

F.A.R.R.
Forensic Advocates for Rehabilitation and Reintegration
Nova Southeastern University
College of Psychology

ARTICLE I. INTRODUCTION

SECTION I. Mission Statement

Forensic Advocates for Rehabilitation and Reintegration (FARR) is a group of students dedicated to making an impact within the field of forensic psychology at the individual and community level. Membership is open to anyone with an interest in forensic psychology and working with individuals within the correctional system. Our goal is to educate and raise awareness about mental health issues within correctional facilities. We hold events, general meetings, fundraisers, as well as provide support and psycho-educational presentations for individuals within the correctional system, including inmates, post-release, and staff. FARR gives students an opportunity to make a difference in the lives of individuals as well as further their education on relevant topics and issues within forensic psychology.

ARTICLE II. OBJECTIVES

SECTION I. Internal (understanding the need)

- A. *Increase student understanding of the current functioning of the justice system with respect to mental health.*
 - a. Increase student's awareness of current issues regarding the justice system and mental health.
 - b. Inspire students to acknowledge and challenge current mental health practices within correctional facilities, both punitive and rehabilitative.
- B. *Facilitate student involvement in advocacy for forensic populations.*
 - a. Present students with the resources necessary to implement change and maintain progress within forensic psychology.
 - b. Provide students with opportunities for advocacy and involvement.
 - c. Implement a system for passionate students to work collectively toward our mission to reduce stigma and improve supportive efforts of persons within correctional facilities.
- C. *Provide graduate students with information and opportunities in forensic based research.*
 - a. Create a forum for graduate students to develop and implement original research related to forensic psychology.
 - b. Support graduate students in presenting and publishing original research.
- D. *Provide graduate students with up-to-date information and best-practices in the field of forensic psychology.*
 - a. Create and facilitate opportunities for students to attend lectures on topics related to forensic psychology.
- E. *Establish relations with other student organizations to promote collaborative working relationships of common goals.*

SECTION II. External (outreach)

- A. *Reduce stigma of mental health within forensic populations and facilities.*

- B. *Increase awareness surrounding the prevalence, consequences, and treatment needs and outcomes of mental health in forensic populations.*
- C. *Provide opportunities for mentorship by fellow graduate students, alumni, and practitioners to enhance professional development.*
 - a. Motivate students to network within cohorts, between cohorts, and throughout the university
 - b. Provide students with an opportunity to collaborate with fellow students, alumni, and practitioners in topics related to forensic psychology.
 - c. Provide students and alumni with information regarding practicum, internship, post-doc, and employment opportunities within the field of forensic psychology.

SECTION III. Funding

- A. This association will be funded through monies acquired through fundraising events and the College of Psychology SGA appropriated monies.

ARTICLE III. IMPLEMENTATION OF OBJECTIVES

SECTION I. Internal

- A. *Increase student understanding of the current functioning of the justice system with respect to mental health.*
- B. *Facilitate student involvement in advocacy for forensic populations.*
- C. *Provide graduate students with information and opportunities in forensic based research.*
 - a. Provide students with information regarding forensic-based research conferences (i.e., date and location, deadline for proposals, conference related information).
 - b. Provide students with contact for the research chair for disseminating information related to forensic-based research opportunities.
- D. *Provide graduate students with up-to-date information and best-practices in the field of forensic psychology.*
 - a. Provide lecture, seminars, and workshops on a variety of topics related to forensic psychology.
 - b. Encourage students, faculty, and the community to attend professional training opportunities and conference associated with mental illness.
 - c. Create on-going programming efforts to educate students, faculty, and the community about forensic psychology.
- E. *Establish relations with other student organizations to promote collaborative working relationships of common goals.*
 - a. Collaborate with SGA for promotion of FARR events and other collaborative events.
 - b. Collaborate with other student organizations within other academic departments to promote knowledge of forensic psychology and facilitate collaborative learning.

