**University of Memphis Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law**

**Health Law Society**

**Constitution**

**Article I. Name and Purpose**

**Section 1.** The name of the organization shall be the “Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law Health Law Society” (“Health Law Society”).

**Section 2.** The Health Law Society (“HLS”) is dedicated to exploring the intersection between medical health care and the judicial system. The HLS examines not only the traditional areas of health law, but also delves deeper into local and national health policy concerns. The HLS strives to enhance the experience and knowledge of its members and the entire Memphis law community.

**Article II. Objectives**

The objectives of the Health Law Society are to:

(1) provide a forum for students to explore concerns related to health law, including career and employment opportunities;

(2) raise awareness of health-related legal issues;

(3) generate student interest in health law;

(4) facilitate an ongoing dialogue regarding health law and related legal issues;

(5) act as a liaison between students interested in health law and professionals practicing in the health law field; and

(6) support initiatives engendering health law related activities within Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law.

**Article III. Membership**

**Section 1.** The general membership of the Health Law Society shall consist of any students, faculty, staff or alumni of the Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law who hold an interest in health law and the issues, topics and discussion surrounding health law-related issues.

**Section 2.** Categories of Membership:

**Clause 1.** “Active” Members: Members of the HLS who are currently enrolled students at Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law shall be classified as “active” members of the HLS. Voting membership is limited to active members of the HLS.

**Clause 2.** “Associate” Members: Members of the HLS who are not currently enrolled students at Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law, including faculty, staff, or alumni of Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law, shall be classified as “associate” members of the HLS. Associate members may not hold officer positions within the HLS. The number of associate members of the HLS shall not exceed the number of active HLS members.

**Section 3.** The HLS does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, religion, age, national origin, sexual orientation, or physical, mental, emotional, or learning disabilities.

**Section 4.** Any member may be suspended or expelled from the HLS for conduct obviously contrary to the Constitution of the HLS or for conduct which impairs the rights of the general membership of the HLS to enjoy the benefits of the organization. The HLS Board members shall vote on such matters and decide the proper course of action by a majority of Board members’ votes. If the member in question is a member of the HLS Board, the member shall be excluded from voting on the matter.

**Article IV. Governing Body**

**Section 1.** The elected officers of the Health Law Society shall be the: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Public Relations Chair(s), Events Chair(s), and other officers as necessary.

**Section 2.** The governing body of the HLS shall be the HLS Board. The HLS Board shall be composed of the elected HLS officers.

**Section 3.** Powers and Duties of Officers:

**Clause 1.** The President shall: call and preside over all HLS Board and General Meetings; frequently consult with HLS Board members, the HLS faculty advisor, and Cecil C. Humphreys administration concerning HLS activities and health law-related matters; act as the official spokesperson of the organization, representing the policies, views and opinions of the organization in its relations with the campus and community at large; develop meeting agendas; have the power to create HLS Committees and appoint Chairs of those Committees; ensure the completion of all relevant paperwork; develop and maintain, upon consultation with the Treasurer, an organization budget; develop relationships and partnerships with professional organizations that can offer academic and professional opportunities to the HLS; make all final decisions relating to the organization and operation of the HLS; set long-term and short-term goals for the HLS; and possess all reasonable powers and duties relating to the HLS not herein reserved to someone else.

**Clause 2.** The Vice President shall: jointly preside over HLS with the President; provide advice and support on all HLS activities; preside at the HLS meetings in the absence of the President; and perform all legal duties assigned by the President.

**Clause 3.** The Secretary shall: maintain an accurate list of all HLS members; take minutes at all HLS meetings; file minutes and submit required copies to organization members; be responsible for all HLS correspondence and keep copies of all correspondence on file; and act as historian for the HLS and maintain all HLS records;. At the end of his/her term, the Secretary is responsible for passing on the entirety of HLS records to his/her successor. If no successor is elected, the Secretary shall submit all HLS records to the incoming President.

**Clause 4.** The Treasurer shall: handle all financial affairs and budgeting of the HLS; maintain accurate records of HLS receipts and expenditures; deposit all HLS funds; provide reports as necessary to the Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law administration; regularly present to the HLS Board a specific report of the HLS account; and ensure the fiscal responsibility of all HLS activities.

**Clause 5.** The Public Relations Chair(s) shall: create an event page on Facebook© for all HLS events and invite HLS members and other law students; submit announcements for upcoming events and meetings to Cecil C. Humphreys’ “On Legal Grounds” events newsletter in a timely manner; and advertise HLS events through the law school by posting flyers, making verbal announcements (with consent from professors) in classrooms, and writing announcements on classroom chalkboards.

**Clause 6.** The Events Chair(s) shall: assist the President and Vice President in the planning, preparation, and implementation of social, educational, and professional events hosted by the HLS; and perform the following duties as necessary: reserve meeting space for all HLS meetings and events on Cecil C. Humphreys campus; order food and refreshments for meetings and events on campus; and arrange for the rental of any equipment borrowed from Cecil C. Humphreys school (i.e., tables from the student lounge, etc.).

**Section 4.** Officer Qualifications:

**Clause 1.** Each HLS officer must be a currently enrolled student at Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law taking at least nine (9) hours during the regular semesters of their tenure. HLS officers must maintain good academic standing at Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law during their tenure.

