National Student Speech Language Hearing Association Constitution 2019-2020

ARTICLE I. NAME OF ORGANIZATION

The name of this organization is National Student Speech Language Hearing Association. This organization will utilize the acronym NSSLHA in all publicity materials and correspondence.

ARTICLE II. PURPOSE STATEMENT

National Student Speech Language Hearing Association was established for the purpose of creating awareness about speech-language pathology and audiology and to serve as a liaison between National NSSLHA and this chapter. These goals shall be achieved through one or more of the following activities:

1. Hearoes for Hearing
2. G. Paul Moore Symposium

ARTICLE III. COMPLIANCE STATEMENT

Upon approval by the Department of Student Activities and Involvement, National Student Speech Language Hearing Association shall be a registered student organization at the University of Florida. National Student Speech Language Hearing Association shall comply with all local, state and federal laws, as well as all University of Florida regulations, policies, and procedures. Such compliance includes but is not limited to the University’s regulations related to Non-Discrimination, Sexual Harassment (including sexual misconduct, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking), Hazing, Commercial Activity, and Student Leader Eligibility.

ARTICLE IV. UNIVERSITY REGULATIONS

Section A. Non-Discrimination

National Student Speech Language Hearing Association agrees that it will not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, religion, age, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, marital status, national origin, political opinions or affiliations, genetic information and veteran status as protected under the Vietnam Era Veterans’ Readjustment Assistance Act.

Section B. Sexual Harassment

National Student Speech Language Hearing Association agrees that it will not engage in any activity that is unwelcome conduct of sexual nature that creates a hostile environment. Behaviors that could create a hostile environment include sexual harassment (which could include inappropriate sexual comments), sexual misconduct, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking.

Section C. Hazing

National Student Speech Language Hearing Association agrees that it will not initiate, support, or encourage any events or situations that recklessly, by design, or intentionally endanger the mental or physical health or safety of a student for any purpose including by not limited to initiation or admission into or affiliation with any student group or organization.

Section D. Responsibility to Report

If this organization becomes aware of any such conduct described in this article, National Student Speech Language Hearing Association will report it immediately to Student Activities and Involvement, the Director of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution, or the University’s Title IX Coordinator.

ARTICLE V. MEMBERSHIP

Membership in this organization is open to all enrolled students at the University of Florida. Non-enrolled students, spouses, faculty, and staff may be associate members; however, they may not vote or hold office. All members and associate members are free to leave and disassociate without fear of retribution, retaliation, or harassment.

ARTICLE VI. STUDENT ORGANIZATION ADVISOR

Section A: Advisor Appointment and Replacement

The elected officers of the National Student Speech Language Hearing Association shall decide on choosing an advisor within the department of Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences. The advisor shall serve for one academic year with the opportunity to be reappointed an unlimited number of times. In the circumstance where the advisor must be replaced, the elected officers shall choose a new advisor under the typical conditions.

Section B: Advisor Responsibilities

The organization advisor shall act as a liaison between officers, members, and faculty. The advisor shall serve as a resource person and provide advisory support. The faculty advisor shall serve as a resource person and provide advisory support for the officers and members of the organization. However, the faculty advisor may not vote in any National Student Speech Language Hearing Association matters.

ARTICLE VII. OFFICERS/DIRECTORS

Section A: Elected Officers

The elected officers shall be President, Vice President, Treasurer, Symposium Director, Symposium Assistant Director, Secretary, Service Director, Social Director, Public Relations Director, Hearing Awareness Director and Hearing Awareness Assistant Director.

Part 1: President

The President shall preside at all meetings of National Student Speech Language Hearing Association and coordinate the work of the officers and committees. The President will act as the official representative of the organization and act as the liaison between the National NSSLHA and the University of Florida’s NSSLHA chapter. The President shall be responsible for reserving meeting rooms, corresponding with faculty and advisors, creating the general body meeting slides, and supporting all officers and members.

Part 2: Vice President

The Vice President shall help preside over National Student Speech Language Hearing Association meetings and events, and shall perform the duties of the President in his/her absence or inability to serve. The Vice President shall be responsible for arranging guest speakers for each monthly meeting. The Vice President is also responsible for coordinating professional development events including, but not limited to, workshops, panels, and networking events. They shall be responsible for ordering and the organization of graduation cords.

Part 3: Secretary

The Secretary shall be responsible for corresponding with all officers and members of National Student Speech Language Hearing Association through the organization’s list serv; shall upload all meeting powerpoints and other relevant information; shall respond to all emails on a regular basis. The Secretary shall also be responsible for keeping record of attendance at meetings and events, updating members’ points, and recording and sending out minutes from all meetings.

