The Constitution of the Young Democratic Socialists at Iowa State University

Drafted 17 February 2016

# Article I. Name

The name of this organization shall be *Young Democratic Socialists* at Iowa State University, hereafter referred to as YDS.

# Article II. Purpose

The purpose of YDS is to educate, advocate, and organize for democratic socialism and social justice. To this end, YDS engages in volunteering and activism to bring college students, faculty and staff, and the community into the political process.

# Article III. Statement of Compliance

YDS abides by and supports established Iowa State University policies, State and Federal Laws and follows local ordinances and regulations. YDS agrees to annually complete President’s Training, Treasurer’s Training and Advisor Training (if required).

# Article IV. Non-Discrimination Statement

Iowa State University and YDSdo not discriminate on the basis of genetic information, pregnancy, physical or mental disability, race, ethnicity, sex, color, religion, national origin, age, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or status as a U.S Veteran.

# Article V. Membership

Membership shall be open to all registered students in good standing at Iowa State University, faculty, staff, and community members.

# Article VI. Officers

*Section 1. Requirements for Eligibility*

1. Have a minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.00 and meet that minimum GPA in the semester immediately prior to elections and during the term of office.
2. Be in good standing with the university and enrolled at least half time during the term of office and the semester before. For undergraduate students, half time is six credit hours. For graduate students, half time is four credit hours.

*Section 2. Officer Duties*

1. President:
	1. Preside over all meetings
	2. Represent organization on campus
	3. Ensure that the organization is operating in conformity with the standards set forth by Iowa State University and the Student Activities Center
	4. Maintain communication with organization advisor
2. Vice-President
	1. Preside over meetings in the absence of the President
	2. Schedule meetings/events with appropriate University offices
	3. Coordinate organization promotion and publicity of events
	4. Shall perform the role of the *risk management officer*:
		1. Help minimize potential risks for club activities
		2. Recommend risk management policies or procedures to YDS
		3. Submit documentation to ISU’s Risk Management Office
		4. Ensure that Iowa State University policies are followed at all of the organization’s events
		5. To ensure that proper waivers and background checks are on file with Risk Management for events (if applicable).
3. Treasurer
	1. Maintain accurate record of organization transactions
	2. Collect dues
	3. Develop organization budget and present to members for ¾ vote
	4. Cosign organization checks with the Advisor
	5. Arrange fundraising opportunities for the organization
	6. Solicits additional funding if needed from the Student Government
4. Advisor
	1. Maintain communication and meet with officers regularly
	2. Awareness and approval of financial expenditures
	3. Ensure that the organization is operating in conformity with the standards set forth by Iowa State University and the Student Activities Center

*Section 3. Officer/ Advisor Election*

Officers will be elected at the end of each spring semester by a majority vote of the members present.

*Section 4. Officer/ Advisor Removal and Replacement*

Officers may be removed from office by ¾ of the members present at two consecutive general meetings if they do not follow their duties or do not attend meetings. The officer is permitted to speak before the Executive Committee and the general membership about the charges made concerning his/her performance. The officer is not permitted to participate in the deliberation of the Executive Committee regarding the charges.

Replacement procedure is the same as the election procedure described in Article VI Section 3. Replacement shall take place at the first meeting following the removal of the previous officer/advisor. An interim officer shall be elected at the time of removal by a simple majority vote among members present.

# Article VII. Advisor

*Section 1. Responsibilities*

This student organization’s advisor will maintain communication and meet regularly with officers, be aware of and offer approval of financial expenditures, and ensure the organization is operating in conformity with the standards set forth by Iowa State University and the Student Activities Center. The advisor does not have voting rights.

*Section 2. Selection*

The advisor shall be chosen by the Cabinet, with the approval of the active general membership. A majority vote of voting members shall be needed for this approval. One or more graduate advisor(s) may be selected using this same process.

*Section 3. Term*

The term of the advisor shall be ongoing until the resignation or removal of the advisor.

*Section 4. Removal*

The advisor may be removed under the same procedures outlined in Article VI Section 4.

# Article VIII. Finances

*Section 1. Maintenance of Funds*

All monies belonging to this organization shall be deposited and disbursed through a bank account established for this organization at the Campus Organizations Accounting Office and/or approved institution/office. All funds must be deposited within 48 hours of collection. The advisor to this organization will approve all expenditures before payment.

Fundraising events will be planned and coordinated between the treasurer and president.

*Section 2. Dues*

Membership dues will be determined on a yearly basis by October 3rd and they will be determined by a 2/3 vote of members present for two consecutive general meetings. Due model put forth by cabinet members. No cap or minimum. People aren't required to donate.

# Article IX. Amendments

This constitution may be amended and subsequently ratified at any time through a two thirds majority vote. Members will be given no less than one week to consider amendments. Ratified amendments to this Constitution will be submitted to the Student Activities Center within ten (10) days for approval.