

**Constitution of the Asian Pacific American Medical Students Association (APAMSA)  
As adopted to the local chapter of UMKC (University of Missouri - Kansas City) October 1,  
1997  
Revised: February 1, 2008**

**Article I - Name**

The name of this organization shall be the Asian Pacific American Medical Students Association (APAMSA) of the University of Missouri - Kansas City (UMKC)

**Article II - Purpose**

The purposes of APAMSA are:

- A. To explore and resolve the unique challenges, obstacles, and responsibilities specific to Asian Pacific American medical students and physicians.
- B. To promote research on and dissemination of data on Asian Pacific American issues in medical education, post-graduate training, and appropriate health services.
- C. To create a network of Asian Pacific Americans in health care across the country
- D. To provide national leadership in the promulgation of legislative policies for the provision of enhanced access to ethnically and linguistically appropriate health services for Asian Pacific Americans
- E. To provide opportunities for Asian Pacific American medical students to "give back" to their communities through service.
- F. To maintain its status as an independent organization
- G. To seek, develop, and provide membership services.
- H. To promote and maintain programs which improve health status of the community.
- I. To serve as a forum for discussion of health issues
- J. To increase knowledge of health information among members and the general public
- K. To periodically re-evaluate the above purposes and ensure that they are carried out in the proper fashion

**Article III - Membership**

- A. Membership in APAMSA shall be open to all duly enrolled students at UMKC
- B. Membership and activities are open to all currently enrolled students regardless of race, color, creed, sex, age, national origin, sexual orientation, disability, or Vietnam era veteran's status.
- C. General members must complete all requirements to become an active member of APAMSA
- D. Active membership shall be granted to those individuals who attend ½ of all APAMSA activities (includes meetings and projects) in one academic school year.
- E. Active members meeting all requirements above shall be granted the privilege of use the APAMSA name on all documents.
- F. All members will be allowed National APAMSA Conference attendance with executive board approval

**Article IV - Organization**

- A. Meetings for the APAMSA Chapter of UMKC will be held once a month, or as scheduled by its active members.
- B. There shall be a National Conference held in the fall semester of each year, and the National Conference Board of Directors of the National Organization shall determine its location.
- C. There shall be at least one Regional Conference held each year, and shall represent a geographic region as outlined in the National APAMSA Constitution

**Article V - Committees**

- A. There shall be an Executive Committee for the UMKC chapter of APAMSA
- B. The National Executive Committee shall run the daily business operations of the National Organization.
- C. The National Advisory Board of the National Organization shall provide support, advice, and resources to the National Executive Committee

**Article VI - Officers**

- A. There shall be an Executive Committee for the UMKC Chapter of APAMSA. It is comprised of the following:
  - a. President
  - b. Vice-President
  - c. Secretary
  - d. Treasurer
  - e. Service/Social Chair
  - f. Historians
  - g. MS1/MS2 Representatives
- B. Each member of the APAMSA Executive Committee for UMKC shall meet all active membership requirements, have a GPA at or above 2.5, and shall plan and run all scheduled meetings as according to the Constitution.
- C. Officers shall consist of the aforementioned Executive Committee for the UMKC chapter of APAMSA, and shall be elected in the month of April by a 2/3-majority vote of the active membership. Officers shall begin their one-year term in the month of May and end in the month of April of the next year.
- D. A representative for special committees will be elected for one-year term by a 2/3 majority vote of the active members
- E. Officers of this organization must be chosen in an election format open to all current members. Every effort will be made to notify all members of said election and, further, to reasonably accommodate the needs of all members desiring to participate.
- F. Officers must meet minimum eligibility requirements, including a cumulative GPA of 2.5 and six credit hours of current enrollment, and must not be on student conduct disciplinary or honor code probation. The requirement to be enrolled in six credit hours will be waived for Doctoral students who have completed their formal degree course work, have passed their comprehensive or matriculation examination, and are continuously enrolled in at least one hour of research in the Fall and Winter semesters.
- G. Active members wanting to serve on any National committee must meet as guidelines as outlined by the National APAMSA Constitution.

#### **Article VII - Faculty Advisor**

- A. The advisor for this organization shall be decided upon by the executive officers of the organization. The advisor must be a UMKC faculty or staff member.
- B. The faculty advisor shall attend APAMSA meetings and assist with administrative matters. They shall serve as a liaison between APAMSA members and faculty/administration.

#### **Article VIII - Finances**

- A. Active members of the UMKC APAMSA Chapter must all pay National membership fees as states in the yearly National Conference guidelines.
- B. Paying dues is not a mandatory requirement to be considered a member of this organization. The books of account shall be kept up-to-date and open to the inspection of the University auditor.

#### **Article IX - Amendments**

- A. It is understood that if this organization desires at any time in the future to change in any way the provisions of this charter, that before such action is taken, the organization will submit to the Student Government Association and the Student Life Office every detail of the desired changes to be made.
- B. All future amendments shall be recorded and documented as an addendum to the Constitution. Acceptance of a new constitution will take precedence over the former. Acceptance of a new amendment or constitution shall be passed with a 2/3-majority vote.
- C. "Hazing is strictly prohibited in the State of Missouri and by the University. Hazing is defined as any willful act, occurring on or off the campus of an educational institution, directed against a student or a prospective member of an organization operating under the sanction of an educational institution, that recklessly endangers the mental or physical health or safety of a student or prospective member for the purpose of initiation or admission into or continued membership in any such organization.

