

J'Quo Dance Team Constitution

Eastern Connecticut State University

Mission Statement: Our mission is to share the cultural heritage of Afro-Caribbean dance within our community. We're determined to encourage cultural appreciation, unity, and artistic expression through our performances and educational outreach. We aim to embody an inclusive environment where every member can feel a sense of belonging on our campus.

ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of this club shall be J'Quo Dance Team (Club) of Eastern Connecticut State University

ARTICLE II - PURPOSE

To embrace and promote Afro-Caribbean dance culture through performances and events on campus.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP

- Section 1 This organization will be open to all students registered and not registered at Eastern Connecticut State University.
- Section 2 Failure to attend at least two meetings without notice closer to a performance may jeopardize a member's active participation.
- Section 3 It is open to any student who can or is willing to learn how to dance Afro-Caribbean dances.
- Section 4 Membership shall not be denied to any student because of race, religion, gender, color, ancestry, national origin, age, sexual orientation, disability, or veteran status except as sanctioned by federal or state law.
- Section 5 The Executive Board may hold closed meetings concerning a member's status in the club should they act in such a way that discredits the organization, and/or makes other members uncomfortable. If action needs to be taken against the aforementioned member, the advisor shall be consulted on the next step.

ARTICLE IV - EXECUTIVE BOARD & OFFICERS

- Section 1 The membership of the Executive Board shall consist of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Public Relations (other elected or non-elected officials such as committee chairpersons may be included as Members of the Executive Board depending on the needs of the organization.). The Faculty Advisor shall serve as a non-voting ex-officio member of the Executive Board.
- Section 2 The Executive Board shall have general supervision of the affairs of the organization between its regular business meetings and shall make policy recommendations to the organization. The Executive Board shall be subject to the rules of the organization and shall not act in conflict with actions taken by the organization.
- Section 3 The Executive Board shall have the power to establish all standing and ad hoc committees of the organization. The President, with the advice and consent of the Executive Board, shall have the power to appoint the chairpersons of all standing and ad hoc committees.
- Section 4 The Executive Board shall meet 2 times a month during the academic year. Meetings of the Executive Board shall be called by any member of the Executive Board.
- Section 5 A majority of the membership of the Executive Board shall constitute a quorum. Most decisions made by the Executive Board shall be by a majority vote of the members present and voting.

ARTICLE V - ENUMERATION OF POWERS AND DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Officers shall perform the duties prescribed by this constitution and by the parliamentary authority adopted by the organization. Duties shall include but shall not be limited to the following:

Section 1 The President shall:

- a. prepare the meeting agendas;
- b. have the power to call executive board meetings and all regular and special meetings of the organization;
- c. sign all official papers related to the club (including financial paperwork in the absence of the treasurer);
- d. have the power, with the advice and consent of the Executive Board, to appoint the chairpersons of all standing and ad hoc committees;
- e. appoint a temporary secretary to take minutes when the secretary is absent;
- f. act as the spokesperson for the organization;

- g. be an ex-officio member of all standing and ad hoc committees except the nominating Committee.

Section 2 The Vice-President shall:

- a. assist the president with responsibilities as needed;
- b. carry out the duties of the president in the absence of the president;
- c. automatically assume the powers and duties of the President if the President resigns, if the office of President becomes vacant, or if the President is impeached;
- d. serve as coordinator of all standing and ad hoc committees;
- e. be an ex-officio member of all standing and ad hoc committees.

Section 3 The Treasurer shall:

- a. expend funds as authorized by the membership of the organization as indicated in the organization's minutes;
- b. keep an accurate account of all receipts, membership dues, and expenditures of the organization;
- c. complete, sign, and submit all financial paperwork;
- d. submit a financial report;
- e. keep track of the club's accounts, income, and expenditures;
- f. request financial assistance from the Student Government Association and Budget and Management Committee if needed;
- g. be responsible for the organization complying with the policies and procedures set forth by the Student Activities office.

Section 4 The Secretary shall:

- a. keep a proper record of all activities of the club, including the minutes of every meeting;
- b. take attendance at all business meetings of the organization;
- c. prepare a roll call of members and call it when necessary;
- d. authenticate by his/her signature all records and documents of the organization;
- e. carry on the official correspondence of the club; which will be signed by the president;
- f. give 72 hours of notice of all meetings;
- g. distribute minutes within 48 hours of the meeting in accordance with the procedure set by the Student Activities Office.

