

Constitution of
Health Professions College Council
(Revised 4/22/03)

Article I

The name of this organization shall be **The Health Professions College Council** and is hereafter referred to as HPCC in this Constitution.

Article II
Purpose

The Purpose of this organization shall be:

1. To provide channels of communication and cooperation among the different disciplines of students and faculty of all the programs and organizations that are part of the College of Health Professions.
2. To promote interest, awareness, and understanding of the health professions through the university and the community at large.
3. To carry out service activities for the betterment of the UF students and the community.
4. To provide functioning framework for activities concerning the College of Health Professions and the Health Center at UF.
5. To advocate for the students of the College of Health Professions at the University and in the community.
6. HPCC will also serve as a voting body, which will allocate BOCC funds and make sure all funds are delivered properly and are not abused.
7. This organization shall be not for profit or non-commercial in nature.

Article III
Membership

1. Full membership shall be limited to registered students of the University of Florida. Faculty, staff and the spouses of members, and other students may be associate members. Associate members may not hold office or vote on matters concerning this organization. Members are free to leave HPCC and dissociate without fear of retribution or harassment of any form.
2. Members of each of the different disciplines' organizations must have two representatives at each HPCC meeting. It would be advised that the presidents and treasurers of each organization attend these meetings as representatives for their respective organizations; however, they can appoint a representative to attend the meetings.

Article IV
Concerning Discrimination

1. Membership shall not be denied on the basis of race, creed, color, sex, nation of origin, physical ability, religion, age, sexual orientation, marital status, political opinion or affiliation, or veteran status.

Article V
Finance

1. This organization will not charge dues to it members or associate members.

Article VI
Officers

- Section 1: The administrative body shall be an Executive Board consisting of President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Public Relations Officer, as appointed by popular vote in an election open to all students and faculty of the College of Health Professions. The votes shall be cast by secret ballot. Eligibility for office includes adherence to the University of Florida and the Student Government guidelines. The Executive Committee votes in the department office. The secretary shall be responsible for organizing and counting all ballots.
- Section 2: The Executive Board shall serve in their positions for one year, unless other arrangements are made before assuming office.
- Section 3: The Dean of the College shall appoint a faculty advisor to HPCC. The Executive Board is free to make recommendations for this position to the Dean. This will be done once throughout the tenure of the faculty advisor.
- Section 4: The faculty advisor shall attend meetings and offer counsel whenever indicated and shall council the Executive Board on administrative decisions, but shall not vote on these decisions.
- Section 5: Duties of the officers
- A. President
The President shall conduct all meetings of the HPCC and act as general coordinator of council activities. The President shall represent HPCC in all college affairs.
 - B. Vice-President
The Vice-President shall assist the President in all matters of HPCC and assume the President's duties in the absence of this officer. In addition, the Vice-President shall act as project coordinator and advisor to all committees created and pre-existing within HPCC.
 - C. Secretary
The Secretary shall be responsible for notifying members of the meetings, arranging location of meetings, providing minutes, assisting in HPCC correspondence, recording attendance, and providing other administrative assistance to the Executive Board as needed.
 - D. Treasurer
The Treasurer shall be responsible for managing the finances and budget of HPCC and reporting these to the voting body.
 - E. Public Relations
The Public Relations Officer shall be responsible for accessing and procuring publicity for HPCC events and college activities. The Public Relations Officer shall work with the faculty advisor to ensure college guidelines are followed regarding all public relations.
- Section 6: If an Executive Board member cannot fulfill their term for any reason, that member will be replaced by a majority vote on a secret ballot at a regular/special meeting, with the exception of the President. If the President cannot fulfill the duty of the office then the Vice-President will assume all duties of the President.

Section 7: If at any time the voting body feels it is not being properly served by the officers of HPCC, it may call a vote of impeachment. A four-fifths vote of the voting body would suffice for dismissal by impeachment of an officer. A replacement officer shall be elected from HPCC in accordance with the qualifications set forth in the HPCC by-laws and with all due haste.

Article VII
Elections

1. All election voting shall be done according to Robert's rules, and a secret ballot vote will be cast. This is open to all students in the College of Health Professions.
2. With exceptions for the general election of officers, the voting body shall consist of:
3. 16 eligible student representative from each of the department with a minimum of the following:
 - i. Clinical Psychology 2
 - ii. Health service Administration (HASA) 2
 - iii. Occupational therapy (OT) 2
 - iv. Physical therapy (PT) 2
 - v. Rehabilitative Counseling (URA) 2
 - vi. Audiology 2
 - vii. Health Science Student Organization (HSSO) 2
4. 4 votes from the executive board as follows:
 - i. Vice president 1
 - ii. Secretary 1
 - iii. Treasurer 1
 - iv. Public relations officer 1
5. 2 Votes from the following student representatives
 - i. Student senator 1
 - ii. Board of college councils (BOCC) rep. 1
6. Elections for student representatives will occur during the month of August of each year. If one or more of the departments cannot fulfill the minimum number of seats then those seats can be fulfilled with a majority vote by the existing voting body after the August election.
7. The voting body will be responsible for participation in HPCC activities and executing the wishes of the students of the College of Health Professions.
8. The voting body shall execute all official business.
9. Each representative and officer (except for the President) shall represent a single vote. The President will only vote in the event of a tie.

