**Medical Students for Disability Health and Advocacy**

**Constitution 2021-22**

**Preamble**

We, the members of Medical Students for Disability Health and Advocacy, in order to promote disability health initiatives and advocate for health science learners with disability and chronic illness, do hereby establish this constitution.

**Article I. Medical Students for Disability Health & Advocacy**

*Section 1*. The official name of the organization will be MEDICAL STUDENTS FOR DISABILITY HEALTH & ADVOCACY, also referred to as MSDHA.

**Article II. Affiliation**

*Section 1*. Sponsoring Department: MSDHA is a sponsored student organization with the department of Family Medicine at Michigan Medicine. Our sponsoring unit advisor is Dr. Oluwaferanmi Okanlami.

**Article III. Mission and Purpose**

*Section 1.*Mission: Our mission is to enhance education and understanding of disparities facing people with disabilities and chronic illness.

*Section 2*. Purpose: This organization’s purpose is to promote disability health initiatives and advocate for health science learners with disability and chronic illness.

**Article IV. Membership**

*Section 1.* Any and all individuals with an expressed interest in becoming members of Medical Students for Disability Health & Advocacy are welcome to join. MSDHA is committed to a policy of equal opportunity for all persons and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, marital status, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, disability, religion, height, weight, or veteran status in its membership or activities. Upon joining the organization, all members agree not to undermine the purpose or mission of MSDHA.

*Section 2*. In order to become a member, one must inform an officer of the organization of his/her desire to join the organization. The individual will then officially be made a member of the organization and added to the e-mail list.

*Section 3*. If one desires to withdraw from the organization, he/she must express his/her desire to an officer. The individual’s name will then be withdrawn from the membership list and e-mail list. No refunds of dues will be paid to the individual as this organization does not collect dues.

**Article V. Officers**

*Section 1.* There are five officers. The titles and duties are listed below:

* President: This position holds the responsibility of scheduling all meetings, promoting the purpose and missions of the organization, verifying that the Education Officer, Treasurer, and Community Service Officer are performing their duties adequately, and facilitating communication about the organizational activities among the Officers, Members, Michigan Student Assembly, and Office of Student Programs in the medical School.
* Treasurer: The position manages and accounts for all the financial activities and resources of the organization.
* Education Officers: There are two individuals for this position. This position directs activities and events for the organization and campus community for the purpose of providing people with learning opportunities about disability health.
* Community Service Officer: This position proposes community service opportunities to members of the group.

*Section 2*. The officers listed above form the executive committee.

*Section 3.* The advisor provides advice to the group members when advice is sought.

**Article VI. Operations**

*Section 1.*  All members are eligible for office.

*Section 2.*  Officers are elected 1 time per year in September. A member may nominate him/herself for a position or be nominated by another member. Nominees will then be voted for by present members via a secret ballot. The nominee with the greatest number of votes for a position will be awarded that position.

*Section 3.* Officers assume their positions exactly 1 week after being elected to the position.

*Section 4.* Voting Eligibility: Those members meeting all requirements of active membership will be granted voting privileges.

*Section 5*: Meetings: All meetings will occur on a weekly basis at a time selected by the executive committee and will follow the procedure set forth below.

a) Attendance

b) Report by the President

c) Committee Reports

d) Vote on all committee motions/decisions

e) Any other business

f) Dismissal by the President

**Article VII. Finances**

*Section 1.* The organizations activities will be financed partly by the Office of Student Programs in the medical school, fundraisers, and any grants awarded to the organization by the Michigan Student Assembly.

*Section 2.* The Treasurer is responsible for the financial operations of the organization.

**Article VIII. Amendments**

*Section 1.* Amendments must be proposed via e-mail to the President.

*Section 2.* Amendments may be proposed by any member of the organization.

*Section 3.* Amendments must be voted on no sooner than 2 weeks after the amendment was proposed. In order for amendment to be passed and accepted as by-law of the constitution, it must be accepted by 3 out of 5 of the executive board.

**Article IX.**

*Section 1.* An Officer may be removed if it has been decided that he/she has not acted in the best interest of the organization with regards to the purpose and preamble above.

*Section 2.*  In order for an Officer to be removed, a majority of the other officers must vote for removal the Officer up for removal.

*Section 3.* Members of the organization may be removed if his/her actions or statements contradict the purpose and mission statement of the organization.

*Section 4.* In order for a Member to be removed, a majority of the officers must vote for removal of the Member.

**Article IX. Registration Renewal**

*Section 1.* All registration procedures must be handled by the current President.

**Article X. Ratification of the Constitution**

*Section 1.* The ratification of the constitution will occur every year by a majority vote. All members of the organization will be eligible to vote.

**Article XI. Statement of Compliance**

*Section 1.* MSDHA has read and fully complies with the University’s policies. We understand that the organization’s registration is contingent on acceptance of these polices.