

Big 10 Student Sustainability Association
Founding Charter
DRAFT

Mission Statement:

The Big 10 Student Sustainability Association will advocate for environmentally sustainable policies and promote a cooperative response to climate change across the Big 10 Conference.

Article I - General Statements

- Section 1: The official name of this organization shall be the Big 10 Student Sustainability Association, hereinafter referred to as BTSSA.
- Section 2: BTSSA shall abide by the applicable rules and policies of each Big 10 member school pertaining to student organizations.
- Section 3: BTSSA shall not provide monetary gain, incidentally or otherwise, to its officers.
- Section 4: BTSSA may maintain central finances independent of its member student organizations to serve its operational needs.
- Section 5: Member organizations of BTSSA shall endeavor to understand and accurately represent the interests and concerns of students at their school.

Article II - Membership

- Section 1: BTSSA shall be governed by representatives of each member school in the Big 10 Conference. The member organizations of each Big 10 member school shall appoint one (1) representative, who shall have one (1) vote .
- Section 2: The member organizations include:
1. Michigan State University: Sustainable Spartans
 2. Northwestern University: Associated Student Government
 3. Ohio State: Undergraduate Student Government
 4. Penn State: Penn State Net Impact Undergraduate
 5. Purdue University:
 6. Rutgers University: Students for Environmental Awareness
 7. University of Illinois: Student Sustainability Committee
 8. University of Indiana:
 9. University of Iowa:
 10. University of Maryland: Student Government Association
 11. University of Michigan: Student Sustainability Initiative
 12. University of Minnesota: Minnesota Student Association
 13. University of Nebraska: Association of Students of the University of Nebraska
 14. University of Wisconsin Associated Students of Madison

Article III - Meetings

- Section 1: Representatives to BTSSA shall meet at least once a month, excluding the month of July.
- Section 2: Notice of each meeting shall be made to representatives within at least one (1) week.

Article IV - Officers

- Section 1: Representatives shall elect the following officers: President, Vice-President, and Secretary.
- Section 2: The election of officers shall require a majority vote of representatives and shall occur no later than the May meeting of representatives.
- Section 3: The term of an officer shall last, at most, from the time of his or her election to the May meeting of representatives.
- Section 4: In the case of resignation or removal from office of the President, the Vice-President shall assume control for the remainder of the original term. An election shall be held for a new Vice-President at the following meeting of representatives.
- Section 5: In the case of resignation or removal from office of the Vice-President, Secretary, or Treasurer, the President may appoint an interim representative to the role. An election shall be held for the vacant roles at the following meeting of representatives.

Article V - Duty of Officers

- Section 1: The duties of the President include, but are not limited to:
1. Organizing the date, time, place and manner of all meetings of representatives.
 2. Presiding over meetings of representatives.
 3. Creating agendas for all meetings.
 4. Managing the organization's finances,
 - a. All expenditures shall be subject to approval by a majority vote of representatives.
- Section 2: The duties of the Vice-President include, but are not limited to:
1. Coordinating the roles and tasks assigned to representatives between meetings.
 2. Communicating with the Association of Big Ten Students (ABTS).
- Section 3: The duties of the Secretary include, but are not limited to:
1. Taking minutes during meetings of representatives.
 2. Maintaining and updating the BTSSA website.

Article VI - Removal from Office

- Section 1: Any representative may propose the impeachment of an officer at any meeting. Cause for removal from an office shall be a clear neglect of duties.
1. Overriding all other items on a proposed agenda, the impeachment shall be the first item of business.
 2. The impeacher shall be allocated ample time to state their arguments in favor of impeachment.
 3. The officer recommended for impeachment shall be allocated ample time to respond to the arguments.
 4. Following this shall be a vote, which requires a three-fourths vote for removal.

Article VII - Bylaws

- Section 1: BTSSA may adopt such bylaws as two-thirds of representatives deem necessary.

Article VIII - Amendments

- Section 1: Amendments to and of this charter may be proposed at any meeting of BTSSA, after serving previous written notice to all representatives within two (2) weeks of the meeting.
- Section 2: Amendments must be approved by a three-fourths majority of representatives to be adopted.

Article IX - Ratification

- Section 1: This charter shall be ratified upon appointment of a representative of each founding member group followed by a consenting vote of three-fourths of the representatives.