

ARTICLE I: NAME & PURPOSE

Section A: Name – The name of this club shall be *the Simon’s Rock College Intellectual Diversity Alliance*, known in short as *IDEA*.

Section B: National Affiliation – Although IDEA has no officially recognized national ties, the group will frequently be advised in an unofficial capacity by various civil rights lawyers belonging to several nonpartisan national and local organizations. However, IDEA will not involve itself in any lawsuits and is not responsible for any member’s actions. IDEA may be in contact with the following organizations¹: the Foundation for Individual Rights in Education (FIRE), the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), the Student Press Law Society (SPLC), and the National Coalition Against Censorship (NCAC).

Section C: Purpose – The purpose of this club (called the *Manifesto*) shall be:

1. To foster structured, divisive, and responsible intellectual discussions both on and off campus.
2. To question campus speech codes.
3. To defend any and all legally held opinions, ideas, and affiliations, no matter how controversial¹.
4. To provide a nonacademic outlet for intellectual stimulation.
5. To broadcast news and ideas to the campus.
6. To dynamically engage and target campus discussion, without any censors imposed on those who wish to partake in discussion or debate.
7. To protect the first amendment rights of Simon’s Rock students.

ARTICLE II: MEMBERSHIP

Section A: Eligibility – All students of the Simon’s Rock campus are welcome to join IDEA.

Section B: Commitment – Each member of IDEA is strongly encouraged to participate in at least one event a semester. This shall be a unenforced suggestion.

Section C: Dismissal – Any member violating the defined rules of IDEA are subject to dismissal to the club after 3 offenses. Such dismissals are open to negotiation and are not set in stone.

Section D: Mailing List and Newsletter – Members of IDEA will be put on the committee’s mailing list.

ARTICLE III: EVENTS

Section A: Events – An *event* is anything officially put on or sponsored by IDEA. These shall be separated into three categories: *debates*, *discussions*, and *demonstrations*.

Subsection A: Choosing Events – IDEA will offer to sponsor any campus activity requesting recognition that loosely matches the defined goals of the committee’s manifesto.

Subsection B: Submitting an Event – Members of IDEA may submit an event proposal by emailing the mailing list directly at [we’ll get an email]. All members receiving the proposal are encouraged to respond.

Section B: Discussions – *Discussions* shall be frequently held events that act as an open forum to voice opinions. Discussions will be composed of two moderators (generally a student and a faculty) and a board of members and the public. A loose form of parliamentary procedure will be followed. Opening remarks will be made by both moderators should there not be a member of the board with opening remarks

Section C: Debates – *Debates* shall be the most structured of the three types of events. Debates include a general discussion with three moderators (generally two with opposing views and one nonpartisan). Time limits and topic censors may be applied in debates.

Section D: Demonstrations – *Demonstrations* shall be the least formal of the three types of events. Types of demonstration may include: film viewings, free speech walls, banned book weeks, free speech week, a forum to show televised debates, and days of silence.

ARTICLE VI: ADVISOR

Section A: Selection – there shall be a faculty/staff advisor who shall be selected each year by the membership.

ARTICLE VII: AMENDMENTS

Section A: Proposals – Members may vote to amend these bylaws. A proposal to amend may be submitted by any member that has been to at least two meetings. Amendments are added to the bylaw upon passing with 2/3 of members at a discussion.

Section B: Notice – All members shall receive advance notice of the proposed amendment at least five days before the meeting.