

**University of Maryland School of Social Work  
Intersectional Feminism and Social Work (IFSW)  
Constitution and By-Laws**

**Constitution**

**Article I. Name of the Organization**

The name of this organization shall be INTERSECTIONAL FEMINISM AND SOCIAL WORK (IFSW) of the UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK.

**Article II. Purpose of the Organization**

The purpose of the Intersectional Feminism and Social Work Group is five-fold:

1. To be socially and politically involved on the University of Maryland, Baltimore campus and in the City of Baltimore.
2. To address and discuss issues relating to the intersections of sex and/or race, color, age, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, physical or mental ability, veteran status, marital or family status, national origin, political affiliation, religion, etc.
3. To provide programming and events that interests or impacts IFSW members.
4. To promote body positivity and sex positivity.
5. To promote a deeper understanding of the feminist and womanist movements through the lens of intersectionality.

**Article III. Membership**

Section 1. All students at the University of Maryland, School of Social Work are eligible for membership in IFSW.

Section 2. Individuals earn membership status by attending at least two meetings, events, and/or seminars during the year and subscribing to the IFSW email list.

Section 3. All members are expected to consistently promote the mission of IFSW as stated in Article II.

Section 4. Membership may not be denied because of race, color, age, sex, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, physical or mental disability, disabled veteran or veteran status, marital or family status, national origin, political affiliation or religion.

**Article IV. Officers**

Section 1. The officers of IFSW shall be three co-chairs, also referred to as

co-facilitators or co-leaders. One co-chair will serve as the Student Government Association Representative (SGA Rep), one will serve as Treasurer, and one will serve as Secretary.

The SGA Rep shall serve as the official IFSW representative for all purposes relating to communication with SGA, School of Social Work, and University of Maryland Baltimore Staff; serve as the organization's spokesperson at any and all outside forums; co-facilitate IFSW meetings and events; and assist in the coordination of IFSW meetings, events, and activities.

The Treasurer shall be responsible for creating a semester and yearly budget for IFSW and communicating this budget to group members, who will approve it by a 2/3-majority vote. The Treasurer shall also be responsible for handling and managing all payments and receipts, and communicating with the SGA Rep and SGA itself about budgetary needs and surpluses.

The Secretary shall maintain an official copy of IFSW records and documents and shall make these materials available to members; create and distribute materials advertising IFSW events through media platforms, including email and The Daily Bulletin; co-facilitate IFSW meetings and events; and assist in the coordination of IFSW meetings, events, and activities.

Section 2. Elections will be announced to members through at least two forms of media and at scheduled meetings and/or events at least four weeks before the date of the election. Nominations must be given to the co-chairs at least one week before the election. Each candidate will have the opportunity to describe their interest in the position and their qualifications. The student members of the organization shall elect IFSW officers by a majority vote of members present.

Section 3. The election process shall occur on a yearly basis, at the conclusion of the Spring semester between April 1 and April 30. Each officer will serve a term of one year, starting and ending on May 1. Vacancies will be filled at the start of the following Fall semester through an informal election process and majority vote. Officers may be removed at any time throughout the year by a majority vote of student members.

## **Article V. Meetings**

Section 1. Monthly Meetings

There shall be one general body meeting per month, to be decided based on the schedules of the members and of the University.

**Section 2. Procedure**

Any member wishing to discuss any issue or lead any event may contact either of the co-leaders at any time to add an item to the meeting's agenda.

**Article VI. Finance**

**Section 1.** IFSW shall receive a set amount each semester from SGA.

**Section 2.** The use of IFSW funds must be approved by the membership, by a 2/3-majority vote.

**Section 3.** Funds leftover from the Fall semester shall carry over to the Spring semester and any unused funds from the spring semester will be returned to the SGA General Budget.

**Article VII. Faculty Advisor**

**Section 1.** The Faculty Advisor will be invited to any and all IFSW events and meetings, and made aware of decisions made at meetings via minutes recorded by the elected Secretary.

**Section 2.** The Faculty Advisor shall be available to meet with IFSW on an as needed basis.

**Section 3.** The Faculty Advisor can request emergency officer meetings to discuss issues/concerns at any time.

**Section 4.** The Faculty Advisor shall be available to provide student guidance and support to address issues related to IFSW.

**Article VIII. Amendments**

This constitution may be amended by a 2/3 vote of members present during an IFSW meeting provided two weeks' notice is given. All amendments must be approved in

accordance with Student Government Association policy before becoming legally binding.