

# Constitution

## ***Article I - Name, Purpose, and Non-Discrimination Policy of the Organization.***

### **Section 1: Name,**

The name of this organization shall be the Dental Pride Alliance at The Ohio State University College of Dentistry.

### **Section 2 - Purpose:**

The Dental Pride Alliance (hereafter referred to as DPA) of The Ohio State University College of Dentistry (OSUCoD) is a professional student organization that aims to serve as a collective voice for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, non-binary, and queer (hereafter LGBTQ+) students and their allies, operating to provide a community for those involved. DPA shall support and protect the interests of OSUCoD dental students who identify as a member of the LGBTQ+ community through social, service-oriented, and networking events with the OSUCoD faculty and staff as well as the broader Columbus community. DPA aspires to increase visibility of LGBTQ+ students, discuss issues particular to being an LGBTQ+ dentist, fostering awareness of the needs and concerns of LGBTQ+ patients, ensuring understanding in the curriculum and inclusion of LGBTQ+ health topics, developing a supportive community among students, faculty, and staff. Membership of this organization is open to any dental student who enrolled at The Ohio State University College of Dentistry and supportive of our mission statement.

### **Section 3 - Non-Discrimination Policy:**

DPA and its members shall 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, or veteran status.

## ***Article II - Membership***

### ***Section 1 - Qualifications and categories of membership.***

Voting membership is open to any dental student enrolled in the Ohio State University College of Dentistry. Faculty, alumni, and dentists from the local Columbus community are welcome to join the organization as honorary members. Honorary members do not have the right to vote in the organization officer elections and are not eligible for election or appointment to any office of

the organization.

### **Section 2: Membership dues.**

Dues for membership shall be determined by the Executive Committee of the organization prior to the beginning of the academic year. Membership dues shall be used for the sole purpose of achieving DPA's mission and not for any personal or private purposes.

### **Section 3: Removal of Membership.**

If a member conducts himself or herself in such a manner deemed detrimental to advancing the purpose of the organization or is in violation of the OSU Student Code of Conduct, they can be removed through a majority vote of the officers with the consultation of the advisor.

## **Article III - Organization Leadership**

### **Section 1: Executive Board**

DPA shall be governed by the Executive Board which will be comprised of the following voting members: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer. In order to be eligible to serve as an Executive Board officer, the student an enrolled dental student at The Ohio State University and elected by the active members of the organization.

### **Section 2: Executive Board Terms of Office**

A. An active member elected into an Executive Board officer position shall serve in this role for one year.

B. Vacancies resulting in an unexpired term may be filled by appointment by the Executive Board with a majority vote until the next scheduled annual election is held. In the event that the Executive Board can not achieve the needed majority vote, then the organization's advisor will be granted the authority to cast a vote.

### **Section 3: Duties of Executive Board Officers**

The general descriptions and duties of each of the aforementioned board positions are as follows:

A. President - It is the duty of the President to preside over meetings and ensure that the constitution is being followed. The President shall maintain a relationship with the supervising faculty, work to increase networking with LGBTQ+ dentists in central Ohio, and be responsible for a smooth transition for new officers.

B. Vice President - It is the duty of the Vice President to chair the organization's Administrative Board, consisting of Chair positions that the Vice President deems necessary for DPA's programming goals. The Vice President appoints and creates Administrative Board positions. If an Administrative Board position is vacant, the Vice President must fulfill that position's duties until the vacancy is resolved. In addition to chairing the Administrative Board, the Vice President assists the President with any tasks he/she/they may have.

C. Treasurer - It is the duty of the treasurer to manage all finances for the year, organize and submit budget requests to outside funding organizations, retain accurate records and receipts of all DPA expenses. The Treasurer also collaborates with the Public Relations Chair of the Administrative Board to achieve fundraising goals.

D. Secretary - It is the duty of the secretary to record all meeting notes, manage the email list, create monthly email updates to be sent out to each member.

#### **Section 4: Administrative Board**

The Administrative Board shall be chaired by the Vice President. The Administrative Board consists of the following officers: Public Relations Chair and Community Outreach Chair.

#### **Section 5: Administrative Board Terms of Office**

A. An active member appointed to an Administrative Board chair position shall serve in this role for one year.

B. Vacancies resulting in an unexpired term may be filled by appointment by the Vice President.

#### **Section 6: Duties of Administrative Board**

The general descriptions and duties of each of the aforementioned board positions are as follows:

A. Communications Chair - It is the duty of the Communications Chair to market the events we plan for fundraising, volunteering, service trips through any appropriate means. Moreover, this position is required to maintain and create content for the DPA's social media accounts, website, and any other types of media deemed necessary by the organization.

C. Branding Chair – It is the duty of the Branding Chair to work with the Treasurer to design fundraising ventures. The Branding Chairs also designs any merchandise for the organization, and functions to ensure that the public

portrayal of the organization represents the LGBTQ+ community in an inclusive and positive fashion.

B. Community Outreach Chair - It is the duty of the outreach chair to build connections with dentists within the community and local organizations to facilitate local volunteer trips. Beyond volunteering, the Community Outreach Chair designs and manages any advocacy initiatives of the organization. Additionally, the Community Outreach Chair is required to maintain contact with the Ohio State University College of Medicine.

#### ***Article IV- Election / Selection of Organization Leadership***

Elections for officers shall be held during the last meeting of the Spring semester. Only enrolled dental students and active members in good standing shall be eligible for election as an officer. Candidates shall need a majority vote of active members to win the officer position. These offices will become effective at the first meeting of the Summer semester.

#### ***ARTICLE V – Removing Officers***

Elected officers are expected to fulfill their respective officer duties and conduct themselves in a way that reflects well on the organization. In the event that an officer does not meet these expectations or is in violation of the OSU Student Code of Conduct, they can be removed through a two-thirds majority vote of the Executive Board with the consultation of the advisor.

#### ***Article VI – Advisor Qualifications***

Any Ohio State College of Dentistry faculty member who abides by the organization's constitution and works to actively support the organization's vision is welcome to participate as an advisor or co-advisor pending consensus from the Executive Board of the organization. Duties for this position include acting as one of the organization's liaisons with the OSU College of Dentistry administration, facilitating any internal issues, and being an overall support to the organization.

#### ***Article VII – Meetings of the Organization***

General Body, Executive Board, and Administrative Board meetings will occur at the discretion of the Executive Board.

#### ***Article VIII – Method of Amending Constitution***

This constitution may be amended at any time with a majority vote of approval by the Executive Board members of this organization. The proposed amendment

may be presented in writing by any active voting member of the organization.

***Article IX – Method of Dissolution of Organization***

The organization may be dissolved following a consensus-based decision from the Executive Board. Should assets exist following dissolution, all profits must be donated to a health related non-profit organization determined by the Executive Board of the organization. Should debt exist following dissolution, all Executive Board members will be equally responsible and liable for settling such a debt.