

Constitution

Feminist Law Forum

Indiana University – Bloomington
Maurer School of Law

Article I – Name

The name of the organization shall be the Feminist Law Forum.

Article II – Mission Statement

We believe that the voice of feminism has a place in the Law School and that, too often, that voice has been muted. We believe that feminism inherently embraces diversity and that, too often, diversity within the Law School community has been undervalued. We believe that the goals of feminism and legal education are furthered by action rather than inaction. With these beliefs in mind, the Feminist Law Forum will:

1. Educate ourselves and the Law School community about feminism, feminist legal thought, and issues affecting women in the legal profession.
2. Effect positive change by identifying and speaking out against sexism, racism, and heterosexism in the Law School community.
3. Foster diversity in the Law School community and embrace the diverse experiences that students bring to law school.
4. Serve as an information resource and a support network for female law students and all students interested in feminist issues.
5. Challenge members and the Law School community to think about how our actions as lawyers will affect the ways in which future generations view the role of law in society.

Article III – Membership

Membership is open to all students who have paid organizational dues in accordance with the bylaws and who support the goals of Article II, the organizational Mission Statement.

Article IV – Officers

There shall be two Co-Presidents, a Vice-President/Publicity Chair, and a Recorder/Treasurer, with the option to break Treasurer and/or Publicity Chair into separate elected offices. Additional leadership may include, but is not limited to, the positions of Outreach Coordinator, Events and Education Coordinator, and Action Coordinator. Committee Chairs may be appointed as deemed necessary in accordance with the bylaws. Eligibility to be an officer shall be determined in the organizational bylaws.

Article V – Responsibilities of Officers

A. Co-Presidents – In order to most fully maintain our feminist ideals of equality and to disestablish existing hierarchies, there shall be two Co-Presidents working in community and sharing responsibility. They shall schedule, set the agenda for, and preside over meetings and shall be responsible for administering organizational finances. The Co-Presidents shall also coordinate with other officers and supervise the Committee Chairs.

B. Vice President/Publicity Chair – The Vice President/Publicity Chair shall carry out the Co-Presidents' responsibilities if they are unable to do so and shall assist them in carrying their responsibilities. The Vice President/Publicity Chair shall be responsible for active promotion of organizational events.

C. Recorder/Treasurer – The Recorder/Treasurer shall record and distribute to the members the minutes of the meetings as well as handle the organization's finances.

D. Outreach Coordinator – The Outreach Coordinator shall be responsible for encouraging diverse organizational membership and participation, with particular emphasis on furthering the organization's current organizational goals.

E. Events and Education Coordinator – The Events and Education Coordinator shall develop and promote events and programs within the Law School as well as coordinate events with organizations outside the Law School.

F. Action Coordinator – The Action Coordinator shall be responsible for facilitating the organization's response to current events and political developments and for furthering the organization's goals through direct action.

Article VI – Meetings

Meetings shall be held at least once a month. The Co-Presidents shall be responsible for providing notice of upcoming meetings.

Article VII – Voting

A. Quorum shall be achieved by 2/3 dues-paying members.

B. Organizational decisions shall be made by a majority of the members voting at a meeting for which adequate notice has been provided, except the following, which shall be made by 2/3 of members present at a meeting for which adequate notice has been provided:

1. Decisions to take an organizational position,
2. Removal of an officer,
3. Ratification of the Constitution, and
4. Amendment of the Constitution.

C. Absentee votes shall be accepted in accordance with the bylaws.

Article VIII – Statement of University Compliance

This organization shall comply with all Indiana University regulations and state, local, and federal laws.

Article IX – Anti-Hazing Policy

Hazing is strictly prohibited. Hazing shall be defined as any conduct which subjects another person, whether physically, mentally, emotionally, or psychologically, to anything that may endanger, abuse, degrade, or intimidate the person as a condition of association with a group or organization, regardless of the person’s consent or lack of consent.

Article X – Personal Gain Clause

This organization, if raising funds, shall ethically raise and distribute profits from organizational functions to either the organization or to members who provide a service that directly benefits the organization. Individual members may not receive compensation directly from for-profit companies if acting as a representative of a student organization.

Article XI – Programs Involving Children

This organization, when working with children, will be aware of and abide by the University’s Programs Involving Children (PIC) Policy.

Feminist Law Forum Bylaws

A. Leadership

1. Elections for leadership positions shall be held yearly at the last meeting of the spring semester.
2. Elections to establish new committees or committee chairs shall be held at the first meeting of a semester as appropriate to accommodate the organization’s needs.
3. Eligibility for leadership positions is open to any member, as defined by Article III of the Constitution.
4. Upon an officer’s resignation or removal from office, a new officer shall be nominated and voted for at the next meeting.
5. Acceptable considerations for removing an officer include the following: missing two meetings without contacting other officers, inadequate support of the Feminist Law Forum Mission as established in Article II of the Constitution, or as otherwise determined by the remaining officers.

B. Absentee voting

1. Absentee voting is not allowed at this time.

Last updated: August 30, 2016