

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE FISHER SCHOOL OF ACCOUNTING COUNCIL
(Adopted Fall 2004, Amended Fall 2014)

ARTICLE I. NAME OF ORGANIZATION

- A. The name of this organization shall be the Fisher School of Accounting Council (FSOAC), otherwise known as Council.

ARTICLE II. PURPOSE STATEMENT

A. To establish and maintain an effective and viable means of communication among the students, faculty, and administration of the Fisher School of Accounting at the University of Florida. To present the views of the students to the faculty and administrative officers of the school. To advance personal development by means of speakers and events. To provide students with opportunities to benefit the community through philanthropic events. To promote diversity with the help of subsidiary organizations. To assist in the advancement of professional education and encourage, originate, and implement projects of interest and value to the students in the school.

- B. Council is a not-for-profit, noncommercial organization.

ARTICLE III. COMPLIANCE STATEMENT

Upon approval by the Department of Student Activities and Involvement, Council shall be a registered student organization at the University of Florida. Council shall comply with all local, state and federal laws, as well as all University of Florida regulations, policies, and procedures. Such compliance includes but is not limited to the University's regulations related to Non-Discrimination, Sexual Harassment (including sexual misconduct, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking), Hazing, Commercial Activity, and Student Leader Eligibility.

ARTICLE IV. UNIVERSITY REGULATIONS

Section A. Non-Discrimination

Council agrees that it will not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, religion, age, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, marital status, national origin, political opinions or affiliations, genetic information and veteran status as protected under the Vietnam Era Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act.

Section B. Sexual Harassment

Council agrees that it will not engage in any activity that is unwelcome conduct of sexual nature that creates a hostile environment.

Section C. Hazing

Council agrees that it will not initiate, support, or encourage any events or situations that recklessly, by design, or intentionally endanger the mental or physical health or safety of a student for any purpose including but not limited to initiation or admission into or affiliation with any student group or organization.

Section D. Responsibility to Report

If this organization becomes aware of any such conduct described in this article, Council will report it immediately to Student Activities and Involvement, the Director of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution, or the University's Title IX Coordinator.

ARTICLE V: MEMBERSHIP

A. Membership in this organization is open to all enrolled students at the University of Florida. Non-enrolled students, spouses, faculty, and staff may be associate members; however, they may not vote or hold office. All members and associate members are free to leave and disassociate without fear of retribution, retaliation, or harassment.

ARTICLE VI: OFFICERS

A. The officers shall be President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, Secretary, Public Relations Director, Historian, and Communications Director. These officers will compose the Executive Board. These officers shall perform the duties prescribed by the Constitution. No one may hold more than one office at a time, nor may they hold the same position for more than two consecutive *terms*. The term for *President and Treasurer shall be two semesters, and the term for the remaining officers is one semester*. To serve for two consecutive *terms* an office must be reelected. Officers shall be elected at the last general body meeting of the fall and spring semesters where they are to be voted upon by active members of the Council. Each Executive Board member is charged with recording a description of his or her position's duties for the purpose of providing guidance to future officers.

B. The President serves for two semesters and shall be the official representative and spokesperson of the Council and the Executive Board. The President coordinates and oversees all activities of the Council, oversees all other officers, serves as primary contact for the student organization advisor, signs all Student Activity Requisitions (SARS), and plans and approves the Council budget. These duties may be delegated, but the President shall insure that these duties are adequately fulfilled. The President must be elected from amongst the other executive board members and if that is not possible, the President elect must be approved by the student organization advisor. The President must also maintain active relations with the Board of College Councils Executive Board.

C. The Vice-President serves for one semester and represents the Council when the President is unable to, coordinates meetings and roundtable discussion panels, plans at least three philanthropy events each semester, and determines the destination and activities of the spring and fall trip.

D. The Treasurer serves for two semesters and submits all Student Activity Requisition forms, according to the rules and regulations of Student Government Finance, submits the annual budget to the Board of College Councils each spring term, and maintains and reconciles account balances with Student Government Finance statements. During the training of new officers, the Treasurer will make sure to obtain all money from the previous Treasurer before the end of the current semester. The Treasurer must maintain active relations with the Board of College Councils Executive Board.

