

**The 2024 Constitution of the  
Liderato kan Nueva Atenista**

## **PREAMBLE**

We, the undergraduate students of Ateneo de Naga University, with divine guidance, establish a government for student rights and welfare, fostering unity and cooperation for holistic development, in pursuit of a just, democratic Philippines, do hereby ordain and promulgate this Constitution.

## **ARTICLE I**

### **GENERAL PROVISION**

#### Section 1

The student government established under this Constitution shall be known as **Liderato Kan Nueva Atenista** and shall be called “**Lideratos**” for brevity.

#### Section 2

Lideratos is the duly constituted student government of all undergraduate students of Ateneo de Naga University (AdNU).

#### Section 3

The office of the Lideratos shall be situated at the designated place within the AdNU campus.

#### Section 4

The Lideratos shall have an official seal.

#### Section 5

Any affair or matter that concerns students’ rights and welfare must be known by and be properly consulted with the Lideratos.

#### Section 6

In no case shall Lideratos be dissolved or rendered inoperative.

## **ARTICLE II**

### **MEMBERSHIP**

#### Section 1

All undergraduate students of AdNU are members and are under the jurisdiction of the Liderato Kan Nueva Atenista, who shall be referred to as the AdNU student body.

**ARTICLE III**  
**DECLARATION OF NATURE, PRINCIPLES, AND OBJECTIVES**

NATURE

Section 1

- (1) The Liderato Kan Nueva Atenista shall be the sole government entity of the AdNU undergraduate students.
- (2) The Lideratos, through its officers, shall represent the AdNU student body in all administrative policy-making bodies and associations which directly and indirectly affect the student's rights and welfare.
- (3) The Lideratos shall at all times strive to be autonomous, democratic, and representative.
- (4) The Lideratos shall have three branches: Executive, Legislative, and Judicial.
- (5) All powers of the Lideratos shall flow from and belong ultimately to the student body.

PRINCIPLES AND OBJECTIVES

Section 2

The Liderato Kan Nueva Atenista shall at all times strive to:

- (1) Defend and promote the rights and general welfare of the AdNU student body and the Filipino people.
- (2) Promote an inclusive environment for the student body free from any form of discrimination and value their rights, and catering to the holistic development of every student in the following realms:
  - (a) Education
    - (i) Education must be accessible to everyone regardless of class, creed, race, or political affiliation.
    - (ii) Education must be liberating and transformative, allowing to develop in the students a value system that will motivate them to think critically and make informed judgments free of prejudice and myth in order to effect changes in society.
    - (iii) Education must promote the integral development of men and women to the full in order to realize a human and humane existence for all.
  - (b) Rights
  - (c) Cultural Participation and Unity
- (3) Work harmoniously with the faculty and other sectors of the AdNU community in creating and administering activities for the students.

- (4) Seek educational reforms along scientific, humanistic, and truly Bicolano and Filipino practices for the full development of the human potential to respond to the social realities and to promote academic freedom.
- (5) Develop social awareness and instill national consciousness among the students to develop critical and objective thinking responsive to actual conditions in the present Philippine society.
- (6) Develop a responsible student body that will put educational opportunities to optimal use and look after the unity and welfare of the whole AdNU student body and the Filipino people.
- (7) Engage with other sectors of society in their struggle for a truly just, liberating, democratic, and sovereign Filipino society.

**ARTICLE IV**  
**BILL OF RIGHTS**

Section 1

Every student shall invoke the right to:

- (1) Be represented in all governing boards and policymaking bodies of the university.
- (2) Initiate a recall against his/her officers and representatives for any willful violation of this Constitution.
- (3) Form, participate, or take no part in any campus organizations of the university
- (4) Be guaranteed a democratic school with the following interests;
- (5) Enjoy full academic freedom - including those mentioned under Article IV, without the fear of unreasonable restriction, interference, or censorship.
- (6) Due process;
  - (a) The right to written notice of the charges and reasonable time within which to answer them;
  - (b) The right to counsel;
  - (c) The right to a hearing which shall include the right to present his own case and present bodies of evidence in support thereof;
  - (d) The right to an impartial body with effective student representation that shall hear and determine his case and must consider the evidence presented.
- (7) Be protected from any form of violations to well-being, such as but not limited to:
  - (a) Physical Violence
  - (b) Psychological Abuse
  - (c) Gender Discrimination
  - (d) Impregnation
  - (e) Sexual Misconduct
  - (f) Cybercrime

- (g) Financial Mishandling
- (h) Health Hazards
- (i) Substance abuse
- (j) Any form of unreasonable searches and seizures.

