

**Constitution Of The
University of North Dakota School of Law
Federalist Society**

PROLOGUE

The University of North Dakota School of Law Federalist Society (UNDSL FS or “Society”) is a student organization organized in accordance with the regulations of the University of North Dakota. The Society honors, respects, and supports the Constitution of the United States.

ARTICLE I. NAME AND PROCEDURE

Section 1. Name: The name of this organization established by this Constitution shall be the University of North Dakota School of Law Federalist Society.

Section 2. Purpose: The purpose of the Society shall be to:

- A. Foster critical thought and debate about the application of foundational principles to the law.
- B. Embrace the principles that the state exists to preserve freedom, that the separation of governmental powers is central to the integrity of the Constitution of the United States of America, and that it is the province and duty of the judiciary to say what the law is – not what it should be.
- C. Promote an awareness of these principles and to further their application through its activities.
- D. Reorder priorities within the legal system so as to place a premium on individual liberty and the rule of law.
- E. Restore recognition of these norms among lawyers, judges, law students and professors.

Section 3. Affiliation: This organization shall be affiliated with the National Federalist Society.

- A. The rules and regulations of the national constitutions shall be followed when not inconsistent with the rules and regulations of the University of North Dakota. A letter of affiliation is attached to the constitution.

ARTICLE II NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

Section 1. Non-discrimination Statement: Membership in this organization shall be without regard to race, color, religion, creed, gender, sexual orientation,

national origin, disability, age marital status, veteran status, political belief or affiliation, or membership or non-membership in any organization.

ARTICLE III

MEMBERSHIP

Section 1.

Requirements for Membership

A. Membership in the Society is open to:

- 1) Any student at the UND School of Law
- 2) Any interested faculty or administration member

B. Voting and active members shall consist of all members who

- 1) Are current on their dues.

C. Non-students cannot vote on the following

- 1) Election or removal of officers
- 2) Removal of members
- 3) Amendments to the constitution or bylaws
- 4) Financial matters

D. No academic credit shall be offered for participation and/or membership in this organization.

Section 2.

Removal of Members

A. Grounds for removal of members include:

- 1) Violation of University Policy
- 2) Violation of the UND Code of Student Life
- 3) Non-payment of dues

B. A member may be removed by the following process

- 1) A petition to remove the member should be submitted to the President or Vice President. Such a petition must contain the signatures of 10% of the voting members. When such a petition is

received, the President shall call a meeting of the organization to decide upon removal.

2) The grounds for removal are to be presented by the President at a regular or special meeting of the organization.

3) The member in question shall be provided one week to present a defense either in person or in writing.

4) Voting is not to occur sooner than 1/2 hour after the presentation of the grounds and defense have been made. In order for a vote for removal to take place a simple majority of the voting membership must attend the meeting and a simple majority vote of the members present at that meeting is required for removal.

Section 3 Appeal of Removal of Members

- A. Members may appeal their removal, but the appeal must be made within two weeks of the vote for the removal by requesting the President to call a special meeting of the organization. The President shall notify all members of this meeting, which is to occur at least one week and not more than one month after the appeal request is received by the President.
- B. The decision to repeal the vote for removal shall require a simple majority of the voting membership to attend the meeting and a simple majority vote for the members present at the special meeting.

ARTICLE IV OFFICERS

Section 1 Elected Officers: The Society shall have the following officers:

- A. President
- B. Vice-President
- C. Secretary
- D. Treasurer

Section 2 Qualifications for Holding Office: The candidate must be a student member of the organization.

Section 3 Elections

- A. The officers of the Society shall be elected for a term of one year
- B. There will be no restrictions placed on the number of terms of office a member may hold
- C. Elections will be held in May

D. Election to office will be by simple majority vote of the members present

Section 4

Duties of the Officer: The Society shall have duties described below and any other duties that the President shall from time to time decide is expedient for the Society.

A. President- The President shall be the chief executive of the Society and shall have the following duties:

- 1) Shall call and preside over all meetings and Executive Board meetings. He/She shall supervise all club activities.
- 2) Shall have veto power concerning Society expenditures, which can be overturned by two thirds of all active Society members.
- 3) Shall serve as liaison to any such other organizations as the Executive Board deems necessary.
- 4) Shall have the power to appoint any such assistants, as he/she deems necessary to assist in fulfilling the duties of the office.
- 5) Must submit an Officer Roster Card at the beginning of each semester to the Coordinator of Student Organizations.

