Preamble
In order to promote unity among the members of the student body, to foster a better understanding and a closer working relationship between the student body and faculty, and to promote and encourage all activities which will provide for higher professional standards and greater public understanding, we hereby establish this constitution.

ARTICLE I – RESPONSIBILITIES AND FUNCTIONS OF THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT OF THE DENTAL HYGIENE PROGRAM, COLLEGE OF DENTISTRY
Section 1. Functions of Class Officers
A. The class officers will provide the student government of the respective classes.
B. Functions of the individual classes may be regulated by the Dental Hygiene Student Council.

Section 2. Functions of the Dental Hygiene Student Council
A. The council shall be organized as stated in Article II of this constitution.
B. The primary function of the council is to act as a liaison group between the student body and faculty and is designed to facilitate an environment which may promote the best learning situation.
C. It shall be the duty of the council to regulate, modify, encourage, and suspend the activities of the various student organizations associated with the Division of Dental Hygiene, College of Dentistry.
D. The council shall facilitate the dissemination of information to the student body.
E. At the end of each school year the council will submit to the Chair of the Division of Dental Hygiene a report which will accurately reflect the opinions of the various segments of the student body. This report will cover all phases of operation of Dental Hygiene and must be accurate and constructive in nature.
F. The council may by majority of a quorum, enact or repeal any bylaws required to carry out its functions.

Section 3. Responsibilities of the Dental Hygiene Student Council
A. The Student Council will be responsible to the student body and faculty in fulfilling its functions as outlined in Sections 2 and 3 of this Article.
B. All actions of the Student Council are subject to review and approval by the Chair of the Division of Dental Hygiene, College of Dentistry.

ARTICLE II – ORGANIZATION AND STRUCTURE OF THE STUDENT BODY GOVERNMENT OF THE DENTAL HYGIENE PROGRAM, COLLEGE OF DENTISTRY
Section 1. Structure of the Student Government
A. Each class will have the following officers:
1. President
2. Vice president
3. Secretary
4. Treasurer
B. The Division of Dental Hygiene Student Council will be composed of the following members:
1. The president of the Student Council
2. The president of each class of Dental Hygiene
3. The president of the Student Chapter of the American Dental Hygienist’s Association
4. A junior representative of the Student Chapter of the American Dental Hygienist’s Association
5. Three members elected at large from each class from which a president-elect of Student Council is elected. To ensure a broader scope of representation, these members or Student Council representatives shall not be elected class officers or president of Student Chapter of the American Dental Hygienist’s Association
6. The faculty advisor

Section 2. Responsibilities and duties of the members of the Student Council
A. The president of the Student Council
1. Shall preside at all meetings of the Student Council.
2. Shall have power of veto over all acts and resolutions of the Student Council, but veto may be overridden by a majority of a quorum of the Student Council.
3. Is the administrative agent of the council and is empowered to appoint members to the standing committees and take such steps as deemed necessary to fulfill the administrative requirements of the Student Council.
4. Will be a non-voting member of the council except may vote in the proceedings of the Student Council only in the event of a tie vote.
B. The president-elect of the Student Council will
1. Act as the administrative assistant to the president.
2. Act as parliamentarian at all meetings of the Student Council.
3. Be a voting member of the council.
4. Preside at the meetings of the council in the absence of the president.
C. Secretary/Treasurer
1. Take and maintain the minutes of every meeting
D. The faculty advisor will
1. Be a non-voting member of the council.
2. Arrange for joint meetings of the Student Council and the other faculty members of the Division of Dental Hygiene whenever necessary.
3. Advise the council on all appropriate matters.

E. The voting members of the Student Council are as follows:
1. All members listed in this Article Section 1 B, with the exception of president, who may vote only in the event of a tie and the faculty advisor.

Section 3. Election of Representatives and Officers of Student Council
A. Class officers will be elected spring semester (junior officers autumn semester) and shall serve a term of one (1) Year. The president will be a member of the Student Council during his/her term.
B. One junior representative of the Student Chapter of the American Dental Hygienists’ Association will be elected by that organization. The president of the Student Chapter of the American Dental Hygienists’ Association will also be a member of the Student Council.
C. Representatives of the Student Council:
1. During spring semester of each academic year, three (3) candidates will be elected by and from the present junior class and will serve a term for their senior year.
2. The junior class will elect representatives during the beginning of autumn semester. These candidates will serve for the succeeding academic year, their term beginning the first meeting after they are elected. The elected representative receiving the highest number of votes shall be the junior representative to the College of Dentistry Student Council.
3. The class will elect these representatives by secret ballot, the three (3) candidates receiving the highest number of votes will be elected to the positions of Student Council representatives.

Section 4. Placement of Names on the Ballot
A. Slate of potential candidates will be developed following informal nominations from the respective classes.
B. The office of the Chair will be responsible for certifying the slate of the candidates before they may be placed on the ballot.
C. The Chair of the Division of Dental Hygiene may refuse to certify a candidate for any just cause.
D. Time and Place of Elections

1. The general elections shall be held in the building of the College of Dentistry at the end of the spring semester for the following year’s senior class and the beginning of the autumn semester for the entering junior students.
2. Special elections may be held as designated by the council.

