#### SECTION 2: Rules of Operation

The SAB shall be governed by their own body of rules and regulations, to be listed in the Bylaws of this Constitution.

#### SECTION 3: Removal from Office

Members of the SAB may be removed from office either through a termination of their employment, as set forth in the Bylaws of this Constitution, or through the impeachment process, as established in this Constitution and its Bylaws.

### Article VII: Clubs and Organizations

#### SECTION 1: Clubs

Any group within the student body of Columbia Basin College desiring to organize a club must seek charter through the ASCBC after meeting all qualifications set forth in the Bylaws of this Constitution.

#### SECTION 2: Organizations

Organizations are defined as making a substantial contribution to the mission of Columbia Basin College through representation of the College in NWAAC sports or through the co-curricular activities of vocal, instrumental, or dramatic arts. All procedures and requirements for the formation of Organizations shall be set forth in the Bylaws of this Constitution.

## Article VIII: Initiative and Referendum

The students of Columbia Basin College have the right of Initiative and Referendum as described in the Bylaws of this Constitution.

## Article IX: Amendment

The students of Columbia Basin College have the right of Amendment as described in the Bylaws of this Constitution.

## Article X: Ratification

Done in committee and by the consent thereof on the fourteenth day of April in the year two-thousand and seventeen, we, the members of the Associated Students of Columbia Basin College Legislative Branch, do hereby affix our names.