

# Student Affiliates of the American Chemical Society

## The University of Alabama at Birmingham Chapter Constitution

### **ARTICLE I: CHAPTER NAME**

The name of this organization shall be the Student Affiliates of the American Chemical Society (SAACS) at the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

### **ARTICLE II: MISSION**

The Student Affiliates of the American Chemical Society at the University of Alabama at Birmingham is a service and interest-based organization. Our mission is to enhance the scientific undergraduate experience at UAB through educational, networking, and social events focused around chemistry and other sciences. Additionally, SAACS at UAB aims to give back to the greater Birmingham community through science education demonstrations in underprivileged communities with the purpose of spreading education and helping to shape the future scientists of tomorrow.

### **ARTICLE III: NON-DISCRIMINATION CLAUSE**

The University of Alabama at Birmingham and the Student Affiliates of the American Chemical Society prohibits discrimination in admission, educational programs, and other student matters on the basis of academic major, race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, national origin, ability status unrelated to program performance, veteran status, or genetic or family medical history.

## **ARTICLE IV: AUTHORITY**

### **Section 1**

This organization is a recognized student organization at the University of Alabama at Birmingham and adheres to all campus policies as set forth in the *University of Alabama at Birmingham Student Code of Conduct* and the *University of Alabama at Birmingham Student Organization Policies and Guidelines*.

### **Section 2**

This organization is affiliated with the American Chemical Society and adheres to the relevant guidelines for student organizations set forth in the *American Chemical Society Constitution, Bylaws, Regulations, Key Guidelines and Policies*.

### **Section 3**

This organization will establish bylaws to govern administrative and procedural matters. Bylaws shall not conflict with the constitution. Bylaws may be adapted, amended, or temporarily suspended by a majority vote present at an organization officer meeting where a quorum is present (advance notice is not required).

### **Section 4**

SAACS Officers shall consist of the positions outlined in Article VI. SAACS Officers shall be responsible for upholding their positions and obligations as outlined in this constitution and bylaws.

### **Section 5**

Members of the Mad Scientist Day Committee shall be responsible for assisting with the preparation and execution of Mad Scientist Day events. Members of the committee will be

responsible for reporting to the committee head or appropriate SAACS Officers.

## **Section 6**

The Student Affiliates of the American Chemical Society at the University of Alabama at Birmingham shall determine a University Advisor, or Advisors, that will be give the title of Sponsor(s) and serve as the liaison to administration and as the supervisor of the elected SAACS Officers and organization.

The Sponsor(s) shall be responsible for seeing that SAACS Officers maintain the duties of the offices they hold as outlined in the organization bylaws.

The Sponsor(s) shall recognize if a student is not fulfilling his or her duties as a SAACS Officer and shall act accordingly.

The Sponsor(s) shall have the authority to remove a SAACS Officer if there is a violation of the laws set forth in this constitution.

## **ARTICLE V: MEMBERSHIP**

### **Section 1**

A new Active Member of the organization will achieve Active Member status by attaining five attendance points worth of UAB SAACS sponsored events by the end of their first semester. Once instated with the title, all new Active Members are subject to the same guidelines for maintaining their Active Membership status as outlined below. Attendance points for each event shall be assigned by

the SAACS Officers prior to the event if the event does not fall under an event category previously outlined in the organization bylaws.

Active Members are required to attain eight attendance points throughout a given semester to maintain Active Membership status. If an Active Member does not attain the required attendance points in a given semester, they will be subject to receiving Inactive Membership status.

Mad Scientist Day Committee members will be required to maintain Active Membership status throughout their appointment and will be subject to the same policies to retain Active Membership as any other Active Member. Inactive Members joining the committee will be responsible for attaining the five membership points to attain Active Membership during their first semester with the committee.

All SAACS Officers are required to attain thirteen attendance points each semester, outside of officer meetings, to maintain Active Membership status, which includes their mandatory attendance at Mad Scientist Day Junior. If a SAACS Officer fails to attain thirteen attendance points in a given semester, they may be subject to removal from office and will receive Inactive Membership status.

All Active Members will maintain the right to vote on open issues and attend

Active Member exclusive events. Active Member exclusive events will be internally funded. Active Members are also permitted to attend all meetings and events sponsored by UAB SAACS as set forth by the *UAB Code of Conduct for Approved Student Organizations*.

## **Section 2**

All new Members are Inactive until they have attained the five credits worth of events during their first semester. The Inactive Membership status will be replaced with an Active Membership status upon completion of the fifth attendance points.

All Inactive Members do not maintain the right to vote on open issues within the organization with the exception of elections. Inactive Members will maintain the right to attend all meetings and events as set forth by the UAB Code of Conduct for Approved Student Organizations.

If an Active Member is stripped of Active Membership status, they must complete ten credits worth of attendance points the following semester to reactivate their Active Membership status.

If a SAACS Officer is stripped of Active Membership status, they may be subject to removal from office, unless they can provide proof of sufficient schedule conflicts that were unavoidable (Eg. an academic class during meeting times) or of an inability to attend due to sickness, personal crisis, or distance (Eg. interviews for professional school, home

in another state for Mad Scientist Day Junior, etc). If a SAACS Officer receives Inactive Membership status, they may reactivate their status the following semester by attaining ten attendance points, but this will not reinstate their SAACS Officer status.

Should a SAACS Officer be removed from their position, the other SAACS Officers may elect an Active Member to act as Interim Officer, or the position may go to a vote among Active Members to instate a replacement, such as outlined in ARTICLE IV of the SAACS bylaws.

