Constitution of The University of Utah Residence Hall Association

PREAMBLE
We, the students of the University of Utah, in conjunction with Housing & Residential Education, hereby establish this Constitution of the Residence Hall Association in order to promote and provide betterment of residential living, community building, and leadership on campus.

ARTICLE I - NAME
Section A - Organization Name
1. The name of the organization shall be The University of Utah Residence Hall Association hereafter referred to as RHA.
2. This constitution and its by-laws recognize the following words and definitions
   a. University refers specifically to the University of Utah
   b. Residence Halls shall be defined as a residential community operated by Housing & Residential Education at the University of Utah
   c. The Association is the entire organization of RHA, including its executive board, advisors, and members.

ARTICLE II – PURPOSE
Section A – Statement of Purpose
The purpose of RHA shall include, but not be limited to:
1. To organize, implement, and promote an educational and social environment for all residents living in the Residence Halls through programming and actively seeking resident involvement;
2. To represent and reflect the interests and concerns of the residents to all appropriate persons and to formulate and advocate policies consistent with these interests;
3. To be a resource and communicate about current events, diversity, policies, and procedures to the students;
4. To develop and cultivate leadership in the residence halls; and,
5. To actively participate in residential student leadership on a regional and national level with NACURH, Inc.

ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP
Section A – Organization and Governing Power
1. RHA will be organized with an Executive Board and General Cabinet.
2. The governing power of RHA will be vested in the Executive Board and General Cabinet.
3. In the event of a conflict between this Constitution and any other document or regulation, the provisions of this Constitution shall be controlling, subject to Housing & Residential Education Policy, University Policy, City, County, State and Federal law.
4. Quorum shall be defined as a two-thirds majority

Section B – Qualifications for Membership
1. The RHA government will represent all residents who live in the residence halls who have paid RHA dues.

Section C – RHA Executive Board Membership
1. The membership of the RHA Executive Board will consist of the following elected positions:
   a. RHA President
   b. National Residence Hall Honorary President of the Tau Omega Pi Chapter (NRHH)
   And the following appointed positions
   c. National Communications Coordinator (NCC)
   d. Administrative Director
   e. Apartment Council Director
   f. First Year Director
   g. Honors Council Director
   h. Marketing and Outreach Director
   i. Programming Director
   j. Social Justice Director
   k. Student Leader Council Director

1 Last updated: 7.11.2013

Residence Hall Association
Constitution of The University of Utah RHA

1. Sustainability Director

m. RHA Advisor (appointed by Housing & Residential Education in a manner prescribed by its Director.)

2. The purpose of the RHA Executive Board shall be to:

a. Propose activities and conduct leadership training for RHA
b. Take emergency action brought before the General Council
c. Handle funding and equipment requests made to RHA
d. Be responsible for the maintenance and archiving of all RHA business

Section D – RHA Executive Succession

1. Should the office of the RHA President be permanently vacated, the Administrative Director shall become the President.

2. Should the offices of the RHA President and Administrative Director be permanently and simultaneously vacated, the RHA Advisor shall appoint an existing RHA Executive Board Member to become RHA President.

3. Should the office of any position other than RHA President be permanently vacated, the RHA President, NRHH President, and RHA Advisor shall appoint a new Executive Board Member to fill the unexpired term.

Section E – RHA General Cabinet Membership

1. The membership of the Residence Halls Association General Cabinet will consist of two members from each of the following:

a. Apartment Council
b. First Year Board
c. Honors Council
d. Marketing and Outreach Board
e. Programming Board
f. Social Justice Board
g. Student Leader Council
h. Sustainability Board

2. The purpose of the RHA General Cabinet shall be to:

a. Be the voting body when necessary
b. To be responsible for all additional powers and duties as requested.

