

CONSTITUTION

NWFSC STARS (Students & Technology in Academia, Research & Service) Leadership Corp.

PREAMBLE

The purpose of the **NWFSC STARS Leadership Corp** organization is to increase the participation of women, under-represented minorities, and persons with disabilities in computing disciplines through multi-faceted interventions. The interventions focus on the influx and progression of students from middle school through graduate school in programs that lead to computing careers. The Alliance is organized as a national constellation of regional stars that include research universities, minority and women's universities and colleges, K-12 educators, industry, professional organizations, and community groups. Stars implement "best practices" interventions with an integrated focus to:

- **Recruit and retain** under-represented populations in post-secondary computing programs and increase awareness of computing disciplines and careers. Bridge student readiness for computing and increase the number of undergraduates who enter computing graduate school or the workforce.
- **Advance** assistant professors by increasing faculty peer and mentor support for research, teaching, and managing service.
- **Sustain and institutionalize** effective BPC practices at alliance institutions.
- **Disseminate** and increase national awareness of effective BPC practices.

ARTICLE I: NAME AND AFFILIATION

The name of this organization shall be **NWFSC STARS (Students & Technology in Academia, Research & Service) Leadership Corp**. It will be affiliated with Northwest Florida State College as a student organization, accepting members as outlined in Article II.

ARTICLE II: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: A (regular) member in good standing in **NWFSC STARS Leadership Corp** must be a currently-enrolled student with a minimum NWFSC cumulative grade-point average of 2.0.

Section 2: **NWFSC STARS Leadership Corp** does not discriminate in its membership selection on the basis of age, color, creed, handicap, marital status, national origin, race, religion, or sex.

Section 3: Membership in **NWFSC STARS Leadership Corp** shall be granted, but not limited to any student pursuing a program of study in Computer Information Science, Information Technology, or Mathematics.

Section 4: A members whose cumulative GPA at NWFSC falls below 2.0 will be placed on inactive status and denied active membership privileges until such time as his/her cumulative GPA is raised to 2.0 or better.

Section 5: Should the cumulative GPA of **NWFSC STARS Leadership Corp's** regular membership fall below 2.0 **NWFSC STARS Leadership Corp** will be placed on social probation for a minimum of one semester, should the cumulative GPA of the membership not be raised to 2.0 or better after one semester **NWFSC STARS Leadership Corp** will become inactive for a minimum of one semester. After one semester on inactive status **NWFSC STARS Leadership Corp**, upon its membership re-establishing a 2.0 cumulative GPA or better, **NWFSC STARS Leadership Corp** may petition the Director of Student Services for renewal of active status.

ARTICLE III: OFFICERS AND DUTIES

Section 1: **NWFSC STARS Leadership Corp** will have the following officers:

1. President
2. Vice-President
3. Secretary

Only students in good academic and disciplinary standing may serve as officers.

Section 2: The duties of each officer are as follows:

President:

- A. The president shall be the chief executive officer
- B. The president shall appoint all committee chairpersons
- C. The president, with approval of the executive board, directs the budget
- D. Vacancies in offices will be filled by appointment of the President with approval of the general membership.

Vice - President:

- A. The vice president shall be the parliamentarian for the organization.
- B. The vice president shall assume the duties of the president should the office become vacant, or in the absence of the president.
- C. The vice president will keep and have available current copies of the constitution and bylaws.
- D. The vice president will be responsible for scheduling programs.

Secretary:

- A. The secretary shall be responsible for keeping the minutes of all meetings and the meetings of the executive board.
- B. The secretary will provide a copy of the minutes for each officer and keep a master file.
- C. The secretary shall maintain a complete and accurate account of attendance and membership status.
- D. The secretary is responsible for submitting minutes from each meeting to NWFSC's Coordinator of Student Activities.

Section 3: Officers are required to maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0 or better during their period of services.

Section 4: Officer Election and Removal

- All club officers shall be elected **annually** and will serve a term of *year to year*).
- Officer elections will consist of the following process:
 - A. Nomination process

- B. Elections
- C. Run-off elections, if necessary

In the event an officer is judged to be deficient in his/her duties (as determined by a unanimous agreement of the remaining executive officers and advisor), he/she may be removed by a two-thirds vote of the active organization membership. The advisor shall oversee the process of removal from office.

ARTICLE IV: ADVISOR

Section 1: The advisor must be a member of the College faculty or administrative staff whose appointment to serve as advisor is jointly approved by the Dean of Students and the Vice President of Instruction.

Section 2: The advisor will serve in an advisory capacity to **NWFSC STARS Leadership Corp** and he/she or his/her designated faculty representative will attend all meeting and functions of **NWFSC STARS Leadership Corp**. In addition, the advisor will keep the Student Activities Coordinator advised of the named of all officers of **NWFSC STARS Leadership Corp**.

Section 3: If at any time **NWFSC STARS Leadership Corp** is without a properly deigned advisor, the membership will meet only for the purpose of selecting a new advisor for nomination to the Dean of Students.

Section 4:

The advisor shall/will:

- A. assist the group in their execution of roles and responsibilities.
- B. provide feedback to the organization regarding its operation and functioning.
- C. serve as a resource.
- D. provide advice upon request, and also should share knowledge, expertise, and experience with the group.
- E. be a nonvoting member of the organization.

ARTICLE V: MEETINGS

Section 1: **NWFSC STARS Leadership Corp** will meet monthly at the NWFSC Niceville Campus on the second Thursday of each month in building P (room TBD).

ARTICLE VI: RULES OF PROCEDURES

Section 1: Roberts' Rules of Order will be used as a guide for operational procedures at formal business meetings.

Section 2: A quorum will consist of a majority of the currently-enrolled members.

Section 3: All matters of question shall be decided by a majority vote of the members present at a regular or special meeting, provided a Quorum of the membership is present.

Section 4: All decision of the membership are subject to review and approval by the advisor.

ARTICLE VI: HAZING POLICY

There will be no hazing of members or pledges. Hazing for the purpose of pledging, initiation, admission into, affiliation with, or as a condition for maintaining membership in a group, organization or team shall be defined as:

1. Any intentional, knowing or reckless act, whether on or off campus, which endangers the mental or physical health or safety of any person, regardless of consent, or which violates public law or college policy.
2. Hazing includes, but is not limited to:
 - a. Any physical brutality such as whipping, beating, striking, paddling, branding, placing of a harmful substance on the body, or similar activity;
 - b. Any physical activity such as sleep deprivation, exposure to the elements, confinement, calisthenics; quests, treasure hunts, scavenger hunts, road trips or any other such activities carried on outside the confines of the Campus; wearing apparel which is conspicuous and not normally in good taste; engaged in public stunts and buffoonery, morally degrading or humiliating games and activities; late work sessions which interfere with scholastic activities; or other activity that subjects a student to risk of harm, or that adversely affects the mental or physical health or safety of a student;
 - c. Any activity involving consumption of food, liquid, alcoholic beverage, drug, or substance that subjects a student to risk of harm, or that adversely affects the mental or physical health or safety of a student;
 - d. Any activity that intimidates or threatens a student with ostracism, subjects a student to extreme mental stress, shame or humiliation, or adversely affects the mental health or dignity of a student, or that may reasonably be expected to cause a student to leave the organization or institution rather than submit to acts described above; and,
 - e. Any activity, in which a person solicits, plans, encourages, directs, aids, or attempts to aid another in hazing or intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly permits hazing to occur and/or knowingly fails to report the incident.
 - f. Any other activities which are not consistent with the regulations and policies of the College.