

**CONSTITUTION
OF THE
ACTUARIAL SCIENCE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION - ASSA
OF
KWAME NKRUMAH UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
2017
AS AMENDED**



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PREAMBLE:

BELIEVING in the name of the Almighty God, Creator and Ruler of the world, **we the students of the Department of Actuarial Science** of the Faculty of Physical Sciences of the College of Science of the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Kumasi, hereinafter referred to as The ASSA;

DETERMINED to attain excellence in our spiritual, intellectual and socio-political standards for the worthy emulation of posterity;

INTENT on promoting the welfare of students of the Department of Actuarial Science for a positive contribution to Ghana in particular, and all other nations in general;

WITH FAITH in God and realising that in unity lays strength, **do ordain and enact for ourselves the articles of the constitution** in fore knowledge of the statutes and regulations of the Students' Representative Council-K.N.U.S.T. and that of the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Kumasi, Ghana.

CHAPTER 1

THE CONSTITUTION

Article 1 Name, Motto and Sovereignty

(1)

The association shall be legitimately addressed as the **ACTUARIAL SCIENCE STUDENTS**

ASSOCIATION hereinafter referred to as "**ASSA**". When the association is dealing with the external community, it shall be addressed as the **ACTUARIAL SCIENCE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION of the KWAME NKRUMAH UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, Kumasi-Ghana.**

(2)

The motto of the association shall be ***risk is opportunity.***

(3)

The sovereignty of the constitution resides in the members of ASSA governed by the Executive body in whose name and for whose welfare the powers of the ASSA are to be exercised in the manner and within the limits laid down in this Constitution.

ARTICLE 2 SUPREMACY AND AUTHORITY OF THE CONSTITUTION

(1)

This Constitution shall be the supreme law for the governance of all members of ASSA, and ASSA clubs. Any subsidiary ASSA law found to be inconsistent with any provision in this Constitution shall to the extent be null and void.

(2)

Notwithstanding clause (1), this Constitution shall be subject to the Constitution of Ghana, the Constitution of SCISA, the Act establishing this University and all laws made under their authority.

(3)

In the event of any inconsistency, a provision of this Constitution shall take precedence over any provision to the contrary in any subsidiary ASSA club's constitution to the extent of the inconsistency.

ARTICLE 3 ENFORCEMENT OF THE CONSTITUTION

(1)

Any student who alleges that-

(a) any act or omission of any person or group of persons;

or

(b) a constitution, work document, decision, resolution of anybody, or subsidiary club is in contravention with a provision in this Constitution may apply to the Judicial Committee for a declaration to that effect:

(2)

The Judicial Committee shall for the purposes of such declaration under clause (1) of this article make such orders and give such directions as it may consider appropriate for giving effect or enabling effect to be given, to the declaration so made.

(3)

Any person or group of persons to whom an order or direction is addressed under clause (1) of this article by the Judicial Committee shall duly obey and carry out the terms of the order or direction.

(4)

Failure to obey or carry out the terms of an order or direction made or given under clause (2) of this article constitutes a violation of this Constitution and contempt of the Judicial Committee and shall-

(a) In the case of an ASSA executive or committee head, constitute a ground for removal from office under this constitution and

(b) In the case of any student governed by the Executive not be eligible for election or for appointment to any office under the ASSA.

ARTICLE 4 DEFENCE OF THE CONSTITUTION

(1)

(a) Any person who by himself or in concert with others, by any unlawful means suspends or abrogates this constitution or any part of it, or attempts to do such act;

(b) Aids and abets in any manner referred to in paragraph (a); commits an offence of this Constitution and shall in the case of an Executive

member or Committee Head, constitute aground for removal from office and in the case of any other student governed by the Executive, not be eligible for election or for appointment to any office under the ASSA.

(2)

All students governed by the Executive shall have the right and duty at all times-

- a) To defend this Constitution, and in particular, to resist any person or group of persons seeking to commit any .of the acts referred to clause (1) of this article
- b) To do all in their power to restore this Constitution after it has been suspended, subverted, or abrogated as referred to in clause (1)

CHAPTER 2

VISIONS AND VALUES OF ASSA

ARTICLE 5 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF ASSA

(1)

To coordinate in matters relating to the general welfare of the students as well as being responsible for the planning and coordinating of major social, recreational and intellectual activities of the students in the Department of Actuarial Science of the Faculty of Physical Sciences of the College of Science of the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Kumasi

(2)

To foster the good and healthy staff-student relation based on mutual trust and respect.

(3)

To initiate and or participate fully, wherever possible, in all appropriate programmes relating to our field of study, through internships (both local and international) or otherwise, designed to improve the knowledge base of its members.

(4)

To represent the interests of its members as a member of the Actuarial Science Student Association - KNUST.

(5)

To work on behalf of its members to enhance academic advancement, thus the actuarial professional examinations and to present and forward the students' views on academic issues with respect to the Department.

In pursuance of Article (5), Clause (1), ASSA shall organize;

- Seminars
- Workshops
- Symposia
- Field Trips
- Exchange Programmes etc.

CHAPTER 3

MEMBERSHIP AND PATRONS OF ASSA

ARTICLE 6 FULL MEMBERSHIP OF ASSA

(1)

Any undergraduate enrolled in the K.N.U.S.T. to pursue a programme leading to the award of **BSc. Actuarial Science**.

(2)

(a) All full members shall have the right to vote on issues, determine the executive committee and the right to introduce issues for discussion at general meetings.

(b) All full members have the right to contest for any executive committee position during an election {unless otherwise stated in Article (3), Clause (4b); Article 4, Clause (1b)}

(c) All full members shall have the right to be notified of any event that ASSA is organising or is participating in and will enjoy the benefits of membership, such as sponsored events in the name of ASSA.

(3)

(a) Associate Membership Shall be opened to all lecturers, alumni and post-graduate students of the

Department of Actuarial Science of the K.N.U.S.T.

(b) All patrons shall be associate members of ASSA

(c) Associate Members shall have **No** voting right at general meetings.

ARTICLE 7 PATRONS

There shall be a minimum of three (3) and a maximum of six (6) patrons of ASSA;

(a) Head of Department, Actuarial Science, K.N.U.S.T.

