

Adopted December 8, 2021

Title I: YDSA Binghamton Code of Conduct

ARTICLE I: Purpose

1. This Code of Conduct will set out basic rules for maintaining respectful and free discussion and conduct on Binghamton YDSA forums and at Binghamton YDSA events and meetings and between Binghamton YDSA members and non-member observers and for appropriately representing Binghamton YDSA internally and externally.

ARTICLE II: Jurisdiction

1. This Code of Conduct will apply to any and all digital or telecommunication associated with the Binghamton YDSA Chapter, to all in-person or online events and meetings of the chapter, and to any events, interviews, media appearances, or other happenings in which a member is acting in the capacity of representing or indicating representation of the Chapter.

ARTICLE III: Meetings and Events

1. All meeting and event attendees, members or non-members, will conduct themselves in a polite and comradely manner, will refrain from interrupting the recognized speaker, and will respect the office and rulings of the chair, or other presiding officer.
2. The Chair or presiding officer will maintain order during the course of a meeting using the standard rules of recognizing speakers as per the most recent edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, with the exception that the presiding officer may take a stack or direct another officer or member to keep a stack that preserves order in the same fashion as otherwise, going first to the mover of a motion, then alternating between speakers and against a motion, allowing for all members to speak once before any member speaks twice. The presiding officer shall not implement any other restrictions on the order of speakers.
3. Members will address each other in a respectful manner, without personalizing arguments or making political disagreement. Members shall operate under the presumption of good faith and shall not levy accusations against other members of subversion, nor label other members with pejoratives.
4. Members will meet disagreement over political matters with respect, and shall not attempt to exclude political positions from being heard, though members may argue with passion and reason for their own position and against any other, so long as they conduct themselves in a comradely and respectful manner.
5. Members shall participate in discussion under the understanding and expectation that their positions are their own and that any such position that may be taken may be criticized or disagreed with by another member.
6. No person shall record a meeting or event of the Chapter, Central Committee, or any Committee of the Chapter, without the express approval of both the majority of

Membership and the majority of the Central Committee. This shall have no effect on the duty of the Secretary or recording officer to take minutes.

7. Any non-member observer attending a meeting or event of the Chapter or any sub-body of the Chapter shall be subject to the same rules and behavior as members, except that their participation in the meeting may be limited by vote of the present membership or by standing rule, bylaw, or by the Constitution of the Chapter.

ARTICLE IV: Telecommunications

1. The Chapter shall maintain at least two digital Forums open to both members and non-members:
 - a. The Chapter shall maintain a General Announcements Forum, in which officers and members of the Chapter may post relevant and informative announcements about the Chapter or related matters of business.
 - b. The Chapter shall maintain an Open Forum dedicated to political discussion and debate, in which members may post political opinions, endorse or oppose positions for the chapter to take, engage in friendly discussion, or may post other short notes of social or entertainment value.
2. Members and non-members shall refrain from posting irrelevant content in the general announcements forum and shall keep it clear so that matters of business can be communicated efficiently.
 - a. Members and non-members may post an introduction message in the General Announcements Forum on the occasion that they have recently joined the Chapter or have not yet joined the general announcements forum.
 - b. Members may make announcements in the General Announcements Forum as they directly pertain to the chapter, events hosted by the Chapter, YDSA National or events held thereby, of business relating to the functions of the Binghamton University Student Association, or campaign materials for internal elections within the chapter.
 - c. Members and non-members may respond to any announcements made in the General Announcements Forum with relevant questions, or may ask questions directly pertaining to any aspect of the Chapter or any of the considerations for which members may make announcements in that General Announcements Forum.
3. In all Forums and Telecommunications, members and non-members will address each other in a respectful manner, without personalizing arguments or matters of political disagreement. Members and non-members shall operate under the presumption of good faith, and shall not levy accusations against other members of subversion, nor label other members with pejoratives.
4. The Open Forum shall be a free space for any member or non-member to respectfully present their political or personal positions and defend them with passion and reason or disagree with the position of any other member or non-member in a respectful manner

and without discouraging any member or non-member from presenting and articulating their position.

5. Members and non-members shall participate in the Open Forum, and any other Forum in which they may present their political or personal positions under the understanding and expectation that their positions are their own and that any such position that may be taken may be criticized or disagreed with by any other member.
6. No person shall record a meeting or event of the Chapter, Central Committee, or any Committee of the Chapter, without the express approval of both the majority of Membership and the majority of the Central Committee. This shall have no effect on the duty of the Secretary or recording officer to take minutes.
7. No person shall record, archive, or disseminate the contents of any of the following confidential digital communications of the Chapter, Central Committee, or any Committee of the Chapter, without the express approval of two-thirds of the members or non-members whose contributions have been collected or disseminated: the majority of Membership and the majority of the Central Committee, excepting the reposting of information sent out by the chapter in one public medium to another for the purposes of informing the membership of information already available, or the collection of evidence for the purposes of investigating a duly submitted grievance pursuant to Resolution 33, a Student Association Grievance, or a formal complaint filed to the Central Committee, Membership, or delegated body, but that such evidence shall be handled with sufficient care for the protection of the integrity of such investigations, for the protection of the integrity of the due process, and the protection of privacy to an appropriate level, especially with regard to members or non-members not under investigation, whose contributions may be inspected with the evidence.
8. Any non-member participating in any forums or receiving any communications from the Chapter or any subsidiary of the Chapter shall be subject to the same rules and behavior as members, except that their participation in the forum may be limited by discretion of the Central Committee or a delegated officer, by vote of the membership, or by standing rule, by-law, or by the Constitution of the Chapter.