SECTION II. External

- A. *Reduce stigma of mental health and provide resources within forensic populations and facilities.*
 - a. Provide psychoeducation to forensic populations.
 - b. Implement a mentorship program for individuals eligible for release (pre and post) in an effort to provide support and reduce recidivism.
 - c. Hold fundraisers/drives for appropriate resources for forensic facilities (i.e. book drives).
- B. *Increase awareness surrounding the prevalence, consequences, and treatment needs and outcomes of mental health in forensic populations.*
 - a. Hold speaker series on various topics within forensic psychology from acknowledged forensic psychologists and faculty.
 - b. Network with local forensic psychologists to provide opportunities for students within the field of forensic psychology.
- C. *Provide opportunities for mentorship by fellow graduate students, alumni, and practitioners to enhance professional development.*
 - a. Create email list serves to facilitate transmission of information between the mentioned parties

ARTICLE IV. MEMBERSHIP

SECTION I. FARR Membership

Membership forms for FARR will be made available to the entire College of Psychology student body. The Forms must be returned to be added to the listserv and to be apprised of meetings and events. Members must be enrolled through the academic year in a graduate program in clinical or school psychology.

ARTICLE V. OFFICERS AND ELECTIONS

SECTION I. Selection of Executive Board Members

- A. All candidates self-nominate themselves for Board positions. Only students who are continuously enrolled in a Doctor of Philosophy in Clinical Psychology (Ph.D.), Doctor of Psychology in School Psychology (Psy.D), or Doctor of Psychology in School Psychology (Psy.D) program at Nova Southeastern University are eligible to self-nominate.
- B. For the inaugural year, the President and Vice President will be appointed by the advisor and will work collaboratively and share responsibilities as outlined below. In each subsequent year, the Executive Board will be formed through a process in which members interested in leadership roles are nominated by themselves and must submit a short essay demonstrating their commitment to the FARR objectives, qualifications for the position, and description of their leadership skills. Nominated students will be oriented to FARR bylaws, specific role,

responsibilities, and time commitments. Candidates will be elected, should they receive the majority vote of current FARR board members. The current board members are required to mentor those taking over their position for the upcoming year to ensure that FARR's mission is continued and that the organization continues to thrive.

SECTION II. Selection of Faculty Advisor

The executive board will select a faculty advisor(s) at the time of the creation of the board. At least one advisor must be a faculty member within the College of Psychology. The advisor must be a faculty member of the psychology department with a specific focus in forensic psychology. The selection will be based upon the faculty member's expertise in research, service, and advocacy within professional psychology. The advisor will be informed of all ongoing projects of the association during scheduled meetings.

SECTION III. Executive Board Meetings

Executive board meetings will be held at a mutually agreed upon time decided at the start of each semester. Meetings will be scheduled once a month for board members and the faculty advisor, and once a month for executive board and current members. All board members are expected to attend both meetings unless granted permission otherwise. In the event of a board member's absence, he or she becomes responsible for disseminating chaired project updates and developments to all board members.

SECTION IV. Executive Board Rules

Faculty Advisor: Tom Kennedy, Ph.D

1. Chair (President)

- Leads and oversees FARR and its development.
- The President regularly checks FARR e-mails, organizes meetings with FARR faculty advisor(s), organizes meetings among executive board members, and presides at all general student meetings.
- The President also ensures that FARR is meeting its obligations and responsibilities, and that all board members are acting in accordance with the By-Laws and satisfying their duties.

2. Co-Chair (Vice President)

- If the President is unable to act on behalf of FARR, the Vice President will assume the responsibilities of the President.
- The Vice President informs members of all events and opportunities relevant to FARR's mission.
- Oversee and contribute to current and novel events and projects (e.g., selecting topics, coordinating presenters), and report updates to the Executive Board.

- Organize registration for and promote student involvement in community, volunteer, or charitable events activities (e.g., awareness walks).