(b) Provost, College of Science, K.N.U.S.T.

(c) President, Ghana Actuarial Society.

CHAPTER 4

STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION OF ASSA

ARCICLE 8 COMPOSITION OF THE ASSA

(1)

The ASSA shall be composed of three working bodies:

- (a) The Executive Committee
- (b) The ASSA Council
- (c) The General Assembly

(2)

The three working bodies provided for in clause (1) above shall be independent of each other and the arrangement shall in no way prescribe a line of authority.

CHAPTER 5

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

ARTICLE 9 COMPOSITION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

(1)

There shall be an executive committee comprising of the following offices elected by secret ballot;

a) The President

b) The Vice President

c) The General Secretary

d) The Financial Secretary

e) The Organising Secretary

f) The Editor-in-Chief

g) The Women's Commissioner

(2)

The executive authority of the ASSA shall vest in the President and shall be exercised in consultation with the Executive Committee

(3)

GENERAL DUTIES THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

I) Shall be responsible for the day-to-day running of the affairs of the ASSA.

- II) Shall appoint the Standing committee Chairperson unless otherwise stated by other provisions of this constitution.
- III) Shall be required to present a programme of activities for ASSA upon assumption into office before the end of the semester in which they assumed office.
- iv) Shall, in consultation with the Electoral Commission, determine annually, the period during which ASSA's general elections shall be held.
- v) Shall co-ordinate with other associations on campus.
- vi) Shall make recommendations regarding revenues and expenditure of ASSA.

ARTICLE 10 SPECIFIC DUTIES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

(1)

The President

- (a) Shall be the Chief Executive Officer of ASSA in which capacity he shall be responsible for co-ordinating and superintending the duties of all other ASSA Executive members and committees except the judicial, the electoral and the audit committees.
- (b) The President shall take precedence over all other persons under the ASSA and in descending order, the Vice President, the Secretary, the Financial Secretary, the Organizing Secretary, and the Editor in Chief.
- (c) Shall be the custodian of ASSA constitution.
- (d) Shall be responsible for the official correspondence of ASSA.
- (e) Shall preside over all meetings of the Executive Committee, ASSA Council and general meetings of ASSA.
- (f) Shall direct and convene all meetings of ASSA.
- (g) Shall, together with the General Secretary, represent ASSA at the Science Students' Association SCISA-KNUST council.
- (h) Shall be responsible for co-signing cheques on behalf of ASSA.
- (i) Shall be responsible for presenting a report on the State of Affairs of ASSA at General meetings.

(2)

The Vice President

- (a) Shall provide a temporary replacement for the president upon his absence.
- (b) Shall assume the position of the President upon the resignation or expulsion of the President.

- (c) Shall be the Chairperson of the Welfare Committee of ASSA and shall co-ordinate the activities of the various committees except the electoral commission, the audit committee and the judicial committee.

(3)

The General Secretary

- (a) Shall be responsible for the Central Administration of ASSA.
- (b) Shall keep accurate minutes of proceedings of ASSA, the Council and Executive Committee meetings, and shall distribute minutes of previous general meetings to the Council.
- (c) Shall, in consultation with the President, be responsible for conducting all correspondence of ASSA.
- (d) Shall be the Chairperson of all subsidiary Clubs and Societies under ASSA.
- (e) Shall be the custodian of all official documents of ASSA.

(4)

The Financial Secretary

- (a) Shall be responsible for the Financial Administration of ASSA.
- (b) Shall be the Chairperson of the Fundraising Committee.
- (c) Shall keep a true and fair financial record for ASSA.
- (d) Shall collect dues and receive all other funds on behalf of ASSA.
- (e) Shall present financial statements to the Association before the end of each semester.
- (f) Shall have custody of all ASSA cheque books and cash books.
- (g) Shall present the semester budget at the beginning and the latter part of the semester.

(5)

The Organising Secretary

- (a) Shall be the head of the organizing team during week celebrations and other important social events of the Association.
- (b) Shall have the mandate to form appropriate committees, in consultation with the other executives, during social events of the Association.
- (c) Shall see to it that there is enough publicity before general meetings and all other social functions of the Association are carried out.

- (d) Shall be the custodian of all assets of the Association.

(6)

The Editor-in-Chief

- I) Shall, in conjunction with the organising secretary, be responsible for all publications of ASSA-K.N.U.S.T.
- II) Shall be responsible for drawing up posters and advertisements on behalf of the Association.
- III) Shall be responsible for maintaining the Association's mailing list and website.
- IV) Shall be responsible for all presentation management at all ASSA events.

(7)

The Women's Commissioner

- (a) The Commissioner shall promote the rights and interests of women.
- (b) The Commissioner shall encourage active participation of female students in leadership positions.
- (c) The Commissioner shall inculcate in the female students a sense of inclusion, solidarity and active participation in activities on campus.
- (d) The Commissioner shall be responsible for creating a link between the female students and other women groups with the aim of sharing ideas and strategies on female related issues.
- (e) The Women's Commissioner shall ensure that the ASSA and College policies are not inimical to the development of female students especially in ASSA.
- (f) The Commissioner shall be responsible for organizing seminars, symposia, public forums and other programmes with the aim of empowering the female students of ASSA and sensitizing men on gender related issues.
- (g) The Commissioner shall present periodic reports to the Council on the state of the general welfare of female students.
- (h) Discharge such other duties affecting general welfare of female students as may be referred to it by the President or imposed on it by this Constitution.

CHAPTER 6

THE ASSA COUNCIL

(Hereinafter referred to as the Council)

ARTICLE 11 COMPOSITION OF THE ASSA COUNCIL

The ASSA Council shall comprise of;

- i) All members of the Executive Committee.
- ii) Class presidents of all year groups of Actuarial Science.
- iii) Chairpersons of all various sub-committees except the Senate.

ARTICLE 12 FUNCTIONS OF THE ASSA COUNCIL

- I)** The Council shall be the highest legislative body of the Association.
- II)** The Council shall meet at least once a semester (preferably after each meeting of the General Assembly).
- III)** The President of the Association shall preside over all meetings of The Council.
- IV)** The Council shall determine annual membership dues.

