

CONSTITUTION

Pride Alliance

Revised by: Pride Alliance Executive Board

Date Adopted: October 30, 2011 | Date Revised: [Date]

PREAMBLE

In a society that is becoming increasingly aware of its diverse elements, a need exists for an increase in dialogue and an enhancement of understanding among the members of the Georgia Tech community concerning issues faced by gender and sexual identity minorities. The members of the Georgia Tech community who identify as LGBTQIA+ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, questioning, intersex, asexual, and others) and their allies have a tremendous need for an organization in which they can develop and cultivate a positive self-awareness and a positive awareness of their relationship with the society of which they are a part. Within the Georgia Tech community there is a need for readily available factual information concerning LGBTQIA+ issues. Pride Alliance will fulfill these needs within the Georgia Tech community.

ARTICLE I – NAME

The name of this organization shall be known as Pride Alliance at Georgia Tech, hereafter referred to as Pride Alliance or PA.

ARTICLE II – PURPOSE

The purpose of Pride Alliance shall be:

1. To provide a supportive and educational environment for our members.
2. To build community within the LGBTQIA+ and allied population at Georgia Tech.
3. To promote LGBTQIA+ presence in the Georgia Tech community by empowering student advocates.

ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP

1. All members of Pride Alliance who meet eligibility requirements for participation in extra-curricular activities as stated in the GT Catalog and SGA Policies are eligible for membership. Only Georgia Tech students may vote or hold office.
2. Associate members are GT faculty, staff, or alumni who are interested in the organization. They may not vote or hold office.
3. The maximum number of members shall remain open.
4. Membership will take effect when an interested party signs up on the membership roster and pays all dues.

ARTICLE IV – Officers

1. **Eligibility.** Only GT students eligible according to the GT Catalog can hold or run for office and they must already be a member of the organization.
 2. **Officers.** The club officers shall consist of a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Outreach Chair, Design Chair, and oSTEM Chair.
 3. **Duties.** All officers shall perform duties consistent with their respective offices and such other duties as may be assigned from time to time at the President’s discretion.
 4. **Term of Office.** All officers shall serve for one year and until a successor is installed. No member shall hold more than one office at the same time.
 5. **Elections.** Elections shall be held the first scheduled business meeting in January according to the Bylaws and officers shall take office at the first meeting in February.
 6. **Vacancies.** A vacancy may be created and filled as follows:
 1. A vacancy may be created by an amendment to the Bylaws that would create a new elected position. The amendment must be present and voted on prior to any regularly scheduled election. The new position(s) must then be filled at the next scheduled election. Passage of the amendment, nomination and election may be conducted at the same meeting, in that order, provided that the amendment has been presented to the membership at least one week prior to that meeting.
 2. A vacancy may be created by the resignation of an elected officer. In the event of a resignation, the remaining officers may call a business meeting for the purpose of filling the position or they may choose to leave the position vacant until the next regularly scheduled election at which time a new officer must be elected.
 3. A vacancy may be created by the removal of an elected officer by at least half of the voting membership signing a petition that is presented at a general meeting. The membership may remove an officer for gross negligence of duty, abandonment of office or if, in the opinion of the membership, the continued association of the member is deemed to be detrimental to the organization. After verification of the petition for validity by the advisor, a hearing will be scheduled at least two weeks, but no more than four weeks, from the date of submission. At this hearing both sides can present a case.
 4. The Faculty Advisor, if appropriate, shall preside over the removal hearing. After all arguments have been heard, a secret-ballot vote shall be held. If at least two-thirds of the voting members present vote for removal, the officer shall be immediately removed. In this event the position will be filled as in (2) above.
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1. **President**
 - A. The President shall preside over the meetings and ensure that meetings operate in an orderly fashion.

- B. The President shall be responsible for scheduling meetings and overseeing the direction of the Organization.
- C. The President shall serve as the primary spokesperson for the organization.
- D. The President shall appoint all committee chairs.
- E. The President shall have the authority to remove any committee chair that the President has appointed.
- F. The President shall have the power to transact routine business that is in the best interest of the Organization.

2. Vice-President

- A. The Vice-President shall act in full capacity of the President in the event that the President is unable to perform the President's Duties.
- B. The Vice-President shall be a member of all committees.
- C. The Vice-President shall assist the President in fulfillment of their Duties at the direction of the President.
- D. The Vice-President shall be responsible for the execution of programs and projects.
- E. The Vice-President shall manage the Organization's historical records.

3. Secretary

- A. The Secretary shall record the minutes of each business meeting of the Organization.
- B. The Secretary shall complete all correspondence in a timely manner.
- C. The Secretary shall send notification of each meeting to the general membership.
- D. The Secretary shall create and send the newsletter and update social media in a timely manner.