**ARTICLE V**  
**BILL OF RESPONSIBILITIES**

Section 1

Every student has the responsibility to:

- (1) Defend, promote, and protect their rights and welfare.
- (2) Exercise their rights with due regard for the rights of others.
- (3) Follow institutional and educational policies, rules, and regulations provided they do not violate the students' rights as provided for in Article IV of this Constitution.
- (4) Pay the student government fee every semester and any additional fees that may be imposed by a resolution passed by any member of the Student Congress.
- (5) Establish a conducive academic atmosphere among the constituents of the Liderato Kan Nueva Atenista.

**ARTICLE VI**  
**QUALIFICATIONS FOR OFFICE**

Section 1

Candidates for and holders of any elective position in Liderato Kan Nueva Atenista shall have the following qualifications:

- (1) Have a minimum load of fifteen (15) academic units during the semester immediately preceding the election.
- (2) Have not incurred any failing grade lower than 75 and should maintain a QPI of 2.0 or 82 once elected or appointed.
- (3) Enrolled in and attending regularly at least fifteen (15) academic units at the time of election and during his/her term, except in the case of graduating students who may only have a load of less than fifteen (15) units in the second semester of his/her term.
- (4) Must not be on disciplinary or academic probation since his/her term, when incurred during his/her term, a solid ground for his/her impeachment.
- (5) A minimum residence of one semester in the university immediately preceding an election, except in the case of first-year students.

- (6) Must not be an officer of any student organization within the school in the name of his/her election and for the duration of his/her term.

**ARTICLE VII**  
**THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH**

Section 1

The executive power is vested upon the Student Central Board and shall adopt the acronym SCB.

Section 2

The Student Central Board shall be composed of the President, Internal Vice President, External Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Public Information Officer, who shall be elected by the AdNU student body.

Section 3

The Presidency is open to incoming third, fourth, and fifth-year students while the Internal and External Vice Presidency, Secretary, Treasurer, and Public Information Officer are open to incoming second, third, fourth, and fifth-year students.

Section 4

The Student Central Board shall determine its own internal governance proceedings and rules of procedure.

Section 5

The Officers of the Student Central Board shall serve for one (1) academic year such time that a new set of officers have been proclaimed and have taken their oath.

Section 6

Under the Executive Branch, these shall be the Departments that comprise of the Cabinet unless otherwise provided by law:

- a. Department of Social Services and Development;
- b. Department of Student, Leadership, and Involvement;
- c. Department of External Affairs and Alliances;
- d. Department of Research and Development;
- e. Department of Budget and Finance;
- f. Department of Events Management and Communications;
- g. Office of the Buklod Ambassador.

Section 7

Powers and Duties of the Officers of the Student Central Board:

- (1) The President shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the SCB. It shall be his/her duty and power to:
  - a. Call and preside over all meetings of the SCB; in case he/she desires to take part in the discussion, he/she may name the Internal Vice

President or, in the absence of the latter, appoint any member of the SCB to take the chair;

- b. Execute the provisions in the Constitution and the legislation passed by the Student Congress;
- c. Approve all acts, resolutions, communications, and other documents of the Lideratos except for committees per office;
- d. Submit a semestral accomplishment report and future activities of the Lideratos at the end of the first semester and the beginning of the second semester.
- e. Represent the Lideratos in his/her official capacity as President on occasions, events, and affairs where the Lideratos needs representation;
- f. Establish or dissolve departments for efficient and effective governance of the Lideratos;
- g. Administering general supervision over all Lideratos activities incidental to the discharge of the functions of his/her office;
- h. Determine the validity and effectiveness of any official documents with the concurrence of  $\frac{2}{3}$  votes of all the members of the Student Congress; and
- i. Perform such other functions and duties as may be necessary to the discharge and performance of the functions of his/her office.