Article V: Representing the Chapter

1. Any member shall be deemed to be Representing the Chapter at any time in which that member acts in a capacity that satisfies any of the following: the member is in attendance at a function of the Chapter, or of any body of YDSA, the Binghamton University Student Association, or the University; the member is elected or appointed to a leadership position in the Chapter, including, but not limited to as a member of the Central Committee, as a Harassment and Grievance Officer, or as an officer of a Committee; the member is operating, posting, or otherwise providing content for official media of the Chapter, either on online social media platforms or on any newsletters, publications, or other materials the Chapter may create; or the member otherwise asserts specific speech or action on behalf of the chapter.

2. Any member shall be deemed to be Indicating Representation of the Chapter at any time in which that member declares or is publicly known to be acting as a member of the Chapter and not deemed to be Representing the Chapter.
3. Any member shall be deemed to be Acting Personally at any time in which that member is neither Representing the Chapter nor Indicating Representation.
4. No member or non-member shall publicly or privately act in Representation of the Chapter without authorization of the chapter, whether by vote, election to office in the Chapter, delegation of such a task by any body of the Chapter, or other form of clear democratic expression of the will of the Chapter.
5. All members Representing the Chapter shall conduct themselves in a comradely and respectful manner, and shall not do so in such a way that contradicts the values and decisions of the Chapter and its members.
6. Members Indicating Representation of the chapter shall conduct themselves in a comradely and respectful manner and shall retain the right to dissent from the official positions of the Chapter, but shall make every effort to clarify where their actions and speech is indicative of Chapter policy and where it is a matter of personal position.
7. Members Acting Personally shall present themselves in a comradely and respectful fashion.

Article VI: Explicitly Prohibited Behaviors

1. Engaging in the unauthorized disclosure of confidential information of the Chapter, any function or body of the Chapter, or any member or group of members of the chapter is explicitly prohibited for all members and non-member observers.
2. It is explicitly prohibited for any member or non-member observer to make a true threat against any person, group of persons, or organization.
3. Any non-member or observer found to have engaged in any explicitly prohibited behaviors as set forth in this Article shall be permanently disqualified from membership in the Chapter and shall be removed from all functions, events, forums, and telecommunications of the Chapter.
4. Any member found to have engaged in any explicitly prohibited behaviors as set forth in this Article shall be permanently expelled from membership in the Chapter and may not petition for readmission. Any such member found to have engaged in such behaviors shall be removed from all functions, events, forums, and telecommunications of the Chapter.

Article VII: Due Process

1. Any member may file a written complaint regarding the violation of any part of this Code of Conduct (Title I of the Bylaws) to any member of the Central Committee or to a Harassment and Grievance Officer (HGO), who shall then transmit the complaint in a

confidential medium to the Central Committee, and recorded by the Secretary or an Acting Secretary if the Secretary is party to the complaint.

2. The Central Committee or HGO shall notify any member against whom a complaint has been filed of the alleged violation(s), and of the rights afforded to the member.
3. Following the notification of all parties, the Central Committee shall appoint a Special Investigatory Committee of no fewer than three (3) members, which shall be tasked with investigating the facts and circumstances pertinent to the complaint, and which shall assess which rules may have been violated. The Special Investigatory Committee shall produce a report detailing the assessed charges and evidence found by the Committee, and submit such a report to the Secretary, or Acting Secretary as necessary.
4. The Secretary or Acting Secretary shall within twenty-four (24) hours submit a confidential copy of the report to the Central Committee, and to each party to the complaint.
5. The Central Committee shall convene itself *in camera*, but with the presence of all parties to the complaint no more than seven (7) days after the receipt of the report, but no less than two (2) days from that receipt.
 - a. The Investigatory Committee shall present its findings to the Central Committee and address questions raised by the Central Committee or by the party against whom the complaint has been made, or the proxy of that party.
 - b. The party against which the complaint has been filed or their designated proxy shall have the opportunity to present a defense to the Central Committee, and shall address questions raised by the Central Committee and the Investigatory Committee.
 - c. The Central Committee shall then deliberate on the findings *in camera*, without the parties to the complaint or the representatives of the Investigatory Committee for no less than ten (10) but no more than twenty (20) minutes, and shall then determine appropriate disciplinary action, possibly including censure, suspension, or expulsion, or some other disciplinary recommendation as fits the nature of any violations.
6. At any time after the receipt of a complaint, all parties to a complaint may suspend proceedings or agree to mediation by a mediator not party to the complaint, mutually accepted by all parties, and approved by the Central Committee, who shall assist in resolving the matter, and shall report any resolution to the Central Committee. During the process of mediation, any party may request to return to formal disciplinary proceedings or may suggest to the other parties an alternative mediator for approval to the Central Committee.

Article VIII: Conflicts of Interest

1. Any member party to a complaint of violation of this Code of Conduct shall recuse themselves from any official role in the adjudication of that complaint and shall abstain from any vote on which that complaint is decided.
2. Members of the press, candidates for political office and their paid staff, or elected officials and their paid staff shall disclose their capacities in such roles to the membership of the organization.
3. Candidates for public office or elected officials, and their paid staff shall recuse themselves from any votes or deliberations pertaining to the Chapter's support of them or their campaigns.
4. Members are encouraged to disclose all conflicts of interest as they arise and recuse themselves from pertinent business appropriately.
5. A member may query the membership or appropriate committee when they are engaged in a potential conflict of interest, and the body may undertake an advisory vote in settling the matter.

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