4. Treasurer

- A. The Treasurer shall be responsible for collecting dues.
- B. The Treasurer shall maintain a record of the dues status of every member as well as maintain a list of members.
- C. The Treasurer shall maintain accurate records of the financial status of the Organization and prepare budgets for each year.

5. Outreach Chair

- A. The Outreach Chair shall be responsible for communicating with external organizations in a timely manner.
- B. The Outreach Chair shall be responsible for the coordination of recruitment and publicity for the organization.
- C. The Outreach Chair shall be responsible for distributing or posting as necessary physical and digital publicity including, but not limited to, fliers, banners, and posters.

6. Design Chair

- A. The Design Chair shall be responsible for updating and maintaining the Organizational website.

B. The Design Chair shall be responsible for the design and creation of physical and digital publicity including, but not limited to, fliers, banners, and posters.

7. Professional Development Chair

A. The Professional Development Chair shall be responsible for maintaining relations with oSTEM National.

B. The Professional Development Chair shall be responsible for professional development events and planning conference trips.

C. The Professional Development Chair shall be responsible for maintaining company relations.

ARTICLE V – ADVISOR

1. A full time GT faculty or staff member will serve as advisor to the organization.
2. In the event of a vacancy, nominations for advisor will take place within the Executive Board. The Executive Board will choose the advisor and invite them to serve as advisor for Pride Alliance.
3. The duties of the advisor include: meeting with organization officers, reviewing the yearly budget, signing all required paperwork and advising on issues of risk management, organization leadership and Georgia Tech policy.
4. The Advisor can be removed for not carrying out the duties and expectations as defined in the Constitution. Any member can bring concerns to the Executive Board. The Executive Board will meet with the Advisor to discuss the concerns. After this meeting, the Executive Board will vote on whether to remove the Advisor. If there is a majority vote, then the Advisor will be removed.
5. If an Advisor steps down or is removed, the Executive Board will follow the process stated in (2) above.

ARTICLE VI – DUES

1. New and continuing members of Pride Alliance will be required to pay regular dues.
2. Dues are set at the beginning of the academic year by the Executive Board.
3. Dues can be paid for a semester or an entire year.
4. Dues will be collected during the months of September and January, or when a new member joins.

ARTICLE VII - PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

Robert's Rules of Order shall be the parliamentary authority for all matters of procedure not specifically covered by the Constitution and Bylaws of Pride Alliance. All business meetings and procedures shall be governed by these procedures.

ARTICLE VIII – BYLAWS AND AMENDMENTS

1. Purpose. Pride Alliance shall establish a set of rules that shall be known as the Bylaws of Pride Alliance. The Bylaws shall be a lesser authority than the Constitution and shall establish further guidelines for the Organization.
2. Ratification. The Bylaws shall be ratified by a two-thirds majority vote of the membership.
3. The Bylaws may be waived by a two-thirds majority vote at any business meeting.

ARTICLE IX – RATIFICATION AND AMENDMENT

1. Amendments and Ratification. Amendments to the Constitution may be proposed by a one-third vote of the membership present at any business meeting, or by a petition of one-fifth of the entire membership of the Organization. Amendments become part of the Constitution upon ratification by two-thirds of the votes cast in a special election. Written notification to all members must be made by postal mail or e-mail, at least two weeks in advance of any proposed change in the Constitution. Amendments are subject to approval by the Student Government Association and Student Activities Committee.

Bylaws

Pride Alliance

ARTICLE I – COMMITTEES

1. Ad hoc committees may be created by a majority vote of the membership. The membership must set a time frame for the existence of such committees.
2. All members are free to join any committee(s).
3. The President and Faculty Advisor may serve as non-voting members of any committees.

ARTICLE II – VACANCIES IN OFFICE

1. In the event the President becomes unable to serve, the line of succession shall fall to the Vice-President. If the Vice-President is unable to serve, then the club shall elect a new President at its next meeting.
2. The President shall retain the power to appoint temporary officers until such a time that a new officer can be elected.

ARTICLE III – CLUB MEETINGS

1. The club shall hold a business meeting at least once a month.
2. The standing committees of the club should meet at least twice a month.

ARTICLE IV – EXPENSES

1. Expenses will only be refunded after approval from the Treasurer and one other Officer.
2. If the Treasurer is unavailable, the President and one other officer may provide approval.
3. Reimbursements shall be filed for in accordance policies set forth by SGA and the Accountant of Student Involvement.

ARTICLE V – VOTING

1. Proxy Voting may be used for major elections and other voting matters at the discretion of the President.