

Feminist Action at Middlebury Constitution

I. **Name:** The name of this organization shall be Feminist Action at Middlebury (FAM).

II. **Purpose:**

- a) As an organization, FAM will promote activities focusing on gender issues.
- b) It will serve as an informational, educational, and cultural resource for the students, staff, and faculty of Middlebury College. Its purpose is to bring a greater understanding of gender-related issues to the community at large. The organization will also provide a forum for the advancement and protection of women's rights, safety, and well-being, and in so doing, will strive to create and [sic] inclusive and diverse feminist consciousness at Middlebury College.

III. **Membership:** Membership is open to all students, faculty, and staff at Middlebury College.

IV. **Offices:** FAM shall consist of a President (or Co-Presidents) and Treasurer. Other suggested, but not mandatory, positions are defined in section "c" of this article.

- a) President (Co-Presidents)- The group will decide at the time of elections whether it would like to elect a President or Co-Presidents (the office will be referred to from now on as "President" whether two people hold the position or simply one.) The President will be charged with coordinating and running meetings. The President will also be responsible for providing the group with information about women's issues on campus, in the state of Vermont, and in the country. The President is also responsible for suggesting activities the group may want to sponsor or coordinate on campus such as "International Women's Day" and "Take Back The Night Week".
- b) Treasurer – The Treasurer will be charged with monitoring and organizing the group's finances. The Treasurer will also serve as liaison between FAM and the Finance Committee.
- c) Secretary – The secretary would be responsible for keeping minutes at the weekly meetings as well as e-mailing the group members regarding weekly meetings as well as special events.
Symposium chair/Committee – The Symposium Chair or committee would be responsible for submitting a proposal for a fall/Jterm/spring symposium should the organization express interest in a campus-wide symposium.

V. **Elections:**

- a) Elections will be held at an announced, weekly meeting before March 15th. The group must be notified that elections will take place at this meeting at least a week before elections are held. A quorum of ten percent of the membership, defined as those who have attended one half or more of the weekly meetings, must be present for elections to take place. Students may be nominated for offices by any member of FAM or themselves and the nominations will then be brought to a vote by the members. A simple majority is needed for a nominee to win an election.

- b) If two nominees agree to hold the Presidential Office together, this must be ratified by a simple majority vote. If two or more nominees agree to hold an office other than the Presidential Office or the Treasurer's Office together, this also must be ratified by a simple majority vote. The number of members allowed to hold a position together is at the discretion of the acting President.

VI. Meetings: FAM will hold planning and/or discussion-based meetings on a weekly basis.

VII. Committees: FAM has no permanent committees. The formation of temporary committees is at the discretion of the President.

VIII. Faculty Advisor: The membership agrees to maintain an advisor from the faculty or staff, as required.

IX. Affiliations: FAM has no standing affiliations with any groups or organization.

X. Ratification:

- a) The constitution must be ratified by a two-thirds majority of the membership.
- b) The constitution must be approved by the Student Government Constitution Committee.

XI. Amendments:

- a) Amendments to the constitution must be ratified by a two-thirds majority of the membership.
- b) Amendments to the constitution must be approved by the Student Government Constitution Committee.

Approved as to form: May 10, 1977

Edited and approved: September 26, 1991

Edited and approved: April 30, 1994

Edited and approved: Spring 2000

Edited and approved: November 19, 2007