THE JOHNS HOPKINS BLOOMBERG SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH
CONSTITUTION OF THE STUDENT ASSOCIATION

Preamble

We, the students of the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health (the School) in order to: protect and advocate for the unique and varying interests of all members of the Student Association; to give the Student Association greater voice within the School, the community, and beyond; to facilitate intellectual exchange and educate through seminars, conferences, events and activities; to organize social events and activities to foster the development of camaraderie and collegial relationships among members of the Student Association; to allow the School community to benefit from the diversity and experiential wealth of the Student Association through various events and activities; and to foster an ethic of public service within the Student Association by facilitating and encouraging community service and public health advocacy among Student Association members; do hereby ordain and establish this Constitution for the Student Association of the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.

Article I. Student Association

1. Membership. Members of the Student Association shall be all the individuals having the status of full-time or part-time student and all post-doctoral students at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health (the School).

2. Special Members. Nonresident students, special students limited, and students on leaves of absence shall be excluded from membership in the Student Association. However, upon their request to the Student Assembly, interested students from the excluded groups shall be granted full membership in the Student Association.

3. Rights. Members of the Student Association shall enjoy the following rights in relation to the Student Assembly:
   (i) To vote in Student Assembly elections.
   (ii) To be candidates for positions on the Student Assembly.
   (iii) To be elected as student representatives to the committees of the Student Assembly, School and/or University according to Article X.
   (iv) To raise issues for consideration and appropriate action.
   (v) To petition the Student Assembly to undertake specific action.
   (vi) To be treated equally regardless of gender, sexual orientation, race, religion, nationality, disability, and political or other opinion.

4. Responsibilities. Members of the Student Association shall not discriminate on the basis of gender, sexual orientation, race, religion, nationality, disability, or political or other opinion.

Article II. Establishment of the Student Assembly

The Student Assembly shall be the governing board of the Student Association. The Student Assembly shall consist of the duly elected and/or appointed members as detailed in Article IV.

Article III. Purpose of the Student Assembly

The interests of the students of the School shall be represented, preserved and promoted by the Student Assembly in accordance with this Constitution. The Student Assembly shall exist to—

(i) protect the rights of students in relationship to the School and the University;
(ii) formulate policies and regulations on behalf of the Student Association;
(iii) represent the Student Association by electing and/or appointing all student representatives to School, University, multi-institutional, state, national and international committees and agencies;
(iv) act as a communication channel between students and the School and University;
(v) offer educational and intellectual opportunities and enrich student life by providing a forum for student expression and communication; and
(vi) act as a liaison between registered student groups and the School and represent the interests of such groups within the school.

**Article IV. Composition of the Student Assembly**

1. **Voting Members.** The Student Assembly shall include the following voting members:
   (i) Seven Student Assembly Officers, including—
   (1) President (1);
   (2) Vice-President for Communications (1);
   (3) Vice-Presidents for Social and Cultural Affairs (2);
   (4) Vice-President for Student Groups (1);
   (5) Treasurer (1); and
   (6) Masters of Public Health (MPH) Officer (1).
   (ii) One Departmental Representative from each department.
   (iii) Twelve Members-at-large.
   (iv) One Ex Officio Member—Should the previous year’s president still be a member of the Student Association, he or she shall hold an ex officio seat. In the event that the previous year’s president is not a member of the Student Association, any former president still a member of the Student Association may fill the ex officio seat.

2. **Non-Voting Member.** The Student Assembly may admit a non-voting representative from the Faculty General Assembly to act as a liaison with the Student Assembly.

**Article V. Powers and Duties of the Student Assembly**

1. **Funding.** The student assembly shall fund events and activities in accordance with relevant Student Assembly By-Laws.

2. **Awards.**
   (i) The Student Assembly shall give awards annually on behalf of the Student Association.
   (ii) The Student Assembly By-Laws shall detail the awards to be given, the procedure for obtaining award nominations from the Student Association, and the procedure for granting awards.
   (iii) The Awards to be given shall, at a minimum, include the following awards:
      (1) The Advising, Mentoring and Teaching Recognition Award(s).
      (2) The Staff Recognition Award(s).
      (3) The Student Recognition Award(s).
      (4) The Teaching Assistant Recognition Award(s).
      (5) The Golden Apple Award(s).

3. **Student Groups.** The Student Assembly shall have the power to recognize student groups organized among members of the Student Association.

4. **By-Laws, Guidelines, and Standing Orders.** The Student Assembly shall have the power to enact Student Assembly By-Laws (By-Laws), Student Assembly Guidelines (Guidelines), and Standing Orders of the Student Assembly (Standing Orders) in accordance with Article XVII for the execution of its constitutional duties.

**Article VI. Powers and Duties of Student Assembly Members**

1. **In General.** All Student Assembly members shall fulfill their duties and responsibilities as laid out in this Constitution, the By-Laws, and any relevant Guidelines.

2. **Student Assembly Meetings.** Student Assembly members are expected to attend all Student Assembly Meetings, and failure to attend meetings may amount to removal by neglect under Article XIII (1).

3. The President shall—
(i) represent or delegate representation of the Student Assembly to School, University, local, state, national, and international agencies and organizations;
(ii) preside over all meetings of the Student Assembly and the Executive Committee;
(iii) chair the School’s Deans for Student Network;
(iv) serve on or appoint a representative to the School’s Committee of the Whole;
(v) serve on or appoint a representative to the Alumni Association Executive Committee;
(vi) sign official documents on behalf of the Student Assembly; and
(vii) serve as the chairperson of the Executive Committee, the chairperson as the Constitution Committee and as an ex officio member of standing committees of the Student Assembly.

