**GEAUX TEACH STUDENT ORGANIZATION OFFICERS:**

ALEC SHEEHY, PRESIDENT

MAIA JACKSON, VICE PRESIDENT

ERICA CLEMENT, SECRETARY

RAVYN JOHNLOUIS, TREASURER

OWANAEMI BESTMAN , PUBLIC RELATIONS

I. **PREAMBLE:** WE, THE MEMBERS OF THE GEAUXTEACH STUDENT ORGANIZATION DO

HEREBY ESTABLISH THIS CONSTITUTION IN ORDER THAT OUR PURPOSE BE REALIZED TO ITS FULLEST EXTENT.

**CONSTITUTION OF THE GEAUXTEACH STUDENT**

**ORGANIZATION/COUNCIL OF PRE-SERVICE TEACHERS OF MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE AT LSU**

# ARTICLE II. Name

**Section I.** The organization shall be named the GeauxTeach Student Organization/Council of Pre-Service Teachers of Mathematics and Science at LSU, herein referred to as the GTSO/CPTMS.

**Section II**. The Council of Pre-Service Teachers of Mathematics and Science at LSU shall act as a subset of the GeauxTeach Student Organization. This subset shall be affiliated with the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM) and the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA) and its local affiliates, if possible.

# ARTICLE III. Purpose

**Section I.** The objectives of the association shall be:

1. To create and maintain greater interest in learning and teaching,
2. To establish a sense of community with and for the people who are in the GeauxTeach degree programs and others interested in pursuing a career in education
3. To promote the GeauxTeach programs to new potential members
4. To provide services and opportunities for the professional growth and development of pre-service teachers (both elementary and secondary)
5. To serve as a forum through which pre-service teachers and others interested in learning and education can discuss and respond to issues and activities affecting education,
6. To promote the value of education to fellow students and pre-service teachers,
7. To promote and support the classroom as a safe space for all students and teachers; including, but not limited to, students and teachers who might be characterized by race, color, ancestry, national origin, religion, physical or intellectual disability, developmental disability, mental illness, language ability, sexual orientation, physical characteristics, gender, gender expression, political ideas or affiliations, socioeconomic status, or association with others identified by such characteristics.

Moreover, the objectives of the CPTMS subset of the organization shall include all objectives of the GTSO, but also incorporate an increased emphasis on the learning and teaching of mathematics and science.

# ARTICLE IV. Basic Policies

**Section I.** The organization shall be non-commercial.

**Section II.** The name of the organization or the names of any members in their official capacities shall not be used in connection with a commercial concern.

**Section III.** The organization shall cooperate with Louisiana State University to support the improvement of education in ways that will not interfere with administration of the University.

**Section IV**. The organization may cooperate with other organizations and agencies, but persons representing the organization in such matters shall make no commitments that bind the organization.

**Section V.** The organization agrees to abide by all University polices and local, state, and federal laws.

# ARTICLE IV. Meetings and Officer Transition

**Section I.** General Meetings

The meetings of the Council shall include those to be held at a time and place designated by the officers. Members shall be notified appropriately in advance of each meeting.

1. Meeting times will be determined by the officers. A meeting can be canceled or added in the event of an emergency with the president’s approval.
2. At least one meeting each semester must contain professional development.
3. A minimum of 2 officers must be present at each meeting.

**Section II.** Transition of Officers

The prior officers shall hold a meeting as soon as it is convenient after the opening of each semester for the purpose of assuring an orderly transition of responsibilities between new and retiring officers.

# ARTICLE V. Membership

**Section I**. Any LSU student, faculty member or staff member who subscribes to the purpose and basic policies of the organization may become a member of the organization, subject only to compliance with the provisions of the constitutions.

**Section II.** Active membership is restricted to LSU students. Associate membership is restricted to LSU faculty and staff. Associate members are non-voting members.

**Section III.** Membership in the GeauxTeach Student Organization is open to any student in good standing enrolled in Louisiana State University. All active members must be on the roster in TigerLink in order to be considered a full member of the GTSO.

**CPTMS Membership:** Membership in the CPTMS subset of the GeauxTeach Student Organization is reserved for students with GTSO membership AND are currently enrolled or have completed their junior year of the GeauxTeach math and science degree program. In addition, these students receive membership into the local chapters of the NCTM and/or the NSTA

**Section IV.** Students who are enrolled in GeauxTeach courses will be automatically admitted into the GTSO roster. Membership will be tracked by the Secretary through updated emails.

**Section V.** There will be no dues in order to be a part of the GTSO unless for the purchase of personal merchandise such as t-shirts and pullovers.

**Section VI.** In the event that this organization becomes inactive, all monies left in the treasure of the student organization after all outstanding debts and claims have been paid shall be donated into the College of Science GeauxTeach Organization Fund.