Section 5 The Public Relations shall:

- a. act as a spokesperson for the organization;

- b. advertise all events that the organization participates in via flyers, the internet, word of mouth, or any way they see fit.

ARTICLE VI - ADVISOR(S)

- Section 1 The advisor shall be chosen by the membership at a duly constituted meeting of the organization by majority vote in consultation with student activities.

- Section 2 The faculty advisor shall serve as a non-voting ex-officio member of the Executive Board.

- Section 3 The advisors shall give advice for the better performance of the organization.

- Section 4 The advisor shall meet his/her responsibilities to the organization as stated in written directives issued by the Student Activities Office and in the Club Advisor's Operating Manual located on the Student Activities Website.

- Section 5 The advisor shall serve at the discretion of the University.

ARTICLE VII - NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS

- Section 1 Elections shall be held for all offices, including those that are filled temporarily.

- Section 2 Officers shall be elected for a term of one (1) year or until their successors are elected.

- Section 3 Elections shall be held during the spring semester or whenever needed. Elections shall take place no earlier than March 1st and no later than April 30th of each year.

- Section 4 Only active members shall be allowed to vote.

- Section 5 Officers shall be elected by a majority of those members voting in the election. If no candidate receives a majority vote on the first ballot, a revote will occur with the President casting a vote.

- Section 6 Notification of elections and nominations must be given a week's notice prior to voting.
- Section 7 Organizations should provide for a transition period whereby newly elected officers can work closely with current Officers so that there is an orderly transfer of authority as well as official documents and records of the organization.
- Section 8 If the date of elections oftentimes proves to be troublesome. An organization may wish to include in the constitution provisions that allow it to change the date of elections and/or postpone elections for just cause.

ARTICLE VIII - VACANCIES

- Section 1 In the event of the vacancy of the President, the duties will be carried out by the Vice-President. The office of Vice-President will be offered to the Secretary and/or Treasurer. If neither officer wishes to fill the Vice Presidency an election for the position will be held. If an existing officer does accept the Vice Presidency an election will be held for the vacant position.
- Section 2 In the event of the vacancy of any other offices, the President will appoint a temporary officer and an election will be held as per the provision of Article VI Section 1.

ARTICLE IX - IMPEACHMENT AND/OR RECALL

- Section 1 Any officer is subject to impeachment and /or recall and removal from the office for failing to fulfill his/her constitutional responsibilities.
- Section 2 An impeachment request must be given at least a week in advance of the actual impeachment voting. Both the request and the voting must take place during regular meetings.
- Section 3 Upon conclusion of the discussion and arguments for and against impeaching the officer, a vote shall be taken. No officer shall be impeached except by a two-thirds (2/3) vote.
- Section 4 An officer who is impeached shall immediately relinquish his/her office but shall be allowed to maintain active membership in the organization unless his/her actions have

brought discredit to the organization.

Section 5 If an officer is impeached, the organization shall fill the position following the procedures outlined under Vacancies.

Article X - MEETINGS

Section 1 Meetings of the organization shall be held twice a week (or three times a week) depending on the needs of the organization) during the academic year. There must be 48 hours of notice of all emergency meetings.

Section 2 Quorum... a quorum shall be defined as 25% + 1 member of the club's total votes. A quorum must be present for any action to take place by membership.

Section 3 A quorum shall be required to conduct any official business of the organization except to adjourn.

Section 4 If voting results in a tie a re-vote will take place with the President casting a vote.

Article XI - AMENDMENTS

Section 1 Amendments to this constitution must be approved by a 2/3 majority of the voting membership present.

Section 2 Proposed amendments to the constitution shall be automatically tabled until the next scheduled meeting of the organization.

Section 3 Prior written notice of the proposed change(s) and the date of the meeting at which the proposed change(s) shall be voted on shall be provided to all members of the Organization.

Article XII - RATIFICATION

Section 1 An organization's first or original constitution only requires a majority vote of the members in order to be approved.

Section 2 This constitution must be ratified by a majority vote at a regular meeting and approved by the Student Government Association Budget and Management Committee.