



STUDENT ALUMNI
ASSOCIATION
C O N S T I T U T I O N

The background of the entire page is a faded, grayscale image of a multi-story brick building. The building has a modern architectural style with large windows and a prominent circular logo on its upper facade. The text is centered over this background.

PREAMBLE

We, the members of the Mississippi Valley State University Student Alumni Association, come together in the sight of God to build a better “Valley”. We recognize that we are present, soon to be the future, and will one day symbolize the past. We are accountable for the outgoing legacy of Mississippi Valley State University. We lift the name of our university to shine as a ray of hope. We support the “Valley” and forever may it stand. We love the “Valley” because we are the “Valley”.

One Goal. One Team. One Valley. ... In Motion.



STUDENT ALUMNI
ASSOCIATION
C O N S T I T U T I O N

ARTICLE I

NAME AND ORGANIZATION

NAME

The official name of this organization shall be the Mississippi Valley State University Student Alumni Association.

ADDRESS

The mailing address of the MVSU Student Alumni Association shall be 14000 Highway 82 West; MVSU 7239; Office of Alumni Affairs; Itta Bena, Mississippi 38941 - 1400.

LOCATION

The verified location of the MVSU Student Alumni Association office shall be in the William W. Sutton Administration Building in the Office of Alumni Affairs.

SEAL

TBA (Description)

ARTICLE II

PURPOSE

The vital focus of the MVSU Student Alumni Association is to build a better “Valley”. We will endeavor to support campus activities, help in the recruitment of new students through the MVSU National Alumni Association, Incorporated and be true models of school spirit. We will strive for the enhancement of our school, community, and race supporting the mission of the University; bridging the gap between our community and school and by uplifting and promoting self-pride. Student Alumni members are today’s student leaders preparing to be tomorrow’s alumni leaders. May our continuing support keep the “Valley” in motion.

ARTICLE III

MEMBERSHIP

MEMBERSHIP. To become a member of the MVSU Student Alumni Association with full rights and privileges, the following requirements of membership must be met:

- A. Status as full or part-time student at MVSU
- B. Payment of annual dues of \$20
- C. Have a “LOVE” for MVSU
- D. Be willing to abide by and support the constitution and by-laws of the Student Alumni Association as well as the rules and regulations of the University.
- E. Each applicant must have on file a complete membership application fully processed

Official membership serves for one academic year.

VOTING. Each member paid in full and in good standing with the organization shall have voting rights.

NON DISCRIMINATION CLAUSE. The Mississippi Valley State University Student Alumni Association does not discriminate on the bases of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, disability, veteran status, or sexual-orientation. This organization will NOT initiate, participate in, or be witness to any act that inflicts or intends to inflict physical or mental harm or discomfort or which may demean, disgrace, or degrade any person, regardless of location, intent, or consent of participant(s).

ANTI-HAZING CLAUSE

This organization will not initiate, participate in, or be witness to any act that inflicts or intends to inflict physical or mental harm or discomfort or which may demean, disgrace, or degrade any person, regardless of location, intent, or consent of participant(s). Hazing is defined in the Mississippi Valley State University Student Conduct Code as: an act which endangers the emotional, mental, or physical health or safety of a student, with or without their expressed permission, or which destroys or removes public or private property, for the purpose of initiation, admission into, affiliation with, or as a condition for continued membership in a group or organization. Hazing includes acts that are intended to or actually cause physical discomfort, embarrassment and/or ridicule of another person for the purposes mentioned above or are violations of the Student Conduct Code.

DUTY. It shall be the duty of each member of this organization to foster the ideas and support the activities and functions delegated to the organization operating to its fullest capacity.

MEETING. The organization shall hold regular meetings during the year as stipulated in the By-laws.

