GMU DECA (George mason university’s distributive clubs of America)

Drafted on: 8/22/2023

# Article One NAME of Organization

* The full name of the organization shall be George Mason University’s Distributive Education Clubs of America. The acronym will be used a majority of the time in reference to this organization: GMU DECA.

# Article Two Purpose of Organization

* The purpose of this organization is to prepare emerging business leaders and entrepreneurs for careers in various business functions through real-life competitive business simulations and events. We aim to prepare business students at the collegiate level to be academically prepared, community oriented, professionally responsible, and experienced leaders.

# Article Three Membership

* Membership in this organization will not be restricted on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, marital status, pregnancy status or genetic information**.**
* All GMU students are qualified for membership. Students pursuing a academic journey related to a business disciple are preferred.
* All active members must be currently enrolled GMU students with a minimum academic achievement record defined as a cumulative grade point average of at least a 2.0.
* The types of membership available are: **active** (currently enrolled GMU students who attend meetings/functions and pay dues if applicable); ***associate*** (may include members of faculty/staff, community members or students from other schools); ***honorary*** (alumni or community members).
* To be considered an active member, a member must attend meetings, events and participate in competitions (if qualified). To be considered an associate member, members may attend meetings and events but not compete in competitions. To be an honorary member, a member must be an alumni of the organization.
* Active members and associate members may vote on organization related matters (official or not) including amendments, elections, and other motions brought forth in meetings. Only active members may vote on competition-related matters.
* Membership privileges may be revoked after repeated offenses and inappropriate conduct.

## Article Four Officers

* President: Administrative duties, supervising events, working closely with executive board, creating event ideas and managing competition information/registration
* Vice President: Supporting all of the duties of the President
* Treasurer: Keeping track of financial information for dues and registration finances
* Secretary: Sending emails, keeping a track of meeting minutes, organizing information
* Officers must maintain a 2.0 grade point average to qualify for the executive board.
* The length of an officer's term is primarily one academic year starting from Fall, unless our democratic voting system leads to a different outcome after serving one year.
* An officer may be removed from their duties if they fail to repeatedly complete their duties, have inefficient communication with other board members, or have inappropriate conduct.

## Article Five Elections

* Elections will take place in April near the end of the spring semester.
* The nominating procedure will last for 2 weeks. All members are allowed to submit nominations. Nominations will be submitted through a Google Form.
* Nominees will fill out the board application form and present their qualifications through a speech
* A secret ballot is the method that will be used for voting and the President and Vice President will be responsible for tallying votes.
* For transitioning of current and new officers there will be a short shadow period in which new officers are familiarized with operating procedures and necessary paperwork

Article Six **Impeachment or Resignation**

* Should an elected officer fail to perform the responsibilities or abuse the privileges of their elected position, the officer shall be subject to impeachment and removal from their office.
* The procedures for removing an individual from their official position and for an individual wishing to resign from their position is by having a meeting with the individual, President, Vice President and providing a written statement of explanation. They will be removed from the shared board drive and Mason360.
* The executive board will announce the search for appointing or electing a new officer to a position that has been vacated should a current officer resign from their elected or appointed position or should a current officer be impeached or removed from their position. They will consider current active members and publicize the need for an interim officer.

## Article Seven Meetings

* The group will meet monthly.
* The president and vice president preside, lead, and plan the meeting
* The executive board will have separate meetings once a month before the group meeting
* Quorum is a simple majority of the active membership plus one officer
* The parliamentary rules of order that will be used is the latest edition of Robert’s Rules of Order

Article Eight **Finance**

* The amount of dues and the method of collection will be decided by a majority vote and discussion amongst the executive officers and consideration of members opinions. This discussion will occur annually prior to the fall semester.

Article Nine **Amendments**

* To propose an amendment to the constitution, members must have a written proposal explaining the specific wording to insert into the constitution and an explanation for why it is being proposed. To approve an amendment, a majority vote and discussion will be conducted with active members, associate members, and the executive board members.
* Student Involvement must review all amendments in the same manner as a completely new constitution.

Article Ten **Ratification**

* This constitution will be ratified every year by the incoming President and executive board.
* This constitution shall become effective upon approval by a ¾ vote of the membership, and a Student Involvement staff member.

Constitution Ratified on: 8/22/2023