4. The Vice-President for Communications shall—
   (i) document the Student Assembly meetings;
   (ii) preside over Student Assembly and Executive Committee meetings in the absence of the President;
   (iii) maintain all relevant records;
   (iv) consolidate transition records and make them available to incoming officers;
   (v) chair the editorial board of the Biased Observer;
   (vi) administer the Student Assembly website, listserves, and e-mail accounts; and
   (vii) serve as the Student Assembly’s office manager.

5. The Vice-Presidents for Social and Cultural Affairs shall
   (i) supervise all the social and cultural activities of the Student Assembly;
   (ii) co-chair the Social and Cultural Affairs Committee; and
   (iii) appoint members of the Student Association to special sub-committees as necessary for the implementation of Student Assembly activities.

6. The Vice-President for Student Groups shall—
   (i) serve as a liaison between registered student groups and the School;
   (ii) chair the Student Groups Committee;
   (iii) serve on the Appropriations Sub-Committee of the Finance and Appropriations Committee;
   (iv) keep a record of student group contacts;
   (v) involve the student groups in the School’s new student orientations;
   (vi) promote student group activities; and
   (vii) be a source of information for student groups.

7. The Treasurer shall—
   (i) chair the Finance and Appropriations Committee;
   (ii) be responsible for the finances and financial records of the Student Assembly; and
   (iii) be responsible for the annual Auction.

8. The MPH Officer shall —
   (i) chair the Elections Committee, unless he or she is a candidate in that election;
   (ii) serve on appropriate committees in the MPH Program Office; and
   (iii) serve on the School’s Deans for Students Network.

9. Members-at-Large and Department Representatives shall actively serve on at least two standing committees.

**Article VII. Interim Governing Body**

1. **Membership.** The President, Vice-President for Communications, one Vice-President for Social and Cultural Affairs, Vice-President for Student Groups, the Treasurer, and two members-at-large elected in...
the Spring elections shall serve as the Interim Governing Body after convocation until the new Student Assembly takes office in the Fall. Upon completion of the summer elections, the MPH Officer shall join the Interim Governing Body.

2. **Chairperson.** The President, or in his/her absence the Vice-President for Communications, shall be the chairperson of the Interim Governing Body.

3. **Powers and Duties.** The Interim Governing Body shall—
   (i) make decisions regarding the interests and activities of the Student Association in accordance with the constitution and previous decisions of the Student Assembly.
   (ii) have no power to make changes in the Constitution and/or reverse previous decisions of the Student Assembly.
   (iii) have the power to create or amend By-Laws as stipulated in Article XVII (2).
   (iv) shall organize and supervise the Summer Elections in accordance with By-Laws.

**Article VIII. Executive Committee**

1. **Membership.** The Executive Committee shall be composed of the officers of the Student Assembly, and the Past President shall be an *ex officio* member.

2. **Powers and Duties.** The Executive Committee shall—
   (i) plan the agenda of the regular meetings of the Student Assembly
   (ii) if necessary, call special meetings of the Student Assembly.
   (iii) consider on its own initiative problems of interest to the School, discuss them with appropriate members of the Student Association, Administration and/or Faculty, and make recommendations to the Student Assembly.
   (iv) ensure the implementation of decisions of the Student Assembly.

3. **Transfer of Documents and Records.** The officers of the outgoing Executive Committee shall ensure that all relevant documents and records are transferred to the appropriate officers of the incoming Interim Governing Board prior to convocation.

**Article IX. Committees**

1. **Standing Committees of the Student Assembly.**
   (i) The Standing Committees of the Student Assembly shall be—
      (1) the Academic Issues Committee;
      (2) the Awards Committee;
      (3) the Biased Observer Committee;
      (4) the Community Relations Committee;
      (5) the Constitution Committee;
      (6) the Elections Committee;
      (7) the Finance and Appropriations Committee;
      (8) the Quality of Life Committee;
      (9) the Social and Cultural Affairs Committee; and
      (10) the Student Groups Committee.
   (ii) **Membership.**—
      (1) Voting Members.— Voting members shall consist of voting members of the Student Assembly.
      (2) Non-Voting Members.— Student Association members may serve as non-voting members on standing committees of the Student Assembly.
      (3) Minimum Membership.— Each Committee must have at least three members, unless otherwise stipulated elsewhere in the Constitution or in the By-Laws. In the event that any committee has fewer than three members, the President will appoint members to the
committee from among the Student Assembly. If sufficient numbers of Student Assembly members are not available to provide the necessary voting members in any committee, the President, with the advice and consent of the Student Assembly, may appoint a member of the Student Association to serve as a voting member on a committee.

(iii) **Independent Actions by Committees.**—

(1) Any committee may act independently on the behalf of the Student Assembly on issues within the purview of that committee as long as the action does not include the endorsement of the Student Assembly outside the confines of the school; and unless otherwise stipulated in the By-Laws, the majority of voting members of the committee approves of the action.

(2) Within one week of an independent action taken by any committee, the chairperson for that committee shall notify the Vice President for Communications so that the action can be noted on the agenda for the next regular Student Assembly meeting.

(iv) **Committee Leadership and Responsibilities.**—

(1) **The Academic Issues Committee**—

(i) A Student Assembly member shall be elected by the Academic Issues Committee members to chair the Academic Issues Committee.

(ii) The purpose of the Academic Issues Committee shall be to propose and promote positive solutions to problems related to teaching and communications.

(2) **The Awards Committee**—

(i) A Student Assembly member shall be elected by the Awards Committee members to chair the Awards Committee.