3. External Advocacy Representative

- Organize ongoing as well as time-limited outreach projects
- Promote student involvement in projects and oversee student training and implementation of outreach involvement

4. External Advocacy Co-Representative (if necessary)

- Assistant to the External Advocacy Representative
- Provide support with projects and other ongoing missions of the board

5. Internal Advocacy Representative

- Engage in ongoing research on important initiatives that affect psychologists
- Keep the board and students informed of current issues by posting monthly updates on bulletin board
- Keep members up to date by forwarding information to newsletter editor in a timely fashion

6. Internal Advocacy Co-Representative

- Assistant to the Internal Advocacy Representative
- Provide support with projects and other ongoing missions of the board

7. Membership Coordinator/Newsletter Editor

- Editor of newsletter: compiling past months activities and future events, compiling topic of the month commentary
- Engaging member involvement through topic of the month discussions
- Updating of membership database and ensuring that all board members have member contact information
- Ensuring that the group is represented during orientation for new students, interview day, and open houses, and holding membership brown bags
- Coordinate and hold informational meetings for students
- Fundraising Representative: Engage in ongoing research for funding possibilities
 - Pursue various funding options
 - Complete necessary paperwork to gain funding

8. General Board Member Duties

- Develop student informational flyers for fundraisers
- Chair new advocacy projects (subcommittees) as they arise
- Attend monthly board meetings and monthly advisor meetings
- Participate in events whenever possible
- Communicate effectively with other board members regarding ongoing projects
- Meet project deadlines
- Explore possibilities for internal and external advocacy projects, and consult with board before undertaking new projects
- When possible, open up home to hold advocacy dinner series meetings
- Commit to 5 hours per week
- Emailing & calling necessary persons asking for support
- Advertising for brown bags & other events to students

9. *Treasurer*

- Complete University required Treasurer and Logistics training
- Coordinate events and projects to raise money for the association
- Endorse all approved FARR expenditures
- Maintain records of all expenditures

10. *Secretary*

- The Secretary is responsible for keeping minutes of FARR Board and general meetings, serving as custodian of all records, and maintaining an updated membership database so that all board members have FARR member contact information.
- The Secretary may also be tasked with heading student programming that seeks to connect FARR to NSU College of Psychology students.
- The Secretary will also assist the President and Vice President in planning and preparing for all FARR events, including reserving rooms for meetings.

11. *Research Coordinator*

- Coordinate research projects within FARR
- Act as a liaison between faculty research advisors and FARR projects
- Oversee all research projects which include but are not limited to poster presentations, symposiums, paper presentations, and manuscripts
- Schedule research meetings every semester to update members on any changes and progress
- Keep an accurate and up-to-date list on all projects and their progress
- Promote and offer research opportunities to the student body of the College of Psychology

12. *Public Relations Chair*

- Advertise all meetings, events, and fundraisers throughout the College of Psychology

- Promote FARR to all College of Psychology members
- Direct contact with SGA for any events
- Responsible for printing all flyers, posters, and updating social media

ARTICLE VI. RESIGNATIONS, REMOVALS AND VACANCIES

SECTION I.

A. Resignations

- a. An officer may resign from the Executive Board by delivering a written resignation to the Chair, or if the resigning officer is the Chair, then the Chair shall submit the resignation to the co-Chair. That office is thereupon deemed vacant and the selection of board member process, as outline above, will take place.

SECTION II.

A. Removal

- a. An officer may be removed from office before his or her term would have otherwise expired by a 2/3 majority of votes cast at an Executive meeting. At least one of the following conditions must be met before said removal can take place:
 - i. Appropriate grounds leading to the termination of that office due to not fulfilling the duties of his or her respective position, as outlined in the bylaws, and that office becomes vacant upon said removal; or
 - ii. Appropriate grounds leading to the termination of that office due to a blatant disregard of one or more of the provisions of these Bylaws, or of a blatant disregard for said office characterized by a lack of "good faith" effort to carry out the necessary and appropriate duties and responsibilities of said office, will cite that officer for removal, and that office becomes vacant upon said removal.
 - iii. The position of an officer who ceases to be in good standing will automatically become vacant.

SECTION III.

A. Filling Vacancies

- a. If an officer's position becomes vacant, the vacancy will be filled within one month of said vacancy by appointment of the Executive Board with the final approval granted by the co-Chairs.

ARTICLE VII. REVISIONS AND AMENDMENTS

Forensic Advocates for Rehabilitation and Reintegration can propose By-Laws amendments through its voting process for subsequent approval by the Executive Board of Directors OR by FARR members. Proposed amendments become effective upon Executive Board approval.