

# **Mississippi Organization for Associate Degree Nursing Student Association (MOSA) By-Laws**

## **Article I**

### **Name**

- Section 1 This organization shall be known as the Mississippi Organization for Associate Degree Nursing Student Association (MOSA).
- Section 2 The name of the organization shall officially be abbreviated as MOSA.

## **Article II**

### **Goals and Objectives**

- Section 1 Goals— The goals of MOSA shall be to:
  - a. Retain Registered Nurse title, licensure, and scope of practice for graduates of Associate Degree Nursing programs.
  - b. Promote articulation for graduates of Associate Degree Nursing programs.
  - c. Promote collaboration between Associate Degree Nursing students in the various schools.
  - d. Encourage graduates of Associate Degree Nursing programs to proactively articulate the importance and necessity of the Associate Degree nurse in providing a high quality of life.
- Section 2 Objectives— The objectives of MOSA shall be to:
  - a. Maintain eligibility for registered Nurse Licensure for graduates of Associate Degree Nursing programs.
  - b. Promote leadership skills and professionalism of students enrolled in Associate Degree Nursing programs.
  - c. Promote scholastic achievement of students enrolled in Associate Degree Nursing programs.
  - d. Promote public understanding of the roles and competencies of registered nurses who are graduates of Associate Degree Nursing programs.
  - e. Participate in legislative action supportive of the goals of this Organization and the Mississippi Organization for Associate Degree Nursing (M-OADN).

## **Article III**

### **Membership**

- Section 1 Membership Classification - The membership shall be composed of nursing students enrolled in Associate Degree Nursing programs. Each student shall have one vote.

- Section 2 **Member Retention** - A member may retain membership in the organization when:
  - a. The member is in good standing with the school.
  - b. The member's progress in the school will continue.
  - c. The member continues to submit dues annually.
  - d. The member continues to progress through each semester.

#### **Article IV Annual Dues**

- Section 1 A change in annual Dues shall be voted on by the membership upon recommendation by the Board of Directors at the annual meeting.
- Section 2 The annual dues shall extend for one calendar year. Dues will be accepted for either of two time periods, January 1 to December 31 or August 1 to July 31.

#### **Article V Meetings of the Organization**

- Section 1 **Yearly meetings**
  - a. The Organization shall meet annually in conjunction with M-OADN.
  - b. Meetings shall be open to all members.
  - c. All members shall have an opportunity to address the membership.
- Section 2 **Special meetings**- Special meetings are called by the board of Directors.
- Section 3 **Notices**- The members will be notified of meetings by the Board of Directors at least 30 days in advance.
- Section 4 **Quorum**- A quorum shall consist of a majority of officers and twenty-five (25) members or ten percent (10 %) of membership whichever number is the smaller.
- Section 5 **Voting** -Each member shall be entitled to cast one vote at all meetings of the Organization.

#### **Article VI Officers**

- Section 1 The elected officers shall consist of the following: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Public Relations Director, and Nominations Chair.

- **Section 2 Eligibility**
  - a. The President, Vice President, secretary, Treasurer, Public Relations Director, and Nominations Chair shall be elected from the membership of this Organization.
  - b. To promote leadership among the schools; if a school currently holds an office, this school may not—then run for this same office at the annual M-OADN/ MOSA meeting—of the year the student is going out of office.
  
- **Section 3 Terms of Office-** All officers will serve for a one year term, which shall begin at the close of the annual meeting.
  
- **Section 4 Elections**
  - a. Elections shall be held annually.
  - b. A school may only have two candidates running for office during the annual meeting.
  
- **Section 5 Vacancies**
  - a.
    - A. In the event of a vacancy in the office of the President, the Vice-President shall succeed to such office for the unexpired term.
    - b. In the event of a vacancy in the office of the Vice-President, the President will assume all of the Vice-President's duties in addition to his or her own for the duration of the unexpired term.
    - C. In the event of a vacancy in the office of the Secretary, the Treasurer will assume all of the Secretary's duties in addition to his or her own for the duration of the unexpired term and vice versa.
    - D. In the event of a vacancy in the office of the Nominations Chair, the Public Relations Chair will assume all of the Nominations Chair's duties in addition to his or her own for the duration of the unexpired term and vice versa.
    - E. In the event of a double vacancy with one of the above combinations of officers, the Board of Directors shall fill said vacancies.
  
- **Section 6 Board of Directors** The Board of Directors shall be composed of the officers, the Immediate Past President, and two Student Advisors.
  - a. The Board of Directors shall conduct business of the Organization between annual meetings.
  - b. The Board of Directors shall arrange for a review of financial records every two years.
  - c. The Board of Directors, with a 2/3 vote, shall have the authority to remove from membership or office in the Organization, officers, committee members, and other members whose actions are not supportive of the goals of the Organization or who do not fulfill the duties of their office. Provisions shall be made for a fair hearing and an appeal process.
  - d. The Board of Directors shall arrange for a review of financial records by

the M-OADN board or M-OADN appointed representative each financial year.