(ii) The purpose of this committee shall be to oversee allocation of awards as stipulated in Article V (2) and relevant Bylaws and Guidelines.

(3) **The Biased Observer Committee**—

(i) The Biased Observer Committee shall be chaired by the Vice President of Communications.

(ii) The Biased Observer Committee shall—

(a) consist of the editorial board of the Biased Observer and

(b) publish the Biased Observer.

(iii) The editor of the Biased Observer shall be elected by the members of the Biased Observer Committee.

(iv) The names of members of the editorial board shall be presented by the Vice President of Communications to the Student Assembly for approval within two weeks after the election of the Editor.

(v) The Biased Observer shall:

(a) function as the newsletter of the Student Assembly and the Student Association, and

(b) shall serve as an open forum for the Student Association.

(vi) The views voiced in the Biased Observer shall not necessarily represent those of the Student Assembly.

(4) **The Community Relations Committee**—

(i) A Student Assembly member shall be elected by the Community Relations Committee members to chair the Community Relations Committee.

(ii) Committee members shall—

(a) interact with students, faculty and staff interested in working to promote health, health awareness, quality of life and just representation in the Baltimore community; and

(b) work with the School’s InterAction office to promote volunteer opportunities in the Baltimore community and beyond.

(5) **The Constitution Committee**—

(i) The President of the Student Assembly shall chair the Constitution Committee.

(ii) The Constitution Committee—

(a) shall supervise the correct implementation of the Constitution; and

(b) may undertake a full review of the Constitution pursuant to Article XVIII
(1).

(iii) The Parliamentarian—
   (a) shall be appointed from the membership of the Constitution Committee
       by the President, with the advice and consent of the Student Assembly, by
       the second meeting of the Student Assembly after Fall elections;
   (b) shall not be a members of the Executive Committee; and
   (c) shall advise on questions concerning the interpretation of this
       Constitution and the By-Laws, and Standing Orders of the Student Assembly.

(6) The Elections Committee—
   (i) The MPH Officer shall chair the Elections Committee, unless he or she is a
       candidate in that election. If the MPH Officer is a candidate in the election, a Student
       Assembly member who is not a candidate in the election shall be elected by the
       Elections Committee members to chair the Elections Committee.
   (ii) The Elections Committee shall be formed in a timely manner by the MPH Officer
       in accordance with the By-Laws.
   (iii) The Elections Committee shall organize and supervise Fall and Spring elections
       in accordance with the By-Laws.

(7) The Finance and Appropriations Committee—
   (i) The Treasurer shall chair the Finance and Appropriations Committee.
   (ii) The Finance and Appropriations Committee shall consist of the Finance Sub-
        Committee and the Appropriations Sub-Committee
   (iii) The Finance Sub-Committee shall—
        (a) have the responsibility of preparing the budget; and
        (b) be charged with all financial matters of the Student Assembly concerning
            fundraising activities, organizing the annual Auction, and shall report to the
            Student Assembly as necessary.
   (iv) The Appropriations Sub-Committee shall appropriate funds for student group
       events and activities when such events and activities fully fall within the relevant By-
       Laws and the requested line-items are specifically stipulated in the relevant By-Laws.
       When it is unclear whether the event or activity falls within the relevant By-Laws, the
       Finance and Appropriations Committee shall bring the appropriation request before
       the Student Assembly at the next Student Assembly meeting. Student groups who
       wish to appeal the decision of the Finance and Appropriations Committee shall have
       the right to appeal their funding request to the entire Student Assembly. In order to
       allow for the timely review of funding requests and appeals by the Student Assembly,
       the Appropriations Sub-Committee shall, at a minimum, meet in the week before
       each Student Assembly meeting.

(8) The Quality of Life Committee—
   (i) A Student Assembly member shall be elected by the Quality of Life Committee
       members to chair the Quality of Life Committee.
   (ii) The chair of the Quality of Life Committee shall serve on the School’s Deans for
        Students Network.
   (iii) The Quality of Life Committee shall actively solicit feedback from the Student
        Association on non-academic quality of life issues and propose and promote
        solutions to such issues.
   (iv) The Quality of Life Committee shall administer an annual survey of the Student
        Association evaluating the performance of the Student Assembly and identifying new
        directions for the Student Assembly.

(9) The Social and Cultural Affairs Committee—
   (i) The Vice-Presidents for Social and Cultural Affairs shall co-chair the Social and
       Cultural Committee.
   (ii) The Social and Cultural Affairs Committee shall prepare the annual and quarterly
       plan of social activities, which must be approved by the Student Assembly.
   (iii) For the organization and execution of each one of its approved activities, the
        Committee may form temporary sub-committees and appoint other members of the
Student Assembly and/or Student Association to the temporary sub-committees.

(10) The Student Groups Committee—
   (i) The Vice President for Student Groups shall chair the Student Groups Committee.
   (ii) The Student Groups Committee shall serve as the Student Assembly’s liaison to student groups by identifying all contact persons for student groups and being sources of information for planning student group activities and funding opportunities.

2. **Ad Hoc Committees of the Student Assembly.** Ad Hoc Committees of the Student Assembly may be created upon the recommendation of the President and/or Executive Committee and approval by the Student Assembly. Members of ad hoc committees shall be appointed by the Student Assembly.

