CONSTITUTION
of
OUTLaw
at the University of Miami School of Law
As Amended March 6, 2018

DEFINITIONS

“Membership Roster”: The Membership Roster is the roster containing the contact information regularly used by the board as the official means of communicating with all current OUTLaw student members, and no others. For example, an official email group list(s) of current members.

ARTICLE I — PURPOSE

OUTLaw seeks to advance the gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, and queer (hereinafter "LGBTQ") community at the University of Miami School of Law; to educate the law school community concerning LGBTQ politics and culture; and to provide the support necessary to attain these goals. OUTLaw sponsors social, educational, political and cultural events throughout the academic year. OUTLaw also seeks to foster and enhance the relationship with alumni of the organization and with the LGBTQ community.

ARTICLE II — STRUCTURE

1. OUTLaw shall maintain a Membership Roster as a requirement for membership.

2. Hereinafter, any law student on the Membership Roster shall be considered a member.

   a. The Membership Roster may not be modified upon official posted announcement of the OUTLaw elections and until the elections process has been finalized.

3. There will be four officers: one President, one Vice-President, one Activism Chair, and one Social Chair, constituting the Executive Board.

   a. The President shall be a 2L at the time of election.

   b. The Vice-President, Activism Chair, and Social Chair may be either a 1L or 2L at the time of election.

   c. All outgoing Executive Board members must meet with their incoming counterparts to help train them and provide a smooth transition.

4. In the event positions become vacated, the Executive Board may appoint any member to fill the position in the interim by a simple majority vote.
5. Roles and Responsibilities of the elected Executive Board

a. President

1. The President is responsible for the overall logistics and administration of OUTLaw at the University of Miami School of Law. The President’s role includes: defining strategic directions for the organization; coordinating with and supporting the Executive Board members in creating OUTLaw events; running Executive Board meetings; acting as a liaison in communication with Miami Law Administration, including the Dean of Students and OUTLaw’s Faculty Advisors; acting as the chief spokesperson and coordinator for OUTLaw activities; attending Inter-Club Council (“ICC”) Meetings or designating a representative to attend in the President’s absence; and making LAFAC requests or designating a representative to make such requests in the President’s absence.

2. The President is ultimately accountable to the membership for any actions taken by OUTLaw or by the Executive Board.

b. Vice-President

1. The Vice-President shall render assistance to the President as is necessary to effectuate the purpose established in Article I of this Constitution. The Vice-President is charged with filling any vacancy in the President’s absence, including presiding over Executive Board meetings or events.

2. The Vice-President may communicate and coordinate with other Miami Law student organizations during co-sponsorship. In the event that committees are established by the President, it will be the role of the Vice-President to oversee them and maintain the Peer-to-Peer Mentorship Committee.

c. Social Chair

1. The Social Chair shall plan regular social events sponsored by OUTLaw and ensure they are communicated to the membership through OUTLaw’s email list or Facebook group. The Social Chair is also responsible for ensuring community events (e.g. University of Miami or South Florida events) are communicated to the membership through OUTLaw’s email list or Facebook group. In addition, the Social Chair is responsible for promoting OUTLaw events, where appropriate, with the Miami Law community through Hearsay, University of Miami Facebook groups, or the Alumni Office.

2. In the event that committees are established by the President, it will also be the role of the Social Chair to assist the Vice-President in maintaining the Social Committee.
d. Activism Chair

1. The Activism Chair is responsible for acting as a liaison between the Executive Board and the University of Miami LGBTQ+ Student Center and any outside LGBTQ organizations (e.g. National LGBT Task Force, Aqua Foundation, OUT Miami, etc.). The Activism Chair shall plan regular volunteer events throughout the academic year and ensure those events are communicated to the membership through OUTLaw’s email list or Facebook group. In addition, the Activism Chair is responsible for promoting OUTLaw events, where appropriate, with other LGBTQ student organizations, including SpectrUM, GradOUT, and MedicOUT.

