

## Constitution/Bylaws

### **Article I:**

Official Name: Young Democrats' Club. Purpose: The purpose of the Young Democrats' Club is to offer a social and networking club for the student population. The club will focus on the Democrat Party in American Politics.

### **Article II:**

All students of Mesa State College (Grand Junction, Montrose, Bishop or any other campuses) are eligible for membership. Any student interested in membership may contact the club via e-mail, or by attending a meeting. All meetings are open to any student or faculty member of Mesa State College. Benefits of membership include, but are not limited to: networking, and opportunities for internships. The Young Democrats' Club does not guarantee a placement for internship, nor that an internship will be approved by a student's advisor, instead creates a database for internships made available to our members. Membership also gives members access to the Mesa County Democrats and the possibility of expanding to other area Democrats to assist members not on the Grand Junction campus or that are leaving Mesa County after graduation. For the 2010 – 2011 school year, there are no fees or dues for members, unless the club decides to participate in activities through the year which will be discussed with members during a general meeting. Shirts will be ordered for this year's members, and the cost will be passed on to the members or covered in fundraising. To be a member in good standing of the Young Democrats' Club, members will need to be in Good Standing or Probation with Mesa State College. Members are asked to consider completing at least 4 (four) hours of community service each semester, except officers who are asked to complete 8 (eight) hours. This will not be required for the 2010 – 2011 school year, but suggested to keep the Young Democrats' Club, and Mesa State College in the community.

### **Article III:**

The list of club officers are as follows: President, Vice President, Treasurer & Secretary. Duties will be as follows for each:

**President**– As President, this position will be a Public Relations type position. The President will be at the meetings, both general and officer meetings. The President will work with the other officers to plan meetings, activities, and will work with outside organizations to spread the Young Democrats' Club to outside contacts, such as Mesa County Democrats. The President will work closely with the Faculty Advisor for the club. The President will step in as the Club Advisory Board representative if the Treasurer is not able to attend. Both the President and Vice President will need to sign money request forms for events and/or reimbursement. For the 2010 – 2011 school year, the President position will be filled by the person that starts the club, unless asked to step down by a majority of other officers due to neglect or misconduct, or resigns. If

this position becomes vacant during the school year, a ballot vote will be done to fill the position from candidates. There are no term limits for this office.

**Vice President** – As Vice President, this position will be a Public Relations type position as well. The Vice President will attend meetings, both general and officer meetings. The Vice President will work with the other officers to plan meetings, activities, and will work with outside organizations to spread the Young Democrats' Club to outside contacts. The Vice President will also work closely with the Faculty Advisor for the club. The Vice President will also assume the role of running the meetings based on the approved agenda from the other officers. Both the President and Vice President will need to sign money request forms for events and/or reimbursement. For the 2010 – 2011 school year, the role of Vice President will be chosen by ballot after the club's first meeting of the Fall 2010 Semester. Candidates will be asked to speak at the first meeting, with the club members voting. All interested candidates will need to submit a letter of interest two days prior to the first meeting. This person will fill the position until the Fall of 2011, when elections will take place for all officers, unless asked to step down by a majority of other officers due to neglect or misconduct, or resigns. If this position becomes vacant during the school year, a ballot vote will be done to fill the position from candidates. There are no term limits for this office.

**Treasurer** – As Treasurer, the person holding this position will keep track of the Young Democrats Club's balance with Mesa State College. This person will be in charge of reporting any donations we receive in fundraising or from external parties. The Treasurer should be ready to report balances to the officers at every Officer Meeting. The Treasurer will be responsible for filling out requests for money for events or to reimburse (to be signed by both the President and Vice President). The Treasurer will attend all meetings both general and officer meetings. The Treasurer will assume the role of CAB Rep. For the 2010 – 2011 school year, the role of Treasurer will be chosen by ballot after the club's first meeting of the Fall 2010 Semester. Candidates will be asked to speak at the first meeting, with the club members voting. All interested candidates will need to submit a letter of interest two days prior to the first meeting. This person will fill the position until the Fall of 2011, when elections will take place for all officers, unless asked to step down by a majority of other officers due to neglect or misconduct, or resigns. If this position becomes vacant during the school year, a ballot vote will be done to fill the position from candidates. There are no term limits for this office.