(2) The Internal Vice President shall:

- a. Assist the President in the supervision and coordination of internal affairs and activities of the Lideratos.
- b. Take over the functions of the President whenever his/her office is vacant by reason of his/her resignation, removal from office, suspension, absence, or physical or mental incapacity;
- c. Be an ex officio member of the Student Organization Council;
- d. Serve as a convener of the first meeting of the Student Organization Council;
- e. Perform such other functions as the Lideratos President may from time to time assign.

(3) The External Vice President shall:

- a. Supervise and coordinate external affairs and activities of the Lideratos;

- b. Recommend participants for approval of the President upon the confirmation of the Commission on Appointment for any external activity that needs representation;
- c. Handle all partnerships, internally and externally ;
- d. Perform such other functions as the Lideratos President may from time to time assign him/her.

(4) The Secretary shall:

- a. Keep the minutes and all other records of the proceedings of the Student Central Board;
- b. Prepare and file all communications and documents of the Student Central Board;
- c. Create a calendar of activities for the Student Central Board;
- d. Submit semestral reports of the state of the Lideratos to the student body;
- e. Perform such other functions as the Lideratos President may from time to time assign him/her.

(5) The Treasurer shall:

- a. Prepare and present to the Student Congress on its first regular session of the semester the proposed semestral budget allocation of the Lideratos for appropriation;
- b. Act as the trustee of the Lideratos fund and deposit such to the official finance department of the institution/university.
- c. Disburse Lideratos funds necessary upon the Student Congress approval of the budget;
- d. Keep all the financial records of the Lideratos;
- e. Submit a financial report fifteen (15) days after each activity to the Student Congress;
- f. Submit a general financial report at the end of every semester to the Student Congress and to the AdNU student body through their official social media platforms;
- g. Perform such other functions as the Lideratos President may from time to time assign him/her.

(6) The Public Information Officer shall:

- a. Take charge of the information dissemination about all matters and affairs of the Lideratos;

- b. Coordinate with the Secretary in notifying the members of the Student Central Board, the Student Congress, and the Student Tribunal of all joint meetings and conferences;
- c. Manage all the social media accounts of the Lideratos except the Student Congress;'
- d. Form committees necessary for the discharge and performance of the functions of his/her office; and
- e. Perform such other functions as the Lideratos President may from time to time assign him/her.

#### Section 8

- (1) Should the President be temporarily incapacitated, the Internal Vice President shall act as Acting President and shall relinquish his/her position upon the return of the permanent officers.
- (2) Should both the President and Internal Vice President be temporarily incapacitated, the Speaker of the House of the Student Congress shall act as the President, who shall relinquish his/her position upon the return of the permanent officers.
- (3) Should the Internal Vice President, External Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Public Information Officer be temporarily incapacitated, the President shall appoint from among the recommended persons submitted to him/her by the same officers of the Acting Internal Vice President, Acting External Vice President, Acting Secretary, and Acting Public Information Officer.

#### Section 9

Whenever there is a vacancy in the offices of the Internal Vice President, External Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Public Information Officer, the position shall be filled through the process as provided for in Article XII Section 6.

#### Section 10

In case of death, extreme disability, removal from office, or resignation of the President, the Internal Vice President shall become the President to serve the unexpired term.

#### Section 11

In case of death, extreme disability, removal from office, or resignation of the President and Internal Vice President, there shall be a special election, or the Speaker of the House of the Student Congress shall take over as provided for in Article XII Section 6 of this Constitution.

**ARTICLE VIII**  
**THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH**

Section 1

The legislative power is vested upon the Student Congress and shall adopt the acronym SCon.

Section 2

Each college shall have a maximum of three (3) representatives and shall constitute the Student Congress with a maximum of two (2) terms only. The college representatives are not allowed to be elected/appointed in the same position after the minimum term.

Section 3

Candidates for representatives must have the qualifications as provided for in Article VI, Section 1 of this Constitution.

Section 4

The college representatives shall take the oath before their execution in the office.

Section 5

The Student Organization Council chairperson shall be an ex officio member of the Student Congress.

Section 6

The Student Congress shall, by a majority vote of its members, elect its Speaker of the House and Speaker Pro Tempore. It shall elect other officers as it may deem necessary.

Section 7

The Student Congress shall determine the rules of its proceedings and its internal governance and may conduct inquiries in aid of legislation in accordance with its rule of procedure.

