

**CONSTITUTION OF THE STONY BROOK YOUNG AMERICANS FOR
FREEDOM**

STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY, STONY BROOK, NY

DEFINITIONS

1. As used herein, any and all plural words refer to the singular as well, and vice-versa.
2. As used herein, the word ‘member’ refers to any person who has satisfied the requirements of paragraph 16.
3. As used herein, any and all gender-specific words shall apply to both genders.
4. As used herein, the words/phrases ‘e-board’ and ‘executive board’ include only the President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary.
5. As used herein, the words/phrases ‘semester,’ ‘academic year’ and ‘normal academic year’ apply only to either or both the fall or spring semesters. Winter sessions and summer sessions are excluded from this definition.
6. As used herein, numbers in numerical form and numbers in word form shall be synonymous.
7. As used herein, the words ‘and’ and ‘or’ shall include the meaning of each other when appropriate and necessary.

8. As used herein, the words/abbreviations ‘club’ and ‘YAF’ refer to the Stony Brook Young Americans for Freedom.
9. Any grammatical tense (i.e. present tense, future tense) used herein automatically includes any and all other grammatical tenses.
10. As used herein, the word ‘University’ means Stony Brook University.
11. As used herein, ‘majority’ and ‘simple majority’ both mean more than half.
13. As used herein, the word ‘participant’ means someone who has attended at least one meeting.

PURPOSE

14. The purpose of the Stony Brook Young Americans for Freedom is to promote the principles of the Sharon Statement, which is attached hereto.

MEMBERSHIP

15. The club will not exclude anyone from being an active participant in the club; however, only formal members may vote whenever voting is utilized.
16. Formal membership is only to be extended to persons who fulfill the following requirements:
 - a. The person must have attended five meetings per semester.

b. The person must be an undergraduate student at Stony Brook University.

REVOCATION OF MEMBERSHIP

17. Membership can be revoked under one or more of the following conditions:

a. If a person has failed to conform to paragraph 16 of this constitution.

b. If a person behaves in a way which is detrimental to YAF.

18. The process of revoking membership shall be the following under a charge of paragraph 17(a): No formal vote is needed. The secretary shall simply remove the person from the list of members. This shall be done at the end of each semester.

19. The process of revoking membership under 17(b): A simple majority of the e-board must agree that the person's conduct has been detrimental to YAF.

20. No member of the e-board can have his membership revoked. To revoke the membership of a member of the e-board, the member must first be impeached from his position on the e-board, and then have his membership revoked.

OFFICERS AND THEIR RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES

21. There shall be the following officer positions: President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

22. All officers are members of the e-board.

23. The President shall be the official representative of the club in any and all matters where representation is necessary, unless the President appoints another member of the e-board to be the club's representative for a particular matter. The President must have been a member of the club for at least two consecutive semesters.

24. The President is responsible for the scheduling of all meetings, the general oversight of the club, the planning of any and all events that the club runs, and for anything else that is not delegated to any other entity herein.

25. The Vice President shall act as the President in any and all situations wherein the President is unable or unwilling to assume his duties. The Vice President also assists the Presidents in whatever he wishes.

26. The Treasurer shall be responsible for any and all monies and/or property that the club has. The treasurer shall be responsible for collecting and disbursing money as needed.

27. The Secretary shall be responsible for keeping constantly updated lists of members and others present at any and all meetings, and handling any and all correspondence.

28. Any of the officers may also have work delegated to them by the President, unless said work is already assigned herein to an officer.

FACULTY ADVISOR

29. The faculty advisor must be defined as such by the Undergraduate Student Government and/or any other approving or accrediting agency of the University.

30. If paragraph 29 does not apply, the faculty advisor must be a person who teaches a credit-bearing course at Stony Brook University.

31. The faculty advisor serves at the pleasure of the President, and the President may remove the faculty advisor at any time so long as the President has a written commitment from another eligible faculty advisor to be the club's faculty advisor.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETINGS

32. Executive board meetings shall be convened when and where the President deems fit.

33. Only members of the e-board may be at e-board meetings.

GENERAL MEETINGS

34. General meetings shall be convened during the normal academic year when and where the President deems fit, but not less than once per month.

35. Any and all allocations must take place at general meetings.

36. Each and every member of the e-board shall have the opportunity to speak at each and every general meeting.

37. The agenda of each and every general meeting shall be decided by the e-board, with the President having the final say. Agendas need not be strictly adhered to.

