

**Constitution for
PRIDE
(People Recognizing Individual Diversity and Equality)
at UNC Charlotte**

Article I: Club/Organization Name

This Constitution establishes People Recognizing Individual Diversity and Equality or PRIDE at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. This will be the official name and acronym used to refer to our group on and off campus among ourselves and other organizations.

Article II: Purpose

Section I: PRIDE shall have as its primary purpose to promote education and awareness of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered, queer, and intersex issues to the UNC Charlotte community. It will be a safe place for students and their allies.

Section II: PRIDE is willing to abide by all UNC Charlotte policies and guidelines relating to on or off campus activities which our club may sponsor or in which we may participate.

Article III: Membership

Section I: Any student in good standing (both academic and judicial) with UNC Charlotte can become a member of PRIDE. There are no restrictions to being a member of PRIDE. A person can become a member by showing up at a meeting and expressing an interest in the group. If the person is still interested after attending a meeting, that person must pay any dues that have been determined for voting membership for that term. Failure to pay dues will result in a person no longer being considered a voting member of PRIDE.

Section II: . Dues will be set at \$5.00 per student per semester. Dues are not refundable.

Section III: Any member of PRIDE can, at any time, voluntarily withdraw their membership from the club/organization.

Section IV: A member can be removed by a unanimous vote by the executive council and advisor.

Section V: In keeping with UNC Charlotte's policy of nondiscrimination, PRIDE does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, sexual orientation, and physical or mental ability or disability. In addition, PRIDE does not discriminate on the basis of gender identity or gender expression.

Article IV: Officers

Section I: PRIDE shall be governed by five officers although the club/organization reserves the right to create other positions upon demand (ad-hoc). Officially, these five officers will be called the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and First-Year Liaison. These officers, the faculty advisors, and any ad-hoc positions created by PRIDE will comprise the executive committee of PRIDE. Any other committees will be created also ad-hoc based on recommendations made to the executive committee by the membership of PRIDE.

Section II: The President of PRIDE shall:

- Be the primary contact for PRIDE to faculty, students, and administration.
- Prepare a master plan for the semester's activities and distribute to the appropriate persons.
- Call regular meetings for the whole group along with separate meetings for the executive board.
- Serve as the representative for the organization to university meetings such as SAFC workshops, Inter-Club

Council, and others as deemed appropriate. If unable to attend, the President will assign a representative to attend in **their** place.

- Work closely with the group's advisor and with others who might help the organization.
- Run all organization meetings consistent with Robert's Rules of Order.
- Attend all executive and organizational meetings.

Section III: The Vice President of PRIDE shall:

- Take over the President's responsibilities when **they are** unable to carry out **their** duties.
- Run all executive meetings consistent with Robert's Rules of Order.
- Attend all executive and organizational meetings.
- Work to develop collaborative programs and relationships with Charlotte **LGBTQI** organizations.

Section IV: The Secretary of PRIDE shall:

- Record and keep accurate records including **minutes, phone lists, email lists, etc.**
- Read or distribute copies of the minutes to all members of the organization and advisors.
- Prepare copies of the constitution and relevant policies for all members at the beginning of each year and for new members throughout the year.
- Send correspondence for the organization, keeping a copy for the organization's files.
- Prepare an agenda for each organizational meeting with the input of other executive committee members.
- **Maintain and regularly update PRIDE's website.**

Section V: The Treasurer of PRIDE shall:

- Work closely with the SAFC business manager on all club funding issues.
- Coordinate PRIDE's fundraising efforts. Groups are required to raise 15% of the budget allocated from SGA.
- Get advisor's signature on all documents.
- Coordinate the contracting process when called for. Planning at least 6 weeks in advance for any contracts that need to be signed.
- Keep track of all transactions.
- Prepare the yearly budget for the organization which will be submitted to the SGA Ways and Means committee once per year.
- Pay all bills promptly.

Section VI: The First-Year Liaison of PRIDE shall:

- **Oversee recruitment efforts especially targeting First-Year students.**
- **Attend all executive and organizational meetings.**
- **Coordinate community service efforts for PRIDE.**

Article V: Function/Operation

Section I: Officers are elected by a simple majority of voting members. Any current member of the club/organization who has paid **their dues for the semester is considered a voting member and is eligible to be an officer of the club/organization.**

Section II: Nominations are held 2 weeks prior to the election. Any current voting member of the club/organization who has paid **their dues for the semester is eligible to make nominations.**

Section III: The vote will be by secret ballot with the advisor counting the votes.

Section IV: Officers will serve one year terms. Elections for the offices of President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer will be held during the second week of April of each school year. The election for the office of First-Year Liason will be held the 4th PRIDE meeting of the Fall Semester.

Section V: Officers can be impeached by 2/3 affirmative vote of the voting members. Officers can be impeached for failure to comply with above mentioned duties or by falling from good standing with the university.

Section VI: Voting will take place only if quorum is present. Quorum is defined as 51% of voting members present.

Section VII: Officers may resign by submitting a formal letter of resignation to the advisor of PRIDE.

Section VIII: In the event of a vacant office, the Executive Committee reserves the right to temporarily fill the position until a special election can be held. Special elections will follow the same guidelines as Article V, sections I, II, and III. The newly elected officer will hold the position for the remainder of the year.

Section IX: The role of PRIDE's advisor shall be:

- Attend all PRIDE meetings and functions.
- Sign all required university documents.
- Work to secure corporate sponsorship for the group.
- Provide feedback and assistance when called upon by the organization.

Article VI: Finances

Section I: PRIDE plans to finance its activities through collection of dues from all members, solicitation of corporate sponsorships, requesting funds from the Student Government Association, and fundraising activities that will be determined by the group each semester.

Article VII: Constitutional Amendments

Section I: Amendments can be proposed by any voting member of the organization.

Section II: Rules regarding the proposal of amendments are as follows:

- Proposals will be presented one week prior to being voted upon by the organization.

Section III: The amendments shall be voted on by all voting members of the organization. Amendments must be approved by 2/3rds of the voting body.