B. Vice-President- The Vice-President shall assist the President and shall preside in case of his/her absence or disability. In addition, the Vice-President shall have the following duties:

- 1) Shall rule on all matters of parliamentary procedure.
- 2) Shall reserve rooms for Society meetings.
- 3) Shall maintain all official records of the Society, including a mailing list of all members and historical records.
- 4) Shall supervise the committees through their respective Chairmen.

C. Secretary- The Secretary shall have the following duties:

- 1) Shall take minutes of all Society meetings, maintain all Society correspondence.
- 2) shall notify members of upcoming meetings. The Secretary shall notify the members of upcoming meetings in any manner the

Executive Board may deem appropriate, including posting notice of such on the bulletin board, and using posters, notices, or other communications.

D. Treasurer- The Treasurer shall have the following duties:

- 1) Shall be responsible for the finances of the Society and shall present and supervise the budget.
- 2) Shall be responsible for any fundraising activities and for the collection of Society dues.
- 3) Shall submit financial records for an annual audit to the Coordinator of Student Organizations at the end of Spring semester.

Section 5

Vacancies in Office: In the event a vacancy should occur in one of the elected offices the following provisions shall be followed to fill the vacancy:

- A. In the event that any officer is unable to fulfill a term for any reason, an election for that office shall be held during the next regularly scheduled Society meeting following the vacancy. During the vacancy, the Executive Board may fill the office on an interim basis.
- B. Changes in Officers- All changes in officers or mailing addresses shall be submitted to the Coordinator of Student Organizations within two weeks of such change.

Section 6

Removal of Officers:

A. Grounds for removal of an officer include:

- 1) Violation of University policy
- 2) Violation of the UND Code of Student Life
- 3) Failure to perform the duties of the office as set forth in the constitution and bylaws of the organization
- 4) Failure to uphold the provision of this constitution and bylaws

B. An officer may be removed by the following process:

- 1) A petition to remove the officer in question must be submitted to another officer. Such a petition must contain the signatures of 10% of the voting members of the organization. When such a

petition is received, the officer shall call a meeting of the organization to decide upon removal.

2) The grounds for removal are to be presented by the officer in charge at a regular or special meeting of the organization.

3) The officer in question shall be provided two weeks to present a defense either in person or writing.

4) Voting is not to occur sooner than 1/2 hour after the presentation of the grounds and defense have been made. In order for a vote for removal to take place, at least a simple majority of the voting membership must attend the meeting and a simple majority vote of the members present at that meeting is required for removal.

Section 7

Appeal of Removal of Officer

- A. An officer may appeal removal, but such appeal must be made within two weeks of the vote for removal by requesting a special appeal meeting of the Society. The President, or Vice-President if the President is the officer being removed, shall notify all members of this meeting which is not to occur less than one week and not more than one month after the appeal request is received.
- B. The decision to repeal the vote for removal shall require at least a simple majority of the voting membership to attend the meeting and a simple majority vote of the members present at the meeting.

ARTICLE V

FACULTY ADVISOR

Section 1

Advisor Selection: The Advisor to this organization must be a member of the UND faculty or staff.

Section 2

Role of the Advisor

- A. The Advisor must co-sign all financial transactions of the organization.
- B. The Advisor shall regularly review the financial records of the organization.
- C. The Advisor shall assist the officers and the members in accomplishing the purpose of this organization.

ARTICLE VI

MEETINGS

Section 1

Meetings:

- A. business meetings of the organization shall be called by the President at least once a semester during the academic year.

B. Non-business meetings for the purpose of instruction, practice, or other activities shall be held upon one week notice to the members.

Section 2 Special Meetings:

- A. Special meetings may be called by the President upon one week notice to the members.
- B. The President shall call a special meeting when requested by 10% of the voting memers.

Section 3 Quorum:

- A. A quorum at business meetings shall consist of a simple majority of the voting membership.
- B. Quorum is not required to hold non-business meetings.

Section 4 Parliamentary Authority: The Parliamentary Authority for this organization shall be Robert’s Rules of Order, Newly Revised.