ARTICLE IV

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

OFFICERS. The following officers shall serve as the executive council of the Student Alumni Association:

- A. President
- B. Vice President
- C. Secretary
- D. Business Manager
- E. Public Relations
- F. Attorney General
- G. Chaplain

RESIGNATION. In case of death, resignation, or the unavailability of the president, the vice president shall succeed to the office of president. In case of any reason above for both president and vice president, the executive council shall designate a president to preside the remaining term.

VACANCIES. All other officers with unexpired terms will be appointed by the president.

REMOVAL. Any officer may be removed from the executive position if he/she misses more than three consecutive meetings without a valid excuse or for non-performance of duty. The decision shall be made by the general membership.

ELECTION. Each officer shall be elected in the spring of each academic year by majority vote of the general membership:

- Only paid in full members may qualify as an officer.
- All candidates must be in good standing with the University.
- The president and vice president must have junior or senior hours in order to qualify for election.
- Each candidate must maintain an average grade point average under the guidelines of the MVSU Student Handbook.
- Must have been active for at least 80% of the club's regular scheduled activities and meetings.

ARTICLE V

AUXILIARIES

CHAPTER REPRESENTATIVE

Each member selected shall serve as a representative for each county or state in which they reside. He or she shall serve as a subcommittee for the MVSU Student Alumni Association to foster ideas as it relates to the organization on a local chapter level. Each member will be apart of the alumni network committee. They shall be appointed by the executive panel governed by the vice president of the organization as so stated in the By-laws.

STANDING COMMITTEE

There shall be four (4) standing committees within the organization: membership, community service, alumni network and fundraising. There shall be special committees determined each year by the advisor(s) and executive council as so stated in the By-laws.

ADVISOR

Each member of the advisory board shall be chosen by the executive council with the exception of the principle advisor, who shall serve as the Alumni Relations Director of Mississippi Valley State University. Pending on the performance of the organization, the number of advisors will be determined.

CHIEF OF STAFF

The chief of staff serves as an assistant to assist the president in day to day operations of the Student Alumni Association.

POWER AND JURISDICTION

The MVSU Student Alumni Association shall not set any policies that conflict with any policies and regulations of the school, National Alumni Association, state, or national law.

The MVSU Student Alumni Association shall abide by all the rules and regulations as prescribed by the Mississippi Valley State University guidelines and policies.

ARTICLE VI

CONDUCT

Any member or cabinet member, that whosoever behaves in a disorderly fashion, shall be subject to disciplinary action rendered by the advisor, executive cabinet, and/or organization.

ARTICLE VII

AMENDMENT

The constitution and by-laws can only be altered or amended in a general body meeting. Such proposed changes must be submitted in writing prior to the meeting to the president and secretary. A two-thirds vote of present paid in full members is needed for amending.



BY-LAWS

MISSISSIPPI VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY
STUDENT ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

ARTICLE I

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Official membership serves for one academic year.

VOTING. Each member paid in full and in good standing with the organization shall have voting rights.

NEW MEMBERSHIP. New members can join the Student Alumni Association at the beginning of each semester. New membership registration will close on the last day to add/drop classes as outlined on the academic calendar.

INABILITY TO PAY DUES. Students who are unable to pay the \$20 membership dues must write an Advisor for a membership dues waiver request. Requests will be reviewed by all club advisors.

ARTICLE II

DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

The President shall:

- 1. Execute all policies of the SAA.
- 2. Serve as chief representative to the National Alumni Association on behalf of the SAA.
- 3. Appoint members to standing committees.
- 4. Shall oversee the day to day operations of the SAA.
- 5. Shall submit an official budget to the NAA.

VICE PRESIDENT

The Vice President shall:

- 1. Perform all duties of the president in the event of the president's absence, incapacity, and/or unwillingness to serve.
- 2. Help with the planning and execution of all policies.
- 3. Serve on all committees appointed by the president.
- 4. Monitor the day to day operations and officers of the SAA.