ARTICLE IV – RHA EXECUTIVE BOARD ELECTIONS

Section A – Qualifications for Candidates

1. Candidates must be in good academic standing with the University at the time of nomination

2. Candidates must qualify in accordance to RHA by-laws

Section B – Elections Procedure

1. Elections shall be run in accordance to RHA by-laws

ARTICLE V – IMPEACHMENT

Section A – Initiation

1. Articles of Impeachment may be brought against any Elected Executive Board Member of RHA for failure to fulfill the duties of office, or who breaks with the ideals set forth in this constitution or any other binding contract.

Section B – Procedure

1. The accused shall be given the option to resign from their position before the impeachment process.

2. Any person subject to removal from office shall be notified by the Executive Board at least 24 hours prior to the impeachment trial.

3. A formal typed account of alleged offenses shall be made public to RHA Executive Board and General Cabinet

4. When Articles of Impeachment have been brought against an Executive Board Member, that individual shall be suspended from all RHA Executive Board processes until the impeachment trial is completed and results in the retention of their position.

Section C – Trial

1. The impeachment trial shall be run in accordance to RHA By-laws
ARTICLE VI – REFERENDUM, RATIFICATIONS & AMENDMENTS

Section A – Referendum
1. The RHA General Cabinet shall have the power of referendum, which may be held on any matter pertaining to the government of RHA.

Section B – Ratification of the Constitution
1. This Constitution will become effective immediately and shall supersede all previous constitutions upon:
   a. Approval of Housing & Residential Education
   b. Two-thirds vote in the RHA Executive Board
   c. Two-thirds majority of ballots cast in favor of ratification among eligible RHA members.

Section C – Amendments
1. Constitutional Amendments must be ratified by:
   a. Two-thirds vote in the RHA Executive Board
   b. Two-thirds majority of ballots cast in favor of amendment among eligible RHA members.
      i. In the event that the eligible RHA members are unavailable, all amendments shall be ratified directly through a two-thirds (2/3) vote in the RHA Executive Board.
2. The RHA President may not veto Constitutional Amendments.
3. Amendments due to title changes, spelling or grammatical errors, or punctuation may be passed by a majority of the Executive Board.

ARTICLE VII – FINANCIAL POLICIES & PROCEDURE

Section A – Administration
1. The RHA Executive Board and General Cabinet have the power and responsibility of administering funds and acting as the financial administrator for RHA. The RHA President, Administrative Director and Advisor are responsible for all accounts and supervise these accounts for each fiscal year beginning July 1, and ending June 30. Any person or organization receiving funds from RHA must abide by the Financial Policy & Procedures.

Section B – RHA Dues
1. There will be RHA dues collected from residents living on campus as per the contractual agreement with Housing & Residential Education in order to support the government and activities of RHA. HRE will provide the necessary accounting functions for use of these funds. Prior to requesting HRE approval, RHA may call for a general referendum of the RHA membership on changes in RHA Dues. The final responsibility for the administration of RHA Dues will rest with the Director of Housing & Residential Education.
2. The policies and guidelines for allocation of funds shall be in accordance to RHA By-laws.

ARTICLE VIII – STATEMENTS OF NON-DISCRIMINATION, NON-HAZING, AND COMPLIANCE
1. The University of Utah Residence Hall Association is an equal opportunity organization and thus prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, veteran status, sexual orientation, or gender identity and is committed to maintain a diverse and inclusive work environment.
2. In addition, we as an organization will not discriminate or tolerate discrimination against any other person, group, or organization for any reason.
3. This organization will not conspire to engage in hazing, participate in hazing, or commit any act that causes or is likely to cause bodily danger, physical harm, or personal degradation or disgrace resulting in physical or mental harm to any fellow student attending the institution.
4. This organization shall comply with all university and campus policies and regulations and local, state, and federal laws.

ARTICLE IX – RATIFICATION AND ENACTMENT
1. After approval by HRE Leadership Team, a vote shall be put forth to the RHA Executive Board and then RHA Membership for adoption of the Constitutional of the Residence Hall Association of The University of Utah. These by-laws shall supersede all previous constitutions and shall become effective immediately with two-thirds majority of RHA Executive Board and two-thirds majority of votes cast by RHA Membership.