2. In the event that committees are established by the President, it will also be the role of the Activism Chair to assist the Vice-President in maintaining the Community Service Committee.

6. Appointed Representatives and the Creation of Standing Committees

a. Appointment

1. The President may appoint representatives other than elected Executive Board members necessary to effectuate the purpose of OUTLaw set out in Article I, including (but not limited to) a 1L Representative. In order to appoint a representative, the President must issue to the membership a call for applications for the representative’s position prior to the beginning of that representative’s term. Any representative appointed by the President must be ratified by a three-fourths vote of the elected Executive Board officers within 7 days.

2. The President may create standing committees necessary to effectuate the purpose of OUTLaw set out in Article I, including (but not limited to) Peer-to-Peer Mentorship, Social, or Community Service Committees. Each standing committee, if created, is required to meet and report to the Vice-President or other overseeing member (e.g. Social Chair or Activism Chair) at least once a month. Any committee created by the President must be ratified by a three-fourths vote of the elected Executive Board officers within 7 days.

b. 1L Representative

1. Where appointed, the 1L Representative will be the liaison between the Executive Board and the current 1L class. The 1L Representative will be responsible for communicating with the Executive Board about any upcoming 1L academic deadlines or mandatory meetings (e.g. LComm memos, oral arguments, or Dean’s Chats). The 1L Representative will also be responsible for bringing the general concerns and desires of OUTLaw’s 1L members to the Executive Board.
2. The Executive Board will send out applications for a 1L Representative within four weeks after the first day of every academic school year. The President will appoint a 1L Representative before the last day of September unless good cause for extending this deadline exists.

c. Standing Committees – The duties of the standing committees are as follows:

1. Peer-to-Peer Mentorship Committee – The Peer-to-Peer Mentorship Committee is responsible for helping the Social Chair maintain the Peer-to-Peer Mentorship program and coordinate events with OUTLaw mentors and 1L mentees.

2. Social Committee – The Social Committee is responsible for assisting the Social Chair in creating and advertising regular social events throughout the academic year.

3. Community Service Committee – The Community Service Committee will assist the Activism Chair in organizing community outreach events and keeping OUTLaw informed of volunteer opportunities during the academic year.

7. Impeachment – Any elected Executive Board member, including the President, Vice-President, Social Chair, or Activism Chair can be removed for good cause through impeachment by a vote of two-thirds of the OUTLaw membership. A call for impeachment must be submitted via email to a Faculty Advisor, who will determine whether good cause for impeachment exists. Within two weeks of a determination that good cause exists, a special election must be convened on the issue of impeachment.

8. Removal of Appointed Representatives or Standing Committees – In the event that any person appointed by the President becomes incapacitated, resigns before the end of their term in office, substantially fails to perform their duties as a representative of OUTLaw, or other good cause for removal exists, the elected Executive Board may remove that representative through a majority vote. The President may then appoint a successor, who must be ratified by a three-fourths vote of the elected Executive Board within 7 days. Similarly, in the event a standing committee is created and no longer serves the purpose set out in Article I of this Constitution, that standing committee may be removed by a majority vote of the elected Executive Board.

ARTICLE III — ELECTIONS

1. Announcements of elections shall be posted around campus a minimum of seven days prior to the date of the election. Any member of OUTLaw who attends an election meeting is eligible to vote in that election; no one else is eligible to vote. Candidates may volunteer or be nominated. Where more than two candidates run for a position, there shall be a preliminary vote, with each voter casting one vote; the two candidates for the final, which shall be decided by a simple majority.
2. Elections for all elected Executive Board positions shall be held in the spring semester in the month preceding the date set for the New Student Leadership Installation.

3. Elected members of the Executive Board shall take office immediately.

4. The act of submitting oneself as a candidate for any office is to be understood as a representation to the assembled voters that the candidate supports and intends to further the purpose described in ARTICLE I. This provision shall be read aloud at the beginning of each election.

