

# **The University of Massachusetts at Amherst Student Chapter of the Massachusetts Branch of the American Society of Microbiology**

## **Constitution**

### **Article I.**

#### Organization Name

This organization shall be known as The University of Massachusetts - Amherst Student branch of the American Society of Microbiology

### **Article II.**

#### Organizational Goals

The purpose of this organization shall be; (1) foster student involvement in and communication within the Microbiology program at The University of Massachusetts - Amherst, (2) create an environment for student researchers to present their work and engage in scientific discourse, (3) encourage participation in scientific conferences, (4) increase the number of visiting speakers, and (5) promote student participation in local, state and national ASM activities.

### **Article III.**

#### Membership

Membership will be automatic for all graduate students, and open to undergraduates interested in pursuing research in the Microbiology program at the University of Massachusetts – Amherst.

### **Article IV.**

#### Officers

The organization will maintain the offices of the president, secretary and treasurer. All officers will be elected annually in the fall during the second meeting of the semester, by a simple majority in a secret ballot. Officers will serve a term of one year. The executive committee will consist of all officers and the organization's faculty sponsor. Meetings of the executive committee will occur monthly.

The duties of the officers are as follows:

- President: Preside over meetings and make executive decisions based on the wishes of his or her constituents. The president may be overruled by the combined efforts of the secretary and treasurer.
- Secretary: Record the happenings at all meetings and assist in general organization.
- Treasurer: To handle all financial affairs in accordance with the wishes of the executive committee.

If an officer should vacate his or her post, a replacement will be voted upon at the next meeting. An officer may be removed if a simple majority of the branch supports a vote of no confidence.

### **Article V.**

#### Meetings

Meetings will be held once a month at a time determined at the beginning of each academic year. Meetings will be conducted by the president, or in his or her absence, by the secretary, or by the treasurer if other officials are absent. Meetings will consist of the following format:

- Call to Order
- Reading of old minutes
- Treasurer's report
- Miscellaneous business
- New business
- Adjournment

### **Article VI.**

#### Amendments

Amendments to the constitution may be made if submitted in writing, and approved of by a three-fourths majority of the executive committee.