

## **BY-LAWS FOR THE ORGANIZATION OF PSYCHOLOGY STUDENTS**

### **Article I: Name**

The name of this organization shall be the ORGANIZATION OF PSYCHOLOGY STUDENTS, herein after referred to as "OPS."

### **Article II: Purpose**

The purpose of this organization shall be:

- \*to satisfy the need for cooperation and open participation of students in the planning and implementation of the graduate level psychology curriculum at the Ferkauf Graduate School of Psychology, hereinafter referred to as "Ferkauf;"
- \*to provide Ferkauf students with information relevant to their academic and professional careers;
- \*to facilitate communication between students and administration/faculty as well as student organizations and alumni by acting as a liaison between the groups;
- \*to improve the quality of student life at Ferkauf;
- \*to offer seminars, workshops, professional activities and the like for students at Ferkauf on various topics of interest;
- \*to provide funding for research at Ferkauf;

Article IV: Section 3. Representation

The Executive Board shall be elected representatively amongst the various Ferkauf graduate programs. Each program shall elect representative(s) from its student body as follows:

- \*School Clinical Child Program- one representative elected in even numbered years
- \*School Clinical Child Program- one representative elected in odd numbered years
- \*Clinical Health Program- one representative elected in odd numbered years
- \*Clinical Program - one representative elected in even numbered years
- \*Clinical Program - one representative elected in odd numbered years
- \*Developmental Program - one representative elected in even number years
- \*Masters Program- one representative elected every year

Article IV: Section 4. Notice

The Executive Board shall post notice of the nomination and election dates beginning no later than the third week of October. Such notice shall be posted on the OPS bulletin board located in the student lounge and in other conspicuous areas throughout the Ferkauf building.

Article IV: Section 5. Nomination and Election Dates

Nominations for each Executive Board position shall be submitted no later than the first week of November. The election of the Executive Board shall be held during the third week of November each and every academic year.

Article IV: Section 6. Eligibility

Any OPS member in good standing shall be eligible to place his or her name in nomination for election or reelection to the Board. A member may nominate themselves, may be nominated by any other OPS member, or may be nominated by the faculty. Nominees shall submit a one page summary of their eligibility and goals as an OPS board member upon nomination.

Article IV: Section 7. Election

1. At the close of nominations, the OPS Board shall prepare a ballot containing the names of each individual nominated for each of the representative positions. On or before the Monday of the third week of November, one ballot for each member of OPS belonging to the applicable program shall be placed in each member's mailbox located in the student lounge.

2. A secure location for the return of the ballots shall be designated. Students shall be permitted to place their votes by ballots at the designated location.





The fiscal year for OPS and the Executive Board shall commence on September 1 and end on August 31 of each year.

Article IV: Section 14. General Duties

\*Two Board members shall attend each general faculty meeting as invited by the Dean, in order to inform the faculty about student issues and activities. They shall also report back to the OPS board and to the OPS members at open meetings significant faculty activities;

\*at least once per semester while school is in progress, the entire OPS board shall collectively meet with the Dean of Ferkauf in order to inform him or her about student issues and activities;

\*each member of the Board shall be responsible for chairing at least one committee or holding office on the Board and facilitating at least one other project event or task undertaken by OPS;

3. In the event of the removal of a member of the Board, the compensation to that member and the new member filling the vacancy shall be distributed pro rata.

### **Article V: Removal of Board Members**

#### Article V: Section 1. Grounds for Removal

A member may be removed from the Board for conduct that damages the efficacy, credibility or reputation of OPS or the Executive Board. This conduct includes but is not limited to:

- \*failure to attend more than four scheduled board meetings during the course of one year of office, including the summer if applicable;
- \*failure to fulfill the duties of the office as is contained in the bylaws;
- \*disseminating confidential information;
- \*any other conduct that is unprofessional or unethical;
- \*loss of academic standing.

