

Daniel Hale Williams Pre-Health Honor Society Constitution
At the University of Virginia

PREAMBLE

The University of Virginia has been consistently ranked as one of the top ten institutions with the highest matriculation of African-American Students to medical school. The Daniel Hale Williams (DHW) Pre-Health Honor Society, first established at the University of Virginia in 1986, seeks to maintain UVA's distinction as one of the top ten med-school preps by promoting scholastic achievement through academic support. The Daniel Hale-Williams does hereby dedicate itself to the development of intensive programs for increasing Black and other ethnic minority participation in the field of medicine.

ARTICLE I: NAME & TYPE

This organization shall be called The Daniel Hale Williams Pre-Health Honor Society at the University of Virginia, a non-profit student run organization, hereafter referred to as The Chapter at UVA. The Chapter at UVA is a closed society.

ARTICLE II: OBJECTIVES

Section I: The primary objective of this society is to increase the number of culturally capable and sensitive black and other ethnic minority physicians, by furthering their academic and clinical success as pre-health students through:

1. Recruitment
2. Academic counseling and support
3. Curriculum guidance
4. Peer support
5. Post-graduate assistance

Section II: The purpose of this organization shall be:

1. To develop and maintain the interest of minority students in health-related fields.
2. To promote scholastic achievement through academic support.

Section III: The objectives of this organization shall be:

1. To inform students of opportunities in special programs and research, etc.
2. To discuss academic requirements of health-related schools.
3. To educate students of the different career and curriculum options available to them.
4. To introduce students to information about various medical schools.
5. To inform students about possible undergraduate majors and how they fit into the pre-health curriculum.
6. To expose students to resources available at the University of Virginia.

ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP

Section I: Non-Discrimination Language

Daniel Hale Williams Pre-Health Society does not restrict its membership, programs, or activities on the basis of age, color, disability, gender identity, marital status, national or ethnic origin, political affiliation, race, religion, sex (including pregnancy), sexual orientation, veteran status, and family and genetic information.

Section II: Membership Qualifications

Membership shall be open to students interested in medicine, another health-related field, and to students with concerns about the problems encountered by minorities in these areas. Students are defined as: undergraduate or graduate, currently enrolled as a student at the University of Virginia, may become a member in good standing of the Chapter at UVA.

Section III: Dues

An annual membership fee of ten dollars or a semester membership fee of seven dollars is due to the Assistant Treasurer. The Executive Board may change the amount collected in dues at the beginning of each academic year. The deadline for payment of dues shall be on or before the third meeting of the semester. After such time, unpaid members will become inactive. Inactive members can reactivate membership and non-members can gain membership by paying dues plus a penalty fee of two dollars.

ARTICLE IV: ORGANIZATION

Section I: Structure

1. Elected Executive Officers
2. Appointed Executive Officers
3. Standing Committees
4. General Body

Section II: Officers

1. Elected Executive Officers
 1. The President
 2. Vice President of Administration
 3. Vice President of Programs
 4. Treasurer
 5. Secretary
2. Appointed Executive Officers
 1. Director of Outreach
 2. Director of Public Relations
 3. Historian
 4. BPC/SNMA Liaison
 5. Director of Internal Affairs
3. Standing Committees
 1. Data Analysis
 2. Alumni Outreach
 3. Tutoring
 4. Professional Outreach

5. Social Planning

Section III: Elections and Appointments

1. Only active members can run for an office position.
2. All officers shall be elected by active body members with regard to majority rule.
3. The election process shall take place at least one month prior to the end of spring classes.
4. Elections shall consist of speeches no longer than 5 minutes in length from each candidate.
 1. A question-and-answer period will follow. Each individual running for that position shall answer questions taken from the body.
5. The Vice President of Administration and the Secretary shall count the votes; if either/both are running for an office position, then one or two persons shall be appointed by The President.
6. Voting for a position must only commence after all candidates for a particular position have presented their speech and answered any follow-up questions.
7. In the event that an office is not filled during elections, The President shall appoint the officers. The decision of The President is subject to the approval of the entire Executive Board.
8. It will be the responsibility of the outgoing officers to duly induct the incoming officers.
 1. Outgoing officers must meet with the incoming officers at least once.
 2. An official transition report must be completed in the fall semester by the outgoing officer and sent to the incoming executive position.
 1. Transition report must be approved by The President.

Section IV: Terms of Office

1. A single term is from the time the CIO is renewed until renewal the following year.
2. There shall be no term limits for any executive office.
3. Standing Committees exist until the assigned task is completed, in which case, the committee is officially disbanded by The President.

Section V: Governing Rules

The executive board with regards to majority rule may impeach any officer. Impeachment procedures shall be held as follows:

1. Any officer with two consecutive unexcused absences from either the body meetings or executive board meetings will be warned about their absence by the VPA.
2. After the third consecutive unexcused absence the officer is no longer in office. The impeachment process will proceed:
 1. Should a vacancy occur in the office of The President, the VPA shall fill the remainder of the vacated term. Should a vacancy occur in any other office, the vacancy shall be filled by appointment of The President and approved by a two-thirds vote by the Executive Board.
3. Any officer who fails to do his job properly (i.e. within the definition outlined in the by-laws) will be subject to a hearing. The Executive Board will determine if the hearing is justified.
4. The hearing shall take place in front of the Executive Board.
 1. After the hearing, the Executive Board may impeach an officer by two-thirds majority vote by the Executive Board members.
 2. The record shall indicate who voted and the outcome, but not the decision of each officer.
 3. If the officer fails to report to their hearing, impeachment procedures will proceed.

ARTICLE V: MEETINGS

Section I: Executive Meetings

1. Executive Board Meetings shall be conducted by The President and shall:
 1. Serve as a vehicle to incorporate business and professional growth.
 2. Discuss all business pertinent to the operations of the Chapter at UVA.
 3. Meet every other week
 4. Include every executive officer and a leader from a standing committee if found to be necessary by The President.

Section II: General Body Meetings

1. Chapter at UVA general body meetings shall be held every other week.
2. The President shall conduct all meetings or delegate power to the VPA and VPP
3. The Treasurer shall give a financial report once every other meeting.
4. After taking care of administrative matters, the meeting shall proceed.
5. The President shall close the meeting.
6. The Executive Board has the right to change the date of such meetings.
7. The Executive Board shall meet every other week.

ARTICLE VI: AMENDMENTS

The Chapter at UVA reserves the right to make amendments to this constitution and bylaws and these amendments shall be ratified by 2/3 vote of the Executive Board.

1. The Executive Board will review the Constitution and consider revisions at least once every 3 years.
2. The Executive Board must ratify the amendments by a 3/4 vote.
3. The General Body may submit amendments to the Executive Board to be voted on.
4. Only the Executive Board may vote to ratify an amendment, but all amendments that are submitted must be voted on.

The Constitution was revised and passed May 1, 2002 by the Executive Committee.
The Constitution was revised and passed May 5, 2009 by the Executive Committee.
The Constitution was revised and passed April 6, 2011 by the Executive Board.
The Constitution was revised by The President Ana Torres and passed by the Executive Board on May 11, 2018.

ARTICLE VII: ROLE OF ADVISOR

The official Daniel Hale Williams Pre-Health Honor Society faculty advisor shall be a pre-health advisor, ideally in the Office of African American Affairs. The President and the faculty advisor will meet a minimum of twice a month to discuss the progression of the society. However, the involvement of the faculty advisor shall be decided by The President at the beginning of the academic year.