Section 8

The SCon shall create committees to conduct necessary business for its efficient functions as early as possible and provide for a system of initiative or referendum.

Section 9

(1) There shall be an SCon Secretary who shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House. Such appointment shall be submitted to the Commission on Appointments for confirmation.

(2) The Congress Secretary/ies shall:

- a. Keep a record of all minutes of the proceedings of the House;
- b. Determine the order of the business during all irregular sessions;
- c. Notify the members of the SCon to all meetings of the House;
- d. Prepare and distribute the calendars of the House;
- e. Publish and distribute the record of the house.

#### Section 10

No resolutions passed by the SCon shall take effect without the approval of the Liderato kan Nueva Atenista President. If he/she approves the same, he/she shall sign it; otherwise, he/she shall veto it and return the same with his/her objections to the SCon. The veto may be overridden by  $\frac{2}{3}$  majority votes of all members of the SCon, after which the resolution shall become effective even without the approval of the Lideratos President. The Lideratos President shall act on resolutions passed by the SCon within three (3) days of receipt hereof; otherwise, it shall become effective as if he/she had signed it.

#### Section 11

- (1) The SCon may pass bills and resolutions in pursuance of the works and projects of the Lideratos and student body on matters that it may consider appropriate.
- (2) The SCon shall appropriate funds of the Lideratos for a particular undertaking with the concurrence of the  $\frac{2}{3}$  majority voted of its members. All requests for budget appropriation must be submitted to the SCon at least two weeks before its actual need.

#### Section 12

The SCon shall have the authority to summon all elected and/or appointed officers for interrogation for any matter affecting the interest of the student body.

#### Section 13

No bills and resolutions passed by the SCon shall become effective and valid unless it has passed two readings except for commending resolutions which might have passed at least one reading and printed copies thereof in its final form have been distributed to its members.

#### Section 14

- (1) The SCon shall appropriate the budget of the Lideratos upon submission of the Treasurer and shall submit it to the Lideratos President for approval.
- (2) The SCon shall pass a resolution authorizing the Lideratos Treasurer to hold the petty cash fund of the Lideratos.

#### Section 15

The SCon shall convene once every week for its regular session except during examination week(s). The Speaker of the House and/or Lideratos President may call a special session at any reasonable time they may deem necessary.

#### Section 16

There shall be a Commission on Appointments (COA) composed of the Speaker of the House, as ex-officio Chairperson, and a member from the three representatives of each college, elected by the general membership of the SCon and be constituted within thirty (30) days after the SCon shall have been organized with the election

of the Speaker of the House. The COA shall meet only while the Student Congress is in session, at the call of its Chairperson or the majority of its members, to discharge such powers and functions as stated herein conferred upon it.

Section 17

The department and committee heads of departments may, upon their initiative, with the consent of the President, or upon the request of the SCon, as the rules of the SCon shall provide, appear before and be heard by the latter on matters pertaining to their committees/ departments.

Section 18

(1) Should the Speaker of the House be temporarily incapacitated, the Speaker Pro Tempore shall act as the Speaker of the House, and the Acting Speaker of the House shall appoint a member of the SCon to be the Acting Speaker Pro Tempore, who shall relinquish his/her position upon return of the permanent officer(s).

(2) Should the Speaker of the House and Speaker Pro Tempore both be temporarily incapacitated, the Speaker of the House shall appoint from its members the Acting Speaker of the House and Acting Speaker Pro Tempore, who shall relinquish his/her position upon the return of the permanent officer.

Section 19

In case of death, extreme permanent disability, removal from office, or resignation of the Speaker of the House, the SCon shall elect from among its members a new Speaker of the House who shall serve the unexpired term.

Section 20

In case of death, extreme permanent disability, removal from office, or resignation of any member of the SCon, the President or the Acting President shall appoint student(s) to fill the vacated position(s) and serve the unexpired term and such appointments shall be submitted to the COA for confirmation.

**ARTICLE IX**

**THE JUDICIAL BRANCH**

Section 1

The judicial power is vested upon the Student Tribunal and shall adopt the acronym ST.

Section 2

It shall be composed of five members to be appointed by the SCon with the consent of the COA upon the concurrence of the  $\frac{2}{3}$  majority votes of its members.