**Clause 2.** Each HLS officer must make a good faith effort to attend all HLS meetings while serving in the capacity as an officer.

**Clause 3.** HLS Board members, by unanimous vote, may remove an officer for any of the following reasons:

(1) acts of misfeasance with HLS funds or the HLS name;

(2) acting in a manner contrary to the HLS mission;

(3) failure to perform duties as ascribed by this Constitution; or

(4) any other reason as determined by the HLS Board.

**Clause 4.** Petition by 1/3 of HLS members is cause for a recall election. The offense must be stated in writing and submitted by a member to a HLS Board member. After the offense is submitted, the offending officer has the right to a 48 hour notice of a hearing on the matter. A recall election shall be conducted as a “Special Election.” Recall requires an affirmative vote of 2/3 of the total voting membership.

**Clause 5.** In the event an elected HLS officer in unable to fulfill his/her term of office, there will be a “Special Election.” Any eligible member, including those already holding office, may be nominated for a vacated officer position.

**Section 5.** Term of Office: Terms of office for the HLS Board will be for one (1) academic year commencing May 1 of the current year and concluding May 1 of the following academic year. During the time from the elections until assuming office, incoming HLS officers may prepare for the upcoming year and make binding appointments.

**Section 6.** Vacancy: If a vacancy occurs in any office other than the office of the President(s), the vacancy shall be filled by nomination by the President(s) subject to approval by a majority of members who attend a meeting following the nomination. If a vacancy in the office of the President occurs, and there is a Co-President already in office, then the Co-President will assume the responsibilities of both Presidents for the duration of the term of office. If a vacancy in the office of the President occurs and there is not a Co-President in office, then the Vice President will assume the responsibilities of the President for the duration of the term.

**Article V. Meetings**

**Section 1.** Meetings will be held at least four times yearly, twice per semester. A general meeting shall be held at the earliest convenient date in the fall semester to solicit new members and present the agenda for the coming year. Members of the HLS shall be given notice of a meeting no less than five (5) days prior to the meeting.

**Section 2.** Regularly scheduled meetings shall be held at a time convenient for the general HLS membership on Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law campus.

**Section 3.** Meetings shall be presided over by the highest-ranking member of the HLS Board present. If no member of the HLS Board is present, the HLS faculty advisor or a designated student may preside over the meeting.

**Section 4.** Business cannot be conducted unless a quorum of the membership is present. Quorum for the HLS is defined as 51% of the voting membership.

**Section 5.** Special meetings are called by any HLS Board member or by 5% of HLS voting members. All members must be given a minimum of 48 hours (2 working days) prior to the Special Meeting time.

**Article VI. Elections**

**Section 1.** HLS elections shall be held once a year, during the Spring Semester. Only non-graduating HLS members in good academic standing with Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law shall be eligible to run for officer positions.

**Section 2.** All HLS members in good standing shall be permitted to vote in HLS elections.

**Section 3.** Elections shall be advertised and members given ample time to nominate themselves or others to positions on the HLS Board.

**Section 4.** Voting shall be by secret ballot and results shall be publicized to all HLS members within a reasonable period of time.

**Section 5**. In the event of a tie for any elected position, there shall be a run-off between the two with the highest number of votes. In the event of a tie during the run-off, the outgoing HLS Board will have the power to choose the person they feel most qualified for the position. The outgoing HLS Board should elect the winner by a majority vote.

**Article VII. Advisors**

**Section 1.** An individual employed on a full-time or part-time basis by Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law shall serve as advisor to the HLS.

**Section 2.** The advisor(s) will serve a term of one (1) academic year and is selected at the same time as the HLS officers.

**Section 3.** The HLS advisor(s) shall advise the President on all HLS activities, including organization direction, goals, and responsibilities.

**Article VIII. Fiscal Matters**

**Section 1.** The HLS Board shall work with the faculty advisor and Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law administration in order to meet the financial operating needs of the HLS. The President and Treasurer shall be responsible for communicating regularly with the faculty advisor regarding all HLS fiscal matters.

**Section 2.** In the event that the HLS should become inactive and dissolve, all remaining assets shall be distributed to the Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law Mental Health Law and Policy Journal.

**Article IX. Amendments Process**

**Section 1.** Proposed amendments or changes to this HLS Constitution will be presented, in writing, to the organization one (1) meeting before the amendment is voted on.

**Section 2.** Approval by 2/3 of the voting members present at a regular HLS meeting will pass the proposed amendment. The approved amendment will be immediately effective unless otherwise stipulated in the proposal.

**Section 3.** Members of the HLS shall be informed of all amendments or changes to this HLS Constitution within a reasonable period of time.

**Section 4.** A copy of this HLS Constitution/bylaws and/or amendments to this HLS Constitution must be filed with the Registered Students Organizations Office at the University of Memphis and with the Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law administration.

**Article X. Ratification**

This Constitution of the Health Law Society shall be subject to ratification by unanimous consent of the HLS Board and signed approval of the HLS President and HLS Founder.

**Article XI. Approval**

Pending ratification in accordance with Article X of this HLS Constitution, this Constitution will be enacted.

Now, therefore, we hereby enact this Constitution of the Health Law Society.

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