CHAPTER 7

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

ARTICLE 13 COMPOSITION THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The General Assembly shall comprise of all Full Members of ASSA-KNUST.

ARTICLE 14 FUNCTIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

- (a) Shall meet at least once in a Semester to discuss matters affecting the Association and also matters referred to it by the Executive Committee and or the Senate.
- (b) Shall determine any amount payable by each Full Member which it may deem necessary for the smooth running of the Association.
- (c) Shall deliberate on and accept the annual budget presented to it by the Executive Committee exactly a month after the latter has assumed office.
- (d) Shall deliberate on and accept the annual Audit Report presented to it by the Audit Committee at a meeting specifically called for it before handing over ceremony.
- (e) Shall deliberate on and approve on the members of the Audit Committee presented to it by the Senate.
- (f) Shall have power to summon chairpersons of various standing or ad hoc committees as well as any member of the Executive Council.
- (g) Shall deliberate on and accept the General Secretary's Annual Report which must be done before handing over.
- (h) Decisions shall be arrived by a simple majority of members present and voting at a meeting unless otherwise stated by this Constitution.

CHAPTER 8

THE SUB-COMMITTEE

ARTICLE 15 COMPOSITION OF THE SUB-COMMITTEES

The Executive Committee shall establish subsidiary committees, some standing, others ad hoc, for the purpose of carrying out and assisting in achieving the policies of the Association. Members of such committees shall apply to the Executive Committee through the General Secretary in writing, unless otherwise stated by this Constitution.

ARTICLE 16 COMPOSITION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE

- I) THE SENATE (JUDICIAL COMMITTEE)
- II) THE ELECTORAL COMMISSION
- III) AUDIT COMMITTEE
- IV) EDITORIAL COMMITTEE
- V) CHAPLAINCY COMMITTEE
- VI) INVESTMENT COMMITTEE
- VII) SPONSORSHIP COMMITTEE
- VIII) EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEE
- IX) WELFARE COMMITTEE
- X) THE SPORTS AND GAMES COMMITTEE
- XI) THE TRANSPORT COMMISSION
- XII) THE DINNER COMMITTEE
- XIII) THE PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICE
- XIV) TRADE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

ARTICLE 17 MANDATE OF STANDING COMMITTEE

(1)

SENATE (JUDICIAL COMMITTEE)

COMPOSITION OF THE SENATE

There shall be a Senate, established by the executive committee of the ASSA. The activities of the Senate shall be superintended by the Judicial Chairman who shall be appointed by the President. The senate is a five member committee with the Chairman inclusive. The other four

members must consist of a representative from each undergraduate class of Actuarial Science.

INDEPENDENCE OF THE SENATE

The Judicial Committee shall in the performance of its function be subject to this Constitution, the rules and regulations of this University and the Constitution of Ghana and shall not be subject to the control or direction of any person or authority.

Neither the President nor any person acting under the authority of the President nor any other person shall interfere with Judicial Committee officers or other persons exercising judicial power, in the exercise of judicial functions and all students shall accord to the Judicial Committee such assistance as the judicial committee may reasonably require to protect the independence, dignity and effectiveness of the Judicial Committee, subject to the Constitution.

- a) A judicial Committee member or any person exercising judicial power shall not be liable to any action or suit for any act or omission by him in the exercise of the judicial power.

b) FUNCTIONS OF THE SENATE

- I) Shall deliberate on matters referred to it by the General Assembly, Executive Committee or the various Sub-committees.
- II) The Senate shall take the central role of the receiver of complaints concerning the governance of the Association and the main arbiter.
- III) The Senate shall have jurisdiction in every matter relating to the enforcement and interpretation of any of the provisions of this Constitution and in every matter where it is alleged that a person or group of persons has/have acted ultra vires the powers conferred on them by this Constitution.
- IV) The Senate shall have the mandate to resolve conflicts of students or groups of students.
- V) The Senate shall have power to co-opt members of ASSA to appear before it to give evidence.
- VI) The Senate shall have appellate jurisdiction over all election petitions with the Electoral Commissioner and shall resolve all issues pertaining to elections before elections are conducted.

(2)

THE ELECTORAL COMMISSION

The Electoral Commissioner shall be appointed by the Executive Committee.

The Electoral Commissioner shall head the Electoral Commission. The Electoral Commissioner shall be assisted by four other members who shall be Representatives from each Actuarial class.

FUNCTIONS OF THE ELECTORAL COMMISSION

- I) The Commission shall be responsible for the conduct of all ASSA sponsored elections in a free, fair, and transparent manner.
- II) The commission may make rules and regulations of procedures for the exercise and execution of its function, subject to the rules and regulations governing the conduct of ASSA elections as stipulated in this Constitution.
- III) The Electoral Commissioner shall represent the Association at the college level Electoral Commission.
- IV) The Electoral Commission shall conduct all referenda of the Association.

(3)

AUDIT COMMITTEE

The Chairman of the Audit Committee shall be appointed by the President. The committee shall comprise of at least one member from each year group.

FUNCTIONS OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

- I) The committee shall be responsible for auditing the accounts of the association each semester.
- II) The committee shall submit reports and copies made available to the general student body.
- III) The Audit Committee members shall be nominated by the Senate and approved by the General Assembly.
- IV) The Audit Committee shall be made up of a maximum of seven (7) members.
- V) The Audit Committee shall be directly responsible to the General Assembly.

(4)

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

There shall be a maximum of five members including the Editor-in-chief acting as the chairperson.

FUNCTION OF THE EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

- I) The committee shall be responsible for the publication of all ASSA sponsored publications.

- II)** Shall perform such functions as delegated to it by the Executive Committee or the General Assembly from time to time.

(5)

CHAPLAINCY COMMITTEE

There shall be a Chaplaincy Committee which shall manage the affairs of the **ASSA CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP**. The committee shall compose of:

- i) The Chaplain, who shall be appointed by the ASSA COUNCIL.
- ii) Four other members appointed from each year group shall assist the Chaplain with his duties.

FUNCTIONS OF THE CHAPLAINCY COMMITTEE

The committee shall be responsible for:

- i) All prayers during ASSA functions.
- ii) Organizing weekly meetings for all ASSA members.
- iii) Organizing daily prayers for the various year groups.
- iv) Organize a special prayer session prior to every exams.