SECRETARY

The Secretary shall:

- 1. Maintain an accurate record of all SAA business.
- 2. Take care of all correspondence of the SAA.
- 3. Serve in any capacity as deemed necessary by the president and executive council.
- 4. Serve as an ex-officio member to all standing committees in order to keep record.

BUSINESS MANAGER

The Business Manager shall:

- 1. Take care of all official business as deemed necessary by the executive council and general membership.
- 2. Submit an accurate and accounted budget report to the secretary, general membership, executive council, and the MVSU National Alumni Association.

3. Serve as a financial advisor to the SAA.
4. Serve on all committees which focus on budgetary matters.
5. Keep all records of the financial action in accordance with an approved accounting system.
6. Receive all funds and see that the funds are properly deposited.
7. Disburse the funds by check countersigned by he/she or president and advisor.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

The Public Relations shall:

1. Oversee the quarterly publishing of the official newsletter of the MVSU Student Alumni Association.
2. Oversee the functions of news, issues, and special events dealing with the SAA.
3. Publish any and all news concerning the SAA which will be of interest to the members and the general public.
4. Publish bulletins and calendars on a monthly basis.

ATTORNEY GENERAL

The Attorney General shall:

1. Maintain strict order in the meetings in accordance with the Robert Rules of Order.
2. The rules contained in the current issue of Robert's Rule of Order shall govern the SAA in all cases to which they may apply.
3. Present an updated copy of the SAA constitution/by-laws to the general body.
4. Be interrupter to the president and shall explain the SAA constitution and by-laws to the president, the cabinet and to any member of the SAA who requests it.

CHAPLAIN

The Chaplain shall:

1. Conduct religious services for SAA.
2. Plan religious events, functions, and programs on campus as well as in the community.

ARTICLE III

AUXILIARIES

CHAPTER REPRESENTATIVE

The Chapter Representatives shall:

1. Attend regular and special call meetings.
2. Serve as a mediator and representative for their local area alumni chapter.
3. Assist the organization with day to day functions such as fundraising, activities, and programs.
4. Serve as a recruitment tool for their local area chapter.
5. Assist local area chapters as well as their own if can.
6. Abide by the university and organization rules and regulations.
7. Show school spirit and pride at all times especially at special events.

CHIEF OF STAFF

The Chief of Staff shall:

1. To coordinate the internal affairs of the organization as deemed by the president.
2. To handle all special matters deemed to him/her by the president.
3. To serve as a general assistant and advisor to the president of the SAA and perform and execute any additional duties delegated by the president of the SAA.

ADVISOR

The role of the Advisor shall:

1. Be a resource person.
2. Share specific knowledge in developing and implementing projects.
3. Attend all meetings and activities.

4. Interpret/clarify school policies and procedures.
5. Suggest ideas.
6. Keep records for continuity.
7. Aid in problem solving.
8. Advise the officers.
9. Oversee finances.
10. Represent the administration.

Your advisor role depends on the following:

Need of your group.

Experience of your leadership.

Organization of your council.

Individual personalities and talents.

ARTICLE IV

LIMITATION OF POWER

PRESIDENTIAL

The president shall not use any currency of the organization without the approval of the executive council and advisor(s) other than his/her limit. The president shall not exceed the limits of one hundred and fifty dollars (\$150.00) of expenditures for the organization. A receipt must be submitted for every transaction.

The president shall only vote only when there is an tie in the general body meeting.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

The executive council shall not use any currency of the organization without the approval of the organization and advisor(s) other than their limit. The executive council shall not exceed the limit of two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250.00) of expenditures for the organization. A receipt must be submitted for every transaction.

ORGANIZATION CHECKING ACCOUNT

Only the advisor along with the president and business manager names should appear on the organization's checking accounts.

For disbursements, only the advisor along with the president or business manager signature should appear on the organization's checks.

For continuity, each out-going officer (president and business manager) must change over the names on the account with the bank chosen placing the in-coming officers (president and business manager) names on the account in order to conduct business for the new year. The advisor will make sure this process will take place after elections each year.

