Constitution of the

Vascular Surgery Interest

Group

**Article I: Establishment**

**Section 1:** The name of this organization shall be the Vascular Surgery Interest Group of the Ohio State University College of Medicine, hereafter referred to as VSIG.

**Section 2: Purpose & Preamble**

The purpose of the organization shall be to help medical students interested in vascular surgery to learn more about all aspects of vascular surgery. This group will specifically focus to:

a. To educate medical students interested in Vascular Surgery about the breadth of practice.

b. To practice skills required to become a successful Vascular Surgeon.

**Section 3: Non-Discrimination Policy**

This organization does not discriminate on the basis of age, ancestry, color, disability, gender identity or expression, genetic information, HIV/AIDS status, military status, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, protected veteran status, or any other bases under the law, in its activities, programs, admission, and employment.

As a student organization at The Ohio State University, VSIG expects its members to conduct themselves in a manner that maintains an environment free from sexual misconduct. All members are responsible for adhering to University Policy 1.15, which can be found here: https://hr.osu.edu/public/documents/policy/policy115.pdf. If you or someone you know has been sexually harassed or assaulted, you may find the appropriate resources at http://titleIX.osu.edu or by contacting the Ohio State Title IX Coordinator at titleIX@osu.edu.

**Article II: Membership**

**Section 1:** Active membership: OSUCOM students will become active members of the group upon request and providing an email address for contact regarding group meetings and events.

**Section 2:** As required by the Guidelines for Student Organizations, 90% of the membership of a student organization must include current Ohio State University students. Active members and Executive Committee are able to make decisions regarding the membership of community and other non-student members of an organization. Community or other non-student members may be temporarily suspended with a majority vote of the Executive Committee.

**Article III: Methods for Removing Members or Officers**

**Section 1:** If a member engages in behavior that is detrimental to advancing the purpose of this organization, violates the organization’s constitution or by-laws, or violates the Code of Student Conduct, university policy, or federal, state or local law, the member may be removed through a majority vote of the officers in consultation with the organization’s advisor.

**Section 2:** Any elected officer of the chapter may be removed from their position for cause. Cause for removal includes, but is not limited to: violation of the constitution or by-laws, failure to perform duties, or any behavior that is detrimental to advancing the purpose of this organization, including violations of the Student Code of Conduct, university policy, or federal, state, or local laws. The Executive Committee may act for removal upon a two-thirds affirmative vote of the executive board in consultation with the organization’s advisor.

 **Section 3:** In the event that the reason for member removal is protected by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) or cannot otherwise be shared with members (e.g., while an investigation is pending), {00312468-1} the executive board, in consultation with the organization’s advisor, may vote to temporarily suspend a member or executive officer

**Article IV: Meetings
Section 1:** Meetings will be once a month year-round.

**Article V: Committees**

**Section 1**: The VSIG may organize committees to serve special purposes. Said committees may be created and a leader designated by a majority vote of the members who are attending the meeting.

**Article VI: Officers
Section 1**: The officers of this organization shall consist of:

a. President

c. Treasurer

**Section 2:** Adding or deleting permanent offices must occur through amendment of the constitution.

**Section 3:** Adding or deleting temporary offices will be made the decision of the Executive Board. This process is described in the bylaws of the VSIG.



**Section 4:** Officers of this organization must be chosen in an election format open to all current members. Every effort will be made to notify all members of said election and, further, reasonably accommodate the needs of all members desiring to participate.

**Section 5:** Applications will be open to all members interested and will be reviewed by members of the executive board at the end of the school year.

a. All positions will be held for a term of 1 year, and are decided upon by the executive board.

b. Members will send in applications to the executive board to be reviewed. Applicants will be notified of their status in the following month.

c. If any office is unfilled after the election it will be at the discretion of the executive board to share responsibility of position or have another election for the unfilled position.

**Section 6:** Officers must meet minimum eligibility requirements, good academic standing, and must not be on student conduct disciplinary or honor code probation.

**Article VII: Advisor
Section 1:** A qualified OSUMC faculty or staff member must be

selected the membership as an advisor.

**Article VIII: Finances
Section 1:** Paying dues is not a mandatory requirement to

be considered a member of this organization.

**Article IX: Anti-Hazing**

**Section 1:** Hazing is strictly prohibited. Hazing is defined as any willful act, occurring on or off the campus of an educational institution, directed against a student or a prospective member of an organization operating under the sanction of an educational institution, that recklessly endangers the mental or physical health or safety of a student or prospective member for the purpose of initiation or admission into or continued membership in any such organization. Acts of hazing include, but are not limited to:

1. Any activity that recklessly endangers the physical health or safety of the student or prospective member, including but not limited to physical brutality, whipping, beating, branding, exposure to the elements, forced consumption of any food, liquor, drug, or other substance.
2. Any activity that endangers the mental health of the student or prospective member, including but not limited to sleep deprivation, physical confinement, or other extreme stress inducing activity.
3. Any activity that requires the student or prospective member to perform a duty or task which involves a violation of the criminal laws of this state or any political subdivision in this state.



**Article X: Amendments**

**Section 1:** Amending the constitution may be initiated by majority votes of active members at meeting or majority vote of Executive Board.

**Section 2:** Discussion of the proposed amendment shall take place at a general meeting

**Section 3:** Announcement of meeting should include that an amendments will be discussed.

**Section 4:** A 2/3 vote of active members at meeting shall be required to change the constitution. Active members who are not at the meeting are allowed to email votes to secretary prior to meeting.

**Article XI: Bylaws**

**Bylaw 1:** Enactment of the Bylaws VSIG shall have the right to enact bylaws for its governance. Said bylaws shall be enacted by one-half (1/2) vote of the organization’s membership at meeting and shall be amended only by a favorable two-thirds (2/3) vote of the organization membership at meeting.

**Bylaw 2:** Duties of Officers

**a. President:** The Office of President shall open all meetings and call meetings to order. The President shall determine the agenda, both new business to be discussed or old business to be revisited. The President shall be responsible for establishing guest speakers for presentations. The President shall act as the official liaison between VSIG and any other organization or association. The President shall adjourn all meetings. Attend an OSU Office of Student Life training meeting.



**b. Treasurer:** The Office of Treasurer shall be responsible for all VSIG expenditures and monies received by depositing monies or writing checks in accordance with VSIG. The Treasurer shall keep a record of the accounts of the organization. The treasurer shall be responsible for proposing and organizing fundraising activities. The treasurer will also be responsible for formal attendance at the monthly

**Bylaw 3:** Meeting Schedule

a. Meetings will occur at least once every other month year-round at the medical school. The specific dates will vary with availability of officers, members, and faculty. Official meeting dates will be announced at least one week in advance through email correspondence by the President.