

AAAOM-SOCC

Local Chapter Bylaws

ARTICLE I - GENERAL/CHARTER

Section 1 - Name The name of this organization shall be the "American Association of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine - Student Organization College Chapter," hereafter referred to as "AAAOM-SOCC." The governing body of the AAAOM-SOCC will be an elected group of Officers that represents the General Membership.

Section 2 - Establishment/Charter by AAAOM Provisions for establishment, formal organization, and operation of the AAAOM-SOCC are under an official charter granted to the AAAOM-SOC by the AAAOM. This charter requires the AAAOM-SOCC to adopt bylaws approved by the AAAOM-SOC, which can be amended only with the approval of both the AAAOM-SOC and AAAOM.

Section 3- Formal acknowledgement of an AAAOM-SOCC by the AAAOM-SO will occur when the following three criteria are met in writing:

1. List of local officers, who are student members in good standing of AAAOM.
2. Acknowledged agreement to adherence of the bylaws by signing a copy of the official bylaws by all officers.
3. Returning the signed bylaws form to the AAAOM-SO, via designated Regional Director.

ARTICLE II - PURPOSE

The Purpose of the AAAOM-SOCC shall be the same as the AAAOM-SO which shall be as follows:

To promote and support high standards of education and research in the medical art and science of Oriental Medicine.

To promote intercollegiate functions, share solutions to mutual problems, and support legislation promoting Oriental Medicine.

To provide a platform for students to have a voice in local, regional, and national issues that affect the practice of Oriental Medicine.

To represent students and their interests at Regional AAAOM-SO Conferences and at the National Conference of the AAAOM.

To serve as a liaison between Oriental Medicine students, student associations, governmental, and private groups to inform students and the AAAOM of significant happenings within these groups.

To promote cooperation between Oriental Medical students and licensed Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine professionals, cooperation between Oriental Medicine associations, and cooperation relating to Oriental Medicine research in the field and within the U.S. Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine Colleges, hereafter referred to as "Colleges."

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To track legislation that directly or indirectly affects Oriental Medicine in individual states, regions, or nationally, in which the AAAOM-SO has membership affiliations and/or interests.

To collaborate with and support the interests of the parent organization, the AAAOM, with clear understanding that the AAAOM-SOC is the ultimate authority with regard to AAAOM-SO policies and actions.

To help guide, direct, and support local, state and national public relations efforts to increase public awareness and interest in Oriental Medicine.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP to the AAAOM-SOCC

Section 1 - Categories of Membership

There shall be two categories of membership: Liaison and Student.

A. Liaison (i) A liaison member must be a current member in good standing with the AAAOM. (ii) A liaison member must be currently on staff at the college he/she is representing in the AAAOM-SOCC. This college must meet criteria which will allow its graduates to sit for the NCCAOM examination in Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine. (iii) The liaison shall be elected by their college's AAAOM-SOCC and will serve indefinitely, until they are no longer employed by said institution, or until they are replaced or removed (see Article VI - Voting).

(iv) The liaison position is a role to help maintain continuity and facilitate information within each College chapter; however, it is not necessary to insure the existence of said College chapter. The liaison is an optional support position, and holds no authority over the student College chapter.

B. Student (i) A student member must be a current member of AAAOM. (ii) A student member must be currently registered and in good standing at the college of Acupuncture or Oriental Medicine he/she is representing within the AAAOM-SO. The college must meet criteria, which enables its graduates to be eligible for application, testing, and certification through the NCCAOM Examinations for Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine.

(iii) Student members may continue to work with the AAAOM-SOCC and serve as officers for the AAAOM-SOCC for up to one year following their official graduation, or for the same time period following any academic leave of absence prior to graduation. If a student member returns to an NCCAOM recognized college to continue their degree following an academic leave of absence, they may resume service work with AAAOM-SO / AAAOM-SOCC and run for elected office again, with one additional year of service following graduation available to them.

Section 2 - Application for Membership Application for membership to the AAAOM-SOCC shall be made via application forms on the official AAAOM website (www.aaom.org).

Section 3 - Officers and Representatives

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The AAAOM-SOCC shall be governed by elected officers selected by the college chapter.

Officers (i) The AAAOM-SOCC Officer positions shall be President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary. (ii) Officers shall be nominated from among the general membership of an individual school's AAAOM-SOCC. Officers shall be elected by the General Membership of the AAAOM-SOCC as described in ARTICLE VI (Voting). Self-nomination is allowed. (iii) Each Officer shall hold office for a one year term, with no term limits, until his/her successor has been elected and qualified, unless he/she resigns or is removed. Elections will be held once yearly as determined by said AAAOM-SOCC.

