

# UNIVERSITY OF DUBUQUE SPARTANS FOR LIFE

Constitution of University of Dubuque Spartans for Life

1 August 2012

## Article I: Name

The name of this organization is "University of Dubuque Spartans for Life".

## Article II: Purpose

Members of University of Dubuque Spartans for Life work to save lives threatened by induced abortion, euthanasia and the destruction of human embryos for research. In furtherance of these goals, members seek to promote respect for life at UD and on a local, state and national level; to educate on life issues; to help those in need so that life is a promising choice; and to work with others who share common goals.

## Article III: Membership

Section 1: Spartans for Life is open to all UD students, faculty and staff. No UD student, faculty member, or staff member may be denied membership on the basis of race, sex, religion, ethnicity, national origin, color, age, disability, or veteran status.

Section 2: To become an official member, one must request official membership verbally, through sign-up sheets, or via e-mail to the President or Secretary. In addition to the request, one must attend at least one meeting before being recognized as an official member.

Section 3: If either or both of the official membership requirements specified in section 2 cannot be fulfilled due to extraordinary circumstances, a minimum of three officers may consent to dismiss the requirement(s) for an individual to allow that individual official membership.

Section 4: If a member acts against the purpose of the organization, the president may decide to revoke his or her membership.

## Article IV: Officers

Section 1: The officers will include a President, a Vice President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer.

Section 2: Officers will hold office for a one year term. No officer shall hold any office for more than three terms. However, they do have the option of running for another office after their three year term is over. For the first year of existence, the officers may be appointed.

### Section 3: Roles of Officers

#### A) President

1. Schedule and organize meetings and activities
2. Conduct the meetings
3. Provide general upkeep of the organization

#### B) Vice President

1. If the President is unable to perform any of the previously mentioned tasks, it will be the responsibility of the vice President to temporarily take over that particular role or responsibility
2. Perform any reasonable task requested of them by the President to further the goals of the organization
3. Handles publicity
4. Attends any external meetings with which the group could be associated and in addition establishes relationships with community groups, i.e. DCRTL, local and state pro-life organizations, and pregnancy care centers
5. Organizes regular recruitment drives

#### C) Secretary

1. Keeps track of the schedule
2. Updates and maintains membership lists and takes roll
3. Keeps meeting minutes
4. Sends out e-mail reminders / Makes phone calls
5. Works on publications (website / newsletter)
6. Counts election, impeachment, and amendment ballots and announces results immediately after the vote is taken

#### D) Treasurer

1. Collects money and receipts
2. Reports finances
3. Handles fundraising

Section 4: The impeachment of an officer can only occur when a two-thirds majority of official members vote to impeach.

Section 5: In addition to the officer positions, it is at the President's discretion to appoint students to committees to coordinate specific events or activities.

### **Article V: Elections**

Section 1: Elections of officers will take place at an election meeting to be held once a year in the first or second week of April.

Section 2: Any official member may be nominated for office or may nominate themselves.

Section 3: Members who are running for office must be nominated and accept their nomination at a regularly scheduled membership meeting either prior to the election meeting or at that same meeting.

Section 4: Officers must be elected by a simple majority via secret ballot.

Section 5: If an officer decides to step down, nominations will be accepted at the next membership meeting and the new officer will be elected at that same meeting or the one following.

#### **Article VI: Advisor / Moderator**

An advisor will serve at the request of the President, or as appointed by the University of Dubuque for as long as he or she is willing.

#### **Article VII: Meetings**

Section 1: The President must call a meeting at least once a month during the fall and spring semesters. Any official member may call a meeting through the consent of the President or any two officers.

Section 2: The President will call the meeting to order and will address any relevant business. Those present will be given an opportunity to speak on each matter.

Section 3: The Secretary will pass around a sign in sheet and will keep minutes on the meeting.

#### **Article VIII: Independence**

Spartans for Life is not associated or affiliated with any national, statewide, or local organization.

#### **Article IX: Amendments**

In order to amend the constitution, an amendment should be submitted to the President. At the next meeting the President will announce the proposal and a vote will take place by secret ballot. A two-thirds majority is necessary for approval. Amendments become effective only after approval by the Office of Student Activities.