3. **Standing Committees of the School.**
   (i) Nominations for positions on the Standing Committees of the School and University shall be solicited annually from the Student Association no later than two weeks after the start of classes in the Fall.
   (ii) The Interim Governing Body shall appoint the appropriate number of student representatives from the nominations submitted no later than the end of Fall Elections.
   (iii) The representatives to the standing committees shall report to the Student Assembly on the activities of their committees, as appropriate.
   (iv) The President shall—
      1. chair the Deans for Students Network; and
      2. serve on or appoint a representative to the Committee of the Whole.
   (v) The MPH Officer shall serve on appropriate committees in the MPH Program Office and the Deans for Students Network.

**Article X. Terms of Office**

1. **Terms of Office.** For those elected in the Spring, terms of office shall last from convocation to the subsequent convocation. For all other members, terms of office shall last from election to convocation.

2. **Term Limits.** All Student Assembly members shall be eligible for re-election. No officer, however, shall serve more than two consecutive terms in the same office.

**Article XI. Elections**

1. **Eligibility.** Anyone who is a member of the Student Association shall be eligible to run for a Student Assembly position if—
   (i) he or she will continue to be a member of the Student Assembly throughout the term of office for the desired position; and
   (ii) he or she is confident that he or she will be able to perform all the duties of the desired position.

2. **Election Procedures.** Procedures for soliciting nominations, conducting elections, and counting ballots shall be detailed in the By-Laws.

3. **Spring Elections.**
   (i) Spring Elections shall be held by the end of April.
   (ii) The President, Vice-President for Communications, one Vice-President for Social and Cultural Affairs, Vice-President for Student Groups, the Treasurer and two members-at-large shall be elected by the Student Association in the Spring Election.
   (iii) The Student Assembly shall ratify the results of these elections before convocation.

4. **Summer Elections.**
   (i) The MPH Officer shall be elected in the Summer Election.
   (ii) The Summer Election shall be held by the end of July.
   (iii) Only MPH students may vote in the Summer Election.
5. **Fall Elections.**
   (i) One Vice-President of Social and Cultural Affairs and ten members-at-large shall be elected by the Student Association in the Fall Elections.
   (ii) Fall Elections shall be held by the last week of September.

6. **Departmental Representatives.**
   (i) Each department shall select one Student Association member to serve as a Departmental Representative by the last week of September.
   (ii) It shall be the responsibility of the Interim Governing Body to contact departmental student coordinators, to address departmental student orientation meetings or to use any other appropriate procedure to assure departmental representation.
   (iii) The departments shall decide on the procedure for selection of the representatives.
   (iv) Departmental representatives must be students in any of the programs of their respective departments.

**Article XII. Vacancies**

1. **Vacancies in the Interim Governing Body.** All vacancies in the Interim Governing Body shall remain unfilled until Fall elections. Should the position of President or Vice-President for Communications be vacant, the functions of President and/or Vice-President for Communications shall be assumed by the Interim Governing Body until Fall elections.

2. **Executive Officers.** Vacancies among officer positions of the Student Assembly shall be filled by candidates selected from the Student Assembly by a two-thirds vote of the Student Assembly. In the event that no candidate receives two-thirds of the vote, the voting shall be repeated. If no candidate receives two-thirds of the vote again, a candidate shall be elected with a simple majority in a third vote.

3. **Members-at-Large.** Vacancies in member-at-large positions of the Student Assembly shall be filled by the candidate(s) with the next highest number of votes, according to the official tally of the general election. If no candidate(s) is(are) available, the Executive Committee shall propose to the Student Assembly a procedure for the appointment of a member from the Student Association as member-at-large, or the Student Assembly shall decide by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting that a position may remain unfilled.

4. **Departmental Representatives.** Vacancies in the departmental representative positions shall be filled by the departments. If no candidates are available, the position may remain unfilled.

**Article XIII. Removal of Members/Officers**

1. **Removal by Neglect.**
   (i) **Members-at-Large and Departmental Representatives.**— Absence of a Member-at-Large or a Departmental Representative without good cause from any three consecutive regular Student Assembly meetings shall constitute grounds for removal by the President, who shall report the removal at the next General Meeting. “Good Cause” shall be considered to include functions for the Student Assembly, academic evaluations, unavoidable academic commitments, and unavoidable personal emergencies.
   (ii) **Executive Officers.**— Absence of an Executive Officer without good cause from any three consecutive regular Executive Committee meetings, General Meetings, or combination thereof shall constitute grounds for removal by the President, who shall report the removal at the next General Meeting. “Good Cause” shall be considered to include functions for the Student Assembly, academic evaluations, unavoidable academic commitments, and unavoidable personal emergencies.
   (iii) **Committee Responsibilities.**— Members’ failure to actively serve on their respective standing committee(s) without good cause shall constitute grounds for removal by the President, who shall report the removal at the next General Meeting. “Good Cause” shall be considered to include functions for the Student Assembly, academic evaluations, unavoidable academic commitments, and unavoidable personal emergencies.
2. **Removal by Vote.** Any member may be removed by a two-thirds vote of the members of the Student Assembly, upon receipt of a petition signed by at least 10% of the Student Association or 51% of the Student Assembly. All members must be notified of the Student Assembly’s intent to ask for a member’s removal at least one week prior to the date of such a meeting.

3. **Dissolution of Student Assembly.** Removal of the entire Student Assembly may be requested by a petition signed by at least 25% of the Student Association. In this case, a School-wide referendum shall take place within one month. If the petition is approved by a majority of the Student Association voting in the referendum, the Student Assembly shall be dissolved. Within one month new elections shall take place, supervised by a task force of seven student representatives of the Student Association named by the School’s Administration.

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**Article XIV. Meetings**

1. **Quorum.**
   (i) At least 51 percent of the elected members shall constitute a quorum of the Student Assembly, Executive Committee, and Interim Governing Body.
   (ii) Meetings may be held in the absence of a quorum of the Interim Governing Body, Student Assembly or Executive Committee but no voting may take place.

