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Western Heads East

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Constitution for Kenya's Western Heads East (KWHE) - 2014

Western Heads East

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Constitution

Article 1: Name of the Association

- i. Kenya's Western Heads East (KWHE) in association with Western Heads East of London, Ontario

Article 2: Objectives

- i. Western Heads East is a non-profit organization that works with partners in East Africa to teach communities how to make health promoting probiotic yogurt. This yogurt is created by African "Yogurt Mamas" who make and sell their products. Probiotic yogurt has beneficial properties including relief from diarrheal diseases and bacterial vaginitis, as well as increased immune function. These probiotic yogurt programs are opened in highly underserved areas of Sub-Saharan Africa to address health, empowerment of women and economic development.
- ii. The organization has several objectives including the following:
 - a. Sustainable improvement in health and economic status within East African communities
 - b. Have students be advocates for healthy living
 - c. Increase global relationships by created a collaboration between Western University and JKUAT
 - d. Opening research opportunities for students

Article 3: Membership

- i. All JKUAT students are eligible to join the Kenya WHE chapter.
- ii. Students interested in applying for an executive position on the committee will have to follow the procedures instructed by the outgoing executive committee; otherwise instructed by a governing body.

Article 4: Office Bearers

- i. The KWHE executive committee will consist of the following positions (number of candidates per position indicated within the parentheses):
 - a. Co-President (2)
 - b. Communications Director (1)
 - c. Lab Assistant (2)
 - d. Fundraising Director (2)
 - e. Awareness Director (2)

Article 5: Duties of Officials

- i. Duties and responsibilities of respective executive positions are indicated below:
 - a. Co-President
 - i. Bi-weekly communication with WHE London, Ontario chapter
 - ii. Organize bi-weekly (or as frequent as required) group meetings with association members
 - iii. Oversee the financial management of KWHE
 - iv. Oversee other positions within the association
 - v. Responsible for future recruitment
 - b. Communications Director
 - i. Creating social media sites for this association (Facebook page)
 - ii. Volunteer must maintain frequent contact with the co-presidents to receive up to date information
 - iii. Inform JKUAT students of upcoming events (post on JKUAT web site or Facebook page)
 - c. Lab Assistant
 - i. Assist the lab technician in preparing the probiotic culture on a bi-weekly basis (This involves culturing the probiotic and inoculating milk with the bacteria)
 - ii. Candidate must have previous microbiology lab experience
 - d. Fundraising Director
 - i. Organize fundraising events to support Kenyan yogurt kitchens
 - ii. Assist the awareness directors in sourcing events for promotion
 - e. Awareness Director
 - i. Promote healthy living, and the importance of proper diet for health, including the awareness of AIDS/HIV and the benefits of probiotics for health
 - ii. Raise awareness of the health conditions of impoverished communities
 - iii. Seek opportunities to involve KWHE in other local functions

Article 6: Election of Officials

- i. Students interested in applying for an executive position on the committee will have to follow the procedures instructed by the outgoing executive committee; otherwise instructed by a governing body.
- ii. All executives are responsible for training and advising the incoming elect for a period of one month during the turnover process.

Article 7: Term of Office of Officials

- i. Executive members must commit to their roles and responsibilities for one academic year.

Article 8: Activities of Association

- i. The development of Western Heads East is Western's community response to the HIV/AIDS crisis in Africa. The sustainable community development program began in Mwanza, Tanzania; a highly underserved area of Sub-Saharan Africa with one of the highest rates of HIV/AIDS infection in the world. The organization has grown into expanding projects to Uganda, Rwanda, Malawi, Burundi and Kenya. The program involves student interns from a variety of faculties working to address the nutritional and economic needs of those directly affected by the pandemic. In turn, our students and campus community benefit from incredible learning and research opportunities.
- ii. The KWHE chapter is an opportunity for JKUAT students to get involved with WHE. Students will have the opportunity to:
 - a. Work with an accredited international non-profit organization
 - b. Gain leadership and management skills
 - c. Engage in health promotion and awareness
 - d. Gain practical lab experience
 - e. Participate in research opportunities; and
 - f. Potential exchange programs in the future
- iii. The KWHE chapter will act as a communication hub for WHE, while serving to meet the same objectives of the organization.

Article 9: Meetings of the Association

- i. The KWHE shall meet no less than once per month, and as often as necessary to fulfill the objectives stated in article 2.

Article 10: Committees of the Association

- i. Non-applicable. Refer to article 4.

Article 11: Finances of the Association

- i. All fundraising initiatives will direct income towards subsidizing yoghurt expenditures less any required expenses.
- ii. All financial requisitions must be approved by a governing body.

Article 12: Code of Conduct

- i. The KWHE chapter is expected to act in the spirit of mutual learning and research pursuits as both the African and Canadian partners will help and benefit from

- understanding the health benefits of the probiotic yoghurt and work to replicate the project in other communities.
- ii. KWHE will act in the same inspiration of WHE to be the community response to the HIV/AIDS crisis in Africa.
- iii. KWHE will honor the code of conduct expected of all students of JKUAT.

Article 13: Amendment of the Constitution

- i. Proposals for amendments to the Constitution must be presented in writing to the Co-Presidents. Proposals will be presented and discussed at the next KWHE meeting following their submission.
- ii. Amendments to the Constitution shall require a three-fourths vote of a quorum of the KWHE to be adopted.

Article 14: Dissolution of the Association

- i. In the event of the dissolution of KWHE, any assets will be relinquished to a governing body and used at their discretion.

Article 15: Names/Office Patron

- i. The governing body will be composed of:
 - a. Chairman, Department of Food Science and Technology, Arnold N. Onyango.
 - b. Pamela Odhiambo