

**Constitution**  
**The Graduate Student Organization**  
**UNC Eshelman School of Pharmacy**

Adopted: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of President and Date)

Article I – Name

Graduate Student Organization of UNC Eshelman School of Pharmacy

Article II – Affiliations

Section I: University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill and UNC Eshelman School of Pharmacy and its affiliates

Section II: The organization abides with all the rules and regulations of the University and UNC Eshelman School of Pharmacy

Article III – Purpose and Objectives

The purpose of the Graduate Student Organization is to promote the varied interests of the graduate students of UNC Eshelman School of Pharmacy. The objectives of this organization include (1) Improving and sustaining the quality and reputation of graduate education at the School of Pharmacy; (2) Facilitating rapport among graduate students in the various divisions of the School of Pharmacy; (3) Encouraging interaction between graduate and professional students; (4) Facilitating communication between graduate students, faculty, and administration of the University of North Carolina; (5) Discouraging, revealing and eliminating discrimination against graduate students based on sex, race, religion, national origin, age, disability, or sexual orientation; (6) Encouraging participation in University, state, and national graduate student and scientific organizations (7) Promoting professional development of each student. The organization also plans social and community service events to promote interaction among students, faculty and other members of the community. These activities allow graduate students to relax, foster relationships with peers and broaden their interactions beyond what is provided in an academic environment.

Article IV – Membership and Participation

Section 1: Membership in the Graduate Student Organization is extended to all graduate students in the UNC Eshelman School of Pharmacy including students whose primary affiliation is outside the School (e.g. Public Health, Pharmacology, Toxicology, etc.) but whose major advisor is a faculty member of the School of Pharmacy.

Section 2: There are a number of rights and privileges that are possessed by each member of the organization. Each member has the right to vote on all non-executive decisions made by the organization. Each member has the right to present an individual opinion or grievance at any time. Each member will receive regular updates on news and events of interest to graduate students. The organization provides a unified voice for suggestions and grievances to faculty and administration. Each member is encouraged to participate in scheduled social activities.

## Article V – Advisor

Faculty Advisor: The faculty advisor to the Organization must be a current graduate faculty member of the UNC Eshelman School of Pharmacy actively involved in graduate student education through research and teaching. The function and duties of the Faculty Advisor are to provide a source of guidance, support, and insight as related to graduate student issues. The faculty advisor will not be expected or encouraged to mediate interaction between faculty/administration and graduate students.

## Article VI – Coach/Manager

No coach/manager

## Article VII – Meetings

Section 1: Monthly meetings will be held.

Section 2: The agenda, location and time for the meeting will be announced through e-mail at least one week prior to the meeting. E-mail reminders are also sent a few days before the meeting. Lunch will be provided at every meeting.

Section 3: More than half of the members attend our monthly meetings (at least 50-70%).

## Article VIII – Executive Board

The Executive Board is comprised of the following officers:

President: Elected from the general membership of the Organization, the chair will be responsible for presiding over all meetings as well as serve as the official representative of the Organization to the faculty/administration of the University and the UNC Eshelman School of Pharmacy. The President is required to attend and to represent the student body at monthly Graduate Executive Committee meetings.

Co-Chairs: Each Division of the School of Pharmacy will elect a divisional chair (Co-Chair) to sit on the Executive Board. These Co-Chairs will be responsible for representing their respective divisions at Executive Meetings.

Secretary: Elected from the general membership of the Organization, the Secretary will be responsible for the regular communication with the membership as well as maintaining a list of participating/active members, recording of minutes from all scheduled meetings, and administration of all voting activities.

Treasurer: Elected from the general membership of the Organization, the Treasurer will be responsible for obtaining funds for Organization activities as well as maintaining an accurate record of all financial transactions.

Faculty Advisor: The faculty advisor to the Organization must be a current graduate faculty member of the UNC Eshelman School of Pharmacy actively involved in graduate student education through research and teaching. The function and duties of the Faculty Advisor are to provide a source of guidance, support, and insight as related to graduate student issues. The faculty advisor will not be expected or encouraged to mediate interaction between faculty/administration and graduate students.

#### Article VIII – Elections

Section 1: All officers except the Faculty Advisor are elected each year. The Faculty Advisor is selected by majority of votes from the students. The President thereafter approaches the Faculty member and requests his/her approval to be Faculty Advisor to GSO. (1)All officers serve one year term. There is no limit to the number of times a person may run in office.

Section 2: We announce a request for nominations via e-mails and at our meeting in May. The request for nomination is open for 2-3 weeks.

Section 3: Nominees present their intentions, goals and reasons for running office. Elections are held on the fourth week.

Section 4: In case of a runoff, there will be a re-election to choose among the remaining candidates.

#### Article X – Committees/Division

We have no committees.

#### Article XII – Ratification

The Constitution will be approved by a majority of vote from the elected officers.

#### Article XIII – Amendments

Amendments to the Constitution will be presented by any member of the organization and ratified by a majority vote from the elected officers.

#### Article XIV – By-laws

The inclusion of any rules and regulations specific to the organization will be approved by the elected officers and the Graduate Executive Committee.

