



COLLEGE of
CHARLESTON
MASTER OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION
UNIVERSITY OF CHARLESTON, S.C.

CONSTITUTION OF THE MASTER OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION STUDENT ASSOCIATION

Article I – Name

The name of this organization shall be the Master of Public Administration Student Association (M.P.A.S.A.).

Article II – Purpose

The purpose of M.P.A.S.A. is to organize, execute, and facilitate activities beneficial to students of the Master of Public Administration program in several areas including, but not limited to:

- Helping students solidify and actualize their career goals through professional development;
- Supporting and aiding students in their pursuit of academic excellence;
- Administering activities which allow students the opportunity to integrate themselves socially and professionally; and
- Planning and executing service projects to help the community.

Article III – Membership

The Master of Public Administration Student Association is open to all University of Charleston, S.C. Master of Public Administration students. This organization shall not discriminate based on race, creed, color, sex, age, national origin, disability or sexual orientation. There is no fee for membership.

Article IV – Hazing

The Master of Public Administration Student Association complies with all State and Federal laws and College of Charleston policies on hazing. This organization recognizes hazing to be any action taken or situation created to inflict physical or mental discomfort, embarrassment, harassment or ridicule upon an individual or group. Further, the members of this organization understand that any individual or group found responsible for hazing will be subject to disciplinary action, which may result in probation, suspension, or revocation of Graduate Student Association (G.S.A.) recognition.

Article V - Officers

Officer positions on the M.P.A.S.A. Board may only be held by currently enrolled Master of Public Administration students.

1. The President shall:
 - a. Chair the M.P.A.S.A. monthly meetings.
 - b. Oversee the projects of all officers.
 - c. Maintain communication with the Director of the Master of Public Administration Program and the Student Association's Advisor.
 - d. Maintain contact with the Graduate Student Association in order to remain in good standing as a Registered/Sanctioned Organization.
 - e. Remain in good academic standing with the College throughout his/her term of office.
2. The Vice President shall:
 - a. Communicate and assist in directing the activities of the other officers.
 - b. Serve as secretary for the M.P.A.S.A. monthly meetings.
 - c. Oversee election procedures in the spring for the next school year's officers.
 - d. Serve as the President in his/her absence.
 - e. Maintain all social media outlets of the M.P.A.S.A., including the blog, Facebook page, Twitter account, and any other additions.
 - f. Remain in good academic standing with the College throughout his/her term of office.
3. The Treasurer shall:
 - a. Attend all required financial workshops and meetings as required by the Graduate Student Association.
 - b. Oversee how the M.P.A.S.A. spends its allocated funds for the school year.
 - c. Complete necessary G.S.A. or College of Charleston financial paperwork.
 - d. Ensure timely and accurate submission of the budget to the G.S.A.
 - e. Present requests for contingency funds from the Graduate Student Association, as necessary.
 - f. Remain in good academic standing with the College throughout his/her term of office.
4. The Events Coordinator shall:
 - a. Organize opportunities for students to socialize and network with other students, faculty, and alumni.
 - b. Assist in organizing a December Holiday Party to Honor December Graduates and a May Graduation Party to honor May Graduates, as requested by the M.P.A.S.A.
 - c. Organize publicity of events through multiple forms of communication including/but not limited to: flyers, class announcements, e-mails, and website.

- d. Organize and chair the social committee for events, as necessary.
 - e. Remain in good academic standing with the College throughout his/her term of office.
5. The Volunteer Coordinator shall:
- a. Organize community service projects to benefit the local, state, national, and/or global communities.
 - b. Assist in organizing special events or fundraisers, as necessary.
 - c. Organize and chair the service committee for events, as necessary.
 - d. Remain in good academic standing with the College throughout his/her term of office.
6. The Professional Development Coordinator shall:
- a. Organize professional development events, including speakers.
 - b. Relay current information of relevant events and local career building opportunities to members of the M.P.A.S.A.
 - c. Maintain contact with the Charleston Chapter of the American Society of Public Administration and coordinate events with them, as necessary.
 - d. Remain in good academic standing with the College throughout his/her term of office.
7. The Graduate Student Association Senator shall:
- a. Attend monthly G.S.A. meetings.
 - b. Serve as liaison between the M.P.A.S.A. and the G.S.A.
 - c. Keep M.P.A.S.A. students and board members informed about G.S.A. events and other relevant campus issues.
 - d. Remain in good academic standing with the College throughout his/her term of office.

Article VI - Elections

- 1. Candidates shall have two weeks to submit a request to the Vice President to be included in the election.
- 2. Elections shall be held before the end of the academic school year.
- 3. Elections shall be held at an official Master of Public Administration Student Association meeting or via an anonymous online vote as determined by the Vice President. Only currently enrolled M.P.A. students are permitted to vote.
- 4. Candidates have the option to provide a brief biography.
- 5. All votes for officers will be anonymous including online voting and secret ballot.
- 6. A candidate shall be declared the winner upon receiving a plurality vote.
- 7. The Vice President shall announce the winner.
- 8. Officers shall serve a one year term beginning immediately following elections until the following spring elections.
- 9. Vacancies in officer positions throughout the school year shall be filled through an appointment process.

10. Vacant officer positions shall be publicized to all members, and those interested should contact the Vice President.
11. The Vice President shall meet with the officers to collaboratively appoint a new officer based on the most qualified of those interested.

Article VII – Removal of Officers

1. An officer shall be removed if he/she is not in good academic standing with the College of Charleston, as deemed by the Graduate School Office.
2. An officer shall be removed if he/she is not fulfilling his/her responsibilities, and the other officers unanimously decide to remove him/her.

Article VIII – Advisor

1. The advisor shall be a full-time staff or faculty member at the College of Charleston.
2. The advisor shall provide guidance to students in planning and organizing events, as necessary.
3. The advisor shall provide information on previous events and projects, as necessary.
4. The advisor shall encourage faculty and staff participation in events and projects.

Article X – Amendments

1. Amendments to the Constitution shall be submitted to the President.
2. Voting shall include all members and a majority shall be required for approval.