**Constitution**

**Student Chapter of the Women’s Veterinary Leadership Development Initiative**

ARTICLE I

Organization Name

The name of this organization shall be the Student Chapter of the Women’s Veterinary Leadership Development Initiative (SCWVLDI).

ARTICLE II

**Purpose of the Organization**

Section I - Mission

The mission of this organization shall be:

1. To support women in seeking and achieving leadership, policy, and decision-making positions within all areas of professional veterinary activity.
2. To achieve leadership excellence in every sector of veterinary medicine that fully reflects the diversity of the profession and society.
3. To promote leadership by women within the field of veterinary medicine in veterinary schools, in private practice, and in organized veterinary medicine.

Section II - Purpose

The purpose of this organization shall be:

1. To educate veterinary students about the challenges faced by female veterinarians and to offer a supportive environment for all leaders involved in the field of veterinary medicine.
2. To empower veterinary students by providing them with the opportunities to learn skills that will help them achieve leadership excellence and professional confidence.

Section III- 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.*

ARTICLE III

**Membership**

Membership of this chapter is open to veterinary students at The Ohio State University College of Veterinary Medicine, Biomedical Sciences and undergraduate students at The Ohio State University who are interested in attending veterinary school. Membership shall be based upon expressed interest. Members shall maintain good standing by paying dues on a semester or annual basis.

ARTICLE IV

**Officers**

Section I - Officers

The officers of SCWVLDI shall be as follows:

1. 2 Co-Presidents
2. Treasurer
3. Secretary
4. Public Relations Officer
5. Collaboration Liaison

F: Merchandise & Fundraising Chair

Section II - Term of Office

The term of office shall be one year.

Section III - Duties of the Officers

1. Co-Presidents
	* + Preside over all meetings
		+ Schedule officer meetings
		+ Schedule membership meetings
		+ Confirm speakers for meetings
		+ Carry out the provisions of the Constitution
		+ Appoint committees and chairpersons
		+ Oversee all committee activities
		+ Represent the organization on public occasions
		+ In April of each year, submit to the Dean's Office and Student Affairs the names of newly elected officers, the name of the faculty sponsor for the coming year, and the financial statement for the past year.
		+ Assume the duties of the other Co-President in the event of an absence
		+ Organize monthly membership meetings
		+ Schedule presenters
		+ Coordinate RSVPs, catering, and delivery of food for meetings
2. Treasurer
	* + Administer funds and finances for the club
		+ Keep financial records and collect dues
		+ Pay bills and release funds as voted by the general membership
		+ Make financial reports when called upon to do so
		+ Collect money from fundraisers and take payment for club merchandise
		+ Work with the Advisor(s) to ensure that funds are properly collected, deposited, and accounted
3. Secretary
	* + Keep accurate minutes of meetings and distribute meeting minutes
		+ Keep membership roster current
		+ Distribute RSVPs for meetings and keep track of member attendance
4. Public Relations Officer
	* + Maintain the club website and Facebook pages
		+ Keep photographic records of club events
		+ Maintain a list of practitioners and other individuals who are willing to give presentations and provide mentoring
		+ Oversee designs for notifications, advertisements, and club apparel and merchandise
5. Collaboration Liaison
	* Communicate via email with other student organizations to promote collaboration
	* Communicate with potential speakers to promote events that may have an influence on furthering the understanding of the importance of Womens Leadership roles.
	* Keep in communication with individuals associated with future events.
6. Merchandise & Fundraising Chair
	* Promote the student organization’s purpose through the creation of new merchandise
	* Continue to communicate new merchandise ideas with the E-board
	* Keep in communication with the treasurer to make sure we don’t exceed funds
	* Plan and host Fundraising events to help promote Womens Leadership.

Section IV – Eligibility

1. The officers of this organization must meet the following requirements:
-Be enrolled in the college of veterinary medicine and have a minimum cumulative and semester grade point ratio (GPR) of 2.5.
2. Co-Presidents, Treasurer, Secretary, and Public Relations Officer will be selected by the current officer team through an application process.
3. Officer selection for an academic year shall occur during the spring semester of the prior academic year, with the exception of the 1VM class representative, who shall be selected during the fall semester of the current academic year.

ARTICLE VI

**Impeachment and Replacement of Officers**

Section I - Basis for impeachment

1. Failure to complete the duties of the office.
2. Withdrawal from the College of Veterinary Medicine.
3. Behavior that reflects poorly on the club and/or does not support the purpose and/or mission of the club.

Section II - Proceedings

1. State the intent to impeach and the reason for impeachment in writing to all officers.
2. The accused officer shall be given a chance to present their perspective on the issue to the other officers, with an advisor present if desired.
3. The matter shall be discussed in a private meeting by all other officers.
4. A majority vote of the officer team is required to complete the impeachment proceedings.

ARTICLE VII

**Removal of Members**

Section I - Basis for removal

* 1. Behavior that reflects poorly on the club or does not support the purpose and/or mission of the club
	2. Withdrawal from the College of Veterinary Medicine.

Section II - Proceedings

1. State the intent remove and the reason for removal in writing to the member and to all officers.
2. The accused member shall be given a chance to present their perspective on the issue to all the officers, with an advisor present if desired.
3. The matter shall be discussed in a private meeting by all the officers.

D. A majority vote of the officer team is required to complete the removal proceedings.

ARTICLE VIII

**Chapter Activities**

Meetings shall be held according to need. All members are welcome to attend any meetings; however, this is not required. We encourage attendance and participation to give our speakers and sponsors the respect they deserve. If members miss more than 2 meetings that they have registered for, they may continue to attend meetings but will no longer be eligible for food. Officer attendance is required as schedule allows, and acceptable absences include: university approved absences, classes, and clinics. This organization accepts full responsibility for all activities which bear its name as an official sponsor, and will adhere to all University and College policies and procedures.

ARTICLE IX

**Advisor**

Advisor must be selected from the College of Veterinary Medicine. They must be a College of Veterinary Medicine faculty or staff.

The advisor shall be trained and knowledgeable about the student rules related to student organizations, have access to the guiding documents and policies for the student organization, and shall report and follow up on any discipline issues for the organization and/or its members.

The advisor will support and guide the organization, and empower officers to make fair, intelligent, and reasonable decisions.

ARTICLE X

**Amendments to the Constitution**

Any proposed amendments should be presented to the organization in writing and should not be acted upon when initially introduced. Upon initial introduction, the proposed amendments should be read in the general meeting, then read again at a specified number of subsequent general meetings and the general meeting in which the votes will be taken, and should either require a two-third or three-quarter majority of voting members (a quorum being present) or a majority or two-thirds of the entire voting membership of the organization, present or not. The constitution should not be amended easily or frequently.

ARTICLE XI

**Financial Procedures**

All monies belonging to this organization shall be deposited and disbursed through a bank account established for this organization. All funds must be deposited within 48 hours after collection.