

Constitution of Western's Caucus on Women's Issues



Articles

Article 1: Name

The official name of the organization shall be: "The University of Western Ontario Caucus on Women's Issues."

Article 2: Aims and Objectives

Aim: The aim of the organization shall be to promote and safeguard the interests of women at the University of Western Ontario and its affiliates.

Objectives: The objectives of the organization shall be:

Proposed amendment:

1. To cultivate a sense of community among women at The University of Western Ontario.
2. To encourage the integration of the findings from feminist research into all curricula at UWO and its affiliates.
3. Proposed amendment: "to promote an environment which facilitates the full professional development of all women who are employees and students at UWO and its affiliates."

By-Laws

By-Law No. 1: Membership

- a) Eligibility: Any woman employed as a full or part-time member of the faculty or staff, or who is a student of the University of Western Ontario and its affiliates, is eligible for membership in the organization."
- b) A person becomes a member of the organization by being eligible and by paying dues.
- c) Additional members may be admitted to the organization by a special vote of the Executive Committee.

By-Law No. 2: Dues

- a) Dues are payable once per academic year.
- b) The amount of the dues shall be determined by the general membership.

By-law No. 3: Officers and Governing Body

- a) The officers of the organization shall be:

President
1st Vice-president
2nd Vice-president
Secretary
Treasurer

- b) The governing body of the organization shall be an Executive Committee consisting of the officers of the organization, the immediate past president, and an indefinite number of elected representatives of the general membership serving on the Executive Committee as members-at large.

By-Law No. 4: Election and Tenure of Officers and Executive Committee Members

- a) The secretary of the organization shall act as the chair of an ad hoc Nominating Committee appointed by the Executive Committee. Nominations shall be solicited by this committee and will be accepted from the floor at the general membership meeting for the election of Officers and Executive Committee members.
- b) Voting: Election of the Officers and Executive Committee members (including members-at-large) shall take place at a meeting of the general membership and shall be by simple majority of secret ballots where more than one candidate has been nominated, or by acclamation when only one candidate has been nominated.
- c) Terms of Office: The term of office for Officers and Executive Committee members shall be for one year or until their successors are elected.
- d) Successive Terms: Officers shall be eligible for election to the same office for two or more consecutive terms.
- e) Vacancies: Vacancies on the Executive

Committee shall be filled by appointment of the Executive Committee.

By-Law No. 5: Management of the Organization

- a) Unless otherwise ordered by the Executive Committee, there shall be at least three general membership meetings during the academic year.
- b) The election of Officers and of the Executive Committee, amendments to the Constitution and By-laws, and the establishment of policy and dues must be approved by a meeting of the membership at which a quorum is present. Ten percent of the membership shall constitute a quorum. A simple majority vote shall be required. Letter ballots shall not be used.
- c) The Executive Committee shall be entrusted with administration of all other organizational matters.
- d) The Executive Committee shall be empowered to make rules for its own procedure, providing always that questions before the Executive Committee shall be settled by majority vote of the Executive Committee.
- e) Upon receipt of the Executive Committee of a written request signed by 10% of the membership, the president shall be required to call a general meeting within 14 days.

By-Law No. 6: Standing and Ad Hoc Committees

The Executive Committee may appoint Standing or Ad Hoc Committees as it considers necessary to promote the aims of the organization.

By-Law No. 7: Amendments to the Constitution and By-laws of the Organization

Members shall be notified in advance of meeting of all proposed changes and the constitution and by-laws.

By-Law No. 8: Policy on Endorsements and Mailing List

Decisions about what to endorse, co-sponsor or circulate information about via the electronic mailing list will be made by caucus executive on a case by case basis. Decisions will be made by those members of caucus executive who can be

reached. In making these decisions, the executive will be guided by the following principles:

1. Information/events must be relevant for the membership, given the mandate of caucus.
2. Given our objective of fostering community among women at UWO, we will avoid endorsing and sponsoring, though we may circulate information about, events that are relevant and of interest but politically charged in a way that could be potentially divisive of the membership.
3. We will not distribute information for any for-profit purposes.
4. As a member of NAC, we will forward information from NAC or from other NAC member groups.

