

CONSTITUTION OF THE STELLENBOSCH UNIVERSITY LINUX USERS GROUP

Version 1.1.1 (20060331)

1. DEFINITIONS

SULUG:	Stellenbosch University Linux Users Group.
Member:	A member of SULUG as defined in Sections 6.1, 6.2 and 6.4.
Committee:	The governing body of SULUG as defined in Section 7.
Committee Member:	A member of the Committee, who has been duly elected in terms of Section 7 of this constitution, OR a Member of SULUG who has been co-opted by the Committee in terms of this constitution.
Linux:	The operating system commonly known under the name of Linux in all its distributions and variants, plus all Open Source software published under, for example, the General Public License (GPL) and related licenses.
University:	University of Stellenbosch
US:	University of Stellenbosch

2. NAME AND NATURE OF SULUG

- 2.1. The name of the organization shall be the Stellenbosch University Linux Users Group (SULUG).
- 2.2. SULUG shall be an association of Members pursuing the objectives and purposes set out in Sections 3 and 4 and without pecuniary gain to any of its Members.
- 2.3. In pursuing the Aims and Objectives of Sections 3 and 4, SULUG holds the following values to be central and will be guided by them:
 - a. Respect for the law,
 - b. The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, and specifically Chapter 2, the Bill of Rights.

3. AIMS

The aims of SULUG are:

- 3.1. To provide a forum for users of Linux to gather on a regular basis.
- 3.2. To represent users of Linux at the University.
- 3.3. To promote awareness of the capabilities and advantages of using Linux.
- 3.4. To expand usage of Linux, and to build Linux capacity, through information, education, limited technical assistance and advice.
- 3.5. To serve the local community through social concern projects in computing and software.
- 3.6. To provide a forum for discussion of, advice on, and input into information and communication technology-related issues at the University from a Linux point of view.

4. SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

SULUG has the following specific objectives:

- 4.1. Regular meetings as scheduled by the Committee.
- 4.2. Periodic public meetings for the purposes set out in Section 3.
- 4.3. Periodic social occasions.

- 4.4. Operation and regulation of the SULUG website and email list.

5. AFFILIATION

- 5.1. Whenever possible, SULUG shall cooperate with other Linux User Groups in South Africa and elsewhere.

6. MEMBERSHIP

- 6.1. Membership of SULUG is open to anyone who is interested in furthering the Aims and Objectives set out in Sections 3 and 4.
- 6.2. A person may become a Member of SULUG after registration by means of subscribing to the SULUG email list and approval by the Committee. Unsubscribing from the list will terminate the registration of the Member.
- 6.3. Each Member is entitled to one vote at duly constituted meetings of SULUG.
- 6.4. Membership of a Member is terminated automatically when the Member's email address becomes invalid or the Member does not respond to private email from the Committee for a period of two (2) weeks.
- 6.5. Membership, or access to SULUG network services, may be terminated by the Committee in the case of gross misconduct, misrepresentation of SULUG or other Member actions detrimental to SULUG in a substantial way. A Member whose membership is terminated has the right to a hearing before the Committee and to a written explanation of the reasons for termination. Disciplinary hearings and actions will be guided by the values spelt out in Section 2.3.
- 6.6. Access to the SULUG network services is not restricted to Members of SULUG, but is open to general subscription.

7. COMMITTEE

- 7.1. The Committee of SULUG shall consist of not fewer than four (4) and not more than six (6) Members elected for a one (1) year term by a simple majority vote of the Members present at the Annual General Meeting of SULUG.
- 7.2. The Members present at the AGM shall elect a Chairperson and a Vice-Chairperson. They may vote on the other roles on the Committee at the discretion of the person chairing the AGM. Roles not set at the AGM will be decided by the Committee.
- 7.3. The Vice-Chairperson shall act as Chairperson during the absence or indisposition of the Committee Chairperson.
- 7.4. The Committee may co-opt up to two (2) additional Members if necessary.
- 7.5. A quorum for Committee meetings shall be fifty percent (50%) of the total number of Members on the Committee, or three (3) Members, whichever is greater.
- 7.6. All matters before the Committee shall be decided by means of a majority vote. In the event of an equal split in the votes, the Chairperson (or acting Chairperson) may exercise a casting vote.
- 7.7. Minutes of all meetings of the Committee shall be kept and made available to members of the Committee, and posted on the SULUG email list and/or website, within two (2) weeks after the meeting.
- 7.8. Committee meetings shall normally be called by the Chairperson. Committee Members shall be informed of meetings by the Chairperson at least two (2) work days before the proposed time of the meeting.
- 7.9. Apart from normal Committee meetings, the Committee shall hold a planning meeting for the next year before the end of each calendar year.

7.10. The Committee shall have the sole right to make public statements on behalf of SULUG.

8. GENERAL MEETINGS

- 8.1. The Annual General Meeting shall be held before the end of the third term of each academic year. At least two (2) weeks' notice of this meeting shall be given on the SULUG website and email list.
- 8.2. A quorum at general meetings shall consist of at least six (6) members.
- 8.3. A special general meeting may be called either by the Committee, or by a petition signed by at least one quarter (25%) of the Members.
- 8.4. The outgoing Chairperson, or a Committee Member appointed by the Chairperson, shall chair the General Meeting.

9. AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

- 9.1. A copy of any proposed amendments must be posted to the SULUG website and email list for a period of not less than fourteen (14) days before the general meeting at which such proposed amendments are to be discussed.
- 9.2. Amendments to the Constitution may only be made if at least two thirds (66%) of the Members present at the meeting vote in favour thereof.

10. DISSOLUTION

SULUG may be dissolved as an organisation by means of a two-thirds (66%) majority of US Members voting for dissolution during an Annual General Meeting.

11. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Except where otherwise stated, words denoting the masculine shall include the feminine; and words denoting the plural shall include the singular.