

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 advocating for social justice initiatives. Our goal is to educate and raise awareness about mental health issues and diversity within the justice system. We hold events, general meetings, fundraisers, as well as provide support and psycho-educational presentations to serve both sides within the field (staff and persons served). FARR gives students an opportunity to make a difference in the lives of individuals as well as further their education on relevant topics within social justice 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. *Promote and increase awareness of topics related to social justice reform.*
- C. *Increase awareness surrounding the prevalence, consequences, and treatment needs and outcomes of mental health in forensic populations.*
- D. *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. *Promote and increase awareness of topics related to social justice reform.*
 - a. Encourage individuals to express their feelings and opinions on social justice topics through our newsletter
 - b. Facilitate events to educate individuals about social justice reform and initiatives.
- C. *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.
- D. *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. 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 and in good-standing in a Doctor of Philosophy in Clinical Psychology (Ph.D.), Doctor of Psychology in Clinical Psychology (Psy.D), Doctor of Psychology in School Psychology (Psy.D) or any Master of Science (M.S.) or Master of Art (M.A.) 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. Additionally, the inaugural president will hold their position for two years. In each subsequent year, the Executive Board will be formed through a process in which members interested in leadership roles (i.e. President and Vice President) are nominated by themselves and must submit an application demonstrating their commitment to the FARR objectives, qualifications for the position, and description of their leadership skills. Those self-nominating for the President and/or Vice President positions must have been FARR executive board member to be eligible. All current board members are eligible to vote. 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. If an individual is not nominated for a leadership position, they can apply for another Eboard position in the second phase of elections.

- C. Anyone who is self-nominating can apply for one position. Interested individuals should send a self-nomination form to the President by the specified date. Eboard positions will be voted on by the current Eboard members, and the individual with the highest number of votes will be nominated. The voting process will be blind.
- D. Current Eboard members may self-nominate for their present position, however, they will be evaluated alongside all other candidates.
- E. Elections for the upcoming school year will take place by the end of September annually.

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 general 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 Member Responsibilities

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.
- Obtain all self-nominations for Eboard elections and facilitating the voting process

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. *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

4. *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.
- Gather self-nomination information for president and vice president elections and create online voting.

5. *Research Chair*

- 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
- Provide support to students surrounding relevant research conferences such as conference information and development of conference materials
- 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

6. *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 (i.e. Facebook, Instagram)
- Posting all event flyers on all social media platforms, posting at least one time a week
- Editor of newsletter: compiling past months activities and future events, compiling topic of the month commentary
- Collaborate with Internal Event Coordinator and External Event Coordinator to update and maintain FARR bulletin board with upcoming events

7. Internal Events Chair

- Organize and schedule internal events, fundraisers, and socials with other schools within NOVA – includes tabling and other philanthropy events that will take place on campus
- Promote student attendance to such events
- Keep the board and other students informed on upcoming events
- Collaborate with Public Relations chair and External Event Coordinator to update and maintain FARR bulletin board with upcoming events

8. External Events Chair

- Organize and schedule external events, fundraisers, and socials with local businesses that will take place off campus. One fundraising event should take place each academic year
- Promote student attendance to such events
- Keep the board and other students informed on upcoming events
- Collaborate with Public Relations chair and Internal Event Coordinator to update and maintain FARR bulletin board with upcoming events

9. Diversity Chair

- Focus on current issues and topics related to diversity in the goals consistent with FARR's purpose and mission Work
- Closely with other members of the FARR Eboard to disseminate relevant information
- Act as a liaison to the College of Psychology Diversity Committee to promote awareness of diversity issues within the field of psychology.
- Organize two diversity/social justice-related events during the academic year

10. First Year Representative

- Act as a liaison between FARR and the first-year doctoral students in the College of Psychology

11. Master's Program Representative

- Act as a liaison between FARR and the students in the College of Psychology Master's programs

12. General Board Member Duties

- Chair new advocacy projects (subcommittees) as they arise
- Attend monthly board 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
- Emailing & calling necessary persons asking for support
- Advertising for brown bags & other events to students

ARTICLE V. 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 outlined 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 VI. 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.