E. Assumption of Office
1. The new representatives shall resume their duties at the last meeting of spring semester in a joint meeting with the outgoing members. See Article II Section 3C for initiation of term for sophomore representatives.
2. During the spring semester, names will be placed in nomination from the Student Council as a whole for the office of Secretary/Treasurer. This office will be filled by the candidate receiving the highest number of votes. In the case of tie, the president will cast a vote. During the autumn semester, names will be placed in nomination from the junior class representatives for the office of president-elect. The candidate receiving the highest number of votes will be elected. In case of a tie, the president will cast a vote.
3. The president-elect shall assume the office of president during spring semester.

Section 5. Term of Office
A. All council members will serve until the last meeting of the council each spring semester, except that the president-elect of the council shall assume the office of president at the first meeting of spring semester. Representatives must repeat the spring semester if they wish to remain on the council.

ARTICLE III – MEETINGS AND ATTENDANCE OF THE DENTAL HYGIENE STUDENT COUNCIL
Section 1. Regular meetings
A. Regular meetings shall be held the first Wednesday of every month at 8:00–9:00 a.m. or at such times designated by the president of the council.
B. All meetings will be conducted under procedures as directed in Robert’s Rules of Order.
C. Any member of the student body may sit at council meetings and may speak to the council after obtaining permission from the president of the council prior to the meeting.

Section 2. Special meetings
A. The president is empowered to call a special meeting, provide all available members of the council are notified twenty-four (24) hours prior to the scheduled time of the meeting.
Section 3. Attendance
A. A member is required to attend each regular or special meeting. If any two meetings are missed without valid excuse, the member may be removed by a 2/3 vote of the members of the council.
B. The president should be notified as to the cause of the absence within two (2) school days following the meeting missed, except in the case of extended illness.
C. It shall be the responsibilities of the president of the Student Council to determine the validity of the excuse. If the president determines that the excuses are not acceptable, then the president will submit the name of the member to the council for action.

ARTICLE IV – REMOVAL AND REPLACEMENT OF MEMBERS
Section 1. Members will be removed for cause by the following methods:
A. By the Director of Dental Hygiene
B. By a vote of the majority of a quorum

Section 2. Replacement of members.
A. The individual must be elected by the group that was represented by the previous member.
B. They must be certified by the office of the Director.

ARTICLE V – AMENDMENTS
Section 1. Any member of the student body may submit an amendment to the council in writing.

Section 2. The council must take action on the amendment in one of the following ways: It may pass the amendment, submit it to a Committee for study, table it, or defeat it.

Section 3. If negative action is taken, the individual submitting the proposed amendment may then obtain the signature of 10% of the student body and re-submit it for consideration. The council must then either pass the amendment or place it on the ballot at a general election of the entire student body.

Section 4. A vote of majority of a quorum of the members of the council in favor of adoption constitutes passage of the amendment.

Section 5. If the amendment is placed on the general ballot, approval of 2/3 of the student body is necessary for passage.

Section 6. Two-thirds of members of council must be present to represent a quorum. A quorum must be present to take any action.

ARTICLE VI – RATIFICATION
This constitution shall become effective upon approval of two-thirds (2/3) of the members of council and upon approval of the Director of Dental Hygiene.

ARTICLE VII – REPRESENTATION ON THE COLLEGE OF DENTISTRY STUDENT COUNCIL
Voting Members of COD Student Council
1. President of Student Council
2. President of the junior and senior dental hygiene classes
3. President-elect of the Student Council (Serves winter and spring semester of the academic year)
4. The Student Chapter of the American Dental Hygienists’ Association president

STUDENT CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN DENTAL HYGIENISTS’ ASSOCIATION

ADHA is the largest professional association representing dental hygienists. As a sector of the American Dental Hygienists’ Association, students have the responsibility to belong to the student component and thus share in the benefits of the national organization. Membership in ADHA guarantees that the student and profession are represented nationally. Tangible benefits include
1. receiving the Journal of Dental Hygiene (publication bringing scientific and technical articles on clinical practice, research and education) and
2. offering student eligibility for group insurance, credit cards, and hotel discounts
3. access to 1000 pages of the ADHA website and Career Resource Center offering information important to students and
4. opportunities to apply for scholarships and research grants.

All students are encouraged to belong to this professional organization. Annual dues are collected for membership. Student activities include panel discussions with practicing hygienists, professional and student speakers, numerous community projects such as supporting a family or institution at the holidays, lunch and learns, and attendance and scientific presentations at professional meetings. Fund raisers are money sources for the planned activities. Officers include president, senior vice president, junior vice president, secretary, treasurer, and students chosen to serve as committee chairpersons. Officers are elected during spring semester previous to serving a one-year term in office.