2. **Voting.**
   (i) Any motion before the Student Assembly shall be adopted by an affirmative majority vote of those members present and voting unless otherwise stated in the constitution.
   (ii) The President shall not have a vote except in the event of a tied vote.

3. **Frequency of Meetings.** The Student Assembly, Executive Committee, and all Standing Committees of the Student Assembly shall have at least one regular meeting every month.

4. **Open and Public Meetings.** All regular meetings of the Student Assembly, the Executive Committee, and Standing Committees of the Student Assembly shall be open to all students of the School, and the agenda, minutes, date, time and place of each meeting of the Student Assembly shall be made available to the Student Association in a timely manner. Other members of the School community may attend the regular meetings by special invitation.

5. **Adding Items to the Agenda.** Any member of the Student Association may request that certain issues of concern be included in the agenda of a Student Assembly meeting. The request shall be submitted to the Executive Committee no less than one day before its planning meeting. In case of emergency, requests may be submitted to the Vice-President for Communications or directly to the Student Assembly. In these cases, the request shall be included in the agenda upon a majority vote of the Student Assembly.

6. **Special Meetings.**
   (i) Special meetings of the Student Assembly may be called by the Executive Committee and/or written request of 11 members of the Student Assembly to the President. Members of the Student Assembly should be notified at least one day before the special meeting.
   (ii) Special meetings of the Executive Committee may be called by the President or any three members of the Executive Committee.

7. **Emergency Decisions.** In case of an emergency, when there is no time to call a special meeting or obtain quorum of either the Student Assembly or the Executive Committee, the President and at least three of the officers of the Student Assembly may make a decision, which will have temporary effect until it is voted on by the Student Assembly in the next regular meeting.

8. **Standing Orders.** All official Student Assembly meetings shall be conducted in accord with Standing Orders, which shall constitute the parliamentary code of the Student Assembly.

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**Article XV. Records**

1. **Definition.** Records shall include but are not limited to agendas, minutes, committee membership, attendance at meetings, the Student Assembly Constitution, By-Laws, Standing Orders, Guidelines,
Student Group constitutions, year-end and transition records and reports, and all financial records.

2. **Privacy.** Maintenance and availability of all records shall adhere to School policies and all relevant Laws, particularly in regards to protecting confidential information.

3. **Keeping of Records.** The Vice-President of Communications shall be responsible for consolidating and maintaining all Student Assembly Records.

4. **Availability of Records.** All records of the Student Assembly shall be available to all members of the Student Association upon their request.

5. **Committee Records.** Each Standing Committee Chair shall maintain agendas and minutes of all Committee meetings and shall record all decisions, events, and transactions.

6. **Transition Records.**
   
   (i) Each Executive Committee Officer and Standing Committee Chair shall provide the Vice-President Communications with all records and reports related to his or her role in the Student Assembly by the end of the year.
   
   (ii) Each Executive Committee Officer and Standing Committee Chair shall prepare a year-end summary detailing all activities, decisions, and lessons learned as it relates to his or her role in the Student Assembly. When possible, each Executive Committee Officer shall meet with his or her counterpart for the next year, provide him or her with their year-end summary, and answer questions as needed. Each Executive Committee Officer and Standing Committee Chair shall provide his or her year-end summary to the Vice President for Communications.
   
   (iii) The Quality of Life Committee shall provide the results of the annual survey to the Vice-President of Communications and the survey results shall be part of materials provided to the subsequent Student Assembly.

7. **Annual Report.** The President and Vice-President of Communications shall be responsible for drafting an annual report of all Student Assembly activities for the year and disseminating it to the Student Association.

**Article XVI. Finances**

1. **Proposed Budget.** A proposed line-item budget shall be prepared by the Finance and Appropriations Committee and approved by a majority vote of Student Assembly members present at the Student Assembly meeting preceding the fiscal planning deadline of the School.

2. **Final Budget.** A final budget shall be prepared by the Finance and Appropriations Committee and submitted for Student Assembly review within two Student Assembly meetings following the School’s appropriations decision. The final budget shall be approved by a majority vote of Student Assembly members present at the Student Assembly meeting following a one-week minimum review period.

3. **Amendments to Budget.** Amendments may be made to the budget by a majority vote at a Student Assembly meeting following a one-week review of proposed amendments.

4. **Funding Sources.**
   
   (i) Funds shall be allocated to the Student Assembly by the School administration.
   
   (ii) The Student Assembly shall be empowered to raise all funds deemed necessary and proper in accordance with the rules and regulations of the School.

5. **Semi-Annual Internal Audit of Financial Records.** An *ad hoc* committee will audit all the financial records of the Student Assembly by the ends of the second and fourth terms. The *ad hoc* committee shall be formed in accordance with Article IX (2). The President and the Treasurer are not eligible to serve on this *ad hoc* committee. The results of this audit shall be presented to the Student Assembly at the last meeting of the second and fourth term and shall be made available to the Student Association.

**Article XVII. By-Laws, Standing Orders, and Guidelines**

1. **By-Laws.**
In General.— The By-Laws of the Student Assembly shall constitute binding law governing the activities of the Student Assembly and its members in their official capacities.

Passing and Amending By-Laws.— Any member of the Student Assembly may propose a By-Law or an amendment to existing By-Laws. The proposed By-Law or Amendment shall be circulated among members of the Student Assembly a minimum of one week before the Student Assembly meeting at which it will be considered. Adoption of the proposed By-Law or amendment to the By-Laws shall require an affirmative vote by two-thirds of the voting members of the Student Assembly present at the meeting.

