

**GRADUATE STUDENT ASSOCIATION (GSA)
CONSTITUTION**

Article I Name

Section I The name of the organization shall be “The Graduate Student Association, Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, Stratford Campus”

Article II Purpose

Section I The purpose of this association will be to cultivate and promote an enriching environment for conducting basic and biomedical sciences on our campus; to promote the self-improvement of graduate students, through both social involvement with the organization and via fraternalism; and to generally do all things advisable, desirable or necessary in the interest of graduate studies and the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences.

Article III Membership

Section I The members of this association shall consist of those individuals in the active pursuit of a Doctor of Philosophy in Cell and Molecular Biology with a full-time status.

Article IV Government

Section I Legislative Body: The legislative body and governing body of this association shall be its active membership assembled at any Business Session, as provided in Article I of the Bylaws. All the privileges, powers, duties and functions granted this association are its accepted authority.

Section II Administrative Body: This association shall be administered by its active membership provided for in Article IV of the Bylaws.

Article V Officers and Representatives

Section I The elected representatives to the Association Executive Committee shall constitute the offices of President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Section II The officers of the Association Executive Committee shall be elected annually by the members of the GSA during the third week of August.

Section III Each representative to the Association Executive Committee shall be appointed by majority vote of the graduate students.

Section IV Each representative to the Executive Committee shall be appointed for one year.

Article VI Sessions

Section I The business sessions of the Association shall be conducted by the membership as provided in Article II of the Bylaws.

Article VII Quorum

Section I More than half of the active membership shall constitute a quorum at any meeting of the association. At any meeting in which attendance does not constitute a quorum, those present shall discuss the business at hand, but no votes shall be taken.

Article VIII Amendments

Section I This Constitution and Bylaws may be amended by a 3/4 majority vote of all active members, provided the proposed amendment(s) has been presented at a previous meeting.

BYLAWS

Article I Membership

- Section I Classification
- A. Active
 - B. Associate
 - C. Non-quorum

Section II Qualifications

- A. Active membership in this Association shall be limited to students registered as full-time PhD students in the UMDNJ-GSBS, Stratford Campus
- B. Associate Membership is conferred by the Association to those students that hold nonmatriculated status, or part time status (including non-biomedical sciences Masters Candidates) who do not pay dues
- C. Non-quorum membership is conferred by the Association to those individuals not in the above two categories who attend a meeting, or meetings, of the Association.

Article II Meetings

Section I At least two meetings of the Association shall be held each year. The exact time and place shall be specified as required.

Section II Special meetings of the Association may be called by the President or by the request of 5 members made to the President.

Article III Money/Funds

Section I All monies/funds required for the Association functions shall be approved by a 2/3 majority vote of the Executive Committee.

Section II All money issues voted upon favorably are expected to be equally financed by all active members. Students with special membership may contribute to funds if so desired without obligation.

Article IV Officers

Section I Election of officers of the Association will take place during the third week of August will be determined by majority vote of the GSA.

Section II Permanent or temporary vacancies occurring in office shall be filled by appointment by the President for the unexpired term of office.

Section III Term of office of all elected officers shall begin in August and end the following year when the new officers are elected.

Article V Committees

Section I Association committees shall be formulated by the Executive Committee. Association members requested for attendance at extra-association meetings, or to function as an extra-association member, shall be appointed by the President.

Section II The duties and functions of committees shall be outlined at the time of their constitution.

Article VI Responsibility of Officers

Section I It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all Association meetings, to approve all bills for payment, sign all documents, appoint members to committees, and perform such other duties as are customary to his/her office. The President shall attend meetings of the Executive Council of the UMDNJ-GSBS at Stratford.

Section II It shall be the duty of the Vice-President to assist the President in all duties as requested. He/she shall assume the duties of the President in his/her absence.

Section III It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to keep a record of the financial transactions of the Association; to collect all monies; to pay out the same, provided assets are on hand and upon the presentation of a proper voucher, signed by the President. He/she shall make an accurate report of the Association's treasury at each meeting. It shall also be the duty of the Secretary to keep minutes of all Executive Committee meetings and to distribute notices for all GSA events.

Section IV At the expiration of all officers' terms, they shall turn over to their successors all records, books, and other properties relating to their offices.

Section V It is the duty of all incumbent officers to orient officers-elect as to the duties of their offices.

Article VII Rules of Order

Section I The Association shall be governed in all matters not governed by the Constitution and Bylaws, by Roberts' Rules of Order, Revised.

Article V Voting

Section I When a constituted quorum is present at a meeting of the Association, a simple majority will decide whatever issue is before the body, not involving the Constitution and Bylaws.

Section II When a constituted quorum is present at a meeting of the Executive Committee voting shall be by 2/3 majority.