#### Article XV – Parliamentary Procedures

Issues, event details and future plans are announced in the agenda e-mailed a week before our monthly meetings. All items on the agenda are discussed at the meeting. All students are encouraged to state any concern or question. The President thereafter writes an e-mail that summarizes in detail what was discussed at the meeting. Students are always encouraged to respond via e-mail or meet with any officers. The decision to proceed is resolved by a majority

of vote from the students. The President then communicates the result of the meeting to the Graduate Executive Committee for final approval.

**Vision and Growth Statement**  
**The Graduate Student Organization of**  
**UNC Eshelman School of Pharmacy**

Our mission is to enhance the overall quality of education, professional development and social life of graduate students at the UNC Eshelman School of Pharmacy. This mission is accomplished by working closely with UNC Eshelman School of Pharmacy and the Graduate Executive Committee in providing resources, opportunities and excellent learning atmosphere for all graduate students.

The purpose of the Graduate Student Organization is to promote the interests of the graduate students of UNC Eshelman School of Pharmacy. The objectives of this organization include (1) Improving and sustaining the quality and reputation of graduate education at the School of Pharmacy; (2) Facilitating rapport among graduate students in the various divisions of the School of Pharmacy; (3) Encouraging interaction between graduate and professional students; (4) Facilitating communication between graduate students, faculty, and administration of the University of North Carolina; (5) Discouraging, revealing and eliminating discrimination against graduate students based on sex, race, religion, national origin, age, disability, or sexual orientation; (6) Encouraging participation in University, state, and national graduate student and scientific organizations; (7) Organizing activities aimed to promote professional development of graduate students. The organization plans social and community service events to encourage interaction among students, faculty and other members of the community. These activities allow graduate students to relax, foster relationships with peers and broaden their interactions beyond what is provided in an academic environment.

There are a number of rights and privileges that are possessed by each member of the organization. Each member has the right to vote on all non-executive decisions made by the organization. Each member has the right to present an individual opinion or grievance at any time. Each member will receive regular updates on news and events of interest to graduate students. The organization provides a unified voice for suggestions and grievances to faculty and administration. Each member is encouraged to participate in scheduled social activities.

The Graduate Student Organization is unique because its primary goal is to promote the interests of graduate students in the UNC Eshelman School of Pharmacy. The president of GSO attends monthly meetings with the Graduate Executive Committee (GEC) and voices any concerns the students have regarding courses, program development, admission process and other non-academic issues. The President communicates all relevant issues to the student body and gives feedback to the committee. By being a liaison between students and faculty, the GSO helps improve the quality of education and overall experience of students in the school. The active participation of GSO in all academic and non-academic policies in the School will benefit the students because it ensures that their ideas and thoughts on the matter are heard by the executive committee.

The GSO sponsors a speaker every year. The speaker gives a research seminar and meets the students for lunch afterwards. This allows students to interact with a successful researcher and obtain some helpful advice on how to succeed beyond graduate school. The GSO is also responsible for nominating a student every year for the GlaxoSmithKline fellowship. The recipient of the fellowship receives money to partially cover his/her stipend. On top of being committed to improve the educational experience of all students, the GSO also provides opportunities for students to engage in social and community service events throughout the year. The students will benefit in the increased opportunity to interact with other students, faculty and other members of the community because it allows them to build new relationships and strengthened existing ones. The GSO and University of North Carolina share similar goals and are strongly committed in providing students with excellent education and enhanced quality of life.

Our monthly lunch meetings are held in school where we discuss relevant issues and plan our community and social events. We are able to organize social events such as picnics, happy hours and game nights from the funds we receive from the school and the money we raise every year from our fund-raising endeavors. Our community service events such as pizza sales to raise money for charity and food/backpack drives are done throughout the year and are in collaboration with the professional students. We plan to organize social and community service events that will expand beyond the walls of the UNC Eshelman School of Pharmacy. We need more resources in order to do this. We are currently working on organizing a Spring Social Dance. We want to invite all graduate and professional students *in the university*. This will be a great opportunity for students to meet new friends and socialize with their peer. Being able to use university resources will allow us to expand the scope of our projects and invite more students in the events we organize.

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In order to be recognized as an active member of the Graduate Student Organization, eligible members must accept membership into the organization. Any student not wishing to participate in the organization will have the opportunity to decline membership; however, any eligible student may accept membership into the Organization at any time by request to the Executive Board. Membership may not be denied to any graduate student so requesting.

Since its inception the Graduate Student Organization has grown substantially. There are over a hundred graduate students that are GSO members. Our membership, for the most part, is based on number of students enrolled to the UNC Eshelman School of Pharmacy. We project that our membership will expand as the admission to the graduate school expands. We have recently added a new division within the school. The school is able to enroll more students by making sure that we have exceptional faculty and substantial intramural and extramural funding for the next five years. We are happy to inform you that we have a 100% retention rate and plan to maintain all members for the next five years.

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We hold elections every year. All newly elected officers communicate to previous officers before they hold office and throughout their stay in office. This ensures that newly elected officers have the support they need as they take on their tasks. All documents are transferred from the previous officer to the next.