(6)

INVESTMENT COMMITTEE

There shall be an Investment Committee which shall be a standing committee.

- i) It shall comprise of one member from each year group of Actuarial Science.
- ii) The President of the Association shall be the Chairman of the committee.

FUNCTIONS OF THE INVESTMENT COMMITTEE

- I) Be in charge of all investments made by the Association.
- II) Shall be the decision making body responsible for advising the association as to which investments to undertake.

(7)

SPONSORSHIP COMMITTEE

Shall be made up of a maximum of five (5) members including the Chairperson of the Committee.

FUNCTIONS OF THE SPONSORSHIP COMMITTEE

- I) It shall see to all the financial and fund-raising affairs of the Association.

- II) Shall present quarterly and annual financial accounts of the association to the Audit Committee.
- III) It shall safeguard all assets and liabilities of the association.
- IV) It shall perform such duties that may be assigned to it by both the Executive Committee and General Assembly in accordance with the provisions of this constitution or any other higher constitution.

(8)

EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEE

Shall be made up of a maximum of five members including the Chairperson.
Each class of Actuarial Science, shall be represented on the committee.

FUNCTIONS OF THE EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEE

- I) Shall pursue the realization of Article 2 Sect (1) and Sect (5b).
- II) Shall in consultation with the Executive Committee be responsible for the organization of educational trips and seminars for members of the association.
- III) Shall perform any other duties that may be assigned to it by the Executive Committee or the General Assembly.

(9)

WELFARE COMMITTEE

Shall be made up of a maximum of seven members including the Chairperson and the Deputy Chairperson. The Chairperson shall be the Vice President of ASSA. Each class of Actuarial Science shall be represented on the committee

THE FUNCTIONS OF THE WELFARE COMMITTEE

- (a) Shall initiate, plan and execute all welfare-oriented activities on behalf of the association.
- (b) Shall perform any other duties that may be assigned to it by the Executive Committee or the General Assembly.

(10)

THE SPORTS AND GAMES COMMITTEE

There shall be a Sports and Games Committee that shall be formed in a manner

provided for in this Constitution. It shall be a five-member committee. The Chairman of the Committee shall be appointed by the President of ASSA. Each class of Actuarial Science shall have a representative on the committee

FUNCTIONS OF THE SPORTS AND GAMES COMMITTEE.

- (a) The Sports and Games Commission shall advise the executive council on sports related issues under the ASSA.
- (b) The Sports and Games Commissioner shall perform his duties in consultation with the Sports directorate of the University.
- (c) Be responsible for the general development of sports and games under ASSA.
- (d) The Sports and Games Commissioner shall perform any other function assigned to him/her by the executive committee or the General Assembly.

(11)

THE TRANSPORT COMMISSION

There shall be a Transport Commission formed by the Executive Committee. It shall be a one-member Commission. The Commissioner for the Transport Commission shall be appointed by the President of ASSA.

FUNCTIONS OF THE TRANSPORT COMMISSION

- (a) The Transport Commissioner shall be the sole commissioner in charge of transport under ASSA.
- (b) The Transport Commissioner shall supervise all transport activities on behalf of ASSA.
- (c) The Transport Commissioner shall be responsible for arranging for means of transport for any ASSA outing program.

- (d) The Transport Commissioner shall be the sole commissioner responsible for delivering the report on the state of transport affairs of ASSA to the Council at least once every semester.
- (e) The Transport Commissioner shall perform all other functions relating to his office assigned to him by the Executive Council and by this Constitution.

(12)

THE DINNER COMMITTEE

There shall be a Dinner Committee whose activities shall be spearheaded by the Dinner Committee Head. The head of the dinner committee shall be appointed by the President of ASSA. It shall be a five-member Committee. Each Actuarial Class must have a representative on the committee

FUNCTIONS OF THE DINNER COMMITTEE

- (a) The committee shall be responsible for organizing at least one dinner for the academic year.
- (b) The committee shall work with Transport Commissioner to provide for means of Transport in the event, the dinner is held out of campus.
- (c) The committee shall perform all other functions relating to dinner, assigned to them by the Executive Council and by this Constitution

(13)

THE PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICE

The Executive committee shall form a Public Relations office. This shall be a one-member committee. The Officer shall be appointed by the President of ASSA.

FUNCTIONS OF THE PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER

- (a) Be responsible for publicizing all activities of ASSA in consultation with the particular committee concerned.
- (b) Strategize as to how to disseminate information and make information accessible to all students under ASSA.
- (c) In collaboration the Organizing Secretary, shall be responsible for the organization of all meetings of ASSA and shall do this upon authorization by the General Secretary of the ASSA.
- (d) Monitor and maintain ASSA notice board and authorize the usage of same by any other body.
- (e) The Public Relations Officer shall be the sole officer responsible for presenting the report on the state of information dissemination.
- (f) Perform any other functions that may be assigned to it by the Executive Council and in relation to its office.

(14)

TRADE, TECHNOLOGY AND INOVATION DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

The Trade and Technology committee shall be formed by the Executive committee. It shall be a five-member committee. The Chairman for the committee shall be appointed by the President of ASSA. All classes in Actuarial Science shall have a representative in the committee.

FUNCTIONS OF TRADE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

- (a) The committee shall promote trade and technology among students
- (b) Shall be responsible for organizing trade and technology fair at least once in each academic year.
- (c) The Committee shall inculcate in ASSA Students a sense of innovation development by organizing Innovative development project competitions among ASSA students every academic year.
- (d) The Committee shall invite and receive innovative ideas and projects throughout the Academic year for implementation if approved.
- (e) The committee shall in consultation with the sponsorship committee seek sponsorship for their implementation of approved projects and ideas.
- (f) The Committee shall perform any other function as may be assigned to them by the Council and General Assembly

ARTICLE 18 COMPOSITION OF AD HOC COMMITTEE

- (1) Constitutional Review Committee

ARTICLE 19 MANDATE OF AD HOC COMMITTEE

(1)

CONSTITUTIONAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

There shall be the formation of the Constitutional Review Committee every five years to entirely review the constitution. The committee shall be made up of a maximum of five members. The head of the five member committee shall be the Constitutional Review Chairman appointed by the President with the approval of the other Executive committee members.