ARTICLE V

MEETINGS

The Executive Council shall meet every first week of every month to conduct business for the organization. Issues, proposals and ideas shall be discussed and handled at that time.

The Chapter Representatives shall meet every second week of every month to conduct business for the organization. The vice-president will serve as chair of this meeting.

The General Body shall meet every fourth week of every month to conduct business for the organization. All matters will be discussed, voted upon and decided at the general body meeting. The official status of the organization is rendered at the general body meeting.

ARTICLE VI

QUORUM

A quorum to do business at the monthly meetings and special called meetings for the body shall consist of four (4) of the elected officers, including the president or vice president, and at least twenty official (paid) members. A majority vote shall decide all matters.



ORGANIZATIONAL GOALS

“Fired Up & Ready To Roll”

**MISSISSIPPI VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY
STUDENT ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**



ORGANIZATIONAL GOALS

1. To provide an open forum allowing Valley students to voice their views, grievances, questions, comments, etc.
2. To determine new and innovative methods to increase membership and participation in the organization.
3. To assist new and transfer students in becoming acquainted with the campus.
4. To assist in university recruitment.
5. To encourage faculty involvement in the organization.
6. To re-awaken faculty, staff, administration and others remind them that their involvement should go beyond their job assignments.
7. To re-establish “Valley PRIDE” especially on Wednesday (Green & White Day).
8. To assist the Student Government Association in campus sponsored activities such as Career Day, HBCU Week, Homecoming, High School Day, Orientation, etc....
9. To encourage alumni chapters to give scholarships to not only outstanding students, but to emerging scholars as well.
10. To assist the Director of Alumni Relations and the Office of Alumni Affairs in day to day operations.
11. To help contribute necessary funding through donations, events, and special fund-raising for the continuity of the club.
12. To serve our campus in any shape, form or fashion to better it.
13. To sponsor trips that benefit the organization as a whole as well as the university.
14. To sponsor informational and awareness seminars for the organization.

MISSISSIPPI VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY FACTS PAGE



UNIVERSITY SEAL
"Live for Service"



UNIVERSITY MASCOT
"Delta Devil"



UNIVERSITY LOGO

"SPIRIT & PRIDE"

The official colors of Mississippi Valley State University is Kelly green and white.
Our university is located in Itta Bena, Mississippi within Leflore County.

**MISSISSIPPI VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY OFFICIAL
FIGHT SONG**

DEVIL'S GUN

Fee Fi, Foe Fum
You're looking down the barrel of the Devil's Gun
No where to run
You got to take a stand against the Devil's Gun

**MISSISSIPPI VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY OFFICIAL
ALMA MATER**

written by: Dr. and Mrs. J. H. White in 1951

Hail to thee our Alma Mater
Colors green and white
MVSU our sons and daughters
Always stand for right.

When the days of joy and laughter
Fade upon our sight
We will love our Alma Mater
Dear old green and white.

We will love and cherish thee
Through all our lives
Green and White, we will honor
Keeping standards high.

Grateful, loyal, true and faithful
We will be true,
May they name be everlasting
Dear Old MVSU.



THE HISTORY *of* MISSISSIPPI VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY

Established in 1950

Created by the state legislature in 1946 to train teachers for rural and elementary schools and to provide vocational training, Mississippi Valley State University has significantly expanded its mission over the years. Today, the historically black university is known for its educational environment in which students can learn, discover, create, and grow in service to humanity.

The College opened in the summer of 1950 with an enrollment of 305 in-service teachers. During the first academic year, fourteen regular students were enrolled and taught by seven instructors. The College offered the Bachelor of Science degree in fourteen areas and provided extension services.

The name of the institution changed from Mississippi Vocational College to Mississippi Valley State College in 1964. The College was authorized to offer the Liberal Arts degree, as well as degrees in Science and Education. A third name change occurred on March 15, 1974 when the Honorable Governor William A. Waller, Sr. signed into law the bill granting university status to the institution which has since been known as Mississippi Valley State University.

