University of Northern Iowa  
Department of Residence  

Residence Hall Association Constitution  
Revision Date: 3/1/2018  

Article I: Name  
The name of this organization is the Residence Hall Association, hereafter referred to as RHA.  

Article II: Mission Statement  
RHA acts as the official liaison between the Department of Residence (DOR) and those living on campus. Our goal is to advocate for and promote the lifestyle of those living on campus. We provide experiences for residents to network at a local, regional, and international level. As the liaison body, we support the mission statement of the Department of Residence.  

Article III: Purposes  
A. Provide opportunities that build community and educate on-campus residents  
B. Facilitate communication among leaders by providing networking experiences within and beyond the residence system  
C. Advise and/or send recommendations to the Department of Residence on policies and practices when deemed necessary  
D. Promote the lifestyle of living in the residence halls or on campus complexes  

Article IV: Authority, Funding, and Affiliation  
Section 1: Authority  
A. RHA derives its authority from the Department of Residence  

Section 2: Funding  
A. RHA is funded by the Department of Residence based on occupancy  
B. RHA oversees and allocates funding to the RHA committees, The National Communications Coordinator (hereafter referred to as NCC), The National Residence Hall Honorary (hereafter referred to as NRHH), the hall senates and activities boards, and approved outside organizations  
C. After receiving allocations and estimates for the year, the executive board submits a budget proposal to the General Assembly for approval. The proposal must be submitted by the second General Assembly meeting for the new fiscal year  

Section 3: Affiliation  
A. RHA is affiliated with the National Association of College and University Residence Halls (NACURH) and the Midwest Affiliate of College and University Residence Halls (MACURH)  

Article V: RHA General Assembly  
Section 1: Composition  
A. The membership of the General Assembly of RHA shall consist of up to four (4) representatives and from each Hall Senate and Activities board
B. Each hall shall have a maximum of four (4) voting members per hall; members are limited to hall presidents, hall RHA representatives, hall executive board members, and hall general assembly members

Section 2: Qualifications
A. Reside in Department of Residence-owned/operated housing
B. Uphold the rules, regulations & mission statement of the RHA Constitution
C. Maintain a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.25 or risk removal from office
D. Abide by all University and Department of Residence rules and regulations
E. Be a model of personal integrity

Article VI: RHA Executive Board
Section 1: Composition
A. The RHA Executive Board shall consist of the following roles: President, NCC, Director of Programming, Director of Public Relations, and Director of Administration and Finance

Section 2: Qualifications
A. Serve in only one position in RHA
B. Not serve as a Resident Assistant
C. Not serve as Peer Academic Advisor in Residence (PAIR)
D. Reside in Department of Residence-owned/operated housing.
E. Maintain a 2.25 GPA
F. Be in good behavioral standing with the university
G. Serve the full term of position on campus
   a. Individuals may not student teach, study abroad, or serve a full time internship while in office.

Section 3: Elections
A. President-In Training (hereafter referred to as President-IT)
   a. The President-IT elections will be held the first week of March during the Spring semester to stay aligned with NACURH conference registration
   b. Each presidential candidate will be allowed to campaign for one week's period of time
      i. Campaigning guidelines will be established each year by the advisors in alignment with the Department of Residence's posting and soliciting policies
      ii. Guidelines will be available in election application packets
      iii. Each presidential candidate will be asked to speak to the General Assembly of RHA
   c. The RHA Advisor(s) will administer the RHA Presidential election ballot to all currently contracted UNI residents via MyUniverse
   d. The results of the ballot are received by the current President of RHA to notify candidates and present the new President-IT to RHA

B. NCC-In Training (hereafter referred to NCC-IT)
   a. The RHA Executive board will host the NCC elections during a predetermined General Assembly meeting
   b. The NCC-IT will be elected by the General Assembly of RHA
   c. The election will occur prior to Regional Business Conference registration to allow the NCC-IT to attend the Regional Business Conference
   d. The NCC-IT candidates will be asked to speak to the General Assembly
e. Guidelines and information will be available in election application packets from the Executive board

C. Director Positions
   a. The RHA Executive board will host the Director of Programming, Public Relations, and Administration and Finance elections during a predetermined General Assembly meeting
      i. The Director of Programming shall be elected prior to the Directors of Administration and Finance & Public Relations.
   b. These director positions will be elected by the General Assembly of RHA
   c. These candidates will be asked to speak to the General Assembly
   d. Guidelines and information will be available in election application packets from the Executive board

D. Electoral Ties
   a. In the case of a two-way tie, a runoff election will take place
   b. In the case of a three-way tie, the President and RHA advisor will decide what actions to implement to elect the position
   c. After Presidential candidates give their presentations, the floor will be open to nominations following Robert’s Rule of Order

Section 4: Vacancies
In the event of a vacancy, the appropriate measures of filling the position will be determined by the executive board and approved by the advisors

Article VII: Meetings
   A. RHA meetings are ran in accordance to the RHA Bylaws and Robert’s Rules of Order, Newly Revised
   B. Special meetings may be called by the president
   C. All meetings are open and visitors are welcome, unless 2/3 of the members present vote to close the meeting
   D. Visitors for committee time should be approved by the director of that committee and the RHA President prior to the meeting
   E. RHA members cannot vote on nor propose any legislation in closed meetings

Article VIII: Voting
   A. No executive board member shall have voting rights, except for the President of RHA who may only vote to break a tie
      a. In the President’s absence the NCC presiding has no vote, unless necessary to break a tie
   B. All General Assembly members have one vote, (each hall gets a maximum of 4 votes)
   C. Quorum, defined as 2/3 of voting members of the Assembly, must be in attendance at a meeting in order to conduct official RHA business
   D. Voting procedures follows Robert’s Rules of Order, Newly Revised, consistent with this constitution
      a. A simple majority vote is required to adopt a motion or to elect to office
      b. A 2/3 Vote is required to extend discussion
      c. Unanimous Consent
         i. A motion that can be called by a GA member for a vote only to be passed when no dissent is shown
      d. Right to Vote
         i. All general assembly members have a right to vote
         ii. Members must abstain on items that would benefit their person directly OR provide monetary gain
Article IX: Amending Constitutions and Bylaws

Section A: RHA Constitution
A. A proposed amendment must be submitted to the general assembly no less than 3 days prior to the date in which it will be discussed at the general assembly, at which time, members are expected to consider the implications and consult their constituents
B. Amendments require a minimum (2/3) majority for adoption

Section B: RHA Bylaws
A. Bylaws require a simple majority (as defined in Robert's Rules of Order) for adoption

Section C: Senate and Activities Boards Constitutions
A. Should be approved by individual hall senates or activities boards prior to submitting to RHA
B. Require a simple majority (as defined in Robert's Rules of Order) of the RHA Assembly