**Secretary** – As the Secretary, the person holding this position will be in charge of advertising and promotion of the club for general meetings and activities. The Secretary will also be in charge of taking notes from general meetings and forwarding them to the members via e-mail. The Secretary will also be in charge of any Facebook, Twitter or other social networking page created for the club. The Secretary will attend all meetings both general and officer meetings. For the 2010 – 2011 school year, the role of Secretary will be chosen by ballot after the club's first meeting of the Fall 2010 Semester. Candidates will be asked to speak at the first meeting, with the club members voting. All interested candidates will need to submit a letter of interest two days prior to the first meeting. This person will fill the position until the Fall of 2011, when

elections will take place for all officers, unless asked to step down by a majority of other officers due to neglect or misconduct, or resigns. If this position becomes vacant during the school year, a ballot vote will be done to fill the position from candidates. There are no term limits for this office.

**Impeachment:** the start of impeachment for any officer is started by a majority vote by the other officers (see officer descriptions). Once this happens, a general assembly meeting of the members, including officers will be called. If less than 10 members are present, the meeting will need to be rescheduled. The officers voting for impeachment will state their case to the general assembly. The officer up for impeachment will also state their case to the general assembly. The following will be the options for voting: 1) Impeach but remain in position, 2) Impeach and be removed from position or 3) No impeachment. All members of the general membership excluding officers will vote in secrecy. The majority of the votes will determine if the officer is impeached, and if the officer is impeached, if they will be removed or not. Reasons for impeachment are as follows, and may be amended by following Article VII: Embezzlement (which will be handled according to school policy), threats of harm, intimidation during voting, blatant neglect for the position and club, and misconduct.

The Young Democrats' Club recognizes that its officers and members are potentially members of other clubs/student body organizations. This is encouraged and no officer or member will be dismissed due to participation in other school activities. Officers may hold officer positions with other clubs.

#### **Article IV:**

For the 2010 – 2011 school year, there will be no board of directors, executive committee, or council for the Young Democrats' Club. The officers of the club will work with the Faculty Advisor for guidance in this area.

For terms of office and authority limits of each officer, see the officer description in Article III.

#### **Article V:**

Officer Meetings will occur twice per month, with at least 3 (three) of the 4 (four) officers present. General Meetings will occur twice per month, with at least 3 (three) of the 4 (four) officers present, and any number of members present. The date and time of the meetings will be determined by the officers based on availability and also requests from members. Any extra activities can constitute as an official business meeting, as long as role is called and basic meeting information is recorded (i.e. information on upcoming events, meetings, current balance of account, and participants logged).

The Young Democrats' Club reserves the right to request rooms for speakers to come to Mesa State College. When these speakers are present, no official club business will occur.

#### **Article VI:**

As of drafting of the constitution and bylaws, there are currently no committees. It will be left up to the officers to amend the constitution with a majority vote of members during a general member meeting to form a committee (officers will be permitted to vote). If a committee is needed, 5 (five) volunteers will be selected to lead the committee, and the President will make take place of the 6<sup>th</sup> (sixth) person. The President will not have a vote in the committee, instead will be there to offer advice, receive advice, and work with the committee.

**Article VII:**

Amendments to the constitution and bylaws will follow this procedure:

Any requested amendments to the constitution will be submitted to the Secretary of the Young Democrats' Club. Members of the club may contact one of the officers to request an amendment. The officer will work with the member to draft the amendment. The Secretary will then make the requested amendment available to the general members and to the officers. The amendment will be reviewed as submitted for one week, followed by a preliminary vote. The amendment, as written must pass a 2/3 majority of all members, including officers (as defined by the e-mail list). The amendment will then be ratified by the Officers with two different options, neither of which will show biased for or against the amendment. The ratified options will then be submitted to the entire club by the Secretary for another vote. A one week time frame will be given to vote. 60% of the membership (as defined by the e-mail list), including officers, must approve one or the other of the amendments for it to become an amendment to the constitution and/or bylaws. Only Officers or the Faculty Advisor may submit amendments for the officer positions. All other articles may have the amendment request come from any member of the club.

The Young Democrats' Club will, without going to vote of the general members, amend the constitution and bylaws with the signatures of new officers as they are appointed.

**Article VIII:**

Dissolution of the Young Democrats' Club –in the event of the dissolution of the Young Democrats' Club, either by order from the Club Advisory Board and/or an 85% majority vote by the members of the club (including officers), any funds in the club's account will go into an inactive account to be set aside for a future Young Democrats' Club.

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Jeremy M Watson, President Date

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Dr. John Redifer, Faculty Advisor Date