BYLAWS OF BEYOND THE NEEDLE

Passed unanimously by the members of Beyond the Needle on October 6, 2025
Last Amended: October 6, 2025

ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of this organization shall be Beyond the Needle.

ARTICLE II: PURPOSE

The purpose of Beyond the Needle is to engage the Marist community in the Silver Needle Runway show through volunteer opportunities, networking events, professional workshops, and more.

ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1 Types of Membership

Membership shall be classified as follows: Active and Passive Members

Section 1.1 Active Members

Active members are members who meet the attendance and participation requirements outlined in Section 2.

Section 1.2 Passive Members

Passive members are members who do not meet the active membership requirements but remain affiliated with the club.

Section 2 Qualification of Membership

To qualify for active membership, members must meet the following requirements:

- Attend at least 50% of meetings and 50% of events.
- Earn a minimum of 1 priority point(s) based on the following breakdown:
    - 1 point: 50% meetings, 50% events.
    - 2 points: 50% meetings, 75% events (including community service).
    - 3 points: Officers only—50% meetings, 100% events (including community service).

Section 3 Fees or Dues

No required fees / dues.

Section 4 Resignation

Members may resign from the club by submitting a written notice by email to the executive board. Resignation shall be effective upon receipt of the notice.

ARTICLE IV: FACULTY ADVISOR

Section 1 Duties of the Faculty Advisor → JM Olivera

The Faculty Advisor shall:

- Provide guidance and support to the club.
- Attend meetings and events as needed.
- Assist in ensuring the club adheres to university policies and procedures.

ARTICLE V: OFFICERS

Section 1 Officer Positions

The officers of the club shall include:

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Events Coordinator
- Social Media Liaison
- SNR Representative

Section 2 Duties of Officers

- President: Preside over meetings, represent the club, and ensure the club's goals are met.
- Vice President: Assist the President and assume their duties in their absence.
- Secretary: Record meeting minutes and maintain club records.
- Treasurer: Manage club finances and prepare financial reports.
- Events Officer: Work with President and Vice President to plan club events.
- Social Media Officer: Take photos at meetings and events, create social media content to promote the club.
- SNR Representative: Liaison between the club and FSP class/SNR

ARTICLE VI: ELECTIONS

Section 1 Method of Elections

Officers can be elected by applying to open positions and being selected by the SNR Student Directors and Faculty Advisor.

Elections must be completed, certified, and the results communicated to the MUSGA Club Affairs board by the first meeting after the selections.

Section 2 Length of Term

Officers shall serve a term of one academic year, but can be re-elected.

Section 3 Election Qualifications

In order to be eligible for a board position, you must not be graduating within the calendar year.

ARTICLE VII: MEETINGS

Section 1 Regular Meetings

Regular meetings shall be held once a month at 9:15pm on a weeknight. Location will be decided depending on the space needed for an event.

Section 2 Special Meetings

Special meetings may be called by the President or a majority of officers with at least 24 hours notice to members.

Section 3 Quorum

A quorum for official business shall consist of 50% of active members.

ARTICLE VIII: COMMITTEES

Committees may be established by the President or a majority vote of the club. Each committee shall have a chairperson appointed by the President.

ARTICLE IX: PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

Unless suspended, all official club leadership meetings shall be conducted in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised.

ARTICLE X: AMENDMENTS

These bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds (⅔) majority vote of active members, provided that a quorum is present. Amendments must be submitted to the [Club Affairs Board] for final approval.

ARTICLE XI: COMPLIANCE

The club and its members shall comply with all federal laws, state laws, university policies, and directives of the Student Government Association. Violations may result in disciplinary action.

ARTICLE XII: ANTI-HAZING POLICY

The club strictly prohibits any form of hazing, as defined by [state university policy or relevant law]. Violations will result in immediate disciplinary action.

ARTICLE XIII: VALUES

Section 1 Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

Section 1.1 Definitions and Declarations

a. The SGA is charged with fostering an environment that affirms the multiplicity of perspectives within our community, so that all students are seen, heard, and advocated for. The SGA will continue to reflect on the zeitgeist of the campus and the world, and evolve appropriately to best serve the Marist community. Our priority is to fortify each student's inherent dignity as a human being.

b**.** In accordance with the President's Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, Beyond the Needle affirms the following definitions:

i. Diversity is the many dimensions of our social, physical and psychological differences, both visible and invisible. To embrace diversity is to celebrate our differences beyond mere tolerance.

ii. Equity is the practice of fairness, through which equal opportunity is available to all.

iii. Inclusion is the assurance that belonging will be affirmed through active acknowledgment and acceptance of the diversity of the Marist community.

Section 1.2 General

a. Beyond the Needle will be a proactive organization that recognizes diversity and inclusion as the pillars that reinforce enduring equity on the Marist campus.

b. Beyond the Needle will foster an environment that promotes intercultural communication, empathy, equitable treatment and anti-discrimination efforts. Members are expected to promote awareness, respect and open-mindedness.

c. Beyond the Needle will make every effort to ensure events are accessible to all students.

Section 2 Sustainability

Section 2.1 General Guidelines

a. The Marist University Student Government Association shall operate in a sustainable and eco-conscious way, making every effort to reduce our carbon footprint on the environment.

b. The specific regulations outlined below shall be followed at all times, or members may be subject to disciplinary action pursuant to Article IX of these Bylaws.

c. All chartered clubs shall adopt an altered version of this article within their bylaws to ensure that sustainability spreads throughout other student organizations.

Section 2.2 External Communication

a. Members of Beyond the Needle shall make every effort to utilize electronic means to communicate with club members.

b. Paper advertisements should be limited to thirty (30) copies maximum.

i. The MUSGA Vice President of Sustainability may grant permission to surpass that limit in special circumstances.

ARTICLE XIV: RATIFICATION & AMENDMENT

Section 1 Ratification

These bylaws shall become effective upon approval by a two-thirds (⅔) majority vote of the club's active members.

Section 2 Amendments

Amendments to these Bylaws shall be enacted by a two-thirds (⅔) vote of the MUSGA Club Affairs Board

Section 2.1 Review
The decisions of the Club Affairs Board are subject to review by the MUSGA Assembly and possible reversal of its decision

Section 3 Recordkeeping
Updated bylaws, with or without changes, must be submitted to the Vice President of Club Affairs at the end of each academic year.

ARTICLE XV: TECHNOLOGY USE

All clubs must utilize Microsoft platforms for official communications and operations. The use of other platforms, such as Google, is not permitted unless explicitly approved by the SGA.

ARTICLE XVI: WAIVERS

Section 1 Activity Waivers

Clubs may require members to sign waivers for certain activities that involve risk. These waivers must be approved by the university's legal department and comply with all relevant policies.

ARTICLE XVII: CONFERENCES AND FUNDING

Section 1 Conference Participation

Clubs are encouraged to participate in conferences that align with their mission and goals. Funding for such events may be requested from the SGA, subject to approval and availability of funds.

ARTICLE XVIII: NAME CHANGE APPROVAL

Any change to the official club name must be approved by the MUSGA assembly.