Part 4: Treasurer

The Treasurer shall receive all monies for National Student Speech Language Hearing Association; shall keep an accurate record of receipts and expenditures; shall pay out local funds in accordance with the approved budget as authorized by the organization. The Treasurer shall have ready to present a financial statement at every meeting of National Student Speech Language and Hearing Association and at other times when requested by the President or Vice President. The Treasurer is responsible for attending CLASSC meetings, compiling the annual budget disk with the assistance of the President, and overseeing all fundraising projects.The Treasurer is also responsible for submitting SARs and working closely with President, Symposium Director and Hearing Awareness Director to organize the funds for their main events.

Part 5: Symposium Director

The Symposium Chair shall be responsible for coordinating the annual G. Paul Moore Symposium with advisor Lori-Ann Ferraro and preparing the Symposium Co-chair to coordinate the event the following year. Such tasks include interacting with faculty and professionals in the field, registering CEUs, and putting in SARs for the event.

Part 6: Symposium Assistant Director

The Symposium Co-Chair shall assist the Symposium Chair in all duties to prepare for the annual G. Paul Moore Symposium. The position is a two-year commitment in that, the Co-Chair becomes the Chair the following year.

Part 8: Service Director

The Service Director shall be responsible for organizing and facilitating opportunities for National Student Speech Language Hearing Association to serve the local community. The Service Director will coordinate with volunteer coordinators from other organizations and clubs at UF as well as around Gainesville. They will work with Hearing Awareness Chairs on organizing the hearing screenings when needed. Further, the service director shall assist G. Paul Moore Symposium directors with organizing and directing volunteers for the annual symposium.

Part 9: Social Director

The Social Director shall be responsible for coordinating all social events for National Student Speech Language Hearing Association members, officers, and faculty. The Social Director will be responsible for developing fun and creative events to promote personal and professional relationships within the organization and department.

Part 10: Public Relations Director

The Public Relations Director will be responsible for promoting NSSLHA and NSSLHA events in creative ways on all social media platforms. They will be in charge of networking with graduate students for program spotlights on speech pathology and audiology. They will maintain the NSSLHA website, as well as the descriptions of NSSLHA on any UF department pages. They will keep the social media up-to-date including calendar on the website, as well as all other promotional materials for the club, such as the board we use when tabling. They shall be responsible for creating all designs associated with the organization. They will be responsible for creating flyers and promotional event pages as well as designing and selling t-shirts and other items to advertise NSSLHA. The Public Relations Director shall assist G. Paul Moore Symposium Directors in creating logos and posters.

Part 11: Hearing Awareness Director

The Hearing Awareness Director shall be responsible for raising awareness regarding hearing in the local community, through activities such as Alachua County Public School hearing screenings, and coordinating the annual Hearoes for Hearing events. They shall also be responsible for maintaining and delegating the responsibilities of the Hearoes for Hearing Committee.

Part 12: Hearing Awareness Assistant Director

The Hearing Awareness Assistant Director will assist the Hearing Awareness Director in all duties to prepare for the Hearoes for Hearing events as well as help promote hearing awareness. The Hearing Awareness Assistant Director shall additionally be in charge of Hearoes Amigos with the goal of fostering cross cultural relationships between UF NSSLHA members and Spanish teens with hearing assistive devices, such as cochlear implants, for English language conversational practice. The position is a two-year commitment in that, the Assistant Director becomes the Director the following year.

Part 13: Hearoes for Hearing Committee

The Hearoes for Hearing Committee will be composed of general members and officers wishing to assist the Hearing Awareness Director and Hearing Awareness Assistant Director in facilitation of the Hearoes for Hearing 5K. They shall complete all tasks assigned to them by the Directors. The Directors will appoint two Committee Chairs (outlined below). They are not elected officials, nor given privileges of executive board members. They are strictly in the Hearoes committee, and assigned to assist Director and Assistant Director

Part 13 a: Hearoes for Hearing Sponsorship Chair

They will be responsible for working with the Director and Assistant Director of Hearoes to successfully acquire sponsors, for checking the sponsorship document weekly at a minimum, and for providing support and advice to committee members as they reach out to potential sponsors. This position lasts a singular year.

Part 13 b: Hearoes for Hearing Promotions/Social Media Chair

The Hearoes for Hearing Promotions/Social Media Chair position is open to any member of UF NSSLHA. The Promotions/ Social Media Chair will work with the Assistant Director in creating weekly social media posts that include a combination of 5K promotion and cochlear implant education. They will also be responsible for creating our promotional flyer and running all flyering events, sharing and promoting our 5K and fundraisers via our Facebook page, and assisting in the creation of our promotional video. This position lasts a singular year.