(iv) Officer Holdings- Ideally, each of the four offices will be held by a different person. In smaller chapters, however, where fewer participating members are available, it is acceptable for one person to hold two or more of the offices of Secretary, Treasurer, and Vice President; with the exception of the President, who may not hold any other office.

(v) In the event that an officer position is vacant at any time and for any reason, this position may be filled by an appointment by the President of AAAOM-SOCC and confirmed by a majority vote of the AAAOM-SOCC.

(vi) Each officer shall have one vote in matters of AAAOM-SOCC which require voting, with all ballot ties to be decided by the President.

ARTICLE IV - OFFICERS' DUTIES

Section 1 - President The President shall: (i) Preside over all meetings of the General Membership. (ii) Prepare an agenda for all meetings.

(iii) Work with the Regional Director for their time zone. (iv) Perform the duties of AAAOM-SO Representative for their school. (v) Keep the AAAOM-SO updated on all AAAOM-SOCC affairs, activities, and events via the Regional Director.

Section 2 - Vice President The Vice President shall: (i) Assist the President in all duties. (ii) Preside over meetings in the absence of the President. (iii) Perform the duties of President, if the President is unable to serve.

Section 3 - Treasurer The Treasurer shall: (i) Keep and maintain full and accurate records of all financial transactions of the AAAOM-SOCC, and report thereon to the AAAOM-SOCC Officers and the General Membership. (ii) Ensure that the financial policies of the AAAOM-SOCC are adhered to. (iii) Assist in preparing the AAAOM-SOCC's Budget, if requested.

Section 4 - Secretary The Secretary shall: (i) Be in charge of all AAAOM-SOCC records, with the exception of financial records. (ii) Follow the proper recording of proceedings of meetings of the General Membership. (iii) Notify the General Membership of the date, time, and location of any meeting. (iv) Be responsible for coordinating the annual Officer Elections, including, but not limited to: nomination, voting, tallying, and posting of results. (v) The Secretary shall submit meeting

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reports to the Regional Director within one month's time after said meeting.

ARTICLE V – AAAOM-SOCC VOTING

A. AAAOM-SOCC Officer Elections shall be by secret ballot at an AAAOM-SOCC Meeting, with those receiving the greatest number of votes being elected as Officers to the AAAOM-SOCC. The Secretary shall be responsible for coordinating the nomination, voting, tallying, and posting of election results.

B. For the purposes of voting on issues, a quorum shall consist of 50% of AAAOM-SOCC members, one of whom shall be either the President or Vice President.

C. All items presented for a vote shall require a 51% majority of members present for passage, with the exception of the following: Removal of an officer: 2/3 majority vote

Officers, student members, or liaisons to the AAAOM-SOCC may be removed at any time by the AAAOM-SOCC, through the process of documented 2/3 vote due to "just cause." This includes, but is not limited to, indictment of criminal acts, moral turpitude, or lack of completion of their prescribed duties.

ARTICLE VI - MEETINGS

Meetings of the AAAOM-SOCC

A. Meetings of the members of the AAAOM-SOCC shall be held a minimum of eight times each year.

B. The President shall issue the agenda for each meeting and make it available to all members, preferably on a monthly basis.

ARTICLE VII - FINANCES/MEMBERSHIP FEES

The AAAOM-SOCC membership fee is the AAAOM annual student membership fee. This fee is currently \$50; payable directly to the AAAOM. Additional finances for the AAAOM-SOCC may be raised through local fundraisers, student fees, etc.

ARTICLE VIII - ACTIVITY/EVENT GUIDELINES

AAAOM-SOCC with five or greater members are encouraged to participate in the following activities a minimum of once per year: (i) Fundraising-to help offset the cost for members to attend the annual national AAAOM conference. (ii) Public relations activities/events to promote AOM by educating the public and to build practice management skills. (iii) Community service activities/events.

The President of the AAAOM-SOCC shall keep the Regional Director informed of all AAAOM-SOCC activities and events.

ARTICLE IX - RULES OF ORDER

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The rules contained in, "*ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER*," shall govern meetings of the AAAOM-SOCC in all cases which they are applicable and proper representation is present (i.e. for an AAAOM-SOCC with at least five members).