Interim Governing Body.— The Interim Governing Body may pass and amend By-Laws by a two-thirds vote of members present at a meeting of the Interim Governing Body, but any amendments to the By-Laws passed by the Interim Governing Body will have temporary effect until the full Student Assembly reviews and approves of the amendments after Fall elections. If the Student Assembly does not approve the amendments by a two-thirds vote of members present or does not examine the amendments by the end of first term, the amendments passed by the Interim Governing Body shall become null and void.

2. Standing Orders.
   (i) In General.— Standing orders shall constitute the parliamentary code in the conduct of all official meetings of the Student Assembly, the Executive Committee, and the Interim Governing Body.
   (ii) Passing Standing Orders.— Any member of the Student Assembly may submit proposed Standing Orders to the Student Assembly, Executive Committee, or Interim Governing Body. Adoption of the proposed Standing Order shall require an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the voting members of the Student Assembly present at the meeting.

   (i) In General.— Student Assembly guidelines shall serve as explanatory, non-binding documents elucidating the procedures and rules set down in this Constitution and the By-Laws.
   (ii) Passing Guidelines.— Guidelines shall be drafted or revised by ad hoc committees created under Article IX (2). The completed guidelines shall be distributed to all members of the Student Assembly.

Article XVIII. Amendments

1. Full Constitutional Review. The Constitution Committee may propose a full review of this Constitution. The procedure for adopting the constitutional revisions proposed by the Constitution Committee shall be as follows:
   (i) The proposed revisions shall be circulated to the Student Assembly at least one week prior to the Student Assembly meeting at which they are to be presented.
   (ii) The Student Assembly shall approve the proposed revisions for presentation to the Student Association by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the voting members of the Student Assembly.
   (iii) The Student Assembly shall circulate the approved revisions among the Student Association at least two weeks prior to the regular election or special referendum at which the Student Association will vote on the constitutional revisions. Adoption of such full revision shall require an affirmative vote by two-thirds of the Student Association members voting in that regular election or special referendum.

2. Amendments.
   (i) Amendments Proposed by Members of the Student Assembly.— Amendments may be proposed by members of the Student Assembly. The procedure for adopting a constitutional amendment shall be the same as the procedure for adopting a full constitutional review in Article XVIII (1).
   (ii) Amendments Proposed by Members of the Student Association.— Amendments may also be proposed by a petition signed by 100 students. For the proposed amendment to be considered, a member of the Student Association shall present the signed petition to the President of the Student Assembly. The signatures on the petition shall be verified by the Elections Committee. Once the
signatures are verified, the proposed amendment shall be circulated among the Student Association at least two weeks prior to the regular election or special referendum at which the Student Association shall vote on the proposed constitutional amendments. Adoption of such amendments shall require an affirmative vote by the two-thirds of the Student Association members voting in that regular election or special referendum.

Article XIX. Governance

The Student Assembly shall be governed by this Constitution, the Student Assembly By-Laws, and the rules and regulations of the School and Johns Hopkins University. In the event of conflict, the rules and regulations of the School and Johns Hopkins University shall take precedence, followed by this Constitution.
Amendment I
Election of more Members-at-Large in the Spring Elections
Approved March, 2006

1. The number of members-at-large elected in the Spring Elections shall be increased to six.
2. The number of members-at-large elected in the Fall Elections shall be decreased to six.

Amendment II
Clarification of election procedures
Approved March, 2006

1. Article XI, Section 2 is amended to include the following:

Each department shall decide on the procedure for selection of the departmental representative, however, departmental representatives must be students in any of the programs of their respective departments.

2. Article XI, Section 3 is amended to include the following:

(iv) It shall be the duty of the Elections Committee to contact departmental student organizations, departmental student coordinators, to address departmental student orientation meetings or to use any other appropriate procedures to solicit departmental representatives to the Student Assembly.

3. Article XII is amended to include the following:

5. Vacancies of any positions following the Spring Elections shall be placed on the ballot of the Fall Elections. Vacancies following the Fall Elections shall be handled as outlined above.

Amendment III
Extension of terms of office
Approved March, 2006

1. For members-at-large elected in the Fall Elections, the term of office may be extended to the last day of the subsequent Fall elections at the request of the member-at-large.

2. For the Vice-President of Social and Cultural Affairs elected in the Fall Elections, the term of office may be extended to the last day of the subsequent Fall Elections at the request of the person holding the position. Otherwise, the Vice-President of Social and Cultural Affairs elected in the Fall Elections shall serve as a non-voting ex officio member of the Student Assembly following convocation and until the last day of the subsequent Fall Elections.

Amendment IV
Creation of President-Elect position
Approved March, 2006

1. Voting Members. The voting members of the Student Assembly shall include the position of President-Elect as an eighth officer.

2. Article VI, Sections 3 & 4 are superceded by the below:

(3) The President shall;
   (i) represent or delegate representation of the Student Assembly to School, University, local, state, national, and international agencies and organizations;
   (ii) preside over all meetings of the Student Assembly and the Executive Committee;
   (iii) serve on or appoint a representative to the School’s Committee of the Whole;
   (iv) serve on or appoint a representative to the Alumni Association Executive Committee;
   (v) sign official documents on behalf of the Student Assembly;
   (vi) serve as the chairperson of the Executive Committee;
   (vii) assume the duties of the other Student Assembly officers when there are vacancies in those officer positions.