# ARTICLE VI. Officers and Their Election

**Section 1.** To be eligible to be elected to, appointed to, or to hold an office or be a standing committee chairperson, a student must:

* Undergraduate students must be enrolled as full‐time students at Louisiana State University (Baton Rouge); graduate students must be enrolled as part‐time (with at least 6 hours) or full time students at LSU.
* Students must have at least a 2.0 cumulative GPA and be in good academic standing with the University.
* Students must not be on disciplinary probation or deferred suspension. This includes newly elected officers, as well as continuing officers. Students may continue organizational membership if on disciplinary probation.
* Students must meet all other academic standards established by the student organization and included in the organization’s constitution and/or bylaws.
* Graduating seniors who are not registered full‐time may still hold office in a student organization during the semester in which they are scheduled to graduate.

**Section 2.** The GTSO will have a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Historian, Public Relations, and Faculty Advisor.

* **President-** He/she shall preside over all meetings of the organization and the executive committee. He/she shall oversee everything that happens within the organization and shall take a commanding role when he/she feels that it is absolutely necessary. He/she shall delegate jobs to other members of the organization.
* **Vice President-** He/she shall serve as an assistant to the president. In the event that the president cannot perform a function or finish his/her term as president, the vice president shall serve as interim president until the president has returned or a new president is elected. The vice president may serve as the official president if the organization chooses to elect him/her.
* **Secretary-** He/she shall take attendance at all meetings as well as keep the minutes. He/she shall also keep a handbook of the year’s events as a record of how tasks were accomplished.
* **Treasurer-**He/she shall be in charge of all money issues. He/she will announce at the beginning of each meeting what our current balance is as well as keep an accurate record of how much money was spent and where it was spent.
* **Historian-** He/she shall be in charge of photography at all events. He/she will take pictures and distribute photographs to members, officers, and advisors when applicable.
* **Public Relations Officer-** He/she shall be in charge of advertisement of organizational events including the creation of and dispersal of flyers. He/she will also coordinate with faculty advisors on updating social media accounts.
* **Faculty Advisor-** He/ she will advise students in keeping track of money and meetings throughout the semester. He/ she will also aid in finding speakers for meetings and provide information to students about meetings during their class times.

**Section 3.** All officers are to be elected by the members of the GTSO/CPTMS, with approval of the advisors, in the last meeting before the spring semester with the following exceptions:

* 1. In the event an elected officer resigns or is removed, a new student may be appointed by the remaining officers to uphold the position for the remaining term,
  2. In the event there is a need for a new officer, a new student may be appointed by the officers and advisors.

**Section 4.** The nominations committee will be the students of GeauxTeach. Each student apart of the GeauxTeach program will have the opportunity to vote on each position. They will be presented with a form to fill out to vote on students who have been nominated for each position.

**Section 5.** A vacancy occurring in any office shall be filled for the non-expired term by a person elected by majority vote of the remaining members of the executive committee.

**Section 6.** In the event that a vacancy should occur there will be a new election by the students of the GeauxTeach program to appoint a new officer to uphold that position.

**Section 7.** Any officer of the GTSO in violation of the Organization's purpose or constitution may be removed from office by the following process:

1. Have a meeting with the faculty advisors to discuss position duties and also to make sure they are doing well personally.
2. The officer in question will be appointed to the advisors and also the other members of the executive board in a verbal discussion and to discuss a verbal plan of action to continue their position or to remove them.
3. A two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of active members or of members in good standing is necessary to remove the officer.

# ARTICLE VII. Executive Committee

**Section 1.** The executive shall consist of the officers of the organization, and the chairperson of each standing committee.

**Section 2.** The duties of the Executive Committee shall be to transact necessary business between regular organization meetings and such business as may be referred to it by the organization to approve the plans of work of each standing committee chairperson; and to present a report at the regular meeting of the organization.

**Section 3.** Regular meetings of the Executive Committee shall be held every month during the academic year, the time to be determined by the committee at its first meeting of the year.

# ARTICLE VIII. Standing and Special Committees

**Section 1.** Standing committees shall be created by the Executive Committee as may be required to promote the objects and interests of the organization. The chairperson of the standing committee shall be appointed by the Executive Committee. Their terms in office shall be one year.

**Section 2.** The chairperson of each standing committee shall present plans of work to the

Executive Committee, and no work shall be undertaken without the approval of the Executive Committee. Any vacancies occurring in the chairpersonship of a standing committee shall be filled by the Executive Committee.

**Section 3.** The vice president shall be an ex-officio member of all committees except the nominating committee

# ARTICLE IX. Meetings

**Section 1.** Regular meetings will be held for the organization and held on a day that works for majority of the officers and their schedules. The dates will be publicized through the social media accounts and in the classrooms of the GeauxTeach classes. If the dates may change, this will be posted at least 2 days prior to the meeting.