The original vision has transformed throughout the years as Mississippi Valley State University focuses to attain preeminence in the quality of its students' educational experience and its graduates. In addition, the University wishes to create an optimal living and learning environment that validates its conceptualization as the Valley of Scholars. The institution ultimately endeavors to produce ethical and capable students who are exceptionally prepared for graduate and professional schools and the world of work in a global society.

MVSU, also known as The Valley, offers a diverse range of courses in more than 30 academic fields of study. MVSU houses the only B.B. King Recording Studio in the nation, located on its 450-acre Itta Bena campus. With off-campus sites at the Greenville Higher Education Center and Coahoma Community College as well as online, MVSU provides classes for working people of all ages.

Among MVSU's most impressive programs is its Community Service/Service Learning component that requires students to assist Delta communities through tutoring, mentoring and working with needy citizens. Each MVSU student is required to complete service projects. Freshmen must earn 60 hours and transfer students must earn 40 hours. Unmatched by any other Mississippi institution of higher learning, this program boasts more than 60,000 community service hours per year since its inception in 2003.

In the fall 2004 semester, the University reached a milestone of its highest enrollment to date with 3,621 students; the fall 2003 semester was the first time the University enrolled more than 3,000 students in 25 years. Current enrollment is 2,385 students.

MVSU offered its first master's degree in 1976. Now, the University offers the Master of Business Administration degree; the Master of Social Work degree; the Master of Science degree in Bioinformatics, Criminal Justice, Elementary Education, Environmental Health, Special Education and Sport Administration; and the Master of Arts degree in Teaching, Rural Public Policy and Planning, and Convergent Media.

Founded as a historically black college, MVSU now has a diverse population of students, including international representation from 10 countries. Our highly qualified faculty offer enthusiasm and dedication that directly result in student success. Nearly 70 percent hold doctorate degrees. With a 13:1 student/teacher ratio, students receive individual attention in and out of the classroom. MVSU has 444 employees with an annual payroll of more than \$24.8 million, and total operating budget of \$61.5 million.

MVSU's close ties with the business community enables our students to participate in activities in the corporate world through networking opportunities and interaction with outstanding leaders of organizations.

Mississippi Valley State University is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.



**MISSISSIPPI VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY
NATIONAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, INCORPORATED**

Established 1954

Since the founding of the university, the alumni of Mississippi Valley State University (MVSU) have been strong supporters of their alma mater. To help in the continued growth of the university, the National Alumni Association (NAA) was created in 1954. The Association has been growing force behind MVSU ever since.

MVSU, a historically black university, is the youngest state-supported institution of higher learning in the state of Mississippi. Established in 1946, Mississippi Vocational College (1950-1964) opened its doors at this present location in 1951. The members of the first graduating class of 1953, organized the Alumni Association in the fall of 1954, and adopted the first constitution in 1955.

Over the past 46 years, the MVSU National Alumni Association, like the university, has undergone tremendous growth and development starting with the Association's first president, F. Ellis Young (c/o '53).

Today, under the leadership of Charlie Tolliver (c/o '68) as the current National Alumni Association president, this thriving organization has pledged its support of the University's national fundraising campaign and continues to support the mission and objectives of Mississippi Valley State University.



PRESIDENTIAL LINEAGE



Dr. James H. White
1950-1971



Dr. Ernest A. Boykins
1971-1981



Dr. Joe L. Boyer
1981-1988



Dr. William W. Sutton
1988-1998



Dr. Lester C. Newman
1998-2007



Dr. Donna H. Oliver
2009-2012



Dr. William B. Bynum, Jr.
2013-2017



Dr. Jerryl Briggs, Sr.
2017-Present



STUDENT ALUMNI
ASSOCIATION
CONSTITUTION