Section 3

Candidates for appointment to the Student Tribunal must have the following qualifications:

- (1) Must be enrolled in the and attending regularly in at least 15 academic units at the time of appointment and during his/her term;
- (2) Must not have been on any disciplinary or academic probation since his/her entry into the University; when incurred during his/her term, a solid ground for his/her removal from office;
- (3) Must not be an officer of any student organization within the University at the time of his/her appointment and during his/her term; and
- (4) Must be a person of proven competence, integrity, probity, and independence.

Section 4

The ST shall elect from among its members a Chief Justice and Secretary General.

Section 5

- (1) The Chief Justice shall be an ex-officio member of the School's Disciplinary Council.
- (2) The Chief Justice shall appoint from among the ST associate justices an official substitute for such council.

Section 6

The Student Tribunal shall determine the rules of its proceedings and of its internal governance.

Section 7

The Student Tribunal shall create committees necessary for its efficient functioning.

Section 8

The ST shall decide on cases involving conflicts by, between, and among students and cases endorsed by the Disciplinary Council.

Section 9

The ST shall have the following powers and functions:

- (1) Serve as an arbiter between the SCB, the SCon, the Commission on Elections, the Commission on Students' Rights and Welfare, the Commission on Audit, and the Student Organizational Council in times of conflict;
- (2) Recommend to the Disciplinary Council appropriate sanctions for any student found guilty of any offense as provided for in the Student Handbook;
- (3) Declare upon the complaint of any student, any act of the SCB, SCon, the Commission on Elections, the Commission on Students' Welfare, the Commission on Audit, Student Organizational Council, or their officers and members, after hearing, unconstitutional or illegal by means of  $\frac{2}{3}$  votes of

all its members. However, the Chief Justice, with the concurrence of at least  $\frac{2}{3}$  votes of the members of the ST, may decide not to give due course to such a complaint when they believe it has no valid grounds;

- (4) Review, revise, reverse, modify, or affirm any agreement, rules, or regulation that is in question;
- (5) Appoint students with the approval of the Commission on Appointments as it may deem necessary in carrying out its judicial duties and responsibilities; and
- (6) Preside on all cases of impeachment or removal from office of any officer.

#### Section 10

- (1) In case the Chief Justice is on trial, the ST associate justices shall elect from among themselves an Acting Chief Justice who shall be the presiding officer.
- (2) In case of temporary incapacities of the Chief Justice, he/she can appoint an acting Chief Justice.

#### Section 11

The ST members shall continue office until such time that he/she resigns or until such time that he/she is removed from office as initiated and decided by the SCon.

#### Section 12

In case of death, extreme permanent disability, removal from office, or resignation of any member of the Student Tribunal, the President or the Acting President shall appoint students to fill the vacated position/s and serve the unexpired term. Such appointments shall be submitted to the COA for confirmation.

## **ARTICLE X**

### **CONSTITUTIONAL COMMISSIONS**

#### **A. Common Provisions**

#### Section 1

The Constitutional Commissions, which are the Commission on Elections, Commission on Students' Rights and Welfare, and Commission on Audit, shall be independent.

#### Section 2

The Constitutional Commissions Chairperson shall be appointed by the Liderato kan Nueva Atenista President, and such appointments shall be submitted to the COA for confirmation.

Section 3

Each Commission shall be composed of a set of officers, namely the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, and five (5) Commissioners.

Section 4

All Chairpersons of each Commission shall appoint a Vice-Chairperson and five (5) commissioners and such appointments shall be submitted to the COA for confirmation.

Section 5

All members of each Commission shall be screened by the officers of such commissions and appointed by their respective Chairpersons.

Section 6

All appointed officers shall take an oath before their execution in the office.

Section 7

All officers of the constitutional commission shall serve for one (1) academic year and may be re-elected for another one (1) term in the same position depending upon the decision of the majority of its members.

Section 8

Each Commission shall have a semestral budget appropriated by the Student Congress. The approved semestral budget and expenditure of the commission shall be automatically submitted/ reported to the student body after the semester regularly.

Section 9

Each Commission shall sit en banc and promulgate its own rules of procedures and internal governance concerning pleadings and practices.

Section 10

Each Commission may create committees to conduct necessary business for its efficient functions.