ELECTIONS

38. All officers must be elected by a plurality of the vote. Elections must be held no later than May 1. Newly elected officers will assume their positions on June 1.

39. Only members may run for an officer position.

40. Any member may run for an officer position if he desires, though no person may run for more than one position on the e-board.

41. All elections must take place at a general meeting.

42. In an election, anonymous ballots shall be distributed to all present members.

Each and every person running for each and every position must be on said ballots.

In addition, an email must be sent out to all members who were not present at that meeting. Members voting by email have one week to respond; otherwise, their votes will not be counted.

VACANCIES

43. If a vacancy occurs, whether by resignation, impeachment, or any other cause, the President has sole authority to appoint another member who does not already hold an e-board position to the vacant position, whose term will expire on June 1.

IMPEACHMENT

44. The following conditions must be met for an impeachment of a member of the executive board:

a. The President and the person who is the subject of the impeachment must be informed in writing at the meeting before the impeachment is to take place of the proposed impeachment. Any and all evidence, including but not limited to events, documents, testimony and the circumstances behind the impeachment, must be disclosed to the person who is the subject of the impeachment. Nothing that has not been disclosed to the person who is the subject of the impeachment can be used and/or brought up at the impeachment.

b. A list of charges must be passed around to all members of the club at a general meeting.

c. The person being charged shall have an opportunity to defend himself at a general meeting.

d. In order for a vote for impeachment to be successful, 2/3 of the present members and at least half of the e-board must vote for impeachment at a general meeting.

e. The impeachment is effective immediately if passed.

f. If the person who is the subject of an impeachment is not present at the general meeting wherein the impeachment will take place, the subject of the impeachment will have waived his right to defend himself.

g. If the impeachment is successful, the impeached officer is still a member of the club unless and until he has his membership revoked.

AMENDMENTS

45. Amendments to this constitution must be presented in legible writing to the Secretary.

46. At the next general meeting, the Secretary must present the proposed amendment to the members present at the meeting.

47. A 2/3 majority of present members, and a majority of the e-board, must vote for the amendment in a secret written ballot for it to be passed.

DISSOLUTION

48. In the event of dissolution of the club, all accrued funds shall go to the Undergraduate Student Government of the University.

THIS CONSTITUTION

49. This Constitution shall go into effect when the following conditions are met:

a. All of the e-board members and the faculty advisor have signed and dated this constitution.

b. The club has received all necessary approval by the proper authorities of the University.

President: Rachael Doukas

Vice President: Brian Mulder

Secretary: Gregory Klubok

Treasurer: Mark Chiesa

Faculty Advisor: Thomas Kerth

Sharon Statement

"Adopted in Conference, at Sharon, Connecticut, on September 11, 1960."

IN THIS TIME of moral and political crises, it is the responsibility of the youth of America to affirm certain eternal truths.

WE, as young conservatives believe:

THAT foremost among the transcendent values is the individual's use of his God-given free will, whence derives his right to be free from the restrictions of arbitrary force;

THAT liberty is indivisible, and that political freedom cannot long exist without economic freedom;

THAT the purpose of government is to protect those freedoms through the preservation of internal order, the provision of national defense, and the administration of justice;

THAT when government ventures beyond these rightful functions, it accumulates power, which tends to diminish order and liberty;

THAT the Constitution of the United States is the best arrangement yet devised for empowering government to fulfill its proper role, while restraining it from the concentration and abuse of power;

THAT the genius of the Constitution - the division of powers - is summed up in the clause that reserves primacy to the several states, or to the people in those spheres not specifically delegated to the Federal government;

THAT the market economy, allocating resources by the free play of supply and demand, is the single economic system compatible with the requirements of personal freedom and constitutional government, and that it is at the same time the most productive supplier of human needs;

THAT when government interferes with the work of the market economy, it tends to reduce the moral and physical strength of the nation, that when it takes from one to bestow on another, it diminishes the incentive of the first, the integrity of the second, and the moral autonomy of both;

THAT we will be free only so long as the national sovereignty of the United States is secure; that history shows periods of freedom are rare, and can exist only when free citizens concertedly defend their rights against all enemies...

THAT the forces of international Communism are, at present, the greatest single threat to these liberties;

THAT the United States should stress victory over, rather than coexistence with this menace; and

THAT American foreign policy must be judged by this criterion: does it serve the just interests of the United States?