

Marist College Lesbian Gay Straight Alliance Bylaws

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Article I: Name

The official name of this organization is known as the Marist College Lesbian Gay Straight Alliance (LGSA).

Article II: Purpose

The Marist College Lesbian Gay Straight Alliance is organized and operated for educational and social purposes in order to promote an increased knowledge and greater interest in diversity on the Marist College campus along with alliances formed between lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered/transsexual, and straight students and provide a means of communications regarding sexuality and gender.

The Marist College Lesbian Gay Straight Alliance serves students at Marist College and other interested persons in the Marist community.

Article III: Membership

The Marist College Lesbian Gay Straight Alliance has three types of membership: officers, voting members, and nonvoting members.

The club shall have at least 10 active voting members at all times.

Any undergraduate or graduate student, staff, faculty, or administration member of Marist College may become a voting member of the Marist College Lesbian Gay Straight Alliance.

The officers of the Marist College Lesbian Gay Straight Alliance shall be President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Webmaster. Each officer must be a voting member of the Marist College Lesbian Gay Straight Alliance and a full-time undergraduate or graduate student at Marist College.

Vacancies in any office position other than President caused by resignation, removal, or disability shall be filled by a vote by voting members present at the time of a meeting vote. The Vice President must assume position of president if the president position becomes vacant.

Article IV: Duties of Officers

The President shall preside at all meetings of the Marist College Lesbian Gay Straight Alliance. The President shall also appoint all committee presidents of the Marist College Lesbian Gay Straight Alliance.

The Vice President shall assume the duties of the President in the event of the President's absence. The Vice President shall also assume those duties of the President that are delegated by the President. The Vice President is in charge of scheduling and administration of the activities sponsored by the Marist College Lesbian Gay Straight Alliance.

The Secretary shall keep minutes of all meetings of the Marist College Lesbian Gay Straight Alliance. The Secretary is in charge of the email account associated with the Marist College

Lesbian Gay Straight Alliance and must email minutes and reminders of meetings and events. The Secretary must also prepare an annual chapter report for presentation to the Marist College Lesbian Gay Straight Alliance at the annual election meeting.

The Treasurer shall pay all bills and maintain the chapter's financial and membership records for the Marist College Lesbian Gay Straight Alliance. The Treasurer must also prepare the chapter's annual financial report for presentation to the Marist College Lesbian Gay Straight Alliance at the annual election meeting.

The Webmaster must maintain the Marist College Lesbian Gay Straight Alliance's website on the Marist College domain page. The Webmaster must also create any promotions for events.

Article V: Priority Points

To earn 1 point: Members must attend minimum of 50% of club/organization meetings for the semester and 50% of club/organization activities.

To earn 2 points: Members must attend minimum of 50% of club/organization meetings for the semester and 75% of club/organization activities plus the community service event.

To earn 3 points (officers only): Officers must attend 50% of club/organization meetings for the semester and 100% of club activities (which includes community service event).

If officers do not complete all of the requirements to earn 3 points, they will be eligible to receive up to 2 points based on the criteria outlined above.

Article VI: Meetings

The Marist College Lesbian Gay Straight Alliance may hold meetings only in places available to all members of the Marist Community.

General meetings shall be publicized to members one week in advance. Election and special meetings must be publicized at least two weeks in advance.

There shall be at least one general meeting per full month throughout the regular college year.

The annual election meeting shall be held during the spring semester of every year prior to April 1st. Voting will be done during this meeting through anonymous ballot. A majority vote for any candidate will be necessary to hold that office. In the event of a tie, the current office may make the final decision. The Secretary will present the annual chapter report. The Treasurer will present the annual financial report.

Special meetings are called to address issues not covered by the sections of the Bylaws. Any officer of the Marist College Lesbian Gay Straight Alliance may call a special meeting. Special meetings may overlap with general meetings.

The election and special meetings must have one-third attendance of the total voting membership of the Marist College Lesbian Gay Straight Alliance to constitute a quorum. If this is not the case, the meeting must be postponed to a later time as seen fit by the President.

Any meeting not already defined is considered an activity. During an activity, no voting on any topic may occur.

Article VII: Elections

The office positions shall be elected by votes from the voting members at the annual election meeting. The newly appointed members of office will take control immediately after the election meeting and serve until their successors take office at the end of the next election meeting.

No voting member may serve as President or Vice President for more than two consecutive years.

All elections will be held before April 1st of the current school year.

Article VIII: Committees

Temporary committees may be established by the President of the Marist College Lesbian Gay Straight Alliance. The President of each temporary committee is appointed by the President of the Marist College Lesbian Gay Straight Alliance. The President of each temporary committee is responsible to carry out all functions set forth by the President Marist College Lesbian Gay Straight Alliance. Dissolution of a temporary committee must be passed by a majority vote during a meeting by voting members.

Article IX: Faculty Advisor

The Marist College Lesbian Gay Straight Alliance must have a faculty advisor who is a faculty or full-time staff member of Marist College.

The Faculty Advisor shall be elected by majority vote by all voting members during a meeting.

The Faculty Advisor must provide continuity from year to year as student leadership and personnel change, promote good student-faculty relationships, exercise financial supervision if necessary by promoting payment of bills and collection of dues, and represent the Marist College Lesbian Gay Straight Alliance interested to the faculty and administration.

The Faculty Advisor must attend at least half of all meetings. This can be overridden by a vote by the office.

Article X: Parliamentary Procedures

Unless suspended, all meetings will run according to Robert's Rules of Order, New Revised.

Article XI: Amendments and Procedures

Amendment to these Bylaws shall be made at a special meeting where members shall read proposed changes, discuss their opinions, and vote upon changes. Two-thirds of the voting members present must vote for the changes in order to approve the amendments. Once this is completed, the Student Government Association of Marist College will approve it.

Article XII: Policies and Actions

The Marist College Lesbian Gay Straight Alliance and any individual associated with the Marist College Lesbian Gay Straight Alliance shall abide and conform to all Federal laws, rules and regulations of Marist College, and directives of the Student Government Association. Any violation of the aforementioned criteria may result in disciplinary action taken on the club charter.

A special policy for hazing is enforced in the Marist College Lesbian Gay Straight Alliance. Hazing as defined by the Marist College Student Handbook is “an act which endangers the mental or physical health of a student or which destroys or removes public or private property for the purpose of initiation, admission into, affiliation with, or condition for continued membership in a group or organization.” The Club Affairs Council prohibits hazing of any kind. This extends to protect members of any harassment due to their sexual orientation.

Article XIII: Dissolution

Dissolution of the Marist College Lesbian Gay Straight Alliance by consent of voting members shall consist of unanimous agreement of all its officers together with a majority vote by all present voting members. In the event of revocation of the Marist College Lesbian Gay Straight Alliance or dissolution of the Marist College Lesbian Gay Straight Alliance, all assets of the Marist College Lesbian Gay Straight Alliance will be transferred to Marist College.

Article XIV: Amendments to Bylaws

These Bylaws may be amended by a majority vote of the voting members provided that a quorum is present. If such amendment passes by the majority, then the new Bylaws must be presented to the Student Government Association for final approval.