

SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY
RAINBOW ALLIANCE CONSTITUTION
EST. 1991

PREAMBLE

Whereas Saint Louis University, a Catholic Jesuit institution, encourages a respect and understanding of the diverse nature of our society, and upholds the dignity of every individual, we the members of the Rainbow Alliance, have recognized the need for an organization to provide information to the entire Saint Louis University gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, questioning students and their allies.

ARTICLE I (Name)

The name of the organization shall be Rainbow Alliance. We have chosen the rainbow as a symbol for the organization due to its representation of the diversity of the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community.

ARTICLE II (Purpose)

The purpose of the organization shall be educational and supportive in nature. In a manner consistent with Roman Catholic moral teaching on human sexuality and the Catholic Jesuit identity of the University, the group seeks to foster an environment where individuals may affirm their self worth and dignity as gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people.

ARTICLE III (Membership)

Membership shall be open to all members of the Saint Louis University community.

ARTICLE IV (Officers)

There shall be four officers to hold the following positions:

1. President
2. Vice-President
3. Treasurer
4. Secretary

ARTICLE V (Powers and Duties of Officers)

Every officer is to uphold and enforce the constitution of Rainbow Alliance and shall attend general assembly meetings. In addition:

- 1. The president shall:**
 - a. Serve as the official representative of the Rainbow Alliance where such representation is appropriate.
 - b. Call general assembly meetings (in case of emergency both president and vice-president have this right).
 - c. Chair all general assembly meetings of Rainbow Alliance, and vote only in the event of a tie by the membership.
 - d. Be in charge of any verbal negotiation(s) with student groups and the University administration, including student life.



- e. Be responsible for appointing a member of Rainbow Alliance to fill vacancies in official positions, until the membership elects a new officer.
- f. Inform the advisor of Rainbow Alliance of any decision reached by the membership of Rainbow Alliance, that may be deemed “controversial” in nature, before any action is taken on that decision.
- g. Appoint an election commissioner, at the beginning of each academic year, pending membership approval.
- h. Have his/her signature on all external bank accounts of Rainbow Alliance.
- i. Be responsible for maintaining and keeping the Rainbow Alliance answering service updated.

2. The Vice President shall:

- a. Serve as President pro-tem of Rainbow Alliance in the absence of the President.
- b. Have the authority to call a general assembly meeting in times of emergency, in the absence of the president.
- c. Assume the role, duties and responsibilities of the President of the Rainbow Alliance in the even the elected President vacates the office, until the membership formally votes for a new President.
- d. Chair the Rainbow Alliance standing committee.

3. The Treasurer shall:

- a. Be responsible for all financial affairs and financial records of this organization.
- b. Be in charge of Rainbow Alliance bank accounts, both internal and external to Saint Louis University.
- c. Maintain a bank account external to Saint Louis University with on additional membership, who shall be the President, listed on the signature card.
- d. Be responsible for submitting the Rainbow Alliance budget to the Student Government Association.
- e. Chair a Rainbow Alliance standing committee.
- f. Submit monthly bank statements to the secretary for auditing.
- g. Each newly elected Treasurer must meet at least once with the Financial V.P. of SGA to make sure his/her bookkeeping method complies with SGA standards.

4. The Secretary shall:

- a. Take detailed minutes of all general assembly meetings, including election results, and keep a calendar of events.
- b. Keep confidential records necessary for the function of Rainbow Alliance.
- c. Chair a Rainbow Alliance standing committee.
- d. Keep a record of all written agreements of Rainbow Alliance.
- e. Present the minutes form the previous general assembly meeting at each general assembly meeting, and have copies of these minutes available to the members.

ARTICLE VI (Elections)

General elections shall be held at April’s general assembly meeting. Officers shall be elected by a majority vote of the membership. Newly elected officers shall assume office immediately following elections. In addition:

1. Candidates running for office shall:



- a. Have attended at least three meetings, including the election meeting, during the academic year in which the elections take place.
- b. Be in good standing with their appropriate college at Saint Louis University.
- c. Have an interview with the person currently holding the position.
- d. Have an interview with the advisor of the Rainbow Alliance.

2. The Election Commissioner shall:

- a. Be any member of the faculty, staff or administration
- b. Be responsible for the impartial and efficient operation of the elections in Rainbow Alliance.
- c. Have the authority to disqualify, pending membership approval, any candidate who violates Rainbow Alliance election rules, or who does not meet the requirements for running for office.
- d. Be appointed by the president pending membership approval at the beginning of the academic year.

3. In order to be eligible to vote at the annual election of officers, members shall:

- a. Have attended at least three meetings, including the election meeting, during the academic year in which the election takes place.

ARTICLE VII (Executive Committee)

The president will establish an executive committee consisting of the President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer at the beginning of each academic year. The committee will meet from time to time for the purpose of facilitating the business of the organization.

ARTICLE VII (Meetings)

Meetings shall be held a minimum of every two weeks during the fall and spring semesters with specific times and locations to be determined by group consensus. One meeting per month shall be a general assembly meeting.

ARTICLE IX (Impeachment)

Any officer of Rainbow Alliance, believed to be in violation of the organizations constitution, bylaws, or standard of conduct deemed appropriate by membership can be impeached by a two-thirds majority vote of the membership present at the meeting at which an impeachment vote shall be taken. All members shall be notified at least to weeks in advance, in writing, of the date and location of the impeachment vote.

The procedure for impeachment is as follows:

1. A written motion outlining the circumstances for the removal from office of a particular individual shall be authorized by at least three members of the organization, and submitted o the officers of Rainbow Alliance.
2. A copy of this motion shall be presented to the officer in question. The officer in question shall be present at the next general assembly meeting and shall be prepared to address the allegations.
3. A copy of this motion shall be presented to the voting membership.

ARTICLE X (Faculty Advisor)

In accordance with the Saint Louis University Student Handbook, the organization shall have an advisor who is a full time member of the faculty or administrative staff.

ARTICLE XI (Amendments)

All members shall be notified in advance of the general assembly meeting at which there will be a vote on proposed constitutional amendments. The constitution shall be amended by a two-thirds vote of the organization's members present at the meeting.

Article XII (Newsletter)

An officer shall be responsible for the formation and distribution of the newsletter. This publication shall be distributed twice a semester to the members and alumni of Rainbow Alliance.

ARTICLE XII (Committees)

Any member can suggest a standing, Ad Hoc, or subcommittee, pending membership approval.

1. **Standing committees** are committees that stand throughout the organizations existence. There shall be three standing committees:
 - a. Newsletter
 - b. Activities – this committee shall organize activities throughout the academic year that would be interesting to the Rainbow Alliance membership and the Saint Louis university community.
 - c. Fundraising
2. **Subcommittees**
3. **Ad Hoc committees**

BY-LAWS

1. As a condition of membership, members will be expected to respect the confidentiality of all members
2. Funds may be solicited form members as needed.
3. Two thirds of the present members shall constitute a quorum.
4. Roberts Rules of Order shall serve as parliamentary procedure.

