

# **Constitution of the Christopher Newport University Model United Nations Society**

## **Article I: Name and Purpose**

The name of this organization shall be Christopher Newport Model United Nations Society (CNUMUN). CNUMUN is to promote international awareness at Christopher Newport University and in the Community, to enhance debating and researching techniques of its members, to represent the University in Model United Nations Conferences and in other competitions dealing with international affairs, and to expose students to different cultures while exercising debating skills.

## **Article II: Officers and Duties of Officers**

There shall be an executive board made up of a President, Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, Public Relations Chair, Secretary, and Student Life Liaison.

- Section 1: The President shall be elected by a simple majority of club members for the subsequent academic year during the first meeting in April of each year. The duties of the President are to chair all general and executive board meetings, be the liaison between the club and the Advisor, serve as the Secretary General of CNUMUN Conferences (including training conferences), organize any programs the club chooses to sponsor, or delegate a club member to organize any program the club chooses to sponsor, and represent the club to the CNU Government Department and the CNU Administration.
- Section 2: The Vice President shall be elected by a simple majority of club members for the subsequent academic year during the first meeting in April of each year. The duties of the Vice President are to perform the duties of the presidency in the absence of the President, attend general and executive board meetings, shall organize any trips the club chooses to take (including Model United Nations Conferences and World Quest) and make the necessary arrangements.
- Section 3: The Chief Financial Officer (CFO) shall be appointed by the President on an application basis open to all members and approved by a simple majority of the members of CNUMUN at a general meeting. The duties of the CFO are to attend general and executive board meetings, keep financial records of the club, make any necessary deposits into the CNUMUN account, organize fundraising initiatives of the club, and run the registration table at CNUMUN Conferences (including training conferences).
- Section 4: The Public Relations Chair shall be appointed by the President on an application basis open to all members and approved by a simple majority of the members of

CNUMUN at a general meeting. The duties of the Public Relations Chair are to attend general and executive board meetings, advertise club meetings and programs, and to keep the showcase space up to date.

Section 5: The Secretary shall be appointed by the President on an application basis open to all members and approved by a simple majority of the members of CNUMUN at a general meeting. The duties of the Secretary are to attend and take minutes and keep attendance at general and executive board meetings, send out reminders to the club about upcoming meetings and events, and to keep club information organized and up to date.

Section 6: Student Life Liaison shall be appointed by the President on an application basis open to all members and approved by a simple majority of the members of CNUMUN at a general meeting. The duties of the Student Life Liaison shall be to attend general and executive board meetings, serve as the liaison between Student Life and CNUMUN, be the representative of the club to Student Life, and serve as the Inter-Club Association representative, assuming all the duties and responsibilities of an ICA representative.

Section 7: Historian shall be appointed by the President on an application basis open to all members and approved by a simple majority of the members of CNUMUN at a general meeting. The duties of the Historian shall be to attend general and executive board meetings, keep record of all the events and programs that CNUMUN hosts and create a scrapbook or some other form of a visual aid (posters, etc.) of club activities.

### **Article III: Advisors**

Section 1: There shall be at least one Faculty Advisor for the club. The Advisor shall meet with the President at least once a month to discuss club business. The role of the Advisor is to advise the club leadership on the club's business and affairs and help the club achieve its goals. The Advisor is welcome and encouraged to attend general and executive board meetings. A vote of no-confidence may be taken for the removal of the Advisor. The members may do so by adhering to the following criteria:

- a. Give a typewritten letter addressing reasons for removal of the advisor signed by at least three (3) CNUMUN members to the President of CNUMUN to be discussed at an emergency executive board meeting.
- b. Present the letter and any other relevant material at the following CNUMUN general meeting.
- c. For at two-thirds majority vote at the general meeting following the meeting that the letter and other relevant material was presented.
- d. A passing vote of no-confidence results in immediate removal of the Faculty advisor.

Section 2: There shall be a Senior Advisor, who will be a senior member of the club to advise leadership of the club in its business and affairs by his experience and knowledge of being a member of the club. The Senior Advisor shall be appointed by the President

of the club, and the President will determine the status of the Senior Advisor from that point forth.

