

## **GeneHackers' Bylaws**

### **Article I: Name**

*Section 1.* The name of this organization shall be GeneHackers of which there will be no association with award-winning actor Gene Hackman (though like him, we share the inaugural title "The Least Likely to Succeed").

### **Article II: Purpose**

*Section 1.* The ultimate purpose of this organization shall be to determine what constitutes synthetic biology and to delight in the possibilities therein. In corollary, we will annually prepare a competitive iGEM team which will engage in novel bioengineering research.

*Section 2.* The penultimate purpose of this organization shall be to spread biological enlightenment and to repudiate claims that synthetic biologists will inadvertently bring about the apocalypse.

*Section 3.* The antepenultimate purpose of this organization shall be to debate the ethical use of synthetic biology and thereby prevent its misuse (e.g. the creation of laser-shooting sharks).

*Section 4.* The preantepenultimate purpose of this organization shall be to build character by facing inexplicable and recurrent experimental failure.

### **Article III: Field of Membership**

*Section 1.* General membership shall be open to all individuals interested in synthetic biology - the process of constructing artificial cellular machines involving a vocational field that begins with the letter 'E' and ends with the fact that UChicago does not offer it. To be considered an active member, one shall be registered on the GeneHackers' Blueprint page.

*Section 2.* Membership in the elite task force dubbed UChicago iGEM team shall be capped at 12 individuals due to mental constraints in leading a successful operation and physical constraints of finding large enough lab space.

### **Article IV: Committees**

*Section 1.* Committees shall be dubbed in no particular order Executive, Research, Finance, Public Relations (PR), Fundraising, Outreach, and Event Coordination. There shall be a maximum of two members per committee.

*Section 2.* Membership in the Committees is restricted to UChicago iGEM team members.

*Section 3.* Terms of office will last one year beginning second week of fall quarter (see

Art IV, Sec 5). Officers may be reelected multiple times.

*Section 4.* The duties of committee members are as follows:

Duties of Executive Committee:

- to prevent the stagnation and deterioration of our humble RSO
- to assign and oversee the duties of the other Committees
- to nominate candidates of the Executive Committee in Winter quarter
- to puzzle over RSO room and storage space lotteries
- to maintain order during general meetings and/or to facilitate the transition to an anarcho-socialist symbiotic commune
- to support the UChicago iGEM team by finding large scale funding opportunities from off-campus resources
- to assign a note-taking, rotating schedule at the beginning of each quarter

Duties of Research Committee:

- to fairly assign UChicago iGEM team members the following duties and oversee their completion
  - register the UChicago iGEM team in the official competition so science can be done
  - design and manage an application system in Winter quarter for students to become UChicago iGEM team members
  - design and manage a boot camp in Spring quarter so that competitors can do science and have the materials to perform aforementioned science (without shame or imprisonment)
  - to find at least two faculty and two graduate student advisors for our iGEM team

Duties of Finance Committee:

- to prevent the financial collapse of GeneHackers through successful budgeting
- to puzzle over SGFC funding and Annual Allocations
- to maintain the peace between allocation and reimbursement
- to ensure GeneHackers has enough money to both do science and enjoy science

Duties of PR Committee:

- to keep our GeneHackers@UChicago Facebook page up to date and spam our Blueprint subscribers
- to plan an iGEM recruitment event in Fall quarter
- to avoid embarrassing our establishment by sufficiently populating our event
- to unify the titular cultures of intellectual society and to bring an end to academic pigeonholing at our humble college

Duties of Fundraising Committee:

- to design and manage on-campus fundraising events throughout the year
- to assist the Executive Committee by finding large scale funding opportunities from

off-campus resources

Duties of Outreach Committee

- to find new opportunities in which our iGEM team members can inform our community about synthetic biology
- to make a lesson plan and teach for Splash! and Cascade
- to keep our financial supporters informed about the UChicago iGEM team's progress through a quarterly email or letter

Duties of Event Coordination Committee:

- to plan quarterly bonding events for our iGEM team members and the team's advisors
- to plan a synthetic biology crash course for new iGEM team members in Winter quarter

*Section 5.* Selection of Committees will occur by election. Elections will be held prior to eighth week of Winter quarter each year. Committee members will retain power until that year's iGEM competition is over. During Spring quarter, newly elected committee members will be trained by current members of their respective committee.