5. A quorum of 50% of current members must be present in order to hold the election.

ARTICLE IV — AMENDING THE CONSTITUTION

1. Amendments to the Constitution may be made at any regularly scheduled meeting at which a quorum of 50% of current members is in attendance.

2. Announcements that proposed amendments will be heard at the next meeting shall be posted around campus a minimum of seven days prior to the meeting during which they will be voted upon.

3. Any member may submit a proposed amendment for a vote.

4. Amendments must receive a simple majority of votes of the members present in order to be adopted.

END OF DOCUMENT
Adopted Amendments
March 6, 2018

AMENDMENT 1
Under Article I–Purpose, add the word "queer" to the first sentence, so it reads: "OUTLaw seeks to advance the gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, and queer (hereinafter "LGBTQ") community at the University of Miami School of Law..."

AMENDMENT 2
Under Article II–Structure, add position description for President.

AMENDMENT 3
Under Article II–Structure, add position description for Vice-President.

AMENDMENT 4
Under Article II–Structure, add position description for Social Chair.

AMENDMENT 5
Under Article II–Structure, add position description for Activism Chair.

AMENDMENT 6
Under Article II–Structure, give the President the power to "appoint representatives other than elected Executive Board members necessary to effectuate the purpose of OUTLaw set out in Article I, including (but not limited to) a 1L Representative. Any representative appointed by the President must be ratified by a three-fourths vote of the elected Executive Board within 7 days."

AMENDMENT 7
Under Article II–Structure, give the President the power to "create standing committees to effectuate the purpose of OUTLaw set out in Article I, including (but not limited to) Peer-to-Peer Mentorship, Social, or Community Service Committees. Any committee created by the President must be ratified by a three-fourths vote of the elected Executive Board within 7 days."

AMENDMENT 8
Under Article II–Structure, add position description for 1L Representative and Standing Committees.

AMENDMENT 9
Under Article II–Structure, add Impeachment Power against President, Vice-President, Social Chair, Activism Chair to the Constitution.

AMENDMENT 10
Under Article II–Structure, give the Executive Board the ability to remove an appointed representative or standing committees.

AMENDMENT 11
Under Article III–Elections, update the "Passing of the Gavel Ceremony" language (which no longer exists) to the "New Student Leader Installation" language.
VOTING DETAILS FOR AMENDMENTS ADOPTED 2017-2018

- TOTAL MEMBERS: 80
- PRESENT MEMBERS: 44 (55% attendance, reaching 50% quorum requirement)
- AMENDMENT votes are as follows:
  1) 44 YES votes (PASSED at 100%)
  2) 44 YES votes (PASSED at 100%)
  3) 44 YES votes (PASSED at 100%)
  4) 44 YES votes (PASSED at 100%)
  5) 44 YES votes (PASSED at 100%)
  6) 43 YES votes (PASSED at 97.7%)
  7) 42 YES votes (PASSED at 95.5%)
  8) 42 YES votes (PASSED at 95.5%)
  9) 43 YES votes (PASSED at 97.7%)
 10) 44 YES votes (PASSED at 100%)
 11) 44 YES votes (PASSED at 100%)
AMENDMENT 1
Rename all references of “GLBT” to “LGBTQ”

AMENDMENT 2
Amending the Constitution to remove all references of “dues” from ARTICLE II (STRUCTURE) in addition to completely striking ARTICLE IV (FINANCES), and renaming ARTICLE V TO ARTICLE IV.

AMENDMENT 3
Rename the “secretary” board position throughout the document to reflect the current “Activism Chair” position name.

AMENDMENT 4
Rename the “treasurer” board position throughout the document to reflect the current “Social Chair” position name.

AMENDMENT 5
Add a new “DEFINITIONS” section to the beginning of the document

AMENDMENT 6
Add the following definition to the document:
“Membership Roster”: The Membership Roster is the roster containing the contact information regularly used by the board as the official means of communicating with all current OUTLaw student members, and no others. For example, an official email group list(s) of current members.

