

Constitution and By-Laws Guidelines for MSP Now

Constitution:

Article 1 - Name, Purpose, and Non-Discrimination Policy of the Organization:

Section 1 - Name: Our organization name is MSP Now. It is a representation of the Morrill Scholars Program and being journalism club to create and share information of articles in a fun and engaging way with the MSP community

Section 2 - Purpose: MSP Now was created to produce a student-led newsletter for the students of MSP. Our mission is to provide our peers with up-to-date information on what is new within the MSP community as well as provide a spotlight on a social activism topic affecting our community and our nation. We want to provide a space where those involved in MSP can find MSP-related news and events, learn more and participate in a social activism topic, ways to get involved within the Columbus community, gain scholarship opportunities, and other engaging and entertaining topics based on what the Morrill Scholars would like to hear.

Section 3 - Non-Discrimination Policy: As an organization within the Ohio State University, MSP Now does not discriminate its members or the community that it serves based on race, ethnicity, age, gender identity and expression, disability, mental health, HIV/AIDS status, military status, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or any other basis that is protected under the university and under the law, in its activities, member admission, and writing submissions.

Article 2- Qualifications and Categories of Membership

Section 1 - Membership Qualification: Those who would like membership to participate with MSP Now must be undergraduate students who are part of the Morrill Scholars Program. Active members and the Executive Committee are able to make decisions on membership acceptance, writing submissions, membership removal, editorial and design decisions, and monthly theme topic selection.

Section 2 - Categories of Membership:

II.a. Executive Committee: The Executive Committee is the board that manages the many aspects of creativity within the organization. They are active members that are willing to take on leadership roles to create a monthly newsletter for their peers in Morrill Scholars.

Article 3 - Removal of Members (Both General and Executive)

III.a. Removal of General Membership: If a general member of the organization as somehow participated in behavior that is deemed detrimental to the values and mission of the organization, in violation of the by-laws as stated in the organization's constitution, violates the university's Code of Student Conduct, university policy, state, local, or federal law, will be removed by majority vote from the e-board and advisor of the organization.

III.b. Removal of An E-Board Member: An elected officer on the organization's board may be removed from their elected position for cause. This cause for removal can be defined as violation of the constitutional by-laws of the organization, failure to perform their assigned duties, participating and/or encouraging any detrimental behaviors that violate the university's Code of Student Conduct, university policy, state, local, or federal law. With the organization's elected board and their advisor, the individual will be removed based on majority vote.

Article 4 - Organization Leadership:

II.b. President: Editor-in-Chief of MSP Now. This member manages and leads the Executive Committee meetings each week. They will help work with every aspect of the development of the monthly newsletter to ensure the best product is produced and shared with the MSP community on the decided schedule of the launch with all discussed requirements of the content. The President is an election based position that is voted by the active members of the organization.

Qualifications:

- Strong leadership skills
- Interest in journalism, communications, editing, or any other related field is preferred
- Ability to collaborate with team members and provide creative thinking

II.c. Vice President: The Managing Editor of MSP Now. This member, similar to the President, helps manage the weekly meetings as well as helping with the organization of editors and writers of the month. They will also develop creative ideas for the newsletter and work with the other members of the Executive Committee to produce the quality content of the newsletter.

Qualifications:

- Interest in journalism, communications, editing, and any other related field is preferred
- Ability to collaborate with team members and provide creative thinking
- Willing to uphold the President's positions if that member is unable to attend a meeting or has been removed from the organization.

II.d. Treasurer: The Treasurer of MSP Now is responsible for the organization's budget. Through financial management, the Treasurer will ensure that there are sufficient funds to manage the organization and use that money for any and all organization activities, social events, productions, and other materials related to the content of the organization. The Treasurer is also a collaborator for the newsletter and can take a writing or editing position for the newsletter if they would like to.

Qualifications:

- Strong financial management skills
- Willing to receive financial training
- Strong organizational skills

II.e. Social Media Chair: The Social Media Chair is in charge of the maintenance and upkeep of all of the organization's social media platforms. This includes taking pictures/designing posts, creating polls for community engagement, writing captions, and tagging all wanted parties that would like to be represented within the organization.

Qualifications:

- Strong understanding of social media management or willingness to learn
- Have skills in design graphics for stories and posts
- Strong communications skills to keep everyone up to date on newsletters, polls, and other events of the org.

Article 5 - Election and Selection of Organization Leadership: Elected officers will be chosen by majority vote of those interested in the open position. The vote will be conducted by the general members available to attend the election. During these elections, those running for an elected position must showcase in some capacity their skills and qualifications as to why they would like to participate within the organization and what they can contribute to the organization. The size of the elected individuals for the organization's leadership will be equal to only the number of positions available to apply for. If changes are to be made in the future of the organization then those changes must be put to vote by not only the elected officials but to all general members as well. The changes, if won, may be done to this constitution and the by-laws of this organization.

Article 6 - Advisory Board: An advisor will help to maintain the organization's missions and values as well as helping the members, both elected and general, with any resources they need help with acquiring.

Article 7 - Meetings and Frequency: The organization will strive to meet on a pre-planned schedule of meetings each week of the semester. These scheduled meetings will have their own purposes and required talking points to move forward with the organization's newsletter. These meetings will be pre-planned based on the majority availability of all members.

Article 8 - Dissolution of the Organization: If the organization has acquired many debts or strikes from the university or must be immediately removed from the list of student organizations on campus then all members must be notified. If there are members willing to continue with the organization, they may try and take up the mantle to continue forward. If not, the board of Student Activities must be notified of the dissolution and the organization will be removed from the university's website.