#### Article V: Section 2. Procedure for Removal

The procedure for removal shall proceed as follows:

1. three members of the executive board must join together to submit to the Board a detailed written statement specifying the grounds for seeking removal;
2. a copy of the written statement shall be provided to the member whose removal is being sought. That member shall have one-week in which to respond to the written statement raised against him or her;
3. copies of the written statement and the response shall be distributed to all members of the Board prior to the next scheduled meeting;
4. at the next scheduled meeting this issue shall take precedence over all other matters;
5. a hearing shall be held in which each party shall be permitted the opportunity to fully present its case;
6. at the close of all arguments the remaining Board members shall take a vote outside the presence of the accused Board member;
7. a Board member may be removed from the board only upon a unanimous vote of the remaining Board members;
8. in the event of a unanimous vote, removal of the accused Board member shall be effective immediately.

### **Article VI: Membership Meetings**

#### Article VI: Section 1: General Meetings

General meetings of OPS shall be held at least one time in the Fall Semester and one time per academic year. Meetings are open to all members of OPS. Attendance by faculty and administrative staff shall be by invitation only.

**Article VI: Section 2: Notice**

At least one week prior to the date of the scheduled general meeting the executive board shall post notice of the meeting on its bulletin board in the student lounge and conspicuously throughout the Ferkauf building.

**Article VI: Section 3. Meeting**

At each general meeting the Co- Chairperson of the executive Board or his or her designee shall give a report of OPS activities. All OPS business requiring the consent of the membership shall take place at this meeting

**Article VI: Section 4. Special Meetings**

Special meetings of the organization shall be held upon petition signed by at least ten percent (10%) of the membership. Such special meeting shall be held within three weeks of the submission of the petition.

**Article VII: Amendments**

**Article VII: Section 1:**

These by-laws shall be amended by a unanimous vote of the OPS Board at any Board meeting.

**Article VII: Section 2: Notice**

Students of each program who wish a change in the by-laws must gather signatures from 2/3 of the students in that program. If this is accomplished, the Board representative is obliged to bring such issue before the Board for discussion and a vote. The OPS representative (s) from that program must vote in accordance with the wishes of the student body in their program. Board members whose students did not petition the board on such issue may vote according to their own wishes.

**Article VIII: Dissolution of OPS**

**Article VIII: Section 1: Dissolution**

OPS may be dissolved by a two thirds vote of its general membership. A vote to dissolve OPS may be called upon the receipt of a petition containing the names of at least sixty-six (66%) percent of the general membership. Upon receipt and verification of the dissolution petition the board shall post notice of a special meeting stating within the notice that the purpose of the meeting is to decide upon the dissolution of the Organization of Psychology Students. Such notice shall be posted on the OPS bulletin board located in the student lounge and conspicuously throughout the Ferkauf building.

**Article VIII: Section 2: Disposition of Assets**

In the event OPS is dissolved as described in section one above, all liquid assets of OPS shall be transferred into the OPS grant accounts and control of the grant account and all other OPS assets, if any, shall be transferred to the trustees as described below. The trustees shall be empowered to use OPS funds to pay legitimate outstanding debts of OPS, but for no other purpose. In

addition, the trustees shall arrange for OPS assets to be conserved by issue University until such time as they may be transferred to the control of any success or organization or two. Any successor organization may then be formed with the consent of two thirds majority of the full-time students then enrolled at Ferkauf.

Article VIII: Section 3: Trustees

Two trustees shall be elected for the purpose of fulfilling the duties as stated in section two above. Nominations shall be submitted and a ballot drafted and distributed to the members of OPS. The trustees shall be members of the Ferkauf or Yeshiva University faculty or administration and shall be selected by a majority vote of all students who were members of OPS at the time of the dissolution.

Article VIII: Section 4: Successor Organization

Any student organization formed to take control of the assets of the dissolved OPS must promulgate a written statement of its membership, officers, purposes, and procedures.