

**Constitution-**  
**Pre-Student Osteopathic Medical Association**  
**Eastern Mennonite University**

**Article I: Name of the Organization**

This organization shall herein be referred as the Pre-Student Osteopathic Medical Association (Pre-SOMA).

**Article II: Statement of Purpose**

The purpose of Pre-SOMA at EMU is to encourage graduate students interested in medicine to seek a career as a doctor of osteopathic medicine. It was established to provide Biomedicine students the ability to gain exposure to various aspects of medicine, specifically osteopathic medicine. The club aims to connect students with medical students currently in osteopathic medical schools, give students hands on experiences in techniques of medicine, and to be a source of community involvement for its members.

**Article III: Membership**

Members must be students in the M.S. in Biomedicine Program at EMU. Members must actively participate in planned club events, attending  $\frac{2}{3}$  of planned events for the semester. If there are extenuating circumstances, and a member is not able to attend  $\frac{2}{3}$  of planned activities, removal of membership will be at the discretion of the executive board. Members must notify the executive board in writing at least 24 hours in advance if they are unable to attend a meeting or participate in an event. If a member is continually inactive, and an executive board member has spoken to the member about their inactive status at least two separate times, the executive board can vote to remove the member from the club. This vote must be unanimous. If a member no longer wishes to maintain their membership, they must notify the executive board in writing, and their name shall be removed from the club's roster. Pre-SOMA at EMU stands by the university's nondiscriminatory policy, "EMU does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin, sex, disability, age, sexual orientation, gender identity or any legally protected status..."

**Article IV: Officers**

Pre-SOMA shall maintain an executive board made up of three members; two co-presidents and a secretary. The co-presidents shall act as the official spokespersons for the club, both on campus and in the community. They shall be in charge of coordinating the agenda for meetings with the secretary, maintaining order during club meetings, organizing events throughout the semester as well as organizing volunteer efforts for the club.

The secretary shall be in charge of all correspondence from the executive board to the members of the club, all correspondence to the community, and all correspondence between Pre-SOMA and any other club on campus. They will act as the liaison between the local club and the national Pre-SOMA organization.

To become an officer, a member must have actively participated in club activities for at least one semester prior to running for election. If an officer must step-down in the middle of a term, the remaining members of the executive board will choose a replacement officer to serve the remainder of the term. If an officer is not performing their expected duties, it will take a  $\frac{2}{3}$  vote from the membership to remove the officer from their position. Officers will serve for a term of one year.

## **Article V: Elections**

Elections will take place in the spring semester and officers will assume their positions in the fall semester. Nominations will be informal and shall take place at a club meeting. If a member wishes to hold a position, they shall simply be required to express their intention and desire to hold the position. Elections will be determined by a simple majority, and the new officer will be alerted of their new position as soon as possible. For elections to take place, quorum will need to be met. Quorum shall be defined as the total number of members minus one.

## **Article VI: Meetings**

Meetings will be held on the third Thursday of every month if necessary. Necessity will be determined by the co-presidents. All members will be alerted of meetings in writing at least 24 hours before the intended meeting.

Meetings will follow the rough schedule outlined below:

Attendance

Announcements

Discuss and prepare for upcoming events

Open discussion with the club

Chicken and Beets

## **Article VII: Finances**

This organization will finance the majority of its activities through the M.S. in Biomedicine program. An annual budget will not be requested by SGA. Financial records will be maintained by the executive board and shared with the club advisor. The club advisor may authorize expenditures.

## **Article VIII: Advisor**

The director of the M.S. in Biomedicine program will serve as the advisor for Pre-SOMA, as this is a graduate club.

## **Article IX: Affiliations**

Pre-SOMA at EMU is affiliated with the national Pre-SOMA organization, which will support the club and advise on how to make it stronger. Members will attend events hosted by National Pre-SOMA.

## **Article X: Amendments**

Recommendations for changes to the constitution will be made by the executive board and/or active members. The executive board will propose changes after taking recommendations. The club will vote and the change must be supported by a  $\frac{2}{3}$  majority vote of active club members. Changes will be officially made with all executive board members present.

## **Article XI: Ratification**

The constitution shall be ratified by a  $\frac{2}{3}$  majority of club members.