



JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY STUDENTS FOR SENSIBLE DRUG POLICY CONSTITUTION

Article I - Name of Organization

The official name of this organization shall be Students for Sensible Drug Policy at James Madison University

Article II - Purpose of Organization

The first objective of the organization shall be to provide the James Madison University campus community and the Harrisonburg public with informative and educational information about current drug policy reform in the United States.

The second objective of the organization shall be:

- To encourage wide recognition of the social threat posed by the war on drugs and to promote an awareness of the dangers inherent in extensive reliance on prohibitionist policies and politics.
- To involve James Madison students and the public in developing and supporting programs that promote effective drug policies.
- To foster debate and exploration within the Harrisonburg community in order to understand role that the current drug policies play in the general social order.
- To work for a world in which drug policies are not motivated by political gain, by special interest, or by anything other than the ideals set forth in the Bill of Rights and the United States Constitution.
- To foster debate in favor of viable alternatives to existing drug policies, such as needle exchange programs, methadone treatment for heroin addicts, decriminalization, and other harm reduction strategies.

Article III - Membership

Membership in this organization is open to all JMU students and will not be restricted on the basis of age, ability, ethnicity, gender, national origin, race, color, religion, national origin, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or political affiliation. Students in good standing with the University (2.0 cumulative G.P.A.) are eligible for membership after attending or participating in an organization event/meeting. As a member, one is required to attend organization meetings regularly, pay dues, and actively support organization projects. Membership will be revoked by $\frac{1}{2}$ vote of officers plus $\frac{3}{4}$ vote from the general membership if actions are deemed inappropriate by the membership.

There shall be (2) classes of membership in this organization. Student membership; any person dedicated to the purposes of this organization and who either works on the campus of James Madison or is a student enrolled at James Madison. The second class shall consist of any interested person from the greater Harrisonburg community. Pursuant to

the Associated Students Recognition Policy (first page, eighth requirement, section E) and the Associated Students Handbook, the number of non-student affiliate members may not exceed 49% of the organization membership.

Article IV - Officers

Election of officers will require a plurality vote from the general membership. Members interested in becoming an officer must meet the following academic requirement: 2.0 cumulative G.P.A. The term of office will be one full year (November to November). All officers shall comprise the Executive Committee of the organization. The Executive Committee shall meet in addition to regular organization meetings. The Executive Committee shall appoint such committees that are needed to carry out organization goals. The officers and individual duties shall be:

A. President

- Preside over all meetings
- Represent organization on campus
- Ensure that the organization is operating in conformity with the standards set forth by James Madison University and the Office of Student Activities & Involvement
- Cosign organization checks with Treasurer
- Maintain communication with organization adviser

B. Vice-president

- Preside over meetings in the absence of the President
- Schedule meetings/events with appropriate University offices
- Coordinate organization promotion and publicity of events
- Collaborate with other SSDP chapters

C. Treasurer

- Maintain accurate record of organization transactions
- Collect dues if required
- Develop organization budget and present to membership for $\frac{3}{4}$ vote
- Cosign organization checks with President
- Arrange fundraising opportunities for the organization
- Solicits additional funding if needed from the Student Government Association in conjunction with the President

D. Secretary

- Maintain an accurate record of all organization meetings and post for members
- Maintain membership directory
- Correspond when necessary with University administration and other recognized organizations

E. Legal Advisor

- Educate members and community about laws and precedence in court and in school
- Maintain network of defense lawyers and Commonwealth Attorneys in Harrisonburg area

- Establish strong connection with JMU defenders and other in campus resources
- Provide resources for a defense to students in legal or disciplinary trouble
- Foster relationship with Rockingham Harrisonburg Regional Jail
- Mantan confidentiality of students who come for support
- Encourage criminal justice reform outside of drug policy

F. Outreach Coordinator

- Manage social media presence of SSDP JMU chapter
- Publicize events and meeting on billboards and social media
- Come up with new ways to expand membership
- Maintain SSDP JMU website

G. Historian

- Take pictures of SSDP events for website and social media
- Backup official SSDP documents for future executive boards

H. The Homie

- Make sure all voices are heard in SSDP
- Makes sure this SSDP Chapter is working with other SSDP chapters and its national chapter
- Look to collaborate with other advocacy organizations and other clubs on campus
- Can book event rooms

I. IT Administrator

- Maintains upkeep and security for website and important documents
- Upgrades new applications for clubwide use
- Designs website and graphics

J. Subcommittee Liaison

- Oversees JMU SSDP subcommittees
- Reports subcommittee activities to the executive board
- Coordinate events and meetings between subcommittees
- Delegates responsibilities to subcommittee chairs
- Can establish new subcommittees

Officers may be removed from office by $\frac{1}{2}$ vote of the other officers and $\frac{3}{4}$ of the general membership if actions are deemed inappropriate by the membership. The officer is permitted to speak before the Executive Committee and the general membership about the charges made concerning his/her performance. The officer is not permitted to participate in the deliberation of the Executive Committee regarding the charges.