(4) The Vice-President for Communications shall;
(i) document the Student Assembly meetings in the absence of the President-Elect;
(ii) maintain all relevant records;
(iii) consolidate transition records and make them available to incoming officers;
(iv) administer and maintain the Student Assembly website, listservs, and e-mail accounts; and
(v) chair the Biased Observer committee.

3. Article VI is amended to include the following:
   (10). The Powers and Duties of the President-Elect shall be to:
   (i) assume the duties of the President in the absence of the President;
   (ii) document the Student Assembly meetings;
   (iii) serve as the Student Assembly’s office manager;
   (iv) chair the School’s Deans for Student Network;
   (v) serve as an ex officio member of standing committees of the Student Assembly and as liaison between the Executive Committee and other standing committees.

4. Article IX, Section 3(iv) is superceded by the following:
   The President shall serve on or appoint a representative to the Committee of the Whole. The President-Elect shall chair the Deans for Students network.

5. Article IX, Section 1 Subsection iii (2) is superceded by the following:
   Within one week of an independent action taken by any committee, the chairperson for that committee shall notify the President-Elect so that the action may be added to the agenda of the next regular Student Assembly meeting or Executive Meeting as deemed appropriate by the President-Elect.

6. Article XV, Section 7 is superceded by the following:
   **Annual Report.** The President, President-Elect, and Vice-President for Communications shall be responsible for drafting an annual report of all Student Assembly activities for the year and disseminating it to the Student Association.

7. The President-Elect shall be elected in the Fall elections and shall serve in the position until Convocation.

8. Article X, Section 2 is superceded by the following:
   **Term Limits.** All Student Assembly members shall be eligible for re-election. The President-Elect and President shall not be eligible for re-election for the same position. No officer shall serve more than two consecutive terms in the same office.

9. Article XII, Section 2 is superceded by the following:
   Vacancies among all officer positions with the exception of President and President-Elect of the Student Assembly shall be filled by candidates selected from the Student Assembly by a two-thirds vote of the Student Assembly. In the event that no candidate receives two-thirds of the vote, the voting shall be repeated. If no candidate receives two-thirds of the vote again, a candidate shall be elected with a simple majority in a third vote. A vacancy of the position of President shall be filled by the President-Elect. A vacancy in the position of President-Elect shall remain unfilled. In the event that both President and President-Elect positions are unfilled, a President may be elected through the procedures outlined for other officer vacancies above, though the President-Elect position will remain unfilled.

**Amendment V**

*Dissolution of the Interim Governing Body*

*Approved March, 2006*

1. Article VII is hereby repealed.
2. All mentions of the Interim Governing Body, including Article IX, Section 3, sub-Section (ii); Article XII, Section 1; and Article XVII, Section 1, sub-Section (iii), are deleted.
Amendment VI

Broadening of Biased Observer Committee
Approved March, 2006

1. The “Biased Observer Committee” is hereby renamed the “Communications Committee”. All mentions of the “the Biased Observer Committee” are deleted and replaced with “the Communications committee”.

2. Article IX, Section 1, sub-Section (iv), part (3) is amended to read as follows:

3. The Communications Committee-

   (i) The Communications committee shall be chaired by the Vice President of Communications
   (ii) The purpose of the Communications Committee shall be to establish and maintain channels of communication between the Student Assembly, the Student Association, and the School’s administration.
   (iii) The Communications committee shall-

      (a) maintain, update, and implement improvements to information technology systems in use by the Student Assembly, including the website, mailing lists, and list-servs;
      (b) serve as a liaison between the Student Assembly and the Information Technology offices of the School;
      (c) propose and promote improved avenues of information exchange between the Assembly, the students, and administrative offices of the School;
   (iv) The Committee shall publish the Biased Observer, which –

      (a) may be published in paper, electronic, or other formats as determined by the members of the committee;
      (b) shall function as the newsletter of the Student Assembly and the Student Association;
      (c) shall serve as an open forum for the Student Association; and
      (d) shall have as an editor a member of the Student Association elected by members of the Communications committee.

Amendment VII

Establishment of Liaison Positions
Approved March, 2006

Article IX is amended to include the following Section:

4. Liaison Positions.

   (i) Liaison positions shall include –

      (1) Alumni Association Liaison. The Alumni Association Liaison shall serve as the School’s representative to the Alumni Council, and shall foster communication exchange and collaboration between the Alumni Association and the Student Assembly.

      (2) American Public Health Association Student Assembly (APHA-SA) Liaison. The APHA-SA Liaison shall serve as the School’s representative on the APHA-SA Liaison network, and shall foster communication exchange and collaboration between the Student Assembly, the Student Association, and the APHA-SA.

   (ii) Additional Liaison positions may be created upon the recommendation of the President and/or Executive Committee and approval by the Student Assembly.

   (iii) Selection of Liaisons-

      (1) Liaisons shall be appointed from the voting members of the Student Assembly by the President, with the advice and consent of the Student Assembly, by the second meeting of the Student Assembly after fall elections.

      (2) Up to two Student Assembly members may hold the same Liaison position in a given year upon approval by the President and/or the Executive Committee.

   (iv) Holding a liaison position shall be considered as equivalent to participating on one Standing Committee of the Student Assembly.
Amendment VIII
Procedural changes for President-Elect position
Approved August 2006

1. Amendment IV, Section 7 shall be superceded by the following:
   7. The President-Elect shall be elected in the Spring elections and shall serve in the position until
   Convocation.