(2)

FUNCTIONS OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

- I. The committee shall entirely review the committee every five years.
- II. In the event of an amended constitution, the amended constitution must be presented to the ASSA council, and finally to the General Council for approval.

CHAPTER 9

FINANCE OF ASSA

ARTICLE 20 SOURCE OF FUNDING FOR ASSA

(1)

The ASSA shall derive its funds from the following sources;

i. Dues

Full members shall pay;

- a) Annual dues approved from time to time by the Council.
- b) Other monies as the Executive Committee or the General Assembly deems necessary for the smooth running of the association.

ii. Donations

Donations either in cash or in kind shall be welcomed by the Association from Associate members, Full members as well as other groups or corporate bodies.

iii. Others

- a) The Executive Committee shall as and when is necessary, arrange for and receive appropriate subvention from other organizations such as the Ghana Actuarial Society and others as may be specified by the Executive Committee.
- b) The Sponsorship Committee shall organize fund-raising activities on behalf of the association.

ARTICLE 21 BANKING

(1)

- i) All monies of the association shall be deposited by the Financial Secretary at a local branch of a reputable bank.
- ii) The president, financial secretary and the general secretary shall be joint signatories to the said account. Any two of the signatories above will have to sign a cheque before any withdrawal can be made.

CHAPTER 10

MEETINGS OF ASSA

ARTICLE 22 QUORUM

(1)

General Assembly

At all meetings of the General Assembly, one-third of the full members of the association including three members of the executive committee shall form a quorum.

(2)

ASSA Council

At all meetings of the ASSA Council, three members of the executive committee (president, gen. secretary and any other member), two class presidents and two chairpersons of the various sub-committees shall form a quorum.

(3)

Executive Committee

At all meetings of the executive committee, the president and any two other members shall form a quorum.

(4)

Sub-committees

At all meetings of the various sub-committees, the President and any two other members shall form a quorum.

ARTICLE 23 EMERGENCY MEETINGS

- (1) The president or the general secretary shall call an emergency General Assembly on the authority of the entire executive committee. There shall be at least twenty-four hours notice on all ASSA notice boards before the said meeting.
- (2) Any ten full members with good standing shall present a duly signed memorandum to the executive committee upon which an emergency General Assembly meeting shall be organized within seventy-two hours after the executive committee receives it.
- (3) Chairpersons of the various sub-committees shall in consultation with their secretaries have the power to call for emergency meetings provided all members of the committees are duly notified not later than twenty-four hours prior to the

meeting.

ARTICLE 24 CONDUCT AT MEETINGS

- (1) Every member shall address himself/herself solely to the chair.
- (2) A speaker shall direct his speech strictly to the motion under discussion.
- (3) Members shall not use abusive, provocative or unparliamentary language at all meetings of ASSA. The chairperson has the power to expel any offender on the third offence.
- (4) Upon a presentation of a motion from the floor and duly seconded and supported by a simple majority present at a meeting, the chair may expel any member(s) who misbehave at any formal meeting of the association.
- (5) If no definite motion is before the house, the speaker shall direct his speech strictly to the point on the agenda (agendum) under discussion.
- (6) No member shall be allowed to speak more than once on an issue under discussion as long as another member who has not spoken desires the floor.
- (7) No member shall speak for more than five minutes at a time without the permission of the chair.
- (8) Refusal to comply with the motion shall render a member liable to suspension from the association for a period of time determined by the executive committee and approved by the general assembly.

ARTICLE 25 MEETING PROCEEDINGS

(1)

STANDING ORDERS

The following shall be the standing orders at all ASSA meetings;

- a) Voting on motions
- b) Motions and amendments
- c) Order of precedence
- d) Other interventions

(2)

DETAILS OF STANDING ORDERS

The following standing orders shall apply at all meetings of ASSA:

VOTING

- i) Voting shall be by full members only. No voting by proxy. Each full member shall be entitled to only one vote.
- ii) In voting, motions shall be carried by a simple majority unless otherwise stated by the constitution. Casting of votes shall be in this order; votes for, against and abstention. If the votes for and against

an issue result in a tie, the chairman shall exercise the deciding vote. Members abstaining shall be considered as non-voting.

- iii) Voting shall be by a simple show of hands or as determined by the chairman, unless otherwise stated by the constitution.

MOTIONS AND AMENDMENTS

- I) All full members have the right to file motion(s).
- II) All motions shall be submitted in writing to the chairman.
- III) No motion or amendment shall be open for discussion until it has been seconded, but the proposal advocate (proposer) shall have the right to speak on the motion in order to find an endorser (seconder).
- IV) A motion shall only be opened for discussion or amendment after the proposer and seconder (s) have had the opportunity to speak in support of the motion. The debate must be limited to the immediate pending question by the chair. The chairman shall rule out of order any speaker failing to adhere to the motion (subject) under discussion.
- V) The mover of an original motion (or amendment) shall have the right to reply at the close of the debate upon his motion (or amendment).
- VI) No motion (or amendment) which has been accepted by the meeting shall be withdrawn without the consent of the meeting; neither shall any amendment be made to a motion that has already been accepted by the house without the consent of the house.
- VII) If an amendment to a motion were rejected, other amendments may be moved on the original motion. If an amendment is carried, the motion as amended shall become the motion, and shall be the question to which any further discussion may be addressed or upon which final vote is taken.
- VIII) No amendment shall be moved which, by the chairman's ruling, rescinds, negates or destroys the original motion.

ORDER OF PRECEDENCE

- i) The chairman shall allow the following procedural motions to be put when there is already a proposition on the table in this order:
 - a) Motion to withdraw motion
 - b) Motion to recess
 - c) Motion to reverse the decision of the chair
 - d) Motion that a question or a proposal not be newly put

- e) Motion to limit or expand debate to a certain specified period of time
- f) Motion to refer the matter to a committee or a sub-committee for investigation and for report
- g) Motion to postpone or adjourn a matter to a later meeting or time.
- h) Motion to close debate
- i) Motion that a motion can now be voted upon.
- ii) If the motion "now be voted upon" has been seconded, no further discussion of the original question shall be allowed but a member may give notice of his desire to speak further on the original question. If the motion is carried, only the proposer of the original question under discussion shall be allowed to speak before the original question is put to vote.
- iii) Should any procedural motion be defeated, twenty minutes shall elapse before such a motion can be accepted again by the chair unless the chair is of the opinion that the circumstances has materially altered in the meantime.
- iv) If the motion is "limit debate to a specified period of time" the proposer shall be allowed a maximum of five minutes before the original motion is put to vote.