Section 11

- (1) In case of death, extreme permanent disability, transfer of school, removal from office, or resignation of the Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson shall become the Chairperson.
- (2) In case of death, extreme permanent disability, transfer of school, removal from office, or resignation of the Vice-Chairperson, the Chairperson shall appoint the new Vice-Chairperson from among the members or officers of the commission.
- (3) In case of death, extreme permanent disability, transfer of school, removal from office, or resignation of both the Chairperson and the Vice-Chairperson, the Lideratos President shall appoint a new Chairperson among from the members or officers of the Commission, and such appointment shall be submitted to the COA for confirmation.

Section 12

The Commission shall choose its own moderator from the administration or faculty.

Section 13

Each Commission shall perform such other functions as may be provided by bills and resolutions.

**B. Commission On Elections**

Section 1

There shall be an independent commission known as the Commission on Elections and shall adopt the acronym COMELEC.

Section 2

The COMELEC shall decide by a majority vote of its officers on any case or matter brought before it and must have a decision within a week from the date of its receipt.

Section 3

The COMELEC shall have the following powers and functions:

- a. Promulgate rules that shall govern the conduct of the regular elections, special elections, initiatives, referenda, plebiscites, and recalls of the Liderato kan Nueva Atenista;
- b. Formulate other rules and regulations relative to the conduct of an election, as it may deem necessary;
- c. Declare and publish the results of the elections, initiatives, referenda, plebiscites, and recalls;
- d. Decide all questions affecting elections, excluding the right to vote, including the number and location of the polling places, the appointment of election student volunteers, and registration voters;
- e. Accredite political parties and independent candidates;
- f. Enforce and administer all laws and regulations relative to the conduct of elections, plebiscites, initiatives, referenda, and recalls;
- g. Recommend effective measures to the Student Congress to minimize election spending, including limitation of places where propaganda materials shall be posted;
- h. Prevent and penalize all forms of election fraud, offenses, and malpractice;
- i. Recommend to the Lideratos President the removal of any incumbent officer for violation of its orders and/or decisions;
- j. Submit to the Lideratos President and SCon a comprehensive report on the conduct of each election, plebiscite, initiative, recall, or referendum;

- k. Disseminate all information regarding upcoming elections to the student body;
- l. Orient the official poll watchers of their functions;
- m. Coordinate with the school administration to secure permission for room-to-room campaigns; and
- n. Postpone the election if, for any serious case, the holding of such shall become impossible. Grounds for postponement involve natural calamities, declared holidays, and other fortuitous events.

Section 4

The COMELEC shall submit a budget proposal for regular and special elections, plebiscites, initiatives, referenda, and recalls to the SCon for appropriation.

**C. Commission on Students' Rights and Welfare**

Section 1

There shall be an independent commission known as the Commission on Students' Rights and Welfare and shall adopt the acronym CSRW.

Section 2

The Commission on Students' Rights and Welfare shall have the following powers and functions:

- a. The CSRW shall serve as the primary advocate and representative for students' rights and other concerns in the university.
- b. It shall develop mechanisms and oversee the provision of support services for academic advising, counseling, and accessibility, among others, to ensure the holistic development and well-being of students.
- c. It shall facilitate and promote opportunities for students to engage in the university community through volunteerism and participation, fostering social responsibility among students.
- d. It shall promote the creation and maintain an inclusive and welcoming environment where students enjoy diversity, equity, and inclusion, countering any discrimination within curricular and extra-curricular settings.
- e. It shall collaborate with proper school authorities in developing and implementing programs and initiatives aimed at fostering personal growth, leadership development, and lifelong learning among students.
- f. It shall establish mechanisms and protocols for responding to emergencies, crises, and disasters affecting students by providing timely assistance, support, and resources.

## **D. Commission on Audit**

### Section 1

There shall be an independent commission known as the Commission on Audit and shall adopt the acronym CA.