AMENDMENT 7
Add the following to sub-item #2 of ARTICLE II:
“The Membership Roster may not be modified upon official posted announcement of the OUTLaw elections and until the elections process has been finalized.”

VOTING DETAILS
- TOTAL MEMBERS: 44
- PRESENT MEMBERS: 34 (77% attendance, reaching our 50% quorum requirement)
- AMENDMENT votes are as follows:
  1) 32 YES votes (PASSED at 93.1%)
  2) 28 YES votes (PASSED at 82.8%)
  3) 32 YES votes (PASSED at 93.1%)
  4) 30 YES votes (PASSED at 86.2%)
  5) 31 YES votes (PASSED at 89.7%)
  6) 32 YES votes (PASSED at 93.1%)
  7) 25 YES votes (PASSED at 72.4%)
Adopted Amendments  
March 22, 2007

1) Amending ARTICLE II, SECTION 3 to read:

3. There shall be four officers: one President, one Vice-President, one secretary, and one treasurer constituting the Executive Board.
   a) The President shall be a 2L at the time of election.
   b) The Vice-President, secretary, and treasurer may be either a 1L or 2L at the time of election.
   c) All outgoing Executive Board members must meet with their incoming counterparts to help train them and provide a smooth transition.

2) Amending ARTICLE II, SECTION 4 to read:

4. In the event positions become vacated, the Executive Board may appoint any member to fill the position in the interim by a simple majority vote.

3) Amending ARTICLE HI, SECTION 2 to read:

2. Elections for all positions shall be held in the spring semester at the regularly scheduled meeting immediately prior to the date set forth by the Society of Bar & Gavel in order to allow the new officers to participate in the Barrister's Ball gavel passing ceremony.

4) Amending ARTICLE IV to read:

ARTICLE IV — FINANCES

I. Yearly dues shall be assessed to all members at the beginning of the fall semester.

2. Should a law student plan to graduate in the fall semester, they shall be assessed a prorated dues amount.

3. Should a law student wish to join in the spring semester, they shall be assessed a prorated dues amount.

4. The Executive Board shall set the amount of dues to be paid by members.

5. The treasurer shall be charged with maintenance of all organizational finances, including the collection of dues.
5) Amending ARTICLE V to read:

ARTICLE V AMENDING THE CONSTITUTION

I. Amendments to the Constitution may be made at any regularly scheduled meeting at which a quorum of 50% of current members is in attendance.

2. Announcements that proposed amendments will be heard at the next meeting shall be posted around campus a minimum of seven days prior to the meeting during which they will be voted upon.

3. Any member may submit a proposed amendment for a vote.

4. Amendments must receive a simple majority of votes of the members present in order to be adopted.

6) Amending the word "will" to read "shall" in:

   A. ARTICLE II, SECTION I.
   B. ARTICLE II, SECTION 2.
   C. ARTICLE III, SECTION 1.
   D. ARTICLE III, SECTION 3.
   E. ARTICLE III, SECTION 4.

VOTING DETAILS

NUMBER OF REGISTERED (DUES PAID) MEMBERS: 9
NUMBER NEEDED TO ESTABLISH QUOROM: 5
NUMBER PRESENT & VOTING: 5

MEMBERS PRESENT: Christopher Ryan Bauer, 2006-2007 Co-President
                 Megyn Greider, 2006-2007 Secretary
                 Miriam Richter, 2006-2007 Treasurer
                 Jason Atkinson
                 Tony Neuhoff

VOTES RECEIVED: Amendment 1-- 5 Votes (Passed)
                 Amendment 2 — 5 Votes (Passed)
                 Amendment 3 — 5 Votes (Passed)
                 Amendment 4 — 5 Votes (Passed)
                 Amendment 5 — 5 Votes (Passed)
                 Amendment 6 — 5 Votes (Passed)