STUDENT PROMOTED INTEGRATION IN NURSING BYLAWS (Updated 06/02/2015)

ARTICLE I – Name

The name of this organization shall be Student Promoted Integration in Nursing (hereafter referred to as SPIN).

ARTICLE II – Purpose

The purpose of SPIN is:

a. To promote the integration of students from underrepresented groups in nursing (As defined by AACN, 2013).

b. To provide non-academic opportunities to celebrate culture, heritage, and diversity in nursing.

c. To provide opportunities that will increase the level of cultural competence of members in preparation to join the professional nursing workforce.

d. To provide a support network focused on fellowship, friendship, and social opportunities in which members can learn more about other cultures.

ARTICLE III – Designation

SPIN shall be a student organization within the St. David’s School of Nursing at Texas State University.

ARTICLE IV – Membership

Membership eligibility is open to any student (graduate or undergraduate) within the St. David’s School of Nursing at Texas State University. Active membership is determined by attendance and participation in meetings and events.

ARTICLE V – Criteria for Voting Membership

In order to qualify as a voting member for officer elections and/or to run for an officer position, the following requirements must be met:

a. Must be an ACTIVE member of SPIN.

   a. An active member is constituted by:

      i. Attending at least 1 meeting per month, and 1 event in a semester with the exclusion of summer semester.

      ii. Members must be active for at least two semesters in order to graduate with a sash.

b. Currently enrolled as a Texas State student.

c. All elections will be held through TRACS or another secured site.

In order to qualify as a voting member for electing change in the constitution, amendments, or other matters at the Presidents’ discretion, the following requirements must be met:

a. Must be a member of SPIN.

   a. A member is constituted by:
b.
   i. Signing up to be a part of SPIN
      ii. In the process of becoming an Active member of SPIN
b. Currently enrolled as a Texas State student

ARTICLE VI – Officers

Section 1.

The officers of SPIN shall be the president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, community liaison, and historian.

Section 2. Eligibility

1. Only ACTIVE members of SPIN shall be eligible for any officer position.
2. Officers must have an overall GPA of 3.0 or above.

Section 3. Term of Office

The term of office shall be one (1) year, from the beginning of the time of installment (at the last meeting of the Spring semester) until the next Officer is installed. This allows a transition period for new Officers.

Section 4. Duties of Officers

1. The President shall:
   a. Preside at all meetings of organization.
   b. Appoint special committees with the approval of the organizational body, as needed.
   c. Manage and maintain the SPIN TRACS site with current documents, announcements, and other organization related postings.
   d. Represent SPIN in matters relating to the association and perform all other duties pertaining to the office.

2. The Vice president shall:
   a. Assume the duties of the president in the absence or disability of the president
   b. In the event of vacancy occurring in the office of president, the vice president shall assume the duties of the president.
   c. Be responsible for membership, including recruitment and maintaining a current list of members.
   d. Be responsible for review and recommendations for changes in by-laws.
   e. Co-sign checks with the treasurer for monetary disbursements as the by-laws provide, as needed.
   f. Perform all other duties as assigned by the president.

3. The Secretary shall:
   a. Prepare the minutes of all business meetings of the organization.
b. Inform SPIN of all current events and activities and provide up-to-date names and addresses of officers.
c. Review the policies, and be responsible for recommendations of policy changes.
d. Perform all other duties assigned by the president or as usual to this office.

4. The Treasurer shall:
   a. Act as custodian of organization funds.
   b. Co-sign checks of monetary disbursements as the by-laws provide.

5. The Community Liaisons officer(s) shall:
   a. Coordinate activities and events for SPIN,
   b. Be an official spokesperson for SPIN.
   c. Inform SPIN of activities pertaining to SPIN, the SON, and other student nursing organizations.

6. The Historian(s) shall:
   a. Be responsible for taking pictures at all functions and events.
   b. Gather pictures taken at events from other members and organizes them for use by the organization.
   c. Forward images to faculty advisor for use in newsletters and other publications.

Section 5. Election to Office

1. Officer nominations for the next school year will be held in November.
2. Each candidate must forward to the President an unofficial transcript as well as a short description stating how he/she contributes to and will promote the purpose of the organization. This description will be made available to all members via the SPIN TRACS site and/or email for at least one week prior to the next organization meeting.
3. At this nomination meeting, each candidate for a position will have an opportunity to make a speech. The time for the speech will be limited to five minutes followed by a question and answer period. After all speeches for an office are completed, there will be a vote held on TRACS. Officers shall be elected by the first meeting of the Spring semester to allow for a shadowing opportunity.
4. A simple majority of votes will be required to elect the Officers.

Section 6. Impeachment

If the need arises, any officer may be impeached by the following proceedings: One member would make a motion to impeach the said Officer. This motion must be seconded, and then may be voted upon. Should the Active membership vote for the motion by a three-fourths (3/4) majority, the motion is passed and the said Officer is thereby removed from office. If the office impeached is either President or Vice President, a new election will take place for the office. Any Officer may, but is not required to, give up his/her office in order to run for the newly vacated position. These other newly vacated positions would then be filled in the same manner as normal officer elections.
ARTICLE VII - Meetings

Section 1. Frequency

Meetings shall occur twice a month. The date, time, and place of all regular meetings shall be called by the President with the agreement of the organization at the first meeting of each semester. The date of the first scheduled meeting of the following semester shall be called by the President with agreement from the organization.

Section 2. Special Meetings

In the event of an emergency, the President shall call an Officer meeting or a special meeting, if deemed necessary.

Section 3. Quorum

A quorum at meetings shall consist of the president or vice president, one other officer, and 3 active voting members.

ARTICLE VIII - Finances

Section 1. Dues

SPIN will have no dues. Records of profits from fundraising activities will be kept by the treasurer.

ARTICLE IX – Committees

Section 1. Permanent Committees

The list of permanent committees will be subject to review by the Officers at the end of each semester. Membership on the committees will consist of one-semester terms. All Committee Chairpersons shall be voted on by the organization.

Section 2. Special Committees

The Vice President shall have the authority to form special committees after a review by, and the approval of, the Officers when the need arises. After approval by the Officers, the actual decision to form the committee will be presented to the organization for discussion and a majority vote. All special committees will be dissolved after completion of their set tasks, as determined by the Officers.

ARTICLE X – Faculty Advisor(s)

1. The selection of a Faculty Advisor will be consistent with the election of officers. The
President and current faculty advisor will seek candidates interested in sponsoring/advising the organization. Candidates will then be asked to provide a written statement to be posted on TRACS, and personally address members prior to elections being held.
2. The terms of office for Faculty Advisors are unrestricted and are only reconsidered when the position is vacated.
3. Faculty advisor will act as liaison with the SON director.

**ARTICLE XI – Amendments**

These Bylaws may be amended at any regular or special meeting by a quorum two-thirds (2/3) vote of the active members.

**ARTICLE XII – Ratification**

These Bylaws shall be declared ratified and in force when approved by two-thirds (2/3) of the active members. All former Bylaws and parts of Bylaws inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.