**Constitution**

**Article 1. Name and Purpose**

Section 1: Human Development and Family Science Graduate Student Organization (HDFS GSO)

Section 2: Purpose:

###### HDFS GSO is dedicated to…

* Promoting mutual support and cohesion between graduate students.
* Providing service, social, and academic opportunities for student involvement in the program
* Addressing graduate students’ academic concerns, issues, and problems.
* Helping new students to get accustomed to the program, department, and graduate school through mentoring and advising.
* Enhancing the effective communication and collaboration between the graduate students and the faculty.

Section 3: 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, the Human Development and Family Science Graduate Student Organization 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 2. Membership**

Voting membership: Limited to currently enrolled Ohio State graduate students in the HDFS program of the Human Sciences department.

Non-voting: All others, including faculty, alumni, and professionals may be non-voting associate or honorary members.

**Article 2. Organization Leadership**

* *President*: Attend department meetings and disseminate information ; coordinate and assist other chairs; set up and lead GSO meetings
* *Secretary/Treasurer*: Keep and disseminate meeting minutes; manage club’s money
* *Community Service*: Coordinate community service activities
* *Social*: Set up happy hours and other social events; maintain graduate student bulletin board; coordinate end of the year picnic

All members of the executive committee are elected annually through a vote in the final spring meeting by the general membership. Each position is a minimum of a year, with no maximum service time.

**Article III – Methods for Removing Members and Executive Officers**

Article III should clearly define your organization’s procedures for removal of officers or members. Be sure to think critically about the process of removing members and include variables such as timeline, voting procedures, and the various reasons a member or executive officer should be removed.

III.a. 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.

III.b. 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.

III.c. 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 6. Method of Removing Officers and Members.**

General members and elected leaders should be expected to meet certain standards and conduct themselves in a way that reflects well on the organization. In the event that a member does not meet those expectations, the executive and the advisor shall meet to decide the appropriate action. If a leader does not meet those expectations, than any member(s), with consultation with advisor, can decide the appropriate action, and bring this decision to the executive for final action.

**Article 7. Advisor**

The advisor for this group will typically be the HDFS graduate studies chair, and if that person is not willing or able, any faculty member from the department.

**Article 8. Meetings**

Meetings will be held once per month, and are required for the executive.

**Article 9. Method of Amending Constitution**

Proposed amendments should be in writing, should not be acted upon but read in the general meeting in which they are proposed, should be read again at a specified number of subsequent general meetings and the general meeting in which the votes will be taken. Approval should require at least two-thirds of voting members present (and to conduct any business an organization should have quorum present at a business meeting, which is at minimum 50% + 1 of total organization members). The constitution should not be amended easily or frequently.

**Article 10. Method for Dissolution**

Any voting member may bring to a vote the option of dissolution. A minimum of 50% + 1 of total membership must vote in agreement. The executive will then decide, with the advisor, how best the dissolution should occur.