Dear Student Organization Leaders,

As first noted in the Fall Organization Officer Orientation module, the Office of Student Life has updated the Conduct and University values statement language for student organization constitutions. We are writing today to provide additional information regarding the constitution update requirement and to provide resources to support your organization’s approach to member accountability.

All student organizations must incorporate the updated clause into their constitutions as part of this year’s Student Organization Annual Registration process, which will open on March 10 and will close at 4:00 PM EST on March 26, 2021. The clause must be updated as follows:

**Conduct and University values statement:** The George Washington University values respect, communication, community, and diversity, and our organization and its members are expected to uphold and espouse these values. Members whose actions do not reflect these values may be subject to removal from the organization, according to the processes outlined in the organization’s constitution and consistent with university policy and the Student Code of Conduct.

We recognize that, currently, not all organizations have formal member removal processes outlined in their constitutions. Organizations can use the Student Organization Constitution Guide to begin thinking about this language. You may also reach out to your staff advisor or Org Help for assistance.

The changes to the Conduct and University values statement reflect that the Code of Student Conduct prohibits student organizations from taking “adjudicatory or sanctioning action” for behavior that could also violate University policy without written approval from the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities. Several offices recently came together to publish a letter outlining the campus resources available for supporting members and addressing alleged policy violations.

Student organizations are the heart of our campus, and it is only right that the leaders of this community hold each other to high standards of behavior and offer mutual respect for one another. The processes and policies that are in place ensure accountability while promoting an inclusive, safe and productive culture among our diverse community of student organizations.

Constitutions will be reviewed on a rolling basis following the registration period. Organizations will receive direct outreach should their updated constitution require additional revisions.

**Spring 2021 Virtual Office Hours | Weekdays from 2:00-5:00 PM EST**

Email us at orghelp@gwu.edu any questions anytime or to schedule a meeting outside the above office hours. We will do our best to respond within 1-2 business days.

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You received this message because you are listed as an officer in Engage for at least one student organization. Review the Engage Help Center’s guides to learn about updating your organization’s roster.

Org Help | Office of Student Life | orghelp@gwu.edu

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