

**Constitution**  
**SWIP (Social Work is People Club)**  
**Eastern Mennonite University**

**Article I: SWIP**

SWIP (Social Work is People)

**Article II: Purpose**

A. SWIP's primary purpose is to organize events for SWIP members or events open to the entire EMU student body with the intent of informing students & faculty of pertinent social issues and to provide students with opportunities to become involved in the larger community opportunities. SWIP is a service club for social work majors.

B. This group was founded to give social work students the opportunity to be involved in community campus wide or community activities and advocacy. SWIP is organized by Social Work majors and is given oversight by Advisor.

C. SWIP's purpose is social and service related. The Social Work is People organization, composed of social work majors, is a student-run organization which seeks to provide and make students aware of current service issues and needs via:

1. Professional development activities.
2. Efforts to make the campus aware of community and social issues.
3. Provision for social interaction for majors of all class levels.

**Article III: Membership**

A. Social Work Majors are eligible for membership.

B. There are no restrictions.

C. When Social Work is declared as the student's major, they are automatic members of this social work student club.

D. The rights of membership include participation in SWIP's activities. SWIP involvement gives students leadership opportunities, a voice in social advocacy and an opportunity to organize and implement special service projects: Christmas Service Project, Rally in the Valley, Take Back the Night, Community Food Drives, etc. Students can use their leadership skills and contribute to SWIP. SWIP participation gives students a way to contribute and develop their resumes and portfolios.

E. Members are removed if they change their major or upon transferring or graduating from Eastern Mennonite University.

F. Eastern Mennonite University's SWIP student club does not discriminate on the basis of gender, race, color, age, disability, nationality, sexual orientation, or ethnic origin in administration of its employment and educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs.

## **Article IV: Officers**

In lieu of officers, SWIP has a Leadership Team. This leadership team consists of the social work program's work study students, as well as two-four other social work major students who wish to serve as representatives on this team. Leadership responsibilities are assigned based on interest and leadership gifts.

## **Article V: Elections**

The SWIP Leadership Team is designated in the spring. Students commit to serving for two semesters. An email is sent to all social work majors informing them of the opportunity to serve on SWIP's Leadership Team consisting of work study social work majors and other interested social work major student volunteers.

## **Article VI: Meetings**

A. Meetings are scheduled during the semester, in conjunction with main upcoming events and service projects. Once a semester an open meeting is held for all social work majors, and light refreshments are served. In addition there are student fun activities which include: A Welcome Back Pizza Night, Annual Chili Supper, and an end of the year Ice Cream Social.

B. Members are informed and invited to meetings via email and flyers. There is no obligation to attend unless members have already had designated responsibilities for the planned event.

C. Decisions are made by a majority vote from student members who are present.

D. The meetings are led by the SWIP officers. Service project chairs may lead sub-committee meetings.

## **Article VII: Finances**

A. SWIP finances activities through grant proceeds, donations, and funds from SGA.

B. SWIP submits a budget for each event to SGA. SWIP will indicate if the event will require solicitation for funds.

C. Financial records will be kept with SWIP designated treasurer, and the advisor who oversees SWIP activities. Deposits, receipts & bills will be turned over to the department's office coordinator for submission filing.

D. SWIP officers and advisor will be responsible for developing the budget for specific SWIP activities.

E. There are no membership dues.

F. All expenditures will be approved and authorized by the advisor. All bills, receipts, and paperwork will be submitted to the office coordinator for processing.

## **Article VIII: Advisor**

The advisor is determined by Social Work faculty. The advisor's responsibility is to keep the organization informed of new items, current events, possible speakers, and events and activities that would benefit social work students. SWIP's members expect the advisor to hold SWIP's officers accountable for keeping the members informed and involved.

## **Article IX: Committees**

SWIP organizes individual committees for specific functions. Each committee is formed one year prior to each event. Committees are formed by student volunteers. Work study students within EMU's Social Work Department give leadership to committee activities.

### **Article X: Affiliations**

SWIP is not formally connected to a broader organization. Informally, SWIP is connected to the larger community when we sponsor service projects and when donations are given to community organizations or agencies.

### **Article XI: Amendments**

Amendments to the constitution may be proposed by students either by email, letter, or in written form. Amendments will be approved by majority of SWIP members and social work faculty.

### **Article XII: Ratification**

Proposed changes to the constitution are sent to all SWIP members for their approval. A meeting will be called if necessary to discuss changes in the constitution.