Students for Integrative Medicine

Constitution

Article I – Name, Purpose, and Non-Discrimination Policy

Section 1: Name. The organization shall be known as “Students for Integrative Medicine” and may be abbreviated by the 3-letter designation “SIM”.

Section 2: Purpose. The organization exists to increase medical student awareness of holistic or integrative medical practices, including complementary and alternative medicine (CAM) therapies. The secondary purpose of the organization is to encourage interprofessional engagement between medical students and other allied health professionals through exploration of holistic medical practice. Student members shall strive to increase their own understanding of integrative medicine in order to better assist their patients in choosing appropriate medical treatments.

Section 3: Non-Discrimination Policy. This organization and its members shall not discriminate against any individual(s) for reasons of age, color, disability, gender identity or expression, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or veteran status.

Article II – Membership qualifications and categories of membership.

Organization membership is open to anyone desiring to join. Voting members are defined as those members who are currently enrolled Ohio State University College of Medicine students, including MD/PhD students. Non-voting associate members are defined as those members who do not meet the criteria for Voting Member status, including non-students, medical students on a Leave of Absence, and other students who are not currently enrolled in the Ohio State University College of Medicine. Members may be removed by at least a three-fourths vote of a caucus composed of the Executive Committee plus Advisor, but they may not be removed in a manner that is inconsistent with the Non-Discrimination Policy.

Article III - Organization Leadership: Titles, terms of office, type of selection, and duties of the leaders.

Section 1: Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall consist of a President, Vice President, and Treasurer. The Executive Committee terms of office run for one year, with new elections held every April.

Section 2: Executive Committee Selection Process. Every year, a new Executive Committee shall be appointed from the ranks of the organization’s voting membership by a closed caucus of the Executive Committee and the organization’s Advisor. The appointment process may consist of applications with personal statements if so desired by the President. The closed caucus will vote to decide who is appointed to each Executive Committee position. Three-fourths of the caucus votes are required to appoint a member to a position within the Executive Committee. In a case where a three-fourths majority vote cannot be obtained, the position will be voted upon by the voting members of the organization. The candidate with the largest number of votes will be appointed to the office in question.

Section 4: Executive Committee Duties. The President shall be responsible for managing registration of the organization with the Ohio State University, coordinating meetings and events, acting as the public face and external representative of the organization, being the primary contact for the organization, and communicating with organization members, officers, and advisor. The President shall also provide vision and set goals for the organization, identify and prepare future leaders, and provide leadership for the organization. The Vice-President shall assist the President in all of the President’s duties and act as the President in situations where the President is unavailable. The Treasurer shall keep detailed financial records of the organization, regularly brief the Executive Committee and Advisor on the organization’s financial status, and disburse funds in accordance with Ohio State University policy.

Article IV – Method of Selecting and/or Removing Officers and Members.

Officers should be appointed by the Executive Committee with consideration of the diversity of the beliefs of members in the organization. The organization exists to promote awareness of many medical treatments that are not widely accepted; the officers must be capable of fairly and respectfully presenting information about medical treatments with which they may personally disagree. In the event that an Executive Committee officer is intentionally suppressing information or acting in a manner contrary to the goals of the organization, a voting member may ask for a recall vote. If five voting members petition the Executive Committee for a recall vote of the officer in question, a special meeting of the voting members shall be called. One-half plus one member of the organization’s voting members shall constitute a quorum for the purposes of recall votes, and the officer may be recalled from their position by a simple majority vote of the quorum. In cases of successful recall votes, a replacement Executive Committee officer will then be appointed according to normal appointment procedures. If the President was recalled, the Vice-President shall become the President. Officers may not be recalled by any complaints that are contrary to the organization’s Non-Discrimination Policy.

Article V – Advisor(s) or Advisory Board: Qualification Criteria.

The organization’s Advisor must be a member of the University faculty or Administrative & Professional staff. The Advisor will be the primary resource for the organization and provide continuity, perspective, suggestions, and advice. The Advisor will meet with officers periodically, and will approve the organization’s registration, funding requests, and goals. The Advisor will also co-sign on the organization’s bank account in order to provide continuity during times of Executive Committee transition.

Article VI – Meetings of the Organization: Required meetings and their frequency.

The organization shall meet at least once each semester, not including summer. This meeting may be scheduled as part of an organization event.

Article VII – Method of Amending Constitution: Proposals, notice, and voting requirements.

Proposed amendments shall be in writing, should not be acted upon but read in the general meeting in which they are proposed. They may be voted upon in the meeting in which they are proposed, and will be approved by at least two-thirds of voting members present. To conduct any voting, the organization should have quorum present, which is defined as one-half of the total voting membership plus one voting member. The constitution should not be amended easily or frequently.