

CONSTITUTION OF
THE SOCIETY of HEALTH and MEDICAL PHYSICS STUDENTS

Established 1992

(Constitution Revised: June 9, 2008)

ARTICLE I

Name

The name of the organization shall be the Society of Health and Medical Physics Students (hereinafter designated as the Student Society). The society will employ the acronym SHMPS in all publicity materials and correspondence.

ARTICLE II

Purpose Statement

Medical applications involving radiation and principles of radiological engineering are used in hospitals and clinics everyday around the world to diagnose and treat many forms of disease. Today, about one-third of all procedures used in modern hospitals involve radiation or radioactivity in applications ranging from diagnostic imaging techniques to radiation therapy for cancer patients. These procedures are among the best and most effective life-saving tools available to doctors in a broad span of medical specialties, from pediatrics to cardiology to oncology. The Society of Health and Medical Physics Students, through social and outreach activities, aims to educate people about radiation and radiological engineering and their medical applications.

ARTICLE III

Compliance Statement

Upon approval by the Center for Student Activities and Involvement, SHMPS shall be a registered student organization at the University of Florida. SHMPS shall comply with all local, state and federal laws, as well as all University of Florida regulations, policies, and procedures. Such compliance includes but is not limited to the University's regulations related to Non-Discrimination, Hazing, Commercial Activity, and Student Leader Eligibility.

ARTICLE IV

Non-Discrimination

In compliance with the University of Florida Non-Discrimination Policy (Regulation 6C1-1.006), SHMPS will not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, religion, age, disability, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, national origin, political opinions or affiliations, and veteran status as protected under the Vietnam Era Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act.

ARTICLE V
Membership

Membership in this organization is open to enrolled students at the University of Florida. Non-students, spouses, faculty, and staff may be associate members; however, they may not vote or hold office. All members and associate members are free to leave and disassociate without fear of retribution, retaliation, or harassment.

ARTICLE VI
Officers

Section 1. The activities of the Student Society and its members shall be governed by the CONSTITUTION of the Student Society, the BYLAWS of the Student Society, and the Rules and Regulations of the University of Florida as set forth in the Student Guide.

Section 2. The Student Society shall have Officers and an Executive Council. The Student Society policy shall be set by the Executive Council. The Officers administer the affairs of the Student Society in accordance with its objectives, performing those functions as may be customary to the office and as further defined herein.

Section 3. The elected Officers of the Student Society shall be a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer, all of whom must be students at the University of Florida. The elected Officers will preside on an annual appointment commencing June 1 of the election year and ending May 31 of the next year.

Section 4. A Faculty Advisor shall be elected annually each fall in the same manner as the student officers, immediately following the installation of these officers. The faculty advisor must receive a majority vote at a general meeting to be elected. There is no limit to the number of terms the Faculty Advisor may serve. The faculty advisor shall provide guidance and support to accomplish the objectives of the Student Society.

Section 5. The Executive Council shall be comprised of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Faculty Advisor.

Section 6. The Faculty Advisor, the President, and the Vice-President must each be a member in good standing of both the national Health Physics Society, as well as the Florida Chapter of the Health Physics Society.

Section 7. The President is the presiding officer of the Student Society and, as such, is responsible for the overall administration of affairs of the Student Society.

Section 8. The Vice-President of the Student Society shall preside at all meetings of the Student Society upon absence of the President. The Vice-President shall perform duties as delegated to him/her by the President.

Section 9. The Secretary shall maintain a record of all meetings and is responsible for all official correspondence.

Section 10. The Treasurer shall be responsible for all monies of the Student Society. Furthermore, the Treasurer is responsible for ensuring that all activities of the Student Society are conducted in a manner that is financially sound. All transactions of the Student Society require the signatures of both the treasurer and the faculty advisor. The treasurer shall be prepared make a report on the status of the budget of the Student Society at each official meeting.

Section 11. In the event of a vacancy, which creates an unexpired term in any elected office other than the Presidency, the Executive Council may make an appointment to that office for the remainder of the term of office; the vacancy shall then be filled by a vote of the membership under the regular election procedures. When the office of President becomes vacant, the Vice-President assumes the duties of the President.

ARTICLE VII

Tenure, Vacancies, and Election Procedures

Section 1. A new Student Society term begins at the end of each spring semester (April).

Section 2. The term of office for elected officers shall be one Student Society Term. There shall be a limit of two terms served per student per office. Office holders remain in office until a successor has been elected and installed in the office.

Section 3. A vacancy occurs in an office when (1) the officeholder resigns from office, (2) the officeholder ceases to function in the office, (3) the officer is impeached or (4) the term expires.

Section 4. In the event of a vacancy, which creates an unexpired term in any elected office other than the Presidency, the Executive Council may make an appointment to that office for the remainder of the term of office; the vacancy shall then be filled by a vote of the membership under the regular election procedures. When the office of President becomes vacant, the Vice-President assumes the duties of the President.

Section 5. The regular election procedure by which a vote of the membership is taken shall be as follows:

Nomination of candidates shall be submitted to the Student Society Secretary at the meeting immediately prior to the meeting at which the election will be held. Nominations shall remain open until the election meeting. Any member may nominate another member for a particular office at the election meeting. A different member must second the nomination by saying "aye". Nominations for a particular office shall close with "aye" by a simple majority of the members.

Election of Officers shall be held at the end of each Spring semester during the month before final exams. The Faculty Advisor or an appropriate substitute shall be in charge of the election process. Before election for a particular office, all candidates for that office must exit the meeting room. Election of officers shall be decided by a simple majority vote by a hand vote of the members present. If no majority is possessed by one of three or more candidates, the candidate with the least

number of votes shall be dropped from the ballot. Voting shall then continue until one candidate receives a majority vote. The Faculty Advisor shall be allowed to vote in an election only in the event of a tie.

Section 6. An officer may be impeached if the officer is not fulfilling the duties of their position. Impeachment can only be achieved by a simple majority vote by a hand vote at a general meeting of the Student Society. Replacement of the officer will follow the guidelines outlined in Section 4.

Section 7. All committee chairpersons shall be appointed by the President of the Student Society but must be confirmed by the consent of a majority of votes by the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE VIII **Faculty Advisor**

A Faculty Advisor shall be elected annually each fall in the same manner as the student officers, immediately following the installation of these officers. The faculty advisor must receive a majority vote at a general meeting to be elected. There is no limit to the number of terms the Faculty Advisor may serve. The faculty advisor shall provide guidance and support to accomplish the objectives of the Student Society. If the faculty advisor had to be replaced before the end of his or her term, the same procedure as for the officers would be followed.

ARTICLE IX **Finances**

SHMPS will not require membership dues; however, it will raise funds through fundraisers, for t-shirts, travel to conferences, and the purchase of goods for service projects. Members are expected to participate in these fundraising activities. SHMPS will also apply for Student Government funding.

ARTICLE X **Dissolution of Organization**

In the event this organization dissolves, all monies left in the treasury, after outstanding debts and claims have been paid, shall be donated to the University of Florida's Department of Nuclear and Radiological Engineering

ARTICLE XI **Constitutional Amendments**

Section 1. Amendments to the Constitution may be proposed at any regular meeting of the Student Society. Adoptions of a proposed amendment shall require the affirmation vote of not less than two-thirds of the voting membership of the Student Society, and shall require the approval of the Faculty Advisor.

Section 2. Any proposed amendment shall be submitted in writing to the Executive Council at least ten days prior to the vote.

Section 3. Rules for handling administrative matters may be promulgated by the Officers and/or Executive Council of the Student Society.