Section B: Qualifications for Elected Officers

Students running for office must be active members, in good academic standing and a registered full-time student at the University of Florida.

Section C: Assuming Responsibility

Officers shall assume their official duties at the close of the last general meeting of the academic year and shall serve a term of one academic year and/or until their successors are elected/appointed.

Section D: Removal from Office

Any officer of National Student Speech Language Hearing Association may be removed from office through the following process:

Part 1: A two-thirds majority vote of current executive board is necessary to remove the position.

Part 2: The newly vacant position will be fulfilled by the combined efforts of the entire executive board.

Section E: Vacant Position

In the event of a vacant officer position, the current officers will combine efforts to perform the duties of the vacant position until it has been filled. The vacant position can be filled at any time according to the regulations of the officer nomination process. If an officer decides to step down from office, another officer will fill the position as decided by the officers. Nominations will occur at the following meeting and elections will be held at the consecutive meeting.

ARTICLE VIII. ELECTIONS

Section A: Applications

Applications for all officers to run in the elections process will take place annually during the third general body meeting in the month of March. Elections will take place during the final general body meeting in the month of April. Any active member may take part in the application process. The President and Secretary will determine eligibility of applicants, ensuring that all applicants are active members and aware of the responsibilities. No discrimination or favoritism will be tolerated in this process. The positions of President and Vice President require a year of NSSLHA executive board experience. If and only if this is not applicable, any active member can apply for the positions of President and Vice President. The current officers shall choose the top three applicants for each position and those candidates will then run in the elections. Any active member for one semester can run for all other officer positions. If any active member feels that they should be eligible to run for a position, they may petition the Executive Board for a nomination to run and the Board will decide their eligibility based on credentials/experience. Members who are running for office must accept their nomination. Each nominated member has five minutes to make a speech before voting takes place. All positions besides G. Paul Moore Symposium Director and Assistant Director, as well as Hearing Awareness Director and Assistant Director will be voted upon. The process to become an Assistant Director is a separate application process. The Directors will review the applications and choose the new Assistant Director. The Assistant Director will then become Director the following year.

Section B: Voting

Voting will occur by secret ballot and a simple majority of 50%+1 is required to elect an officer. All members present must be included in the voting, which will take place during the final general body meeting in April.

ARTICLE IX. FINANCE

National Student Speech Language Hearing Association will not require membership dues; however, it will raise funds through various activities that members are expected to participate in. National Student Speech Language Hearing Association will also apply for Student Government funding.

ARTICLE X. DISESTABLISHMENT

In the event this organization dissolves, all monies left in the treasury, after outstanding debts and claims have been paid, shall be donated to the Cochlear Implant Clinic at UF Health Speech and Hearing Center.

ARTICLE XI. Active Membership Requirements

Section A: Eligible Members

Membership in this organization is open to all enrolled students at the University of Florida. Non-enrolled students, spouses, faculty, and staff may be associate members; however, they may not vote or hold office. All members and associate members are free to leave and disassociate without fear of retribution, retaliation, or harassment. Distance learning students are eligible to be members if they contact the executive board and petition membership. The executive board will accommodate their needs.

Section B: Active Membership

In order for students to achieve and remain in active membership, a point system will be used.

For Fall semesters, students must earn the following points to be active: 2 service points, 2 fundraising points, 2 social points, 3 meeting points, 1 Hearoes point, and 2 professional development points. Students must provide authentication of completion for all points, in whatever form best fits the activity. If a student is unable to attend three meetings for a pre-excused reason, they must earn one extra point in any other category. Of the 2 service points, students must earn both from a NSSLHA-affiliated event.

For Spring semesters, students must earn the following points to be active: 2 service points, 2 fundraising points, 2 social points, 3 meeting points, 1 professional development point, 1 Hearoes for Hearing point, and 1 Symposium point. Students must provide authentication of completion for all points, in whatever form best fits the activity. Of the 2 service points, students must earn both from a NSSLHA-affiliated event.

Section C: Cords

Students must be active for two semesters prior to graduation to be eligible to receive a graduation cord.

ARTICLE XII. AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION

This constitution may be amended at any regular meeting of National Student Speech Language Hearing Association by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting; provided that the proposed amendment shall be subject to approval of the Department of Student Activities and Involvement and that the amendments must be read and approved at the next meeting following amendment.