

University of Waterloo Optometry Student Society Constitution

ARTICLE I

Name

The name of this organization shall be the University of Waterloo Optometry Student Society, hereafter referred to as the Society.

ARTICLE II

Purpose

The purpose of the Society is to contribute to the welfare of the members and the profession of organized optometry, as well as to give the optometry student a formal and united means of expression and to administer student affairs within the limits of, and in accordance with, the procedures prescribed in this constitution and any attached bylaws.

ARTICLE III

Membership

The student body of the Society, who shall constitute the members, shall consist of all full time students who are enrolled in the optometry program for credit. No student who is otherwise enrolled shall hold office in any class, student organization or council of the Society, nor shall vote in any class, student organization, or special elections.

ARTICLE IV

Will of the Society

Either of the following shall be considered an expression of the will of the Society:

1. A motion passed at any meeting of the Society.
2. The passage of any constituted referendum.

ARTICLE V

Student Council

All regulative and executive powers herein granted shall be vested in a Student Council, hereafter referred to as the Council, which shall consist jointly of an Executive Committee and the Representatives. The Council shall be bound to sanction the will of the Society on all matters. All members of the Council must also be voting members of the Society.

1. Membership

- a) The following shall be the Executive of both the Council and the Society in compliance with Article III.
- i. The President. There shall be an elected President who shall act as Chief Executive Officer of both the Council and the Society. The duties of the President shall be determined by bylaw.
 - ii. The Vice-President, Internal, hereafter referred to as VP-Internal. There shall be an elected VP-Internal who shall perform the duties of Chief Executive Officer in the absence of the President and whose other duties shall be determined by bylaw.
 - iii. The Vice-President, Communications, hereafter referred to as VP-Communications. There shall be an elected VP-Communications who shall perform the duties of Chief Executive Officer in the absence of the President and VP-Internal and whose other duties shall be determined by bylaw.
 - iv. The Vice-President, Finance, hereafter referred to as VP-Finance. There shall be an elected VP-Finance who shall perform the duties of Chief Executive Officer in the absence of the President, VP-Internal and VP-Communications and whose other duties shall be determined by bylaw.
- b) The voting members of the Council shall be:
- i. the President, VP-Internal, VP-Communications, and VP-Finance of the Society;
 - ii. a president representing each class;
 - iii. a vice-president representing each class;
 - iv. up to four members acting as sports representatives from the first year, second year, and third year classes;
 - v. up to four members acting as equipment representatives from the first year, second year, and third year classes;
 - vi. up to four members acting as social representatives from the first year class;
 - vii. up to four members acting as environment representatives from the first year class.
- c) The following shall be non-voting members of the Council:
- The only right which shall be denied non-voting members of the Council is the voting privilege. These members will still be able to attend *in camera* sessions and to place motions on the table.
- i. the President-elect of the Society;
 - ii. the VP-Internal-elect of the Society;
 - iii. the VP-Communications-elect of the Society;
 - iv. the VP-Finance-elect of the Society;
- d) The following shall be *ex officio* members of the Council:
- The only right which shall be denied *ex officio* members of the Council is the voting privilege. These members will still be able to attend *in camera* sessions and to place motions on the table. Additionally, the *ex officio* members shall not be constrained by any bylaws requiring a specific rate of attendance at Council meetings, but may be summoned to a specific Council meeting by a majority vote at a previous meeting.
- i. the President of CAOS
 - ii. the President of AOSA
 - iii. the President of VOSH

ARTICLE VI

Meetings of the Society

1. A meeting of the Society shall be called upon the presentation to the Council of a petition bearing the bona fide signatures of at least ten percent (10%) of the voting members of the Society.
2. Quorum for a meeting of the Society shall consist of twenty-five percent (25%) of the voting members of the Society.

3. Bylaws shall be established to regulate the conduct of meetings of the Union.

ARTICLE VII

Elections and Referenda

1. Quorum for any Union Election or referendum shall consist of twenty-five percent (25%) of the voting members of the Society.
2. There shall be bylaws established to regulate elections and election procedures.
3. A referendum shall be called upon the presentation of a petition that constitutes the bona fide signature of at least twenty-five percent (25%) of the voting members of the Society. Said petition remains valid until the end of that academic year; said referendum must take place within the same academic year.

ARTICLE VIII

Bylaws

It shall be within the power of the Council to enact, amend, and repeal such bylaws as it deems necessary for the effective operation of the Society, on the basis of a motion passed by two-thirds of the voting members of the Council, present at any constituted meeting of the Council.

ARTICLE IX

Affiliation

The Society shall be affiliated with the American Optometric Student Association (AOSA), Canadian Association of Optometry Students (CAOS), Volunteer Optometric Services to Humanity (VOSH) and other Canadian Optometry Schools subject to yearly review by Student Council.

ARTICLE X

Amendments of the Constitution

An amendment to this Constitution may be initiated by a motion which states the proposed amendment at a constituted referendum or meeting of the Society. Ratification of said amendment shall require two-thirds of the quorum in accordance with Article VII, 1, in a constituted referendum to pass the motion.