ARTICLE VII EXECUTIVE BOARD

Section 1 Responsibility: Management of this organization shall be vested in an Executive Committee responsible to the entire membership to uphold this constitution. A majority vote of this active Society members is sufficient to overturn a decision of the Executive Board.

Section 2 Membership: The members of the Executive Board shall be the four elected officers and the chairpersons of the committees.

Section 3 Meetings: The Executive Committee shall meet at least twice per semester

Section 4 Quorum: A quorum of this committee shall consist of at least 3 meetings

ARTICLE VIII COMMITTEES

Section 1 Committee Organization: Committees shall be organized to administer various phases of this Society.

Section 2 Authority to Establish Special Committees: The Executive Board shall, as the need arises, establish committees consisting of Society members at large. The President shall appoint Committee Chairpersons, to take effect upon approval of the Executive Board. The Treasurer shall chair any committee formed concerning the finances of the Society.

Section 3 Responsibility: All committee chairmen shall be immediately responsible to the Vice-President who shall coordinate the committees and shall assign to the committees any responsibilities delegated by the Executive Board.

ARTICLE IX ANNUAL MEETING

Section 1 Annual Meeting: The Annual Meeting shall be held in May of each year. The Treasurer shall report the status of the budget at that time. Officers for the next year shall be elected at this meeting. The newly elected officers shall assume their responsibilities on June 1st.

ARTICLE X FINANCIAL STRUCTURE

Section1 University Account:

- A. All funds from University sources must be deposited and maintained in a University of North Dakota account.
- B. The President and/or the Treasurer shall be authorized to sign all financial transactions dealing with organization funds.
- C. The Advisor of the organization must co-sign all financial transactions of the organization.
- D. The Financial records/ledger of the on-campus account must be submitted for an annual audit to the Coordinator of Student Organizations at the end of the Spring Semester.

Section 2 Dues: Dues will be determined by at least the amount of what is required by membership in the National organization. If the Society wants to increase the amount for local fundraising it shall be approved by a simple majority of the voting membership.

ARTICLE XI BYLAWS

Section 1 Provisions for Bylaws:

- A. Any active member of the Society may propose bylaws to this Constitution.

Section 2 Vote Required:

- A. Bylaws shall take effect upon approval of a majority of the active members.

ARTICLE XII AMENDMENTS

Section 1 Ratification

- A. Any active member of the Society may propose amendment to this constitution.
- B. Amendments shall take effect upon ratification by two-thirds of the active members.

Section 2

Approval by Student Policy Committee

- A. All amendments to this constitution shall be approved by the Students Policy Committee before they take effect.

BYLAWS

ARTICLE 1 ELECTIONS

Section 1 Election Procedure: Procedure of all elections of the Society shall be as follows:

- A. Two weeks before the election, the Secretary shall post notices announcing the upcoming election and application deadline on appropriate bulletin boards around the Law School. Any active member interested in elective office must notify the current President by the stated deadline. Any active member may run for the offices of Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer, with the office of President reserved for 2Ls and 3Ls only.
- B. The President shall prepare ballots with candidates' names, organized by the office they seek. Nomination from the floor shall only be if there are no candidates on the ballot.
- C. Each candidate on the ballot for President shall have four minutes to make a campaign speech. All other candidates on the ballot will have two minutes to make a campaign speech. The President shall time each speech.
- D. Each person desiring a ballot must first be verified by the Treasurer as an active member, whose dues are current, before receiving a ballot. No proxies shall be allowed. All voting is by secret ballot.
- E. All voting for the office of President shall take place before speeches and voting for the office of Vice-President and so on. The President shall excuse the candidates before each vote to allow the members to discuss the candidate's merits.
- F. The President and two active members, selected by those attending the meeting, shall tabulate the ballots. No write-in candidates shall be allowed. For any office a simple majority must be achieved. Absent a majority, a run-off election shall be conducted between the top two vote recipients. In the event of a tie, the President shall cast the deciding vote.
- G. No candidate for office shall preside over an election meeting.

RATIFICATION AND EFFECTIVE DATE

This Constitution shall take effect immediately. Each active member of the Society may receive a copy of the Constitution.

This Constitution was approved by the National Organization and the UND School of Law Federalist Society Executive Board on the 21st day of October, 2002.

[Signatures and Affiliation Letter Omitted]