

CONSTITUTION
OF
SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
HOUSE STAFF ASSOCIATION

Article I **Name, Purpose, and Objectives**

Section 1. The name of this organization shall be:

Southern Illinois University School of Medicine House Staff Association
(SIU-HSA)

Section 2. The purpose and objectives of this Association shall be to

- A. Promote improvements of house staff employment conditions
- B. To promote resident well-being
- C. To minimize impediments of the house staff in their medical, surgical and ethical training
- D. To be an advocate for patient care
- E. Education of residents on issues affecting them
- F. Represent the interest of its members in deliberations with affiliated hospitals on issues regarding working conditions and benefits
- G. To create an independent and non-affiliated organization for these purposes
- H. To provide a forum for Association members to discuss concerns of a non-academic nature
- I. Appoint members to due process committee hearings
- J. Provide member representatives to the GMEC

Article II **Membership**

Section 1. Membership

The membership shall be comprised of all physicians holding an internship, residency, or fellowship appointment at Southern Illinois University School of Medicine and its affiliated hospitals and clinics. Rights of membership include the duty to vote and the right to hold office and attend meetings.

Section 2. Termination of membership

Membership shall be terminated upon:

- A. Written resignation
- B. Death of a member
- C. Completion of training program
- D. Transfer or dismissal from training program

Article III Meetings

All regular meetings of the Association shall be conducted following the guidelines of Robert's Rules of Order.

Section 1. Board meetings

The Board of Directors (HSBOD) shall meet at least four times annually, and other times as deemed necessary by the President. Monthly meetings will be scheduled, but can be canceled by the President if there are no agenda items to be addressed. Any member who wishes to participate in discussions of an agenda item is encouraged to attend meetings at any time and/or advise their program representative of their view point. All guests and administrators will depart the meeting early to give residents/fellows in attendance the opportunity to meet without their presence.

Section 2. Quorum

No meeting of the Association or Board of Directors shall take place nor shall any business of the Association be conducted in the absence of a quorum as defined by this constitution. A quorum at Board meetings will be 25% of the core residency programs represented.

Article IV Board of Directors

Section 1. Election of Board members

One primary Board member and one alternate Board member shall be nominated and elected (by ballot voting) from each Residency Program by the First of June.

Absentee voting may occur during the thirty days immediately prior to the election.

Election will be determined by majority of votes received. Run-off elections will be held if no candidate receives a majority vote.

Section 2. Term of office

Each Board member will be elected for a two-year term. If any board member undergoes active remediation during this two-year term, the term will cease at the end of the current academic year.

Section 3. Attendance

Board members are strongly encouraged to attend meetings in an effort to represent every program. In the event that a primary Board member is unable to attend a meeting, arrangements should be made for the alternate Board member to attend. If neither member can attend, notification should be given to the President, Vice President, or Office

of Residency Affairs. Greater than 50% absenteeism within a six-month time period may be grounds for removal from the Board.

Section 4. Duties

- A. Advise the officers on matters brought to the Association's attention.
- B. To aid in developing policy that shall guide the affairs of the House Staff Association.
- C. To assist in the dissemination of information to the Association and serve as a voice from their represented departments.
- D. To assist in the dissemination of information to residents in their respective programs.

Article V Officers

Section 1. The general officers of the Association shall be a President and a Vice President

- A. Board of Directors shall nominate and elect candidates for the offices of President and Vice President. No nominee shall become a candidate for election unless his/her nomination is seconded.
- B. All officers shall hold their office until a successor is elected and assumes the office.
- C. A vacancy in the office of any officer may be filled by a qualified person elected to the Board of Directors who shall hold office until his/her successor is elected and assumes office.
- D. The President shall be the principal executive officer of the Association.
- E. Only Primary Board members can be nominated for officer positions.
- F. The candidate receiving the most votes will be named President. The candidate receiving second most votes will be named Vice-President.

Section 2. Officers

1. President

The President shall preside at meetings of the Board of Directors. He/she shall convene meetings of the Board at least four times per year, and on the request of not less than one-third of the members of the Board of Directors.

- A. The President shall appoint all committees not otherwise provided for by this Constitution.
- B. The President shall have such further powers, in addition to those enumerated herein, as are usual to his/her office. He/she may delegate any of his/her powers and duties under this Constitution, subject to disapproval by the Board of Directors.

2. Vice President

The Vice President shall assume all of the duties of the president in the event of absence or resignation of the President.

Section 3. Terms

Officers shall be elected or appointed for the term of one academic year.

Section 4. Qualifications

Candidates for elected or appointed offices shall be a member in good standing.

Section 5. Vacancies

Elected or appointed offices will be considered vacant when an officer ceases to perform their duties secondary to death, resignation, removal and/or disqualification.

Section 6. Removal of Officers

An officer may be removed during any Board meeting by a simple majority vote. The officer shall be afforded due process prior to any dismissal proceedings. Any officer who disqualifies from membership immediately ceases to be an officer.

Article VI **Committees**

The committees of the Association shall be composed of members of the Association.

Article VII **Amendments**

The House Staff Association Constitution may be amended at any meeting of the Board of Directors.

Proposed amendments to the constitution shall be presented in writing to the Board of Directors and publicized to the membership at least one month before the proposed amendment shall be considered.

Members of the Board of Directors in good standing may vote in absentee with a signed letter to be opened only at the time of counting votes.

An amendment to the Constitution must be approved by a 2/3 majority of the Board of Directors' voting membership in order to pass.

Changes to the constitution shall be forwarded to the SIU School of Medicine Associate Dean of Graduate Medical Education upon their passage.

*Amended and approved August 5, 2019
Proposed changes to HSBOD 3.16.2020
Approved May 11, 2020*