**Student Chapter of the *American Society of Microbiology***

**Constitution**

**Article I.**

Organization Name

The name of this student organization shall be known as the Upstate of SC Chapter of the American Society of Microbiology.

* The Upstate Chapter includes Furman University and the University of South Carolina Upstate.

**Article II.**

Organization Goals

The objectives of this organization shall be:

1. Promote student interest and further improve the quality of the Microbiology program at the Upstate of SC chapter.
2. Promote and explain the benefits and value of ASM membership to students, postdocs, and early career scientists at Upstate of SC Chapter.
3. Promote high school student interest in microbiology and their attendance at the Upstate of SC Chapter.
4. Provide aid and professional development opportunities for students in Microbiology at the Upstate of SC Chapter with respect to academic curriculum, research, employment
5. Promote student participation in local, state and national ASM meetings and activities.

**Article III.**

Qualifications of Members

The membership of the organization shall consist of the following categories:

1. All active students (undergraduate: full-time or part-time) who have paid ASM dues ($35) and are in good standing with the American Society for Microbiology.
2. Members are considered to be active if they attend at least one meeting per semester and/or participate in at least one event per calendar year.
3. Associate members, faculty members in good standing with current membership of the American.

**Article IV.**

Officers and Elections

* The officers of the chapter shall be: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and Public Relations.
* The newly elected officers will serve one year terms and will begin these terms at the first general meeting in the fall semester.
* The above officers may be elected for a total of two consecutive terms, after which they shall become ineligible for re-election to the same office for a period of one year following termination of their service in the particular office. However, they may be elected to a new office immediately subsequent to termination of a former office.
	+ The President and Vice-President should be of equal representation of USC Upstate and Furman University, with a turnover each year.
	+ The Executive Committee should have equal representation from both USC Upstate and Furman.

The duties of the officers shall be as follows:

* **President-** The presiding officer during each meeting of the chapter. The major officer who holds ultimate approval powers of all Executive Committee decisions, but can be overruled by a three-fourths majority vote of committee members. The president also performs those duties normal to the president.
* **Vice-President-** The Vice-President shall be the presiding officer in the absence of the President, in addition to performing those duties delegated by the president.
* **Secretary-** Maintains written record of all chapter meetings and activities as well as handling the correspondence of the organization. Will determine and enforce attendance policy.
* **Treasurer-** Controls all of the chapter funds and maintains the organization budget, being responsible directly to the executive committee.

In the event of any vacancy of any of the above officers, a replacement shall be appointed by the President, subject to Executive Committee approval. In the event of the President’s resignation, the Vice President shall succeed to the presidency and appoint a replacement for the vacated office.

A provision for impeachment and removal from office shall be provided to be used against any officer guilty of academic deficiency or repeated absence from regular and/or Executive meetings. A petition with one third of the memberships signatures as well as justifiable cause must be presented at a regular meeting.

**Article V.**

Meetings

Meeting dates will be determined at the start of the semester and meeting times will be announced monthly. Special meetings will be held when necessary. The officers will meet with the Faculty Advisor 1 week before each meeting.

**Article VI.**

Amendments and Revisions

Amendments to this Constitution may be proposed by any member. Amendments shall become effective if approved by a two-thirds vote of the active membership, subject to the approval of the Faculty Advisor and in accord with USC Upstate and Furman regulations.

**Article VII.**

Procedure and Policy

For the purposes of administrative and/or organizational duties the Upstate chapter withholds the right to establish procedures and policies with a majority vote of the active club members without the need to amend the Upstate Chapter Constitution.

**Article VIII.**

Advisor Responsibilities

The Faculty Advisor shall have administrative authority to disapprove or declare void all matters that come before the club that may conflict with the rules and policies of USC Upstate and Furman University. The said advisor shall be a member of the Executive Council of Furman University and USC Upstate with all rights and privileges thereto.