

Constitution for Global Medical Brigades

The College of William and Mary

ARTICLE I. NAME AND PURPOSE

Section A: William and Mary Global Medical Brigades

Part 1. The official name for this organization is the Global Medical Brigades.

Part 2. This organization will use the name or its acronym, GMB, in all publicity materials and correspondence.

Part 3: This organization is a secular, international student-operated volunteer organization whose mission is to provide sustainable development to underserved communities throughout the world. Along with affiliate groups at other distinguished universities, our William & Mary team recruits student volunteers and professionals, gathers supplies, and then travels overseas to shadow local Honduran, Nicaraguan, Panamanian, or Ghanaian doctors, work in the pharmacies, and perform triage. Our organization will prepare members for travel with Global Brigades on their academic trips, and provide ongoing year-long educational and professional development opportunities that relate to international health and development to members.

ARTICLE II. MEMBERSHIP

Section A: REQUIREMENTS

Part 1. All currently enrolled College of William and Mary undergraduate students are eligible to be voting members. To become a voting member you must pay dues by the date set by the officer board.

Part 2. All other College of William and Mary graduate students, staff, faculty, alumni, and alumnae are eligible to be non-voting members.

Part 3. All members are required to attend meetings, demonstrate support for the purpose of this organization, and pay dues to be considered good standing.

Part 4: Members that have been selected to participate on the brigade are required to sign the Accident Waiver and Release of Liability form set by Global Brigades. This form can be presented when asked.

Part 5. Membership decisions will not discriminate on the basis of age, race, religion or creed, national origin, ethnicity, gender, disability, or sexual orientation.

Section B. RIGHTS

Part 1. Privileges of Good Standing consist of

1. Voting
2. Running for an elected position
3. Being allowed to attend social events

Section C. WITHDRAWAL OF MEMBERSHIP

Part 1. Members may have their membership withdrawn for failure to adhere to the requirements for membership as stated above.

Part 2: Cases of members who have violated the contract set by Global Brigades while on the brigade, Global Brigades may, at its sole discretion, require members to return immediately to the home country. In such event, no refund will be made and the member will bear any costs associated with the decision to require to leave.

Part 3. Cases of members who have violated the requirements for membership will be reviewed by the Officer Board. If a member is found to have violated the requirements set by The College of William and Mary and/or Global Brigades, the Officer Board must contact the member in writing. If the member does not respond to the Officer Board within a week of receiving notice that they are no longer in good standing, they shall immediately lose all privileges of a member in good standing until they meet in person with the Officer Board. If they respond to the message within a week, the Officer Board shall investigate the issue without any loss of privilege until after the meeting. After full investigation, the member could lose some or all of the privileges of members of good standing, determined on a case-by-case basis. The vote of the Officer Board shall have the power to clear the charges or to revoke privileges. If a member wishes to appeal the decision of the Officer Board, they may bring their case before the entire GMB Chapter.

ARTICLE III. OFFICERS

Section A. OFFICER TITLES

President

Medicine and Supplies Chair

Education Chair

Spanish Chair

Finance Chair

Public Relations Chair

Secretary

Campus Chairperson

Section B. DUTIES

Part 1. The President will chair all meetings of GMB and will call special meetings as needed. The President will preside over GMB executive board meetings. The President will lead the brigade over spring break. The President will vote on GMB matters only in case of a tie. The President will be the primary representative of the organization to student leadership and development as well as outside groups.

The Medicine and Supplies Chair will coordinate all aspects of obtaining medicine, grants, and supplies for the trip. The Medicine and Supplies Chair will prepare lesson plans weekly about medications pertaining to the trip. If necessary the Medicine and Supplies Chair can become co-chairs.

The Finance Chair will manage funds, collect deposits, collect student information, plan fundraisers, and report on the financial transactions of GMB.

The Education Chair will prepare lesson plans related to the Global Brigades, our host country, and other relevant information on the actions and intentions of our brigade.

The Spanish Chair will prepare lesson plans that provide opportunities for the brigaders to learn Spanish relevant for the brigade.

The Secretary will take, meeting minutes, will produce all official correspondence to the organization, and will record the attendance of those present at the meeting.