**Section 2.** At least 5 members of the GTSO should be present to hold an effective meeting.

**Section 3.** There will not be any limits on conducting business transactions for the organization.

# ARTICLE X. Preliminary Authority

The meetings will be governed by the President. They will have a running list on topics that need to be discussed during the meeting that everyone on the executive board will have access to. Each task will be assigned to one or more people on the board. These procedures will be followed strictly to ensure everyone is on track and aware of their duties.

# ARTICLE XI. Amendments

**Section 1.** This constitution may be amended at any regular meeting of the organization by two thirds vote of the members present and voting, provided that notice of the proposed amendment shall have been given at the previous meeting and that the proposed amendment shall be subject to approval of Campus Life.

**Section 2.** Amendments will be proposed by the executive board members to the faculty advisor. The faculty advisors will then decide if the proposed amendment is reasonable; if so, they will present the amendment to the members of the GTSO to vote on through a form on the web.

# ARTICLE XII. Annual Requirements

The organization will update officer and advisor information on the Student Org Community on an annual basis no later than two weeks after new officer elections are held and will comply with the Campus Life Annual Requirements Policy (Policy 1, Student Organization Policy Manual) to remain active.

# ARTICLE XIII. Appeals and Due Process

**Section1.** Removal Process an Executive Board Member

A. The President has the authority to terminate any officer position upon repeated dereliction of duty using the process as follows:

1. The negligent exec board member must be put on notice of their dereliction of duty.
2. The President must give expectations for correction of the problem as well as a reasonable date for expected improvement.
3. If said expected improvement is not met, the President may terminate the Executive Board member and appoint another in their place.
4. In cases of severe neglect of duty, the President must terminate the guilty party immediately and appoint a replacement if deemed necessary.
5. This termination process may or may not include the executive board member being put on notice of their dereliction of duty.
6. The term of office of an elected official may be terminated by impeachment during the fall or spring semesters for failure to maintain their responsibilities and qualifications as specified in this constitution.
   1. The President will oversee all impeachment proceedings unless the President is being impeached, in which case the proceedings will be chaired by gavel order, so long as that

executive board member is also not under review for being removed from their position.

* 1. Formal charges must be filed to the General Assembly at a regularly scheduled meeting. Charges must be formal, specific, and in written form including a petition of support from an absolute majority of the voting members of the General Assembly.
  2. The vote to impeach will be held at a special meeting immediately following the subsequent regularly scheduled General Assembly meeting. Only voting members and other allowable personnel per the latest edition of Robert’s Rules of Order will attend the special meeting. If the impeachment is ratified by an absolute two-thirds vote of the voting members of the General Assembly, the official will be dismissed.

B. If the President or Vice President critically violates the terms set forth by the constitution in such a manner that is detrimental to the organization when the General Assembly is not in session, the following process will occur

1. The individual’s behavior may then be brought to and reviews by a committee consisting of the following members:
   1. The organization advisor.
   2. Any executive board members who are not under review, if applicable.
2. The committee will interview the President or Vice President that is in violation of the terms set forth by the constitution.
   1. The alleged board member will have the chance to present any additional documentation
   2. The alleged board member retains the right to an advisor during the meeting.
3. Upon conclusion of the meeting, the committee will deliberate and vote on whether the board member should be removed or not.
   1. The vote must deliver an absolute majority in order to proceed with termination.
   2. The final decision must be delivered in writing to the alleged board member within 10 business days of the initial meeting.

C. If an executive board member is removed from office during their current term due to termination, impeachment, or removal due to non-GPA related issues, they will no longer be eligible for any following academic term.

1. The terminated executive board member has the right to appeal to the decision following the appeals process in Section 2 of this Article. Appeal Process for an Executive Board Member Removal

**Section 2:** If an executive board member who was removed from their position would like to appeal that decision, they must follow this outlined process:

1. The appeal request must be submitted in writing to the organization advisor within 5 business days of the decision being delivered.
   1. Said appeal must include an identification of who the appealing student is and what decision they are appealing.
2. Upon receiving the request for appeal, the advisor will determine if they are able to serve as the chairperson for this appeal.
   1. If necessary, the advisor may recuse themselves from the meeting and appoint a replacement chairperson for the appeal.
3. Once the chairperson is determined, the chairperson will select two additional members within the organization to form an appeal committee.
4. The appeal chairperson will schedule an appeal meeting with the removed executive board member within 15 business days of the request for appeal.
5. The appeal committee will request and receive from the organization any and all documentation regarding the decision for removal.
   1. If the appeal committee feel it is pertinent, they may interview organization members who may provide additional insight to the circumstances for removal.
6. During the appeal meeting, the removed executive board member will present their case for appeal, including any documentation they may have for the situation.
   1. The removed executive board member retains the right to an advisor during the meeting.
7. The appeal committee will deliberate and deliver a final decision within 10 business days.
8. Said decision will be delivered in writing to the removed executive board member