2. Amendment IV is amended to include the following:
   10. Transition of President-Elect to President
       (i) The President-Elect shall assume the role of the President immediately following
           convocation only upon receiving an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the voting members of the
           Student Assembly.
       (ii) The President shall initiate a vote by secret ballot of the Student Assembly no later than
            the last day of March. The vote shall proceed by completion of voting cards distributed at a
            General Assembly meeting. Completed voting cards shall be submitted to the Associate Dean
            for Student Affairs or other designated individual within the administration within forty-eight
            hours of the Student Assembly meeting.
       (iii) In the event that a two-thirds affirmative vote is not obtained, the position of President
            shall be placed on the regular Spring Election ballot and opened to all eligible members of the
            Student Association.

3. Amendment IV, section 9 is amended to include the following:
   In the event of a vacancy in the position of President-Elect, the Vice-President for Communications
   shall assume the duties of the President-Elect.

Amendment IX
Change in term of Office for the Vice-President for Student Groups
Approved August 2006

1. Article XI, section 3, subsection (ii) is amended to remove the Vice-President for Student Groups from
   Spring Elections.

2. Article XI, section 5, subsection (i) is amended to include the Vice-President for Student Groups in the
   Fall Election.

3. For the Vice-President of Student Groups elected in the Fall Elections, the term of office may be
   extended to the last day of the subsequent Fall elections at the request of the person holding the position.
   Otherwise, the Vice-President of Student Groups elected in the Fall Elections shall serve as a non-voting
   ex officio member of the Student Assembly following convocation and until the last day of the subsequent
   Fall elections.

Amendment X
Creation of the Vice-President for Community Affairs Position
Approved August 2006

1. Voting Members. The voting members of the Student Assembly shall include the position of Vice-
   President for Community Affairs as a ninth officer.

2. All references to the Community Relations Committee shall be amended to read Community Affairs
   Committee.
3. Article IX, section 1, subsection (iv), part (4) shall be superceded by the following:

   (4) **The Community Affairs Committee**
   
   (i) The Community Affairs Committee shall be chaired by the Vice-President for Community Affairs;
   
   (ii) The Community Affairs Committee shall—
       (a) work with SOURCE, student groups, faculty, staff, and the administration to support and/or develop the infrastructure that will allow students to better connect with the community;
       (b) when appropriate, plan and implement events that promote connection with, knowledge of, and understanding about Baltimore.

4. Article VI is amended to include the following:

   (11). The Powers and Duties of the Vice-President for Community Affairs shall be to:
   
   (i) Chair the Community Affairs Committee;
   
   (ii) serve as a liaison between the School and relevant institutes, SOURCE, student groups, and students interested in community issues;
   
   (iii) organize and/or facilitate events that will complement activities initiated by SOURCE and student groups to provide more opportunities for students to engage in, collaborate with, and/or learn about the Baltimore community;
   
   (iv) sit on appropriate and relevant school-wide and community committees;
   
   (v) update the student body at a minimum of a quarterly basis about activities and developments relevant to community affairs.

5. Article XI, section 3, subsection (ii) is amended to add the Vice-President for Community Affairs to the Spring Elections ballot.

### Amendment XI

*Removal of Auction as a duty of the Treasurer*

*Approved April 2007*

1. Article VI, section 7, subsection (iii) shall be removed

### Amendment XII

*Movement of Committee Leadership and Responsibilities to the Bylaws*

*Approved April 2007*

1. Article IX, section 1, subsection (iv) and all amendments pertaining to the subsection shall be removed

2. Committee Leadership and Responsibilities shall be outlined in the Bylaws

### Amendment XIII

*Creation of the Vice-President for Honors and Awards Position*

*Approved September 2007*

1. Voting Members. The voting members of the Student Assembly shall include the position of Vice-President for Honors and Awards as a tenth officer.

2. Article VI is amended to include the following:

   (12). The Powers and Duties of the Vice-President for Honors and Awards shall be to:
   
   (i) chair the Awards Committee;
   
   (ii) be responsible for managing all aspects of the Student Conference Fund;
(iii) be responsible for the annual auction and other fundraising activities for the Student Conference Fund;  
(iv) organize an ad hoc committee open to all members of the Association for the annual student, faculty, and staff awards.

3. Article XI, section 5, subsection (i) is amended to add the Vice-President for Honors and Awards to the Fall Elections ballot.

4. The Vice-President for Honors and Awards may extend the term of office to the last day of the subsequent Fall Elections at the request of the person holding the position. Otherwise, the Vice-President for Honors and Awards shall serve as a non-voting *ex officio* member of the Student Assembly following convocation and until the last day of the subsequent Fall Elections.

**Amendment XIV**  
*Creation of the Vice-President for Quality of Life Position*  
*Approved September 2007*

1. Voting Members. The voting members of the Student Assembly shall include the position of Vice-President for Quality of Life as an eleventh officer.

2. Article VI is amended to include the following:
   (12). The Powers and Duties of the Vice-President for Quality of Life shall be to:
   (i) chair the Quality of Life Committee;
   (ii) organize periodic Town Hall meetings;
   (iii) organize Annual Quality of Life Survey;
   (iv) serve on the School's Deans for Students Network;
   (v) solicit regular feedback from students regarding quality of life issues and communicate response and resolution of these issues to students;
   (vi) respond to student questions, concerns, and suggestions as appropriate

3. Article XI, section 5, subsection (i) is amended to add the Vice-President for Quality of Life to the Fall Elections ballot.

4. The Vice-President for Quality of Life may extend the term of office to the last day of the subsequent Fall Elections at the request of the person holding the position. Otherwise, the Vice-President for Quality of Life shall serve as a non-voting *ex officio* member of the Student Assembly following convocation and until the last day of the subsequent Fall Elections.