### Section 2

The Commission on Audit shall have the following powers and functions:

- a. Objectively examine, audit, and thoroughly verify all financial reports and transactions pertaining to the expenditures or uses of Liderato kan Nueva Atenista funds and property, and determine whether such funds and property were spent and appropriated;
- b. Tagged illegal, irregular, unnecessary, excessive, extravagant, or unconscionable expenditure of the government, and the findings must be submitted to the Lideratos President, the Student Congress, and the Student Tribunal;
- c. Established a comprehensive internal control system of the Lideratos financial transactions, accounts, and reports;
- d. Recommend measures necessary to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the operations of the government;
- e. Written complaint(s) pertaining to the government expenditure from the student body shall be prioritized by the commission;
- f. All documents, records, reports, and decisions or other information in the custody or possession of the Commission shall be accessible and available to the student body in all official information platforms of the government;

### Section 3

The CA shall have access and not be denied any information pertinent to all financial reports and statements of the Lideratos.

### Section 4

The CA shall submit to the Lideratos President and the Student Congress a semestral report covering the financial condition and operation of the government and shall submit other reports as may be required by bill(s) and resolution(s).

## **ARTICLE XI**

### **RESIGNATION**

### Section 1

Any elected or appointed officer who desires to resign must file a formal letter which must contain the reason for their resignation addressed to the President and Speaker of the House.

Section 2

Any elected or appointed officer must have worked for at least three (3) months before their resignation will be processed.

Section 3

The President and the Speaker of the House must refuse to approve the resignation letter of any elected or appointed officer on the following grounds:

- a. Misconduct;
- b. Impeachment; Preventive Suspension
- c. Unfinished business;

Section 4

All powers and functions, papers, and documents of the resigning officer upon resignation shall be turned over temporarily to the Speaker of the House until the said position shall be filled.

Section 5

After the resignation of any elected or appointed officer, the newly assigned officer shall be briefed on their responsibilities.

Section 6

The briefing of the newly elected or appointed officer/s shall be done within three (3) days after they assume their responsibilities.

**ARTICLE XII**

**IMPEACHMENT AND REMOVAL FROM OFFICE**

Section 1

The members of the SCB, SCon, and any appointed officer may be removed from office on impeachment for and conviction of the following grounds:

- (1) Any willful violation of this constitution;
- (2) Gross neglect of duty;
- (3) Any form of misconduct which undermines the integrity of his/her office and of this Constitution;
- (4) Malversation of Liderato kan Nueva Atenista fund;
- (5) Graft and corruption;
- (6) Incurring an academic and/or disciplinary probation during his/her term;  
and
- (7) Fraud.

Section 2

- (1) The SCon shall have the exclusive power to initiate all cases of impeachment submitted to the Student Tribunal.

- (2) A verified complaint for impeachment may be filed by any member of the SCon or by any student upon a resolution of endorsement by any member thereof, which shall be included in the order of business.
- (3) No officer shall be impeached without the concurrence of at least one-third of SCon members
- (4) No officer shall be removed from office without the concurrence of at least two-thirds of SCon members.
- (5) No impeachment proceeding shall be initiated against the same officer more than once in a semester.
- (6) The SCon shall promulgate rules on impeachment to effectively carry out the purpose of this Constitution.
- (7) Judgment on cases of impeachment shall extend only up to removal from office.

**ARTICLE XIII**  
**ELECTIONS AND VACANCIES**

Section 1

Elections shall be administered by an independent Commission on Elections.

Section 2

The date of elections, plebiscites, initiatives, referenda, and recalls shall be determined through a resolution passed by any member of the SCon.

Section 3

A general election shall be held regularly every second semester.

Section 4

In cases of unproclaimed candidates, there shall be a special election two weeks after the decision of the COMELEC has been made.

Section 5

Permanent Vacations of offices of both the President and the Internal Vice President shall be filled through:

- (1) Special elections if vacancies fall on or before the first semester starts. The Commission on Elections, through a resolution passed by any member of the SCon, shall facilitate a special election exactly two weeks after the date of the vacancy. The Speaker of the House shall act as the President and the Internal Vice President until such time that a new President and new Internal Vice President has been proclaimed and has taken oath.
- (2) Succession and appointment if vacancies fall on or after the second semester starts. The Speaker of the House of the SCon shall become the President to serve the unexpired term. The President shall nominate from

among the members of the SCon candidates for the position of Internal Vice President. The SCon, with  $\frac{2}{3}$  votes from all its members, shall elect the new Internal Vice President from the nominations made by the President.

