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Chapter Constitution

**Article I, Name**

**Section (1)** The name of the organization shall be the Quillen College of Medicine Chapter of Physicians for a National Health Program (PNHP) at East Tennessee State University.

**Article II, Purpose**

**Section (1)** The purpose of the organization will be to organize a grassroots effort to advocate for a single-payer, “Improved Medicare for All” healthcare system at a state and federal level.

**Article III, Membership**

 **Section (1)** Membership in this organization shall be open to any enrolled

East Tennessee State University (ETSU) undergraduate or graduate student. The only requirement is that all members must electronically sign the official PNHP Tennessee chapter resolution.

**Section (2)** Membership shall be for the duration that the student is enrolled at his or her current institute.

**Section (3)** Any member that electronically signs the official PNHP Tennessee chapter resolution and is a member of the PNHP national organization shall be considered in good standing.

**Section (4)** Members’ responsibilities include, but are not limited to, signing the official PNHP Tennessee chapter resolution; making a good-faith effort to attend chapter meetings; support chapter initiatives, projects, and events; and participate in chapter motions requiring a membership vote.

**Section (5)** This organization shall not discriminate on the basis of age, race, color, religion, gender, national origin, ancestry, disability, veteran’s status, sexual orientation, or political affiliation.

**Article IV, Removal of Members**

**Section (1)** Grounds for removal is being disrespectful at any time including at chapter or community meetings.

**Article V, Dues**

 **Section (1)** There are no local dues for the organization.

**Section (2)** There are no national dues for the organization if one registers as a student.

**Section (3)** In case of organizational dissolution, the organizational funds will be transferred to the PNHP national organization.

**Article VI, Officers**

**Section (1)** The officers of this organization include a President, Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer, and two MS1 Advisory Board Members.

**Section (2)** Nominations for officers will be held before the last meeting of the semester. Nominations procedures will include sending a 100-word-or-less statement of intent to the Secretary/Treasurer before voting is held. These statements of intent will be accepted up 12 hours before the election.

**Section (3)** The election of these officers will be held during the last meeting of the semester where quorum is fifty percent of members in good standing must be present. If quorum is not reached then an online survey will be conducted by the Secretary/Treasurer where votes will be accepted within 72 hours of sending it out. Officers will be elected by a simple majority vote based on a secret ballot conducted by the secretary/treasurer with emphasis given to participation in the organization and statements of intent.

**Section (4)** The term of the officer will be for one academic year until the next elections are held. Officers may be re-elected to a different officer position or the same one.

**Section (5)** An officer may be removed by a secret ballot vote by the membership conducted in person. A 51% majority vote is needed. A petition with 10 signatures can initiate this vote. Grounds for removal would be failure to meet requirements of the office per the Chapter Constitution. Also, this includes failure to attend events or chapter meetings.

**Section (6)** Should an office become vacant in mid-term, a new officer may be elected at a chapter meeting.

**Section (7)** Requirements of an officer include being a registered student in good academic standing at ETSU for the entire term of office and have a 2.5 grade point average.

**Section (8)** A full-time faculty/staff adviser will be appointed by the officers until he or she cannot or will not serve in that role any longer.

**Article VII, Duties of Officers**

**Section (1)** The President is primarily responsible for operations needed to keep the chapter active and engaged. This may include but is not limited to communicating with members; communicating with the national PNHP organization and other local chapters; and calling and conducting chapter meetings.

**Section (2)** The Vice President will assume the duties of the President in the President’s absence. The Vice President will assist the President in any administrative duties and chapter responsibilities.

**Section (3)** The Secretary/Treasurer is responsible for taking minutes at meetings; keeping an up-to-date member roster; correspondence with members; and managing financial obligations. The Secretary/Treasurer requires the signature of at least one other leader (President, Vice President, or Advisor(s) before any expenditures can be made.

**Section (4)** The faculty advisor has no formal obligation. He or she should make a good-faith effort to provide feedback and guidance when appropriate and possible. They should be present in the removal of an officer.

Section (5) Two MS1 Advisory Board Members will serve as “leaders-in-training” and be encouraged to participate in the Physicians for a National Health Program Mentorship program.

**Article VIII, Organizational Meetings**

**Section (1)** There shall be a minimum of one meeting per semester during the Fall and Spring semester. The President or any other officer may call additional meetings.

**Section (2)** Organizational meetings will be conducted in accordance to “Robert’s Rules of Orders”

**Section (3)** This organization is subject to the policies and procedures of ETSU and the Tennessee Board of Regents.

**Section (4)** A quorum for conducting business shall be considered at least 50% of the members of the organization conditional upon a good-faith effort made to notify members of business.

**Section (5)** All general meetings will be open to all members of the Quillen Chapter of Physicians for a National Health Program. Meetings may be open to the general student body or general public (given proper protocol is followed with the school), but this organization reserves the right to hold members-only meetings.

**Article IX, Amendments**

**Section (1)** The Constitution can be amended during any regular meeting by any member submitting a proposal change and being passed by a 51% majority vote of members in good standing. The proposal change should be submitted beforehand to an officer.