
QUEER ALLIANCE CONSTITUTION

March 2006

I. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

To serve as a hub of queer organizing on campus, building leadership and programming that is reflective of and responsive to the range of needs and identities in the queer community.

II. MEMBERSHIP

Eligibility to the QA is open to all full-time undergraduate members of the Brown community and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, age, national or ethnic origin, disability, status as a veteran, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or sex. Majority membership consists of full-time undergraduate students.

Membership is defined by a person's participation in a QA-affiliated subgroup or committee.

III. STRUCTURE

The QA serves as an umbrella organization. The QA helps to facilitate the coordination and building of a communal environment for various subgroups and committees. The agendas and activities of the subgroups and committees that fall under the QA banner are shaped by the membership of each subgroup and committee.

For ease of coordination, subgroups and committees are asked to divide themselves into three broad categories: Community, Advocacy, and Outreach. Groups that feel that they do not fit into any of these three loosely defined categories may negotiate their own means of defining themselves and placing themselves in the QA organizational structure.

IV. LEADERSHIP AND ELECTIONS

The central networking structure of the QA is the Coordinating Committee (CC).

The CC consists of one representative from each of the three defined subgroup/committee departments (Community, Advocacy, and Outreach). The leaders of the subgroups and committees of each department will be responsible for picking their own departmental representative (typically the leader of one of the subgroups/committees from within the department).

The CC is chaired by two at-large representatives. The first at-large representative (Chair) moderates CC and QA general meetings, is responsible for administrative duties, and coordinates QA communications. The second at-large representative (Finance Chair) is responsible for the QA's budget and finances. Both at large representatives are elected by a simple majority vote of all current QA subgroup and committee leaders, (each subgroup/committee getting a maximum of 2 votes, regardless of the number of leaders of the particular group). A separate vote will be held for each chair position.

Elections to the CC will be held at the close of each academic year or as needed if positions are prematurely vacated.

The CC will meet once a week during the academic year. Meetings are open to the public.

The CC will organize monthly community-wide town hall style meetings during the academic year.

Department Chairs will periodically hold department meetings for leaders of the subgroups and committees of their respective departments.

The CC's tasks include, but are not limited to, coordinating the resources and programming schedules of QA committees and subgroups, facilitating the creation of a master QA calendar of events/meetings/programming, and maintaining a newsletter and email lists to promote communication.

V. FINANCES

All expenses of the QA shall be paid through the Office of Student Activities, and all funds collected by the group from any source shall be deposited with the Office of Student Activities. The QA agrees to follow all regulations regarding all financial transactions as set forth by the Office of Student Activities.

All QA finances will be accounted for by the Finance Chair of the CC.

The CC as a whole will be responsible for contributing to the Finance Chair's drafting of annual UFB budgets.

VI. AMENDMENT PROCEDURE

An amendment shall be brought before the group by a majority vote. The CC Chair shall notify all current members of the group that an amendment to the group's constitution is considered. The amendment will then be considered at the meeting following its announcement to the group. To be accepted, an amendment must gain support from two-thirds (2/3) of the group membership. Once an amendment has been accepted by the QA, it shall be given to the UCS Coordinator of Student Activities at least two (2) full days before the next regularly scheduled full council meeting. Upon receipt of a simple majority from UCS, the amendment shall be considered a formal part of the QA's constitution.