PREAMBLE

The UNM-Taos Gender and Sexuality Alliance (GSA) is organized around the ideas of supporting our students, providing a sense of belonging through community, advocacy for queer student initiatives, visibility, and organizing events that recognize our community.

ARTICLE I.

**Name**
Section 1.

Our club will be referred to as the UNM-Taos Gender and Sexuality Alliance (GSA).

It is possible for the name to be shortened to UNM-Taos GSA or just Taos GSA.

ARTICLE II.

**Purpose**

Section 1.

The UNM-Taos GSA is organized around the following ideas:

1. Supporting queer students
2. Community
3. Advocacy
4. Belonging
5. Recognition
6. Visibility
7. Organizing

Section 2.

UNM-Taos GSA will abide to the club guidelines included in the UNM club documentation and articles of the UNM-Taos Student Government Alliance (SGA) documents.

ARTICLE III.

**Membership**

Section 1. This section covers eligibility and restrictions around becoming a member.

* All community members are eligible to become members of the club. This includes high school students, current students, alumni, faculty, and staff of UNM-Taos.
* Members are identified by including their name and email in our sign-in sheet.
* A recognized member is one who has joined a committee to help the club accomplish its goals.
* While membership is largely informal, a participant may be recognized as a member by being included in the club meeting minutes.

Section 2. Voluntary withdrawal of membership may be provided for.

* Only elected officials of the club need officially withdraw from the club.
* To withdraw from the club and resign a position – the member must present a letter informing the club of their decision to resign. The letter must be received within two weeks of an election date if the member chooses to leave. Hopefully this will allow an opportunity to fill the vacant position.

Section 3. Nondiscrimination clause

* The UNM-Taos GSA affirms its commitment to nondiscrimination and equal opportunity for all individuals regardless of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression. The club will not tolerate discrimination, harassment, or prejudice of any kind against its members or guests. The club will strive to create an inclusive and welcoming environment where all members feel valued and respected.

ARTICLE IV.

**Officers**

Section 1. There are 4 executive officers in the club. President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. Their duties are listed in a separate document. These officers constitute an executive committee. This executive committee can vote to create a committee and establish a chairperson for that committee.

ARTICLE V.

**Operations**

Section 1. Elections are held annually, though if an officer is leaving – an election must be held to fill the vacancy.

* Officers are elected by majority vote of recognized club members.
* Recognized club members are eligible to become officers.
* A recognized club member is someone who has been included in the minutes of a previous club meeting. This means that their name and email has been recorded and that they have volunteered to be part of a committee in the past.

ARTICLE VI.

**Finances**

Section 1. Finances are TBD. UNM-Taos GSA will submit a budget to the SGA Finance Committee every semester. This is the responsibility of the Secretary and the Treasurer.

ARTICLE VII.

Amendments

Section 1. Amendments to the club constitution must be presented formally to the officers during a Taos GSA meeting. Amendments presented during a meeting cannot be voted on during the same meeting they are presented. A waiting period is necessary. An amendment can be voted on during the next meeting, but only after a discussion.

* Amendments to the club constitution can be made with a simple majority vote.