

**Indiana University Student Chapter  
National Association of Hispanic Journalists**

**Constitution**

**Preamble**

The IU student chapter of National Association of Hispanic Journalists exists to further the aims of the NAHJ as expressed in the mission statement: "The National Association of Hispanic Journalists (NAHJ) is dedicated to the recognition and professional advancement of Hispanics in the news industry."

Further, the chapter endorses the established goals of the association:

1. To organize and provide mutual support for Hispanics involved in the gathering or dissemination of news.
2. To encourage and support the study and practice of journalism and communications by Hispanics.
3. To foster and promote a fair treatment of Hispanics by the media.
4. To further the employment and career development of Hispanics in the media.
5. To foster a greater understanding of Hispanic media professionals' special cultural identity, interests, and concerns.

**Article I: Membership**

Participation in the IU chapter of NAHJ must be without regard to arbitrary consideration of such characteristics as age, color, disability, ethnicity, gender, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status.

**Article II: University Compliance**

This organization shall comply with all Indiana University regulations, and local, state and federal laws.

**Article III: Executive Officers**

Officers shall be elected annually and will include a president, a vice president, a secretary, a treasurer and a social media/marketing director. Officers serve for one year and together constitute the chapter's executive committee, which will meet bi-monthly.

The President presides over and conducts meeting according to accepted parliamentary rule. Duties include appointment of committees and serving as an ex officio member of each one; coordinating chapter activities by keeping in close touch with the other officers, the membership, and the adviser; planning meeting programs with the assistance of the Executive Committee.

The Vice President assists the president in the discharge of duties and presides over the organization in the absence of the president. The vice president oversees committee work and serves as an ex official member of all committees. The vice president also serves as community service chairperson.

The secretary takes meeting minutes, prepares a written agenda for and sends out notices of each meeting, records votes, prepares chapter reports as necessary, attends to official correspondence and works with the treasurer in keeping an accurate membership roll.

The Treasurer works with the adviser in depositing funds in the Student Activities Account and preparing documents for disbursement of funds. Financial records will be maintained in a spreadsheet file accessible for oversight by executive officers. The treasurer oversees appropriate fund-raising activities, including the collection, counting and deposit of any money collected.

The Social Media Director runs designated Facebook, Twitter and blog posts that engage the public with the chapter.

#### **Article IV: Advisor**

Gerry Lanosga will serve as the advisor of the IU Chapter of NAHJ and will act as a professional liaison between the university and the chapter.

#### **Article V: Meetings**

The executive committee will meet bi-monthly. Regular chapter meetings will be determined by the executive committee. Working committees will meet as determined by the membership.

#### **Article VI: Elections**

Elections will be held during the final weeks of spring semester, with leadership to take office at the beginning of the following academic year. Nominations must be solicited at least one meeting before the meeting at which officer elections are to be held. Members may nominate themselves for office or be nominated by another member. The elections will be conducted by secret ballot during the final meeting of the year, with any members present eligible to vote.

#### **Article VII: Non-Hazing**

Hazing is strictly prohibited. Hazing shall be defined as any conduct which subjects another person, whether physically, mentally, emotionally, or psychologically, to anything that may endanger, abuse, degrade, or intimidate the person as a condition of association with a group or organization, regardless of the person's consent or lack of consent.

#### **Article VIII: Dues and Budgets**

Membership in the chapter is open and will not require payment of dues. The chapter budget will be set in accordance with the allotment provided by the School of Journalism.

**Article IX: Finances**

Day-to-day financial decisions will be handled by the treasurer, president and adviser and must flow through a student organizational account as required by the university. If the chapter dissolves, any remaining funds will return to the School of Journalism.

**Article X: Personal Gain Clause**

This organization, if raising funds, shall ethically raise and distribute profits from organizational functions to either the organization or to members who provide a service that directly benefits the organization. Individual members may not receive compensation from for-profit companies if acting as a representative of a student organization.

**Article XI: Amendments**

Amendments to this constitution require approval by  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the total membership. Members will be notified via email and other announcements.