OTHER INTERVENTIONS

In addition to discussion on an issue, the chairman shall recognize those requesting the floor by the following order of precedence:

- (A) Point of order
- (B) Personal privilege
- (C) Point of correction
- (D) Point of information

POINT OF ORDER

A point of order must be heard at all times except during the act of voting. It must deal with the conduct of procedure of the meeting and concern only such matters as in decorum transgression of the Standing Orders, Transgression of the Constitution, calling attention to the introduction of a matter not relevant to the question under consideration and the use of proper language. The Point of Order must be presented within fifteen minutes.

PERSONAL PRIVILEGE

A request made by a member asking the Chairman to deal with an emergency or other matters of general welfare. The Chairman needs to hear the Personal

Privilege as early as possible. The Point of Personal Privilege must be presented within fifteen minutes.

POINT OF CORRECTION

The Point of Correction is a statement raised by a member during another member's presentation. The Point of Information is intended to correct a wrong or skewed statement. The POC is directed towards the member on floor. The POC is not meant to register mere disagreement with the member on floor and it must be made within fifteen minutes.

POINT OF INFORMATION

The Point of Information is a question or statement raised by a member to another member on the floor. The POI is intended to either solicit for additional information or to add further information to what is being said by the member on the floor. The POI must be presented within fifteen second.

CHAPTER 11

ELECTIONS

ARTICLE 26 ELECTORAL COMMISSION

- (1) Members of the Electoral Commission shall be nominated by the Electoral Commissioner and approved by the Senate.
- (2) Rules and regulations governing the conduct of elections shall be published on all notice boards at least seven days before the period of elections.
- (3) The Electoral Commission shall provide adequate election materials for all elections as well as referenda for the association.
- (4) The Electoral Commission as and when needed shall in consultation with the Senate determine the period for all referenda.

ARTICLE 27 PERIOD OF ELECTIONS

- (1) The period for the general elections shall be determined by the Electoral Commission in consultation with the Executive Committee.
- (2) During this period, full members shall elect the Executive Committee members.
- (3) All general elections and referenda shall be by secret ballot.
- (4) The winner of all ASSA elections shall be by a simple majority unless otherwise stated by this constitution.

ARTICLE 28 ELIGIBILITY

- (1) Any full member of ASSA is eligible to contest for any position provided he has been in the department for more than one academic year and is not a final year student.
- (2) No member shall be eligible to contest for any position under this constitution once he has been voted out of any student position for a proven misdemeanour.
- (3) Any member found guilty of embezzlement or wilfully misbehaved in a manner detrimental to the interest of the association in particular and the general student body as a whole by the findings of any accredited judicial body shall not be eligible to contest in any ASSA elections

ARTICLE 29 NOMINATIONS

- (1) The Electoral Commission shall determine the period of nominations, screening, presentation of manifesto, voting and other events concerned with elections.
- (2) All nominations shall be made by full members. Each candidate for election shall have at least two supporting members from each class whose official names and signatures shall appear on the nomination forms of the candidate. The person who is nominated shall certify on the nomination form that he has consented to be nominated.
- (3) Nominations shall be submitted to the Electoral Commission.

ARTICLE 30 SCREENING

- (1) Candidates shall appear before the Electoral Commission for screening.
- (2) The Electoral Commission shall take into account, the past records of any candidate in the University.
- (3) A candidate withdrawn from contesting for any office after screening shall have the right to demand in writing, reasons underlying his disqualification or withdrawal. The Electoral Commission shall be obliged to justify its stands within three days after the receipt of the letter. The said candidate shall also have the right to petition the Senate in writing against the ruling of the Electoral Commission within seventy-two hours after his notification.
- (4) Qualified candidates for elections shall begin campaigning immediately after screening and shall cease to campaign right after the manifesto presentation. The period of time for campaigning shall be determined by the Electoral Commission but there shall be at least three days of campaigning period.

ARTICLE 31 VOTING

- (1) Every member of ASSA shall have the right to cast one vote for each office being contested.
- (2) Voting shall be between 0800GMT and 1600GMT.
- (3) All acts of intimidation that influences voter's rights to franchise constitute an offence. If proven that a particular candidate or any person(s) acting on his behalf is/are involved in any act(s) of intimidation, the number of votes obtained by the said candidate shall be declared null and void. He shall however have the right to petition the Senate in writing against the ruling of the Electoral Commission within seventy-two hours after his votes are declared null and void.

ARTICLE 32 RULES OF CONDUCT

- (1) A simple majority is required to win an election.
- (2) Candidates who stand unopposed shall require a minimum of fifty percent plus one (50%+1) of the total valid votes cast to win an election.
- (3) In the event of a tie, fresh voting shall be conducted for the candidates involved.
- (4) Contravention of any of the electoral proceedings by any candidate shall constitute an electoral offence and the candidate involved shall lose his right to candidature. He shall however have the right to petition the Senate in writing against the ruling of the Electoral Commission within seventy-two hours after his disqualification.
- (5) In case of an uncontested position, the elected members of the Executive Committee shall on assumption of office put forward the names of two or more nominees to be voted for to fill the vacancy by the general assembly in a meeting specifically called for it.
- (6) No member of the Executive Committee shall hold two or more chairs of a subcommittee or be a Senator unless conferred on him by other provisions of this constitution.

ARTICLE 33 DURATION OF TERM OF OFFICE

Members of the Executive Committee shall hold office for one academic year from the time they assume office.

ARTICLE 34 RE-ELECTION

Unless otherwise stated by other provisions of this constitution, members of the Executive Committee shall be eligible for re-elections. No Executive Committee member shall however serve for more than two academic terms of office.

