

# CONSTITUTION OF THE BURMAN UNIVERSITY STUDENT ASSOCIATION

Voted February 12, 1994  
Amended: February 28, 2002; September 23, 2009; September 17, 2015

## PREAMBLE

We the members of the Burman University Student Association, desiring:

- to foster the spirit of co-operation
  - to guarantee the understood rights of students
  - to maintain and uphold the purposes and objectives of Burman University
  - to foster the growth of students' spiritual, social, physical, and intellectual interests
  - to recognize the rights and responsibilities of the students to the school and community
  - to provide students with leadership training and the opportunity to serve God and humanity
- do hereby ordain and establish this Constitution.

## ARTICLE I - NAME AND PHILOSOPHY

Para. 1 The name of this organization shall be called the BURMAN UNIVERSITY STUDENT ASSOCIATION, hereafter referred to as the BUSA.

Para. 2 This organization shall operate according to the philosophy of the Seventh-day Adventist Church and Burman University.

## ARTICLE II - MEMBERSHIP

Para. 3 Members

A. All students registered at Burman University shall be members of this organization.

B. The Alberta Human Rights Act prohibits discrimination in employment based on the protected grounds of race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, religious beliefs, gender, gender identity, gender expression, age, physical disability, mental disability, marital status, family status, source of income, and sexual orientation.

## ARTICLE III - LEGISLATIVE

Para. 4 Authority

A. The General Assembly shall consist of all members of the Burman University student body. It shall exercise its authority to elect individuals to the Executive Cabinet.

B. The General Assembly shall reserve the right of amending this Constitution, through approval of its Senate, and can propose legislation through initiative and appellate action directly to the Senate.

Para. 5 Initiative

A. Any request may be submitted by petition to the Executive Cabinet or Senate by ten (10) percent of the BUSA membership.

B. The Executive Cabinet or Senate must take action within two (2) weeks upon receiving an initiative action.

Para. 6 Appeal

A. The BUSA membership shall have the power to refer any Executive Cabinet action to a vote of the General Assembly by twenty five (25) percent petition of the BUSA membership. All appeals must be approved by the Campus Life Committee with a recommendation to, and approval by, the President's Cabinet, before coming to the General Assembly. Any appeals defeated by Burman University administration may not be brought to the General Assembly. To pass any appeal in the General Assembly, a two thirds (2/3) vote is required, subject to a quorum (See Para. 8).

B. Upon receiving a valid petition for an appeal, the SA President shall sponsor the petition to the Senate.

Para. 7 Meetings

Meetings of the General Assembly shall be convened at least twice per semester throughout the Fall and Winter semesters, arranged in co-operation with the Burman University administration.

Para. 8 Quorum

A quorum shall consist of the BUSA members that are present at general assemblies. Voting will be passed based on a majority of those who are in attendance.

ARTICLE IV - EXECUTIVE

Para. 9 Composition

A. There is established, by this Constitution, a body entitled the Executive Cabinet. The administrative and executive functions of BUSA shall be invested in the Executive Cabinet.

B. The Executive Cabinet shall be elected by and from the members of the Burman University General Assembly, consisting of President, Executive Vice President, Financial Vice President, Communications Vice President, and Social Vice President.

C. Appointed BUSA executive officers may be selected by the Executive Cabinet as deemed necessary and ratified by the General Assembly.

ARTICLE V - JUDICIAL

Para. 10 The judicial branch of BUSA is the Senate, which is a recommending body only.

ARTICLE VI - PARLIAMANTARY AUTHORITY

Para. 11 The most recent edition of the Robert's Rules of Order shall govern BUSA procedure, and constitute the final authority in all matters unless specified otherwise by this Constitution or Bylaws.

ARTICLE VII - TRANSFER OF PROPERTY

Para. 12 If or when BUSA shall cease to exist, the title of all monies or properties held in the name of this organization shall become, after a period of five years, the property of Burman University.

## ARTICLE VIII - AMENDMENTS

### Para. 13 Bylaws

Bylaws affixed to this constitution shall be adopted by BUSA. The bylaws of BUSA shall be consistent with the spirit of this Constitution and shall be deemed the binding legal documents of BUSA.

### Para. 14 Amendments

A. Amendments to these Bylaws may be submitted to the Senate for ratification by the Executive Cabinet or BUSA membership by initiative or appellate action.

B. Proposed amendments to these Bylaws shall be referred to the Campus Life Committee with recommendation to the President's Cabinet for approval.

C. An amendment shall become effective upon a final majority vote by Senate.

## ARTICLE IX - IMPLEMENTATION

Para. 15 This Constitution came into being in 1994 and all articles, amendments and provisions made prior to this Constitution and not included in this Constitution shall be null and void.

Para. 16 This Constitution and each amendment or bylaw to this Constitution shall be printed out, and each amendment shall show the date when the amendment was adopted.