*Section 6.* UChicago iGEM team members can petition the group for removal of any member. The removal of a member requires two-thirds vote from the group.

*Section 6.* At least one UChicago iGEM team member will take notes during group meetings according to a rotating schedule assigned by the Executive Committee.

## **Article V: Elections**

*Section 1.* Voting privileges are limited to currently registered UChicago students who are committee members. If the process of committee self-selection devolves into squabble, elections will be conducted by the presiding Comrades through an online anonymous voting process. After 48 hours of incubation, results will be statistically analyzed and shared. If a member is elected to three or more committees, he or she must select at most two committees to join. All committees should be filled by at least one iGEM team member at all times. If there is a vacancy due to a resignation or removal of a member, an election will be held immediately according to these bylaws.

## **Article VI: Handling of Funds**

*Section 1.* All funds collected will be deposited in GeneHackers' ORCSA account.

*Section 2.* The Finance Committee shall be designated to handle finances.

## **Article VII: Miscellany**

*Section 1.* There shall be no absconding with materials, especially timers and

multichannels.

*Section 2.* We necessitate that all bake sales shall sell biology-themed treats. During requests to hold bake sales, the previous sentence shall be recited in front of all committee members. Repeat sentence for proper pronunciation as necessary.

*Section 3.* Having little or no data shall be a reflection of personal failure only 10% of the time.

*Section 4.* UChicago iGEM team members shall display appropriate guilt upon meeting other members outside of lab while experiments are in progress.

## **Article VIII: Amendments**

*Section 1.* Bylaws may be amended by only by majority vote of the committee members.

Inspiration: Phoenix Bylaws

### **Organization Bylaws:**

The Bylaws

Adopted 27 July 1997

#### Article I Organizational description

Phoenix shall be the Undergraduate Biological Sciences Organization, a Student Advisory Committee to the Office of the Dean of the College, and Recognized Student Organization (RSO) of the University of Chicago.

#### Article II Purpose and Mission

The mission of Phoenix is to enhance the experience of biology concentrators of the College of the University of Chicago. Phoenix strives to facilitate communication, social interaction, and collaboration among biology students and between students and faculty; integrate the formal and informal aspects of an education in biology; evaluate and improve academic training in the biological sciences; and to introduce prospective students of the College to the biology concentration at the University of Chicago.

#### Article III Membership

Members of this organization must be full- or part-time students in the College of the University of Chicago or other students and must express serious interest in the field of biology.

We define the "membership" of Phoenix to be those students on the Phoenix contact list maintained to be current by the secretary.

#### Article IV The Governing Board, its officers, and its duties

##### Section 1 The Governing Board

The officers of the Phoenix Governing Board shall be the President, Vice President of Student Affairs, Treasurer/Secretary, Publicist, and Officer Without Portfolio.

The Governing Board shall also contain an unlimited number of members-at-large, whose duties and qualifications follow. An at-large member is anyone attending five Governing Board meetings in one quarter, or anyone who has helped organize three Phoenix-sponsored events in one quarter.

#### Section 2 Officer qualifications

Officers must be members of the organization who have served on the Governing Board as at-large members for at least one quarter.

#### Section 3 Terms of office

Offices shall be held for one year.

Officers may be reelected multiple times.

#### Section 4 Officer responsibilities and prerogatives

The President shall have overall responsibility for the successful operation of the organization and the fulfillment of the organization's goals.

The Vice President of Student Affairs shall be responsible for all events and projects except the Peer Mentoring Program and other Outreach responsibilities.