ARTICLE 35 BYE-ELECTIONS

- (1) Unless otherwise stated by other provisions of this constitution, following the resignation, vote of no confidence, impeachment or death of any elected

officer, the

Electoral Commission shall organize a bye-election on behalf of the association

- (2) Without prejudice to the provisions of this constitution, bye-elections shall be organized within twenty-one days after the vacancy has been created.
- (3) No officer of the association shall be eligible to contest a bye-election without first resigning his office.

CHAPTER 12

GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR ASSA OFFICERS

ARTICLE 36 CONDUCT OF ASSA OFFICERS

- (1)
An ASSA officer shall not put himself in a position where his personal interest conflicts or is likely to conflict with the performance of the functions of his office.
- (2)
An ASSA officer shall at all times act in the best interest of the ASSA.
- (3)
The exercise of power by any ASSA officer shall not be arbitrary, capricious or biased whether by resentment, prejudice or personal dislike and shall be in accordance with due process of law.
- (4)
An ASSA officer shall not accept a gift, token or any other consideration which he would normally not receive for the performance of his function, from any person.
- (5)
No ASSA officer shall indulge himself in any act that shall bring or is likely to bring the name of the ASSA, SCISA and/or University into disrepute.
- (6)
Any ASSA Officer who is absent from Council of General Assembly meeting without due notification is supposed to pay a fine of GH¢20.00 within 7 days; day of meeting inclusive.
In the event that an ASSA officer is unable to pay the fine within the stipulated time period, that Officer will be suspended or in severe cases be relieved of his post. The Officer equally loses all the benefits of his office.
- (7)
Before entering upon the duties of his office, a person elected or duly appointed to an office under the ASSA shall take and subscribe the oath of allegiance, oath of secrecy and the official oath set out in the third schedule of this Constitution, or any other oath appropriate to his office.
- (8)
Any breach of the provisions set out in clauses (1), may constitute a ground for removal or suspension from office.

CHAPTER 13

REMOVAL, DISMISSAL, AND SUSPENSION

ARTICLE 37 RESIGNATION

(1)

Any ASSA committee member shall communicate his resignation in writing to his respective head of committee under the ASSA, seven (7) days before the date of resignation and copy same to the Coordinator for ASSA.

(2)

The Committee from which the officer resigns shall publish such resignation on ASSA's notice board within four (4) days after receipt of the resignation letter.

(3)

Any Head of Committee under the ASSA shall communicate his resignation in writing to the Judicial Committee Chairman three (3) days before the date of resignation and copy same to the President of ASSA and in the case of the Judicial Committee Chairman; he shall communicate such resignation to the President.

(4)

In pursuance of clause (3), the Judicial Committee Chairman or the ASSA President as the case may be, shall publish such resignation on ASSA's notice boards within four (4) days after receipt of the resignation letter.

(5)

In a case of an en bloc resignation of the Executive Committee officers, they shall communicate their resignation in writing to the Judicial Committee Chairperson and copy same to the Dean of Students for College of Science or the Coordinator for ASSA, 21 working days before the date of resignation. Either the Coordinator for ASSA or the Judicial Committee Chairperson shall form a committee to determine the merits of the resignation within four (4) working days and shall communicate the Committee's decision to the resigning officer.

(6)

In pursuance of clause five (5), the Judicial Committee Chairperson shall form an interim management committee from among the ASSA until fresh elections are held.

(7)

In the event where an ASSA officer resigns he shall hand over all ASSA properties in his possession to the Judicial Committee Chairperson three (3) days before the date of resignation.

ARTICLE 38 GROUNDS FOR REMOVAL OF ASSA OFFICERS

An ASSA officer(s) shall individually or severally be removed or suspended from office if found by the Judicial Committee in accordance with the provisions of this article to have:

- (1) Acted in willful violation of the oath of office set out in the schedule
- (2) Acted in violation of any provision of this Constitution.
- (3) Misappropriated or embezzled funds of the ASSA.
- (4) Grossly misconducted himself.
- (5) Been suspended or dismissed from this University.
- (6) Conducted himself in a manner which brings or is likely to bring the name of the ASSA into disrepute.
- (7) Deferred his course of study.
- (8) Been incapable of performing the functions of his office by reason of infirmity of mind or body.

ARTICLE 39 IMPEACHMENT

(1)

An executive officer under the ASSA shall only be removed by the procedure specified in this clause:

- (a) A petition for the removal of an executive officer shall by notice in writing be addressed to the Judicial Council Chairman stating the grounds for removal and copied to the Coordinator for ASSA.
- (b) Attached to the petition shall be a schedule containing the names, academic year, course of study and signatures of twenty (20) students from each Actuarial class.
- (c) A copy of the proceedings shall be served on the Executive Officer whom such a proceeding has been proffered against at least two (2) days before the hearing of such case.
- (d) The chairperson of the Judicial Committee shall within seven (7) days on the receipt of such a notice of impeachment, empanel a high powered judicial committee to ascertain the merits of such a case.
- (e) The decision of the judicial committee formed shall be published on all notice boards of College of Science.
- (f) An executive officer so impeached shall cease to be an officer in *strictosensu* under the ASSA and shall lose all privileges and benefits accruable to an executive officer.

(2)

The Judicial Committee Chairman shall only be removed by the procedure specified in this clause:

- (a) A petition for the removal of the Judicial Committee Chairman shall by notice in writing, be addressed to the President of the ASSA and copied to the Coordinator for ASSA.
 - (b) The President shall constitute a five (5) member panel consisting of two Judicial Committee members, one of whom shall be appointed Chairman by the President, and three other persons who are neither members of the executive council nor members of the ASSA council.
 - (c) The committee appointed under sub clause (b) of this clause shall inquire into the petition and recommend to the President whether the Judicial Committee Chairman ought to be removed.
 - (d) All proceedings under this clause shall be held *in camera* and the Judicial Committee Chairman is entitled to be heard in defense by himself or by Counsel of his own choice.
 - (e) The president shall in each case act in accordance with the recommendations of the committee.
- (3)** A review lies as of right from the decision of the Judicial Committee in clause 1 and the committee described under clause (2) to the Judicial Committee which shall be constituted of five (5) members and such application for review shall be made within 48 hours.
- (4)** Any vacancy created by virtue of any provision in this article shall be filled within twenty one (21) days after such vacancy is created.
- (5)** Notwithstanding anything in this article, a petition for the removal of an executive committee officer shall be accompanied by a Schedule containing the names and signatures of twenty (20) students from each Actuarial class and the hearing shall be *in camera*.