## **ARTICLE VI: OFFICERS**

### **Section 1**

The Officers of the Student Affiliates of the American Chemical Society at the University of Alabama at Birmingham shall be President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Community Outreach Chair, Publicity Chair, Social Chair, and Historian.

### **Section 2**

Elected Officers must remain in good academic standing and operate with dignity, respect, and fair treatments towards all Members.

### **Section 3**

All SAACS Officers will serve for a term of one year or until their successors shall be duly elected and qualified, aside from the event of Officer impeachment.

### **Section 4**

The objectives and functions of the SAACS Officers shall include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Maintain an open dialogue within the Officer group and within the organization, and maintain a strong working relationship with the Sponsor(s) and the Officer group.
2. Be responsible for creating, organizing, and executing creative, fun, and interesting events to maintain persistent interest in the organization.
3. Maintain and create strong community ties to ensure the organization progresses as an interest and service-based organization.

## **ARTICLE VII: MEETINGS**

### **Section 1**

Regular meetings shall be held on a weekly basis on Thursday nights during the academic year. The SAACS Officers and Sponsor(s) shall determine deviations from this schedule.

### **Section 2**

The President or a majority of the SAACS Officers may call additional meetings when they see fit. All members must be given a minimum of 24 hours' notice prior to the meeting time.

### **Section 3**

Members must be present at the meeting to vote on open issues unless the vote is delivered in an electronic poll or by other means directed by the SAACS Officers. Officer elections will require all voters to be present at the election meeting.

## **ARTICLE VIII: FINANCES**

- Section 1** Membership, Active or Inactive, will only be dependent on the stipulations outlined in ARTICLE V. No membership fees or dues are to be instated without amendments to this constitution.
- Section 2** Purchases concerning the SAACS budget exceeding the monetary amount outlined in Section 2 of the SAACS Bylaws must be approved by the Treasurer.
- Section 3** Any and all purchases conducted without adherence to ARTICLE VIII, Section 2 will be subject to denial for reimbursement from the organization.
- Section 4** Organization funds shall not be utilized to purchase or reimburse members for alcoholic beverages.

## **ARTICLE IX: DISCIPLINE OF MEMBERS**

- Section 1** The acting Sponsor(s) shall review any cases of malice within the group from a Member or Officer and take the appropriate action that shall be assigned on an individual basis.
- Section 2** All Members of the Student Affiliates of the American Chemical Society at the University of Alabama at Birmingham are expected to uphold the regulations and guidelines outlines in the SAACS Constitution and Bylaws.
- Section 3** Members that violate the SAACS Constitution and Bylaws, the *University of*



*Alabama at Birmingham Student Code of Conduct, and the University of Alabama at Birmingham Student Organization Policies and Guidelines* may face disciplinary action.

#### **ARTICLE X: DISBANDMENT**

In the event the organization is disbanded, for any reason, the available funds dedicated to the Student Affiliates of the American Chemical Society at the University of Alabama at Birmingham shall go into an account maintained by the University of Alabama at Birmingham's Department of Chemistry.

In the event of a new Affiliate group on campus, the funds will transfer to that group.

In the event that a new Affiliate group is not established within five years of the previous one, the funds shall go to a charitable organization that aligns itself with the views of the American Chemical Society at the discretion of the University of Alabama at Birmingham's Department of Chemistry.

#### **ARTICLE XI: REVISION**

The elected SAACS Officers shall examine the Constitution and the organization Bylaws yearly, and update or revise it if necessary.

If revisions are needed, all SAACS Officers will meet to discuss changes and a seventy-five percent vote of the SAACS Officers shall be required to approve the revisions.

Revisions to this document must be made in the form of amendments and reasoning must be included in the amendment.

## **ARTICLE XII: REVISION**

### **Section 1**

Any senior Active Member that has served as an officer in SAACS during the previous academic year has the option of becoming a Senior Advisor for the SAACS Officers. Actions and duties of Senior Advisors include, but are not limited to, attending SAACS Officer meetings, helping organize events, helping write grants, and any other subjects that the new SAACS Officers may have questions about. The goal of having senior advisors is to help further facilitate the passing of information to new officers, as well as continue to influence positive growth for the organization.

### **Section 2**

Senior Advisors do not have the power to change or veto decisions made by the current SAACS Officers. While Senior Advisors have the right to voice their opinions and concerns at all SAACS Officer meetings, they must respect the actions, opinions, and final decisions of the current SAACS Officers. If there are any major conflicts between the Senior Advisors and one or more SAACS Officers, conflict mediation should first be facilitated by the current acting President. If the conflict continues, the faculty Sponsor(s) may be consulted to help maintain order. This should be seen as an extreme circumstance and not used as an excuse to bother any faculty Sponsor(s).

### **Section 3**

Senior Advisors are expected to maintain Active Membership to retain their position as a Senior Advisor. Senior Advisors will be expected to accumulate eight attendance points per semester, the same as any normal Active Member, as outlined in ARTICLE V, Section 1. Should any Senior Advisor lose such Active Membership status, they are subject to position termination by the current SAACS Officers. Impeachment of any Senior Advisor will follow normal impeachment protocol for a SAACS Officer.

### **ARTICLE XIII: RATIFICATION**

With the approval of two-thirds of the SAACS Officers, along with the Sponsor(s), shall be sufficient for the establishment of the "Student Affiliates of the American Chemical Society" as the code by which all SAACS Officers and Members shall abide.