

University of Mississippi School of Medicine  
Medical Student Council  
Constitution

#### PURPOSE STATEMENT

The purpose of the Medical Student Council (MSC) shall be to foster effective communication between students of the four classes; and between students and the administration. This organization shall serve as the voice of the University of Mississippi School of Medicine student body. It shall investigate and discuss issues of interest to students of the School of Medicine regarding education and student life, offering constructive courses of action that benefit all while striving to protect the quality and integrity of the institution.

#### FUNCTIONS

1. To promote the effective communication of ideas and information to the student body, the faculty, and the administration.
2. To facilitate the participation of students in the decision making and policy implementation process.
3. To serve as a forum to which issues may be brought in order to initiate effective and appropriate action.
4. To provide student input regarding the modification of present programs and policies, as well as the development of future programs and policies.
5. To empower students with a forum for protecting the quality and integrity of medical education as delivered by the University of Mississippi School of Medicine.
6. To recognize and encourage student organizations.
7. To foster the process of individual medical school class governance as well as providing for enhanced transitions of successive classes through the curriculum.

#### MEMBERS

The MSC shall consist of voting and non-voting members.

1. Voting members of the MSC shall be:
  - a. The President of each medical school class (4).
  - b. The Vice-President of each medical school class (4).
  - c. One At-large member appointed by the Dean's Council from the M2 Class.
  - d. One At-Large member appointed by the Dean's Council from the M3 or M4 Class.
2. Non-voting members of the MSC shall be:
  - a. The Secretary of each medical school class (4).
  - b. The Treasurer of each medical school class (4).
  - c. The Curriculum Committee Representative of each medical school class (4).
  - d. The Social Chairman of each medical school class (4).

#### OFFICERS

1. A Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson shall be elected for a one year tenure at the first MSC meeting of the new academic year.

2. The Chairperson shall be from the M4 class and perform the following duties:
  - a. Prepare and submit the student agenda for all MSC meetings.
  - b. Manage meetings by the rules of parliamentary procedure.
  - c. Prepare and review all formal correspondence of the Council.
3. The Vice-Chairperson shall be from the M3 class and perform the following duties:
  - a. Assume the duties and responsibilities of the Chairperson in his or her absence.
  - b. Supervise the collection and preparation of accurate minutes.
  - c. Distribute minutes to all interested parties following the review of the Chairperson.
4. In the event that neither Chairperson nor Vice-Chairperson are in attendance at any MSC meeting, the senior ranking member of the MSC shall manage the proceedings.

#### ADVISORS

The Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, Associate Dean for Student Affairs and the Assistant Dean for Academic Affairs shall serve as mentors to the organization and its officers through the role of advisor. The advisor is expected to offer appropriate guidance and counsel in obtainment of MSC endeavors and to act as a liaison between MSC, the faculty, and the administration. The advisor has no voting rights.

#### MEETINGS

1. Meetings of the voting membership of the MSC shall be held every Monday that is practical during the noon hour of the Fall and Spring Semester.
2. A quorum shall consist of one-half of the voting membership with at least one member of each Medical School class present.
3. All members must attend at least one-half of the scheduled meetings for a given academic year.
4. The MSC Chairperson may call additional meetings as needed.

#### COMMITTEES AND ORGANIZATIONS

1. The MSC shall have the power to form and to dissolve committees as needed to better serve student needs.
2. A student organization is considered a group of students who organize with the purpose of enriching their medical school education. The MSC reserves the right to recognize student organizations.
  - a. A student organization shall have a designated student contact person to the MSC, a faculty/staff advisor and a sponsoring department.

#### STANDING COMMITTEES

#### RATIFICATION AND AMENDMENT OF THE CONSTITUTION

1. Ratification of this Constitution will occur by approval of two-thirds of the voting members of the MSC and replace any existing or previous Constitution. An absentee ballot may be cast using the individual voting member's institutional email account.
2. Amendment to this Constitution can be made by approval of two-thirds of the voting members of the MSC. Prospective amendments must be presented in writing at a

- pervious MSC meeting. An absentee ballot may be cast using the individual voting member's institutional email account.
3. Amendments to the Bylaws can be made by approval of a majority of the voting members of the MSC. Prospective amendments must be presented in writing at a pervious MSC meeting. An absentee ballot may be cast using the individual voting member's institutional email account.

Approved by Medical School Council and SOM Dean's Council, April 20, 2009.