

# **STUDENT VETERANS ORGANIZATION of Christopher Newport University Newport News, VA**

## **ARTICLE I**

### **PURPOSE**

Section 1. The primary mission of the Student Veterans Organization of Christopher Newport University shall be to develop and foster a community for student veterans and families of veterans with the university, and provide a network and atmosphere of fellowship and camaraderie for students with military service and future military service.

## **ARTICLE II**

### **MEMBERSHIP**

Section 1. Eligibility. Membership shall fall into the following two categories:

- 1.1 Active. Any student enrolled with Christopher Newport University who is a veteran, reservist, National Guard, active duty service member, pursuing a commission in the armed forces, or family of a service member.
- 1.2 Honorary. Any member that does not fall into the above category, to include but not limited to, faculty/staff, members enrolled with a Virginia State institution of higher education, organizations, societies, general public, etc.

Section 2. Student Veterans Organization is committed to the elimination of discrimination based on gender, race, class, economic status, ethnic background, sexual orientation, age, physical ability, and cultural and religious backgrounds.

Section 3. Application. All perspective members must fill out an application and are subject to review at the discretion of the Membership Committee. All information is private and will not be distributed to outside resources. Information remains open to committee(s) and the Officers of the organization.

3.1 Membership-Fees. Active members who wish to either vote, run for office, or hold a

committee chair, are required to pay membership-fees. Honorary members may wish to pay membership-fees to support the SVO in its mission and purpose.

3.1.1 Membership-fees are due at the beginning of each semester.

3.1.2 Membership-fees will be established by the Board of Directors.

3.1.3 Membership-fees do not restrict any member from any participation otherwise listed above.

### **ARTICLE III**

#### **MEETINGS**

Section 1. Meetings will be held monthly. The Executive Board will determine specific dates and times. At least one half of the total voting membership must be present in order to conduct business in a regular meeting setting, two of which must be officers. For voting on elected officers or to expel a member, three-fourths of the total membership must be present with a majority vote needed to pass.

### **ARTICLES IV**

#### **OFFICERS**

Section 1. Elected Officers. Elected officers of the Christopher Newport University Student Veteran's Organization shall be the President, Vice-president, Secretary, Treasurer, and Executive Directors for each represented uniformed service. A quorum of three-fourths of total voting membership must be present in order to conduct a vote to select these officers with a majority vote needed to pass a vote. Elected officers shall serve a term of one full academic year, at which time new officers will be elected.

Section 2. Term. The term of office shall be 12 months beginning in April.

Section 3. Vacancies. Vacancies will be appointed by the Executive Board. This does not apply to the position of the President; the President must be elected.

Section 4. Removal. Officers can be removed from office by completion of their term or unanimous decision by standing Officers.

Section 5. The elected, official position of officers shall be:

5.1 President:

The President shall have active management, meeting with CNU officials and representation of the organization at all major events of the Student Veterans Organization and campus events.

#### 5.2 Vice-President:

The Vice President shall act under the direction of the President and in the absence of the President shall perform the duties and exercise the powers of the President. The VP shall perform such other duties and have such other powers as the President may from time to time prescribe. The Vice-President shall act as presiding officer of board meetings.

#### 5.3 Secretary:

The Secretary shall keep accurate and detailed records of all meetings and affairs, transmit all official organization correspondence, and coordinate preparation and distribution of information and materials.

#### 5.4 Treasurer:

The Treasurer shall receive and distribute organization funds in accordance with Christopher Newport University regulations, make financial reports at appropriate meetings, create an organizational budget for the semester or year and coordinate fundraising activities.

5.5 Executive Directors shall be members of the Board of Directors. The number of Executive Directors corresponds with the number of branches representing the five (5) uniformed services. Only a veteran of the respective branch may be an Executive Director.

Executive Director (Air Force)  
Executive Director (Army)  
Executive Director (Coast Guard)  
Executive Director (Navy)  
Executive Director (Marines)

There must be at least (3) members on the board, including the President, Vice-President, and one (1) Executive Director.

## **ARTICLE V**

### **AMENDMENTS**

Section 1. Board of Directors All officers on the board shall decide the direction and operation of the Student Veterans Organization. Each officer is allotted one (1) vote and the majority vote shall prevail on items. In the event an officer abstains to vote and there is a tie, the items shall be presented to the membership at the next meeting. The voting membership shall decide on the item; a 2/3 vote is needed to see the item passed. The President and Vice-President essentially act as the "face" of the organization, but the extent of their power does not supersede any other member of the board.

Section 2. Amendments by Members. The Constitution may be amended by a 2/3 vote of the

members present at one regular scheduled meetings, provided notice of intention to amend shall have been contained in a notice for the upcoming meeting.

## **ARTICLE VI**

### **DISSOLUTION**

Section 1. Upon dissolution of the organization, all assets shall be used exclusively for charitable purposes. Funds donated by outside sources will be returned first and foremost. Any funds that exist thereafter shall be first used for scholarships to students within the Student Veterans Organization. If this is not attainable, funds may be donated to the University of Nevada, Las Vegas or Student Veterans of America, an IRS recognized non-profit organization.

### **CERTIFICATE OF OFFICER(S)**

I hereby certify that I am the President of Student Veterans Organization. and that the foregoing Bylaws, constitute the code of Bylaws of Student Veterans Organization, as duly adopted at a regular meeting of the members of the organization.

Signed and Sealed