ARTICLE 40 VOTE OF NO CONFIDENCE

Without prejudice to any provision in this Constitution an executive officer(s) shall be removed from office on the passing of a vote of no confidence by at least two thirds $\frac{2}{3}$ of membership of the ASSA council.

CHAPTER 14

AMENDMENTS AND REVISION

ARTICLE 41 SUSPENSION OF PART/WHOLE OF THIS CONSTITUTION

Any article(s) of this constitution may be suspended for a specific period by means of a motion to such effect carried out by a two-thirds majority present and voting in a particular meeting of the general assembly.

ARTICLE 42 AMMENDMENT/REPEAL OF PART OF THIS CONSTITUTION

- (1) Any motion calling for the amendment and/or repeal of any part(s) of this constitution shall come from;
 - a) Executive Committee
 - b) Senate
 - c) A full member of the association seconded by ten other full members.
- (2) The proposed amendment is then presented to the general assembly within twenty one days of receipt by the Executive Committee (except clause I of section 2 of article eleven)
- (3) Amendment of part(s) of this constitution shall be carried out by a two-thirds majority present and voting in a particular meeting of the general assembly.
- (4) If accepted, the Executive Committee shall write to the Senator who shall incorporate the amendment and/or repeal into the constitution.
- (5) In the event of the motion being rejected, the amendment does not go through.

ARTICLE 43 REVIEW OF THIS CONSTITUTION

- (1) This constitution shall be reviewed in whole every five years. A constitutional review committee shall be set up to collate the views of members of the association.
- (2) The General Assembly may delegate the duty of reviewing the constitution to conform with the specific proposals to the Constitutional Review Committee.
- (3) A five-member Constitutional Review Committee shall be appointed by the Executive Committee.
- (4) The reviewed constitution shall be adapted by a simple majority of members present and voting at a general assembly meeting specifically called for that purpose.

CHAPTER 15

MISCELLANEOUS AND HONARARIA

ARTICLE 44 MISCELLANEOUS

- (1) The Senate shall have powers to rule on all judicial matters where the constitution is silent or ambiguous on, and such rulings shall be expressed in precise terms and shall be subject to the approval of the General Assembly and shall become precedent until amended or repealed in accordance with the provisions of this constitution.
- (2) The Senate shall have jurisdiction on every matter related to the enforcement and interpretation of any part or provision of this constitution and in every case where it is alleged that a person or a body of persons have acted ultra vires to powers conferred on them by this constitution.
- (3) The S.R.C.-J.C. shall have Appellate and Referral Jurisdiction in all constitutional matters of ASSA-KNUST.
- (4) ASSA as a member of ASSAG shall contribute its quota towards the growth and sustainability of ASSAG through the payment of dues and any other means deemed appropriate.

ARTICLE 45 HONARARIA

Certificate of office shall be presented to the entire ASSA executives and all other officers on the day of handing over to the new ASSA executives.

CHAPTER 16

SCHEDULES (INTERPRETATIONS, OATHS)

INTERPRETATION OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

- I) 'He', 'His', 'Chairman', as used in this constitution shall refer to any member of the association either male or female.
- II) 'The Association', 'ASSA', 'ASSA-K.N.U.S.T', as used in this constitution shall both refer to The Actuarial Science Students' Association of the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Kumasi.
- III) 'K.N.U.S.T.', as used in this constitution shall refer to the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Kumasi.
- IV) 'The S.R.C.-J.C', as used in this constitution shall refer to The Students' Representative Council – Judicial Committee of the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Kumasi.
- V) 'POI' as used in this constitution refers to Point of Information
- VI) 'POC' as used in this constitution refers to Point of Correction
- VII) 'ASSAG' as used in this constitution refers to Actuarial Science Students Association of Ghana.

FORMS OF OATHS

THE OATH OF ALLEGIANCE

Ido (in the name of the Almighty God swear)(solemnly affirm) that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the Actuarial Science Students Association by the ASSA Constitution established; and shall uphold and preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the Actuarial Science Students Association . (So help me God)
(To be sworn before the President, the Chairperson of the Judicial Committee such other person as the President may designate)

THE PRESIDENTIAL OATH

I..... having been elected to the high office of the President of the Actuarial Science Students Association (ASSA) do hereby (in the name of the Almighty God swear) (solemnly affirm) that I will be faithful and true to the ASSA, that I shall strive at all times to preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the ASSA and hereby dedicate myself wholly, without fear or favour, to the service and welfare of the students of the Actuarial Science Students Association; I further solemnly swear (affirm) that I will conform to the principles of strict accountability financially or otherwise and that should I at any time break this Oath of Office; I shall submit myself

to the penalty prescribed by the ASSA Constitution (so help me God).
(To be sworn before the Chairperson of the Senate at a public ceremony at which the officials of the University and the Student body shall be present)

THE OATH OF VICE PRESIDENT

I having been elected to the high office of the Vice-President of the Actuarial Science Students Association (ASSA) do hereby in the name of God swear) (solemnly affirm) that I will be faithful and true to the ASSA, that I shall strive at all times to preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the ASSA and hereby dedicate myself wholly, without fear or favour, to the service and welfare of the students of the Actuarial Science Students Association. I further solemnly swear (affirm) that I will conform to the principles of strict accountability financial or otherwise and that should I at any time break this Oath of Office; I shall submit myself to the penalty prescribed by the ASSA Constitution (so help me God) (To be sworn before the Chairperson of the Senate at a public ceremony at which the officials of the University and the Student body shall be present)

THE OATH OF THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE JUDICIAL COMMITTEE

I having been appointed Chairperson of the Judicial Committee do [in the name of the Almighty God swear) (solemnly affirm) that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the SRC and that I will uphold the sovereignty and integrity of the ASSA and that I will truly and faithfully perform the functions of my office without fear or favour, affection or ill-will; and that I will at all times uphold, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution and laws of the ASSA. (So help me God)