#### Section 6

Permanent Vacations in the Offices of the Internal Vice President, External Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Public Information Officer shall be filed through:

- (1) Special elections, if vacancies fall on or before the first semester ends. The President shall appoint a member of the SCon to assume the vacated position/s until such time that a new officer/s shall have been proclaimed and has/have taken the oath.
- (2) Appointments, if vacancies fall on or after the second semester starts. The President shall nominate from among the members of the SCon candidates for the position/s, and the SCon with  $\frac{2}{3}$  votes from all its members shall elect the new officer/s from the nominations made by the President.

#### Section 7

Elected and/or appointed officer/s and representatives shall hold office until their successors have been proclaimed and have taken oath.

### **ARTICLE XIV**

#### **FUND OF THE LIDERATO KAN NUEVA ATENISTA**

##### Section 1

A student government fee shall be collected by the University Treasurer in cooperation with the Liderato kan Nueva Atenista Treasurer. The SCon, noted by the Office of the Students' Affairs, shall determine the amount.

##### Section 2

No withdrawals from the Lideratos fund can be made without the approval of the Lideratos President, countersigned by the Lideratos Treasurer and the Speaker of the House through a passed resolution.

##### Section 3

A special fund is a fund created or raised for a specific purpose by resolution of the Student Congress such shall be disbursed by the Lideratos Treasurer exclusively for the purpose for which it was created or raised. If the purpose for which the fund was created shall have been achieved, or abandoned for no less than one semester after its creation, the balance, if any, shall be credited to the general fund of the Lideratos by resolution of the Student Congress.

## **ARTICLE XV**

### **BENEFITS**

#### Section 1

All elected and appointed officers of Liderato kan Nueva Atenista shall regularly receive the least possible, reasonable amount of honorarium to be fixed by legislation. An increase in the honorarium of SCon Representatives shall take effect only after the expiration of the full term of all the SCon Representatives approving such increase. The honorarium of officers of the Student Central Board, the Student Tribunal, and the Constitutional Commissions, as well as other appointed officers, shall not be decreased during their tenure, and any increase shall take effect after the expiration of the term of the officers during whose incumbency such increase was approved.

#### Section 2

The Lideratos Moderator/s shall regularly receive the least possible, reasonable amount of honorarium to be fixed by legislation.

## **ARTICLE XVI**

### **THE LIDERATO KAN NUEVA ATENISTA MODERATORS**

#### Section 1

The Liderato kan Nueva Atenista shall elect a maximum of two (2) moderators from the administration or faculty.

#### Section 2

The Lideratos moderators shall have the following functions:

- a. Serve as the adviser of the Lideratos;
- b. Attend meetings and activities of the Lideratos;
- c. Countersign all important papers, documents, and communications that require their signature;
- d. Foster unity within the student government, however, he/she holds no voting power;
- e. Support the Lideratos in its activities, projects, and programs;
- f. Prepare evaluation reports of the activities of the Lideratos;
- g. The scope of the power of the moderator only covers the Student Central Board (SCB), Student Congress (SCon), Student Tribunal (ST), and the Commission on Students' Rights and Welfare (CSRW).

#### Section 3

The Lideratos moderator/s may be relieved from their posts on any of the following grounds:

- a. Inactivity and/or evident loss of interest;

- b. Moral turpitude and/or any act that may reflect against the Lideratos, in general; and
- c. Retirement and/or resignation from the University.

**ARTICLE XVII**  
**TRANSITORY PROVISIONS**

Section 1

The incumbent officer of the Liderato kan Nueva Atenista shall continue office until their successors have been proclaimed and have taken their oath.

Section 2

All properties, records, equipment, facilities, and other assets of any office in the Lideratos shall be transferred to the office to which its powers, functions, and responsibilities substantially pertain.

Section 3

The Constitution shall take effect immediately upon its ratification by a majority of the votes cast in a plebiscite held for a purpose and shall supersede all previous Constitutions.

**ARTICLE XVIII**  
**AMENDMENTS AND REVISIONS**

Section 1

Any amendment to or revision of this Constitution may be proposed by the SCon upon  $\frac{3}{4}$  votes of its members.

- (1) Through a constituent assembly;
- (2) A constitutional convention called for the purpose;
- (3) A student initiative.

Section 2

No amendments or revisions shall be made one year after the ratification of this Constitution.