Article V - Adviser

The adviser shall be a full or part time faculty or staff member at James Madison University. The adviser will assume those responsibilities as outlined in this constitution and/or found in University Policy No. 3101 entitled “Faculty Advisers to Student Organizations.” Advisers not fulfilling responsibilities or abiding by the

organization's purpose may be removed from the position by a ½ vote of the Executive Committee. Basic expectations for the advisor shall be:

- Monthly meetings with officers
- Have access to clubs financial information
- Complete necessary documentation

Article VI - Meetings

The organization shall hold regular weekly meetings during the academic term except when holidays, examination periods or other events make meeting impractical. Organization meeting day/time will be determined in the beginning of each semester by a ¾ vote of the general membership. Attendance at organization meetings is expected. If a member must miss a meeting, correspondence with the secretary is appreciated. A quorum shall consist of a handful of members including two officers. Robert's Rules of Order (newly revised) shall govern all meetings.

Article VII - Finance

The organization may establish reasonable dues that must be paid by all members. The amount of the dues will be determined in the beginning of the academic year by the Executive Committee and presented to the general membership for a ¾ vote. Dues must be paid by the date as the executive committees deems as appropriate. The treasurer shall maintain all financial records and shall cosign with the president for all organization transactions.

Article VIII - Hazing

"Students for Sensible Drug Policy", in keeping with JMU's expectations for a positive academic and social environment, unconditionally opposes hazing. No individual member of our group or the group itself may engage in or plan any activity that may be defined as hazing.

"Students for Sensible Drug Policy at James Madison University" opposes any situation created intentionally to produce mental or physical discomfort, embarrassment, harassment or ridicule to its members or potential members. In addition, no individual nor recognized organization may by physical or mental stress or by subtle or covert technique, impair, make captive, or destroy an individual's' freedom of thought and choice.

J17-100 Hazing ^[SEP]The university prohibits any situation created intentionally to produce mental or physical discomfort, embarrassment, harassment or ridicule in connection with or the purpose of initiation, admission into, or affiliation with or as a condition for continued membership in a club, organization, or association, regardless of whether the students participated voluntarily in the relevant activity. Students directing, engaging in, aiding, or participating in, **actively or passively**, the forcing, compelling, requiring, encouraging, expecting, whether direct or implied, of individuals to participate in hazing activities shall be considered in violation of this policy ^[SEP]It is impossible to anticipate

every situation that could involve hazing. Behavior listed below does not, and cannot encompass every circumstance that can be categorized as hazing. Further, this policy is not intended to prohibit customary athletic events, contests, and competitions that are sponsored by the institution or the organized and supervised practices associated with such events or activity or conduct that furthers the goals of a legitimate educational curriculum, extracurricular program, or military training program as approved by the University.

Hazing activities include but are not limited to; physical abuse; kidnapping, blindfolding, confinement, or binding and/or restricting movement; calisthenics or other strenuous physical activity used to harass, punish, or harm an individual; excursions; spraying, painting, or pelting with any substance; burying in any substance; nudity; servitude; exposure to uncomfortable elements; verbal abuse or harassment; wearing of apparel which is conspicuous or indecent; forcing consumption of any legal or illegal substance (e.g. food, liquid, beverage, alcohol, drug, or other substance); depriving of sufficient sleep; burning, branding, or tattooing; interrogation in an intimidating or threatening manner; misleading members in an effort to convince them that they will not become or remain members unless they complete tasks, follow instructions, or act in a certain way; misleading members into believing that they will be hurt during induction or initiation; carrying items that serve no constructive purpose or that are designed to punish or embarrass the carrier; requiring or suggesting obtaining, possessing items or completing tasks in an unlawful manner (i.e. scavenger hunts); any act that is designed to or likely to compromise the dignity of a member or prospective member, cause embarrassment or shame to a member or prospective member, cause a member or prospective member to be the object of malicious amusement, ridicule, or emotional strain, or cause psychological harm or substantial emotional strain; or any other activity which may result in physical injury or endanger the health or life of the individual being hazed.

An individual cannot consent to being hazed; a victim's voluntary or willful participation in hazing activities will not be considered evidence that a violation of this policy did not occur. ^[SEP]Section 18.2-56 of the Code of Virginia declares hazing illegal, establishes conditions for civil and criminal liability, and outlines the duties of the university when a student has been found guilty of hazing in civil or criminal court.

It is hereby incorporated as part of this constitution and will serve as a guide for action by the university and “Students for Sensible Drug Policy at James Madison University” if there is an instance of hazing by this organization or any of the members of this organization. It will be the duty of the officers of “Students for Sensible Drug Policy at James Madison University” to educate the membership of this policy.

Article IX - Amendments

Amendments to this constitution must be submitted in writing at a regular meeting of the organization. Said amendment(s) will be voted on at a subsequent meeting. In order to adopt the amendment, a vote of 2/3 of the general membership is necessary.

Article X - Ratification

This constitution shall become effective upon approval by a $\frac{3}{4}$ vote of the membership.
Ratified constitutions must be submitted to the Student Activities & Involvement office within 10 days for final approval.

Updated 11/08/2018