Article VIII

Meetings and Voting Policies

1. All meetings of HPCC shall be open to all students and faculty of the college. All voting representatives are required to attend regularly scheduled meetings.
2. HPCC shall hold no less than one meeting each month except during summer terms. Meetings shall be held at a time and place to be determined by the executive board prior to the first meeting.
3. In order to conduct business or hold elections, a quorum must be present. A quorum consists of fifty percent of the voting members rounded down.
4. There will be no proxy voting.

5. Regular business voting shall be done according to Robert's Rules and eligible voting members as listed above will cast an oral vote.
6. The Executive Board may call a special meeting provided that notification of voting members occurs at least one week prior to the date of the meeting.

Article IX

Attendance Policy

1. All members are required to attend all regular HPCC meetings. Absences are excused for extenuating circumstances and time conflicts by informing the secretary in writing or by telephone no less than 2 days before the meeting.
2. Only one unexcused absence is allowed per semester. After this absence the voting member will be notified in writing that a second unexcused absence will result in the termination of voting rights in HPCC meetings and the organization to which the absent member belongs will have their funds frozen.

Article X

Umbrella Organizations

1. All organizations that receive money from HPCC are considered umbrella organizations.
2. The umbrella organizations must function in concordance with the 800 codes specified by Student Government at the University of Florida, the HPCC constitution and the BOCC constitution.
3. These organizations will function separately from HPCC and have no voting rights as a group. However any individual member of an umbrella organization can serve as a student representative from the department or program if that department or program is part of the College of Health Professions.
4. The umbrella organizations can generate funds separately from HPCC provided that the account is through SG. These funds shall be used at the discretion of each organization with the exception of ALCOHOL. No organization will purchase alcohol with funds provided by HPCC or those funds generated outside of HPCC. The faculty advisor must approve fundraising for HPCC in order to prevent conflicts with broader college fund raising activities.

Article XI

Funding and Adherence to Regulations

1. HPCC receives its funding from BOCC. The allocation of these funds is at the discretion of the college council and will require a majority vote.
2. When using funds allocated from BOCC, both HPCC and all umbrella organizations must follow the 800 codes specified by SG and all University of Florida regulations.

Article XII

Amendment Procedures

1. Amendments to the constitution will require a majority vote from the Executive Board and acceptance by the faculty advisor. The faculty advisor will approve all amendments supported by the Executive Board unless he or she feels that the amendment is in conflict with broader college policies or philosophy. If so, the Executive Board will reconsider, and the faculty advisor will consult with the dean for a resolution.
2. Amendments to the by-laws will require a three-fourths vote from the Executive Board.

Article XIII
Election Procedures

1. All persons wanting to run for positions on the executive board must announce their candidacy in the fall before winter break. The date will be announced two weeks prior to the event. Candidates must serve as active members of the council until the official election.
2. The election will be held during Spring Semester at the end of March or the first week of April. The council will decide the exact date.
3. The election will be open to the college and will be held during a regular meeting. This meeting's only purpose will be to hold the election. All candidates must be present and accounted for in order to receive votes.
4. An election committee will be used to conduct the election.

Article XIV
Election Committee

1. One month prior to the election date persons who volunteer at a regular business meeting will form an election committee.
2. The committee will consist of only three members and in the event of more volunteers there will be a vote.
3. Persons excluded from serving on the committee are the existing members of the executive board.

Article XV
Election Meeting Procedures

1. Call meeting to order.
2. Candidate role call by the current Secretary.
3. Debate forum will start with the presidential candidates and be followed by all other candidates.
4. Each candidate will have the opportunity to give a two-minute introductory speech. After all introductory speeches there will be an opportunity for a 60-second rebuttal statement. After all candidates are finished with that portion of the forum a formal vote will take place.
5. After all votes are tallied, candidates not having won the contested position will have the opportunity to run for any other executive office that has not been voted on already.
6. All votes will be cast by secret ballot, which will be provided by HPCC.
7. Ballot boxes must be taken to a location separate from where the voting took place in order to be counted. Three separate people must count all ballots.
8. Results will be announced immediately and the election will proceed accordingly.
9. All results from voting are final.

Article XVI
Authority

1. This organization shall conform to the regulations prescribed by the Student Guide and other laws and rules governing the University of Florida and its students. Hazing is, by all means, prohibited.