

## **ARTICLE I. NAME OF STUDENT ORGANIZATION AND PRINCIPAL MEMBERS**

### Section 1. Title of organization

The organization shall be called “Jewish Graduate Students” at UC San Diego.

### Section 2. Principal members

The organization's principal members shall include:

Stephanie Heimler, Biomedical Sciences graduate program

Mia Rosenfeld, Biochemistry and Biophysics graduate program

Chelsea Rapoport, Clinical Psychology graduate program

Sara Vandenburg, Biomedical Sciences graduate program

## **ARTICLE II. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE**

The organization, Jewish Graduate Students, is a graduate student group which represents the interests and concerns of Jewish graduate students at UC San Diego. While there are many organizations that cater to undergraduate students on campus, there are not any organizations that specifically cater to Jewish graduate students, who are at different life stages of life and have different interests and needs than Jewish undergraduate students. We therefore require distinct programming and gathering opportunities. Our organization will fulfill an unmet need on campus for Jewish graduate student inclusivity and programming. Our mission is to create diverse programming that brings together students of all backgrounds to form deep, personal connections to Jewish life. We hope to provide a space for Jewish graduate students to worship, observe Jewish holidays and customs, share traditions with one another, and create an environment for them to feel safe and included on campus. This organization will strive to improve the overall quality of UC San Diego student life by promoting a sense of Jewish community within the UC San Diego student body. We also strive to be San Diego's most inclusive Jewish community on campus (see article X).

## **ARTICLE III. NONPROFIT STATEMENT**

The Jewish Graduate Students Organization at UC San Diego is a non-profit student organization.

#### **ARTICLE IV. REQUIREMENTS FOR MEMBERSHIP**

Any UC San Diego graduate student can volunteer and/or be elected to this organization. There are no dues nor academic requirements for membership, and all community members are welcome to attend meetings and events.

#### **ARTICLE V. FREQUENCY OF ORGANIZATION MEETINGS AND EVENTS**

Executive committee meetings shall be held quarterly (or as frequently as necessary) and community events shall be held 2-4 times each quarter. Minutes will be taken at executive committee meetings and will be shared with the rest of the executive committee after the meeting.

#### **ARTICLE VI. QUALIFICATIONS FOR HOLDING OFFICE AND METHODS OF SELECTING AND REPLACING OFFICERS**

Only registered UC San Diego students may hold office in the organization. Only registered UC San Diego students may vote in elections for the selection of the organization's officers.

Any graduate student at UC San Diego may hold office. Officers will be selected (or reconfirmed) annually and may hold their position until their time of graduation if agreed upon by the rest of the leadership executive committee. New officers will be elected based on popular vote by the organization's community members.

Positions include: Graduate Student Programming Director, Graduate Student Programming Committee Members, Secretary, and Treasurer. New positions may be added or removed at any time based on the needs of the student body.

#### **ARTICLE VII. RISK MANAGEMENT**

The Jewish Graduate Students Organization at UC San Diego is a registered student organization at the University of California, San Diego, but not part of the University itself. The Jewish Graduate Students Organization at UC San Diego understands that the University does not assume legal liability for the actions of the organization.

## **ARTICLE VIII. COMMUNITY ADVISOR**

The Hillel of San Diego at UCSD staff and administration—including the Associate Executive Director (Lisa Motenko), and Student Engagement Fellows (Daniel Parker and Dar Halevy)—will serve as the community advisors. The role of these individuals in the organization is to assist in event planning and financial management (see Article XI).

## **ARTICLE IX. AFFILIATION WITH OTHER GROUPS, ORGANIZATION LEADERSHIP AND EXPERIENCE**

We are fortunate to have talented professional staff to serve as mentors and educators for our organization. Our community advisor, Lisa Motenko, is the Associate Executive Director of Hillel of San Diego, with 15 years of experience working in the Jewish non-profit world, including Berkeley Hillel. We are also fortunate to be advised by Moishe House professional staff who have given us extensive guidance on creating a pluralistic Jewish community. The Moishe House organization is a global nonprofit that provides a space for over 70,000 young adults around the world to create meaningful, welcoming Jewish communities for themselves and their peers. It has staff available for rich learning opportunities and will serve as a major asset in developing this new student organization. Chelsea Rapoport, a former Moishe House resident and current host, has previously planned over 100 programs which have ranged from 5 to 100 participants. She currently hosts 1-2 programs a month and would look forward to collaborating with UCSD Hillel and the new Jewish Graduate Students Organization to ensure that programs are successfully fulfilling the needs of Jewish graduate students. Stephanie Heimler, a current Moishe House host, Graduate Student Programming Director at UC San Diego Hillel, and current President of her Biomedical Sciences PhD program, possesses deep expertise in organizing, executing and facilitating events.

Along with Stephanie Heimler and Chelsea Rapoport, all principal members of this organization have participated in Jewish learning fellowships where they have learned how to facilitate programs and encourage student involvement, and all hold various positions in their respective graduate programs' student council. The principal members are therefore experienced in representing the needs of their constituents and providing for the needs of different communities on campus. They are equipped with the leadership and programming experience to create and maintain a successful student organization.

## **ARTICLE X. INCLUSIVITY STATEMENT**

We acknowledge that Jewish students at UC San Diego and around the world come from diverse backgrounds and histories. While our organization will be based on Jewish traditions and cultural activities, we welcome and encourage all students, even those identifying with other religions, to attend and enjoy our events. This goal aligns with Jewish values, which promote openness and collaboration with other communities to maximize growth. Moishe House, a guiding resource for our organization, has consistently prioritized diversity and inclusion in its programming and will serve as a sounding board to ensure that we consistently plan meaningful events that cater to all students interested in engaging in Jewish culture and learning. Our new student organization is committed to creating a diverse environment where we do not tolerate any type of discrimination or harassment of any kind based on race, color, religion, gender, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation or expression, national origin, immigration status, disability, or age.

## **ARTICLE XI. FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT**

Our organization's activities are funded by Hillel San Diego, Moishe House, and private donations. The executive committee members are equipped and responsible to manage proposed budgets in coordination with our partnering organizations, Hillel San Diego and Moishe House.

## **ARTICLE XII. RIGHT TO AMENDMENT**

The principal members of this organization, Stephanie Heimler, Sara Vandenburg, Mia Rosenfeld, and Chelsea Rapoport, and the community advisor, Lisa Motenko, have written and approved this constitution. We reserve the right for any article(s) of this constitution to be amended as necessary by future officers and community advisors who will represent diverse needs of the student body, and who are dedicated to serving with students' best interests in mind.