The Treasurer shall be responsible for managing the disbursement and reimbursement of all funds associated with Phoenix, maintaining accurate financial records of Phoenix expenses, and submitting a quarterly budget to the Governing Board and Faculty Advisor, per Article X 7.

The Secretary shall record and publish the minutes per Article V, 4. He shall also be responsible for managing the Phoenix email account.

The Publicist shall be responsible for managing the advertisement of all Phoenix events.

The Officer without Portfolio shall work on special projects as determined by the Board and assist other officers with regular projects, as necessary.

All members of the Governing Board shall contribute to the successful operation of the organization.

#### Section 5 Governing Board and officer appointments

All officers shall be elected by the votes of all Phoenix members present at a predetermined, pre-announced meeting during spring quarter. In the event of a tie, the winner shall be determined by the votes of the Phoenix Board.

More than one member of the Board may be elected to an office should the Board deem it necessary by vote of plurality.

If an officer resigns or is removed an election shall be held immediately to select a successor per these bylaws.

Regular elections shall be held annually during spring quarter.

College students may join at any time the Governing Board as at-large members after attending any five General meetings in a given quarter, or after helping organize any three Phoenix events in a given quarter.

For the purpose of at-large qualification, helping at one event is equivalent to attending two meetings. Such at-large members shall enjoy the privileges and status of that normal members receive.

## **Organization Bylaws**

### **Article I: Organization Name**

Section 1: The name of this organization shall be *Pharmakon*.

### **Article II: Organization Purpose and Description**

Section 1: Pharmakon is a pharmacological sciences and biotechnology student organization focused on the common goals of sharing knowledge, increasing opportunity, and creating change in the fields of pharmaceuticals, biotechnology, and related disciplines. We welcome those interested in the science and practice of pharmacology, the technical, legal, and social implications of the development of pharmaceuticals, and the advancement of technologies in the discovery, synthesis, and delivery of various therapeutical agents. We hold weekly scientific presentations where we discuss the scientific, ethical, legal, and corporate/financial issues arising from the disciplines we study; additionally, we engage in independent research. We also seek to publish articles in our own publications. Finally, Pharmakon arranges for talks with guest speakers and plans trips to pharmaceutical companies in the area as dictated by interest from members in exploring such career paths and fields.

**Article III: Field of Membership**

Section 1: Members of this organization must be a member of the University of Chicago campus community, including all undergraduate students, graduate students, alumni, faculty, and staff.

Section 2: This organization will not discriminate or limit membership based on ethnicity, sex, or religious affiliations.

**Article IV: Offices and Duties:**

Section 1: Officers must be registered students of the University of Chicago.

Section 2: Members shall be voted into offices by majority consensus and shall hold office for one academic year, except in the case of the Project Coordinator office as noted before.

Section 3: Description of Offices and Duties

- The President shall be responsible for general management and organization of the club, its officers, and its activities. The President presides over meetings.

- The Vice President will intervene in situations when the President cannot fulfill his/her duties. Additionally the Vice President helps provide general leadership for the club, assisting the President and other officers wherever possible.

- The Treasurer shall be responsible for handling the ORCSA account finances, seeking out necessary funding, and managing any other fiscal matters including the renewal of funding during the process of Annual Allocations.

- The Director of Public Relations shall be responsible for overseeing activities to promote awareness of the organization and its events in the university community and at large.

- The Project Coordinators shall be responsible for managing ongoing projects such as arranging guest lectures, organizing group excursions to pharmaceutical companies and other biotechnology companies, and leading club members in other endeavors and projects. The Project Coordinator shall work with the other officers to organize these events as dictated by interest from members and voted on by the entire Board of Directors. Additionally the Project Coordinators will be elected on a *pro re nata* basis depending on projects proposed and approved by the Board of Directors.

Section 4: An officer may be removed or replaced during their term of office if said officer neglects to fulfill his or her responsibilities. Such an action may be carried out by majority consensus from the voting members of the Board of Directors.

Article VI: **Amendments**

Section 1: Amendments may be nominated by any member at a general meeting, and majority consensus is required for said amendment to pass.