1. **Generally**

OHSU is committed to ensuring student interests are developed by supporting and recognizing Student Interest Groups. This policy establishes rights and responsibilities of officially recognized Student Interest Groups.

2. **Definition**

A. **Student Interest Group**: A student interest group is an organization whose membership is predominately comprised of currently enrolled students, faculty and/or staff, and whose mission statement guides the activities, interests and efforts of the group.

3. **Recognition and Composition of a Student Interest Group**

A. Any group of currently enrolled students, faculty and staff acting together, electing officers, and/or assessing dues or fees for their mutual benefit may apply with the Office of Student Life to be recognized by OHSU as an officially recognized Student Interest Group.

B. Registration is completed annually through the Office of Student Life and requires Student Interest Groups to obtain a faculty advisor and to adopt a mission statement. The advisor to a recognized Student Interest Group shall be a member of the OHSU faculty.

C. All voting members and officers of a recognized interest group must be students currently enrolled at OHSU for a minimum of six (6) credits as an undergraduate student or five (5) credits as a graduate student.

4. **Rights**

OHSU recognition of a Student Interest Group entitles groups to:

A. The use of some institution owned or controlled facilities for meetings without charge;

B. Request the use of OHSU funds from schools, the Vice President for Student Affairs or the All-Hill Council;
C. Request approval under OHSU Policy 07-90-025, Serving of Alcohol, where applicable, from the Vice President for Student Affairs to host functions;

D. Request Student Interest Group representation on the webpage hosted by the Office of Student Life.

E. Post activity/event notices to the OHSU Student Central.

5. Responsibilities

A. A recognized Student Interest Group shall not use the OHSU’s name or reference to OHSU affiliation except to designate its location at OHSU. For example, it is inappropriate to refer to a group as the “OHSU Asian-American Club”. It is appropriate to refer to a group as the “Asian-American Students at OHSU”.

B. Advertisements and promotional material shall not imply that a function is sponsored or sanctioned by OHSU unless the event is formally co-sponsored with an administrative or academic unit.

C. Any Student Interest Group not complying with the Recognition and Activity procedures (as outlined by the Office of Student Life and made available on the Student Life webpage) for obtaining and maintaining recognition or any of these policies may have one or more of the privileges of recognition withdrawn or its entire recognition withdrawn. Reinstatement of privileges or Student Interest Group recognition will be determined on a case by case basis.

D. A Student Interest Group shall not deny consideration for membership to any student because of race, religion, national origin, color, disability, age, marital status, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, military service, or any other status protected by law.

Implementation Date: January 6, 2016

Revision History: August 23, 1999; October 19, 2005; February 3, 2010; January 6, 2016; June 13, 2019


Responsible Office: Academic and Student Affairs, academicpolicy@ohsu.edu

Key Words: Student Interest Group; responsibilities, recognition.