

University of Louisville
Student Advocates for Peace and Justice
Constitution

Article I: Name

- A. The Name of this organization shall be Student Advocates for Peace and Justice (SAPJ).

Article II: Mission Statement

- A. The Student Advocates for Peace and Justice (SAPJ) of the University of Louisville seeks to:
- a. Encourage peacebuilding efforts on and around the University of Louisville.
 - b. Provide opportunities for students of the University of Louisville to gain a sense of positive peace efforts.
 - c. Foster a sense of community that incorporates and promotes conversation and dialogue aimed at peacebuilding* (see below).
 - d. Work with the Peace, Justice & Conflict Transformation program to increasing awareness of efforts of peacebuilding on and around the University of Louisville.

Article III: Membership

All students who are engaged in the Peace, Justice & Conflict Transformation program are considered members of the SAPJ.

- A. Any current University of Louisville student may apply for the Student Advocates for Peace and Justice organization. “The membership of this organization shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, gender or gender expression, religion, age, nationality, political affiliation, sexual orientation or affectation, military status, or physical, mental or emotional disability, except as provided by federal law.” As such they must be willing to:
- a. Attend scheduled meetings proposed in the beginning of each academic year.
 - b. Work to create safe spaces that encourage advocacy and peacebuilding.
 - c. Attend any events hosted by SAPJ and are also encouraged to attend Peace, Justice & Conflict Transformation programing.
- B. Non-students may apply for SAPJ as well. “The membership of this organization shall not exceed 50% non-student members.”

Article IV: Organization of Officers

Initially, the faculty advisor will appoint the president and treasurer. After the first year, students within SAPJ and students pursuing the Peace, Justice & Conflict Transformation certificate will vote to select these and any other officers that may be added.

- A. Duties of Appointed President:
- a. Oversee SAPJ and help to promote effective peacebuilding initiatives.
 - b. Work closely with the faculty advisor in creating inclusive events of peacebuilding.

- c. Attend RSO meetings once per year as required by the Office of Student Activities.
- d. Delegate and task members of the organizations to create graphic design for advertisement of activities and programs.
- e. Delegate members to provide social media presence through Orgsync, Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter accounts.
- f. Lead SAPJ events and support these activities.

B. Duties of Appointed Treasurer:

- a. Keep accurate and up-to-date record of all SAPJ expenses.
- b. Provide a budget summary at the end of each semester.
- c. Provide minutes of general and executive board meetings.
- d. Apply for CPC funding for any events hosted by SAPJ.
- e. Complete CPC funding evaluations.

C. The faculty advisor may add positions to the executive board as the committee grows. These ratifications must be approved by a majority of the members of SAPJ.

Article V: Meetings

- A. Meetings will be held at least once a month to plan and remain informed about upcoming events hosted by the SAPJ.
 - a. The executive board will have an additional meeting at the beginning/end of the monthly meetings with the faculty advisor.
 - b. The executive board will be required to attend or send a proxy to the quarterly Steering Committee meetings of the Peace, Justice & Conflict Transformation program.

Article VI: Probations/ Impeachment

- A. Impeachment can occur when three or more members call for such a vote. The new executive position will be appointed by the faculty advisor within the following week of impeachment and ratified by SAPJ members.

Article VII: Amendments

- A. Amendments can be proposed to the constitution by any member of SAPJ, and be ratified with a majority vote.

Drafted: April 11th 2017

*As defined by United States Institute of Peace, “peacebuilding involves a transformation toward more manageable, peaceful relationships and governance structures—the long-term process of addressing root causes and effects, reconciling differences, normalizing relations, and building institutions that can manage conflict without resorting to violence.”