## **Article VII Duties of the Officers**

- **Section 1 President**
  - a. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Board of Directors and general membership of this Organization and shall be responsible for carrying out actions of the membership.
  - b. The President shall serve as Student Member-at-Large to M-OADN.
  - c. The President shall perform such other duties as ordinarily pertain to this office.
  - d. The President shall serve as a liaison between MOSA and M-OADN.
  
- **Section 2 Vice President**
  - a. The Vice President shall preside in the absence of the President.
  - b. The Vice President shall serve as coordinator of the Membership Committee.
  - c. The Vice President shall also serve in such other capacity as the President may direct.
  - d. The Vice President shall perform such other duties as ordinarily pertain to this office.
  
- **Section 3 Treasurer**
  - a. The Treasurer shall be accountable for the funds of this Organization.
  - b. The Treasurer shall be responsible for the preparation of a proposed budget prior to the Annual Meeting for approval by the Board of Directors and the members.
  - c. The Treasurer shall also serve in such other capacity as the President may direct.
  - d. The Treasurer shall perform such other duties as ordinarily pertain to this office.
  - e. The Treasurer shall provide an overview consisting of, but not limited to, a comparison between budgeted verses actual income and expenditures to the members at the annual meeting based on the financial year to date.
  - f. The Treasurer shall define the financial year as beginning at the closing of the annual meeting, of which he/she is elected, and ending at the close of the following annual meeting.
  
- **Section 4 Secretary**
  - a. The Secretary shall keep an accurate record of all business proceedings of the Organization and the Board of Directors.
  - b. The Secretary shall also serve in such other capacity as the President may direct.

- c. The secretary shall perform such other duties as ordinarily pertain to this office.
- **Section 5 Public Relations Director**
  - a. The public Relations Director shall be responsible for public relations with regard to the Organization.
  - b. The Public Relations Director shall also serve in such other capacity as the President may direct.
  - c. The Public Relations Director shall perform such other duties as ordinarily pertain to this office.
- **Section 6 Nominations**
  - a. The chairperson and two committee members shall be elected at the annual Meeting ,for a one – year term. The chairperson shall be the individual receiving the greatest number of votes.
  - b. The purpose of these officers shall be to prepare a slate of officers with biographies for election.
  - c. The Nominations chairperson shall hold a position on the Board of Directors.
- **Section 7 Student Advisors**
  - a. The Student Advisors shall be appointed by the President of M-OADN.
  - b. The Student Advisors shall serve as advisors to the President and Board of Directors.
  - c. The Student Advisors shall serve as liaisons between MOSA and M-OADN.
  - d. The Student Advisors shall perform such other duties as ordinarily pertain to this office.
- **Section 8 Past President**
  - a. The Past President shall serve as advisor to the President and Vice President.
  - b. The Past President shall also serve in such other capacity as the President may direct.

## **Article VIII Committees**

- **Section 1 Committees.** The standing committees are: Public Relations, By-Laws, Membership, and Legislative. Ad-Hoc committees may be appointed by the Board of Directors as necessary to carry out the goals of the Organization.
- **Section 2 Public Relations Committee**
  - a. The Public Relations Director shall serve as chairperson.
  - b. The purpose of the committee shall be to coordinate publicity for the

Organization.

c. The Committee shall publish a newsletter periodically.

▪ **Section 3 By-Laws Committee**

a. The President shall appoint the chairperson.

b. The purpose of the committee shall be to review and update the by-laws as required to meet the needs of the Organization.

c. Members shall be appointed by the committee chairperson.

▪ **Section 4 Membership Committee**

a. The Vice President shall serve as coordinator and shall appoint the chairperson.

b. The purpose of the committee shall be to promote membership, maintain an electronic data base of current members, issue receipts associated with dues collection, print and mail verification of membership.

c. Members shall be appointed by the committee chairperson.

▪ **Section 5 Legislative Committee**

a. The President shall appoint the chairperson.

b. The purpose of the committee shall be to:

(i) serve as a clearinghouse for state legislative activities.

(ii) Advise the organization as to legislative activities.

(iii) Provide effective testimony and serve as liaison to legislators.

(iv) The committee shall consist of members appointed by the committee Chairman.

▪ **Section 6 Ad Hoc Committees**

The Board shall appoint other committees or task forces as necessary to carry out the Purpose of the Organization.

**Article IX  
Amendments**

▪ **Section 1 Revision/Amendments**

a. The by-laws may be amended at yearly meetings if the membership has been notified prior to the business meeting and a majority vote is secured.

b. The Board of Directors shall make editorial corrections as necessary and shall advise the members of said corrections.

**Article X  
Parliamentary Authority**

▪ **Section 1** The rules contained in the latest edition of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* should govern such meetings.

## **Article XI Dissolution**

- **Section 1 Procedure**
  - a. This Organization may be dissolved by resolution of the membership by not less than two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present.
  - b. Such actions must be presented in the State Newsletter prior to the annual meeting and voted at the annual meeting.
  
- **Section 2 Dispersal of Assets**

In the event of dissolution, all assets, real and personal, shall be distributed equally to state Associate Degree Nursing programs for scholarships to Associate Degree Nursing Students.

Adopted March 26, 1998  
Revised March 24 2000  
Revised March 21, 2003  
Revised February 28th 2005  
Adopted March 31, 2005