- a. Acts of hazing include, but are not limited to:
  - i. Any activity that recklessly endangers the physical health or safety of the student or prospective member, including but not limited to physical brutality, whipping, beating, branding, exposure to the elements, forced consumption of any food, liquor, drug, or other substance
  - ii. Any activity that endangers the mental health of the student or prospective member, including but not limited to sleep deprivation, physical confinement, or other extreme stress inducing activity.
  - iii. Any activity that requires the student or prospective member to perform a duty or task which involves a violation of the criminal laws of this state or any political subdivision in this state.
  - iv. Hazing is a class C Felony."

## Article X - By Laws

### A. Responsibilities of the Offices

1. The President
  - a. Regulates all voting procedures
  - b. Checks that all rules/regulations/policies/actions act in accordance to the Constitution
  - c. With the VP, report and discuss all major issues with the UMKC
  - d. Handles all communications with the Regional and National Committees
  - e. Acts as a representative and spokesperson for the UMKC chapter of APAMSA by attending meetings for the importance of the Association.
  - f. Responsible in providing an annual report, or history, of the year's events and activities
  - g. Oversees responsibilities of all officers
  - h. Conducts all meetings
2. The Vice President
  - a. Oversees and chairs all Violation procedures
  - b. With the President, report and discuss all major issues with UMKC
  - c. Handles all necessary registration procedures for the National and Regional Conferences
  - d. Shall assume responsibility of all unoccupied offices until the position is filled
  - e. Shall assume all responsibilities of the President temporarily when he or she is not able to fulfill the duties
3. The Secretary
  - a. Attendance must be taken at each meeting and recorded
  - b. Monitor attendance according to Constitutional guidelines
  - c. Report all violations in attendance to the VP
  - d. Shall be responsible for all correspondence of APAMSA including notices of meetings, minutes of meetings, recording all amendments and by-laws, and general APAMSA business
4. The Treasurer
  - a. Oversees any budgetary and financial obligations of the organization
  - b. The funds, books, and vouchers in the Treasurer's hands shall be under the supervision of the Executive Committee at all times and subject to its inspection and control. At the expiration of his/her term of office, the Treasurer shall deliver over to his/her successor all books, moneys, and other property.
5. Social/Service Chair
  - a. Shall be responsible for managing all social activities and service activities along with the President and/or VP
6. Historian
  - a. Responsible for preserving any and all documents, photographs, and records related to the UMKC chapter of APAMSA
  - b. Maintain a record of chapter achievements and promote excellence through highlighting activities, events and accomplishments so that our chapter membership is motivated by our past successes and looks to future achievements.
7. MS1/MS2 Representative
  - a. Responsible for recruiting medical students and other UMKC students from UMKC main campus.

- b. Promoting the membership of APAMSA to younger students not able to have regular access to the School of Medicine

B. Impeachment and Removal

Failure to perform the duties of Office as prescribed in the Constitution and by-laws, or conduct detrimental to the good of APAMSA shall constitute grounds for impeachment. All requests for removal shall be supported by reference, in writing, to a specific activity or conduct that constitutes the grounds for the request. At least  $\frac{3}{4}$  majority vote of active members is required to remove an officer.

C. Penalties

Any member who does not follow the rules of membership, does not fulfill the responsibilities of office as previously stated in article X, and has not discussed any unexcused/excused absences with the Secretary, shall be set on a "three-warning" policy as described below:

1. First Violation - The member shall be issued a warning for each unexcused meeting/even exceeding the number of absences allowed in t year ( $\frac{1}{2}$  of all meetings). All officers shall give officers a first violation upon consensus.
2. Second Violation - If a member misses more than  $\frac{3}{4}$  of all meetings in the year, as determined by the Secretary, that member must face consequences as stated in the first violation. In addition, the member shall lose all voting rights for the rest of the year and cannot be nominated for any office. The member will also lose privilege of attending any conferences and social events. If the member has an office, he or she will face impeachment and may be removed from office. Nominations and elections for the unoccupied office shall take place within 2 weeks of the removal from office. The VP and secondly the President, shall obtain all materials and take over that office until the position is filled.
3. Final Violation
  - a. Any further violations will result in termination from membership
  - b. If the member demonstrates marked improvement in being an APAMSA member, another consequence shall be chosen by all active members eligible to vote. This consequence must uphold all University policies and be passed by a  $\frac{3}{4}$  majority vote. This means that the member shall be reinstated as an APAMSA member at UMKC.

D. Additional By-Laws

All future by-laws shall be recorded and documented as an addendum to the Constitution and be passed by a  $\frac{2}{3}$  majority vote

*Please direct all comments about the APAMSA Constitution to the Student Life Office of the School of Medicine.*