Constitution

Article I

Section 1: Name: Public Health Interest Group at Ohio State (PHIG)

Article II: Purpose: The PHIG exists to provide students at The Ohio State University opportunities to learn about the overlap between Public Health and Medicine in research and practice.

Article III: *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.*

*Section B. Hazing*

PHIG **agrees to maintain a zero-tolerance policy for hazing, in compliance with Ohio State University and Collin's Law. All members must conduct themselves in a manner that supports an environment free from hazing. Hazing includes any activity, regardless of consent, that causes or creates a substantial risk of physical, mental, or emotional harm or humiliation to any individual as part of membership or affiliation with the student organization. If found responsible for hazing, members and/or the organization may face disciplinary actions.**

Article IV

Section A

Organization Leadership: Individuals may serve in one or multiple positions over one year, but must be elected to the position annually.

President: service term of 1 academic year. Responsibilities are to oversee the running of the organization, ensure proper function and cohesion, delegate responsibilities fairly. Elected by the previous year’s Executive Board.

Treasurer: service term of 1 academic year. Oversee the finances of the organization and ensure proper procedures are carried out for reimbursement from The Ohio State University. Elected by the previous year’s Executive Board.

Membership: Voting membership should be defined as limited to currently enrolled Ohio State students. Others such as faculty, alumni, professionals, etc. are encouraged to become members but as non-voting associate or honorary members. Non-members can become members through attending meetings and expressing interest after introductory emails and meetings at the beginning of the academic year, including subscribing to a list-serv. Non-members will become members throughout the academic year, especially at the beginning of said year.

Section B

All members are free to leave and disassociate without fear of retribution, retaliation, or harassment. 90% of the voting membership must be currently enrolled Columbus campus Ohio State students. Faculty, staff, alumni, and the partners of students, faculty, staff, and alumni of Ohio State may participate in the activities and programs of student organizations as associate members but may not comprise more than 10% of the total membership.

Section C

IV.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.

IV.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.

IV.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), the executive board, in consultation with the organization’s advisor, may vote to temporarily suspend a member or executive officer.

Article V

Advisors must be on faculty at The Ohio State University College of Medicine or in the College of Public Health. The advisor should be the primary resource for guidance to the Executive Board when questions or problems arise that can’t be resolved by the executive board.

Article VI

The Executive Board consists of the President, Treasurer, and any other positions deemed necessary for the proper functioning of the organization.

Article VII

*Method of Amending Constitution: Proposals, notice, and voting requirements.* 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 VIII

If at some time in the future there are not enough members desirous to continue the existence of the organization, it will be the responsibility of the Treasurer to cover all debts. Any excess of funds shall be returned to the College of Public Health and College of Medicine.

By Laws

 *Article 1 – Parliamentary Authority*

Though the minority shall be heard and absentees protected, the majority will decide.

The rules contained in The Constitution shall govern the organization in all cases to which they are applicable, and in which they are not inconsistent with the by-laws of this organization.

*Article II- Membership*

Membership is open to all students of The Ohio State University.

*Article III- Election / Appointment of Government Leadership*

Elections shall take place in the spring of each year coinciding with the end of Winter Semester. New leadership shall be chosen by the existing Executive Board.

*Article VI - Advisor/Advisory Board Responsibilities*

The advisor is expected to be available for guidance and recommendations throughout the year, but is not expected to attend other meetings or events.

*Article VII - Meeting Requirements*

The Executive Board shall meet as needed to plan events.

*Article VIII - Method of Amending By-Laws*

Amending By-laws requires a majority of the Executive Board.