E. The Assistant Treasurer serves for one semester and will oversee all fundraising for Council, including ordering fundraising items and supplies for the executive board and council. During the training of new officers, the Assistant Treasurer will make sure to obtain all inventory from the previous Assistant Treasurer before the end of the current semester. The Assistant Treasurer must maintain active relations with the Board of College Councils Executive Board.

F. The Secretary serves for one semester and records attendance at all events, sends emails regarding all activities to the list serve, puts together the career fair binder and CD every semester to give to potential employers, keeps track of the point system and member standing, and writes thank you notes on behalf of the Council. The Secretary must keep an accurate count of member's standing and each member must have the opportunity to check their standing for the semester prior to the release of the Career Fair Binder.

G. The Public Relations Director serves for one semester and promotes Council activities and maintains the bulletin board. The Public Relations Officer also advertises all Council events, submit announcements to the FSOA list serve, and promote relationships with neighboring businesses in the Gainesville community.

H. The Historian serves for one semester and pictorially documents Council meetings and events. The Historian also maintains the glass case outside Gerson hall including updating the calendar, The Historian is responsible for planning the receptions for each of the general meetings and oversees any slide show presentations needed for general meetings and is responsible for an Annual Report per semester documenting all of FSOAC's activities for the semester.

I. The Communications Director serves for one semester and acts as a liaison between FSOAC and the FSOA Administration, updating them with relevant announcements and events. The Communications Director creates and updates an FSOAC calendar of events and monitors the FSOA website, making updates when appropriate. The Communications Director is in charge of submitting room reservation forms for all FSOAC meetings and events. The Communications Director coordinates FSOAC intramural sports teams for the semester. The Communications Director also has the responsibility of regulating the stock market game played each semester. He/she will keep an accurate record of the database of historical trends.

J. A vacancy exists if an Executive Board member resigns or is removed. Resignation or removal from office does not constitute removal from membership.

K. An Executive Board member may resign by notifying the President or Vice-President in writing (email is acceptable). The resignation shall take effect at the time indicated by the resigning officer.

L. Upon accumulation of two unexcused absences from Council meetings and/or mandatory functions, as designated by the Executive Board, in an academic semester, an officer shall be placed on probation. The officer shall be notified immediately in writing by the Executive Board of the probation. Upon being notified, the officer has the right to appeal to the Executive Board in a hearing called by the Executive Board. A unanimous vote from the Executive Board is required for an officer to be removed. The Executive Board shall notify the officer following the ruling. If no appeal is received as herein provided, or if the appeal is disapproved, the officer shall have resigned by non-attendance. Any additional unexcused absences during the semester, following reinstatement by appeal, shall constitute resignation by non-attendance. The presiding officer shall notify the Council of any actions taken under this Section.

M. To receive an excused absence, an officer must notify the President or Vice-President prior to the meeting or function, with a reason for absence. The Executive Board shall rule on validity.

N. An officer may also be placed on probation for failure to perform duties, determined by the President or Vice-President. Once an officer is placed on probation, the guidelines set forth in Article VII, Section C shall be followed.

O. If, during his/her term, the office of the President becomes vacant, the Vice-President shall assume the duties of the President. Then a replacement election for the office of Vice-President shall be held at the next general meeting. If, during his/her term, the office of the Treasurer becomes vacant, the Assistant Treasurer shall assume the duties of the Treasurer. Then a replacement election for the office of Assistant Treasurer shall be held at the next general meeting. If any Executive Board position, other than the President and Treasurer, becomes vacant, the position will be temporarily filled by an appointment of the Executive Board. A replacement election will take place at the next general meeting. If an office is filled by a replacement election, then the term for the newly elected officer expires at the end of the semester.

P. Appointment to fill a vacancy shall not disqualify the appointee from being eligible for election to that or any other office.

ARTICLE VII: ELECTIONS

A. The officers shall be elected in the following order: President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, Secretary, Public Relations Director, Historian, and Communications Director.

B. The officers shall be elected at the last meeting of the fall and spring semesters, which will be during December and April, respectively.

C. The following guidelines shall be applied during the election meeting:

1. Nominations will be taken.
2. All nominees shall have the right to speak to the Council.
3. Any member may speak on behalf of a nominee.
4. All officers shall be elected by secret ballot. At least two persons shall count and verify the ballots. The current executive board shall determine circumstances that allow the vote to be made public.
5. New officers shall be notified during the meeting in which they are elected.
6. Only Gold, Silver, and Bronze members may be eligible to run for an executive board position. The current executive board shall determine circumstances that may allow other active members to run for an executive board position if necessary.
7. Only voting members shall be allowed to vote in elections.
8. All nominees shall leave the room for the casting of votes.
9. The candidate with the simple majority of the votes wins the election.
10. If a run-off is required it will be completed at this time with a vote by the current executive board.