The Public Relations Chair will plan club mixers, socials, and other activities to promote coherence and friendship among members, as well as prioritize social media presence and advertising on campus.

The Campus Chairperson will be selected by application through Global Brigades. The Campus Chairperson will attend monthly webinars hosted by Global Brigades (if able to attend at the time), interact and participate in each Global Brigades chapter on campus, interact with other Global Brigades chapters on other campuses, report to the Chapter Advisor when called upon, promote Global Brigades on campus, and provide assistance to any officer if called upon.

Section C. REQUIREMENTS FOR RUNNING FOR AND HOLDING OFFICE

Part 1. All officers and candidates for office must be currently enrolled College of William and Mary students.

Part 2. All officers and candidates for office must be already in good standing.

Part 3. In order to be eligible to run for President, the candidate(s) must have been a member of the executive board for at least one year.

Section D. NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Part 1. Nominations for all offices will be taken from the floor of the third-to-last regular meeting of the spring semester each year.

Part 2. Any members may nominate any other member, including themselves.

Part 3. Elections will be held at the second-to-last meeting of the spring semester.

Part 4. Nominations may also be made during the election meeting itself, prior to closing of nominations and taking the vote.

Part 5. The incumbent President will preside over elections.

Part 6. A simple majority vote of the quorum present at the meeting will be sufficient to elect an officer. If there are more than two candidates and no candidate receives a majority, there will be a run-off vote between the top two vote recipients in the general meeting.

Section E. REMOVAL FROM OFFICE

Part 1. Officers may be removed from office for failure to perform duties or for violation of membership clause.

Part 2. Officers to be voted upon in this regard will be notified of the intention to do so in writing at least one week prior to the meeting at which the vote will be taken.

Part 3. A two-thirds majority of quorum present at a regularly scheduled meeting shall be sufficient for removal from office.

Section F. TERMS OF OFFICE AND VACANCIES

Part 1. The term of office shall be from the last meeting of each spring semester until the end of the second-to-last meeting of the subsequent spring semester.

Part 2. Should a vacancy in office occur, there will be another nomination procedure and election for the vacant office. In the meantime, each remaining officer will share the duties of the vacant office.

ARTICLE IV. MEETINGS

Section A. Meetings will be held regularly on the day and time set by the Officer Board

Section B. Special meetings may be called by any combination of three of the officers. Notice of special meetings must be communicated to all members at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting.

Section C. To conduct business at any meeting, one half of the entire voting membership must be present to form quorum.

ARTICLE V. COMMITTEES

Section A. SUB COMMITTEES

Part 1. Each Officer, minus the President, Secretary, and Campus Chairperson, will have their own committee. The members of each committee will perform the tasks set forth by the officer.

ARTICLE VI. AFFILIATIONS

Section A. THE COLLEGE OF WILLIAM AND MARY

Part 1. This organization is a recognized student organization at the College of William and Mary, but is not part of the University itself.

Part 2. In all correspondence and transactions, it may refer to itself as an organization at The College of William and Mary, but is not part of The College of William and Mary itself.

Part 3. GMB accepts full financial and production responsibility for all activities it sponsors.

Part 4. GMB agrees to abide by all pertinent College of William and Mary policies and regulations. Where College of William and Mary policies and regulations and those of Global Brigades differ, the policies and regulations of The College of William and Mary will take precedence.

Part 5. This organization recognizes and understands that the College of William and Mary assumes no legal liability for actions of the organization, and that The College of William and Mary is not providing blanket indemnification insurance coverage for any activities of the organization, unless those activities expressly benefit and further the goals of The College of William and Mary, and have received prior review, approval, and consent of Campus Activities, Risk Management, and/or General Counsel.

ARTICLE VII. BY-LAWS AND AMENDMENTS

Section A. BY-LAWS

Part 1. By-laws can be added to this constitution by a simple majority vote of the entire membership at a regular meeting GMB.

Part 2. This constitution takes precedence over any and all by-laws.

Section B. AMENDMENTS

Part 1. This constitution can be amended by a two-thirds vote of the entire membership at a regular meeting of GMB

Part 2. Notification of such a motion must be made to members at least one meeting in advance of the one in which the actual vote is taken.

This constitution was ratified on November 5, 2017. It will take effect immediately