

**Venezuelan Association at Stanford (VAS)**  
***CHEVERE***

**Constitution**

ARTICLE 1: Name and Goals

1. The name of this organization is “Venezuelan Association at Stanford”. It can also be identified by its initials “VAS” or by the alias “Chevere”.
2. The goals are:
  - a) To bring together Venezuelans and people interested in both Venezuelan and Latin American culture.
  - b) To organize and support cultural, social, and recreational events for its members, affiliates, and the Stanford community.
  - c) To keep its members and the community informed about current issues on Venezuela and Latin America.
  - d) To promote the Venezuelan and Latin American culture.

ARTICLE 2: Membership

1. All regular students of the Stanford community interested in Venezuelan and Latin American culture are eligible for membership. To become a member of VAS the regular student must manifest his/her interest to the association.
2. Any person who is not member of the Stanford community but shows interest in Venezuelan affairs and culture can become affiliate of the Association.

ARTICLE 3: The General Assembly

1. The General Assembly consists of all the members of the Association.
2. The main goal of the General Assembly is to suggest, participate, and decide democratically directions and events of the Association, as well as its general behavior.

ARTICLE 4: The Board of the Association

1. The Board of VAS consists of three members elected by the General Assembly. An extended Board could be considered by the General Assembly.
2. The officers shall be a President, Vice-president, and a Financial Officer. The same member could act as Vice-President and Financial Officer at the same time.
3. The Board shall meet regularly as decided by its members and at least once a month to maintain its status.

4. The President is the primary spokesperson between organizations at Stanford University and beyond.
5. The Financial Officer must manage the Association's accounts and prepare budgets for programs.
6. The Vice-President must maintain the organization's databases, distribute the incoming literature, and establish relations with other organizations.
7. If it is needed the officers of the Board could be removed by the agreement of at least 60% of the votes of the General Assembly.

#### ARTICLE 5: Quorum

1. No meetings are repeated.
2. Affiliates are encouraged to participate actively in the meetings but are not allowed to cast a vote.
3. The Board makes the administrative decisions. An annual report should be submitted to the General Assembly.
4. Any decision of the Board of VAS can be vetoed by the agreement of at least 51% of the General Assembly.
5. The meetings are summoned either after a decision of the Board or after a petition of at least 20% of its members.
6. Decisions require a simple majority of those voting during conference or by any means provided by the Board of VAS.
7. Special meetings may be held at the request of any member of the Association and after approval from the Board of VAS.

#### ARTICLE 6: Elections for the Board of the Association

1. Elections are held by the General Assembly of VAS, no earlier than two and no later than four weeks after the official start of the fall quarter at Stanford University.
2. All members in good standing are allowed to vote and could be considered as candidates for a position in the Board of VAS.
3. Any member could present himself/herself as candidate for a position. The candidates with the maximum number of votes are elected.

#### ARTICLE 7: Dissolution of the Association

1. Disposition of Uncommitted Funds: Upon dissolution of the Association, uncommitted funds will be distributed in between the Center for Latin American studies and the ASSU program board. Existing officers in coordination with the Center for Latin American Studies and the ASSU program Board will determine the proportions.

2. Disposition of Property: Same procedure applies for the disposition of property as with disposition of uncommitted funds.

ARTICLE 8: Procedure to amend the Constitution.

The constitution can be amended at a meeting of the Association and voted by 51% of the members.

ARTICLE 9: Effective date

The 18<sup>th</sup> of September 2001.