ARTICLE VIII: STUDENT ORGANIZATION ADVISOR

A. The Associate / Assistant Director shall serve as, or appoint, the student organization advisor.

B. The student organization advisor shall encourage the development of high fraternal and scholastic standards. He/she shall assist the Council in planning and carrying out its campus projects and serves as a personal advisor and a counselor on Council matters at all times.

C. If the current student organization advisor can no longer serve in his position, he may appoint a Fisher School faculty member as his replacement. The advisor shall serve indefinitely until a new one is required.

ARTICLE IX: FINANCES

A. Any funds which shall accrue to the Council from allocations approved by the Student Senate or any other source shall be expended for and in the interest of the students of the Fisher School of Accounting as determined by the Executive Board.

B. All funds shall be kept in an account established in accordance with the University and Student Government regulations.

C. Council shall allocate a portion of its budgeted funds to subsidiary accounting organizations. These funds only include allotments from Student Government and do not include outside revenue (money raised from fundraising or donations). Student organizations can only receive student body funds if they are registered with the University Of Florida Office Of Student Activities, have open membership, do not charge dues, and adhere to Student Body Laws.

D. Council does not collect dues.

ARTICLE X: DISSOLUTION OF ORGANIZATION

A. In the event that this organization dissolves, all monies left in the treasury or Council possessions, including inventory, will be donated to the Fisher School of Accounting following the settlement of outstanding debts and claims.

ARTICLE XI: ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP

A. A voting member shall be any registered student who has been admitted to the Fisher School of Accounting, is in good standing with the University of Florida, and who desires to participate in the activities and affairs of the Council and is considered an active member by the Council standards. A voting member shall have the right to serve on committees, make motions and to vote on questions put before the council.

B. A non-voting member shall be any registered student in good standing with the University of Florida, and who desires to participate in the activities and affairs of the Council. A non-voting member has the right to serve on committees, but shall not have the right to make motions or to vote on questions put before the Council.

C. In order to encourage more student participation, special recognition will be provided to those members who are most involved with the Council. These members will be awarded the titles of Gold, Silver, or Bronze members depending on their level of involvement. The method used to determine each title must be based upon objective criteria. The Executive Board shall establish these requirements before the first general meeting of the semester.

ARTICLE XII: MEETINGS

A. General Meetings shall be held on a regular basis, starting within the first three weeks of the academic semester. Executive Board meetings shall be held regularly and all officers are required to attend. Special meetings may be called by the Executive Board and Committee Chairs.

B. Every voting and non-voting member shall have the right to participate in all meetings according to the rules of conduct in effect. Under no circumstances may any person be denied floor privileges to speak at a meeting. The presiding officer shall mandate the time spent on the floor.

C. Notice of all meetings shall be posted at least two class days prior to each meeting, except special meetings, which require at least one class day notice.

D. All business conducted by the Council shall be acted upon by the voting membership. Any business may be presented to the Council at the discretion of the presiding officer.

ARTICLE XIII: COMMITTEES

A. Committee standing, special or temporary may be created as necessary by the Council or the Executive Board. Each committee shall be overseen by an Executive Board officer, and this officer may choose to appoint a committee chair(s). Committee chairs must be active members of the Council. Each Executive Board shall decide at the first officer meeting which committees are necessary and distribute the responsibility for those committees to the officer position most appropriate.

B. Committee membership shall be on a voluntary basis, but the President shall be an ex-officio member of all committees.

ARTICLE XIV: RULES AND REGULATIONS

A. All members will adhere to the Student Handbook and the Student Guide and other laws, rules, and regulations governing the University of Florida and its students.

ARTICLE XV: AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION

A. This Constitution shall be re-evaluated and revised by the executive board each academic year as needed prior to the end of spring semester. Any member of the board may suggest an amendment during this process, and all accompanying changes shall be ratified in the process described below. This Constitution shall take effect immediately upon ratification by two-thirds of the voting membership in attendance. It shall be filed with the Office of Student Activities and with the student organization advisor.