#### **Article IV: Membership and Benefits**

Section 1: Any CNU Student may be a member of the CNUMUN. Anyone who attends at least one meeting per month shall be considered a member of CNUMUN.

Section 2: Only members can use CNUMUN money in attending CNUMUN conferences or any other CNUMUN attends.

Section 3: CNUMUN members have the right to vote, except for the President who only votes in the instance of a tie, propose amendments to the CNUMUN constitution, or any other legislation passed by CNUMUN.

Section 4: Any person who has been a member of CNUMUN for at least one academic year is eligible for life-time membership. A life-time member has the privilege to travel with the club and attend any club events, programs or meetings. Life-time members do not have the right to vote and do not have the privilege to use CNUMUN money.

#### **Article V: Meetings and Events**

Section 1: CNUMUN shall have general meetings at least once a month during the academic year.

Section 2: CNUMUN shall have executive board meetings at least bi-monthly during the academic year.

Section 3: CNUMUN shall host at least one Model United Nations Conference each year open to high school students (and college students, if the club so chooses).

Section 4: CNUMUN shall host at least one event or program per semester for CNU students to promote the club.

#### **Article VI: Elections**

Section 1: There shall be elections for the offices of President and Vice President each year during the first meeting in April for the subsequent academic year.

Section 2: The current President shall run the election, in the case that the current President is running again for either office; the most senior member of the club (other than the President, or Vice President Candidate) shall run the election.

Section 3: All those wishing to run for the office of the President or Vice President shall either submit a letter to the person running the election stating their intention to run, or be

nominated off the floor by a CNUMUN member and seconded by another CNUMUN member (the nomination must be accepted by the nominee).

Section 4: Each person shall have two minutes to speak on why he believes he is best fit for the office. After each person speaks on why they believe they should serve in a particular office, they shall leave the room. Each member is allowed one ballot, which the person running the election is to collect and count. Once the ballots are counted, the candidates are to come back into the room and the winners are announced.

Section 5: The persons elected to the President and Vice President shall not take office until the subsequent academic year. They can put out applications for the other executive board positions though, and appoint members at a general meeting.

### **Article VII: Impeachment and Removal**

Section 1: Any member of the CNUMUN executive board may be removed from office for failing to meet the requirements and/or neglecting the responsibilities of the positions as defined by the Constitution of the CNUMUN

Section 2: All impeachment charges must be brought to the President. If the president is being charged with impeachment then the charges must be brought to the Vice President.

Section 3: All impeachment charges must be typewritten and signed by a member of CNUMUN.

Section 4: All impeachment charges are brought to the members of CNUMUN at the general meeting following the receiving of the charges to be debated and voted on.

Section 5: In order for a member of the CNUMUN executive board to be impeached, there must be a two-thirds majority vote of the CNUMUN members. Upon a passing vote of impeachment, the officer impeached is immediately removed from office.

### **Article VIII: Vacancies**

Section 1: If a vacancy in the office of the President shall occur, then the Vice President shall assume the office of the President.

Section 2: If a vacancy in the office of the Vice President shall occur, then there shall be an election for the office, available to any member of CNUMUN.

Section 3: If there shall be vacancy in any other office of the executive board, the President shall appoint a new officer to fill the vacant position (open to all members of CNUMUN) on an application basis, and approved by a simple majority of members present.

## **Article IX: Amendments and Legislation**

Section 1: Any member of CNUMUN can propose amendments to this Constitution. The amendment must be presented to the club one general meeting prior to the general meeting in which it is to be voted on. Amendments to the constitution require a two-thirds majority of the club members present.

Section 2: Any member of CNUMUN can propose legislation for CNUMUN (bills, by-laws, etc.). Such legislation (excluding amendments) must be passed by a simple majority of club members present at a general meeting.

## **Article X: By-Laws**

Section 1: The Secretary-General shall appoint members of the Secretariat, with confirmation by a simple majority of the members present at a general meeting.

Section 2: The members of the Secretariat shall include, but are not limited to, Director General, Crisis Director, and Under-Secretary General of Hospitality.

**Constitution on File**

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