ARTICLE 1. NAME, OBJECTIVES AND DEFINITIONS

A. NAME – The corporation shall be known as the Vermont Society of Health-System Pharmacists, Inc. (“VtSHP” or the “Corporation”).

B. The objectives of the Corporation shall be:

1. To advance public health by promoting the professional interests of Pharmacists practicing in hospitals and other organized health care settings:
   a. Fostering pharmaceutical services aimed at drug use control and rational drug therapy.
   b. Developing professional standards for pharmaceutical services.
   c. Fostering an adequate supply of well trained, competent pharmacists and technicians and other associated personnel.
   d. Developing and conducting programs for maintaining and improving competence of pharmacists and technicians and associated personnel.
   e. Disseminating information about pharmaceutical services and rational drug use.
   f. Improving communication among pharmacists, other members of the health care industry, and the public.
   g. Promoting research in the health and pharmaceutical sciences and in pharmaceutical services.
   h. Promoting the economic welfare of pharmacists, technicians and other associated personnel.

2. To foster rational drug use in society such as through advocating appropriate public policies toward that end.

3. To pursue any other lawful activity that may be authorized by VtSHP’s Board of Directors.

ARTICLE 2. MEMBERSHIP

A. MEMBERS – The membership of the Corporation shall consist of active, associate and honorary members as provided in the By-Laws.

1. Active members shall be Pharmacists and Technicians licensed by any state, district or territory of the United States, who have paid dues as established by VtSHP. Only active members may vote on amendments to the Articles of Incorporation, and elect or serve as an officer of VtSHP. Only Pharmacists may serve as State Delegates. Active members should be members of the American Society of Health System Pharmacists.

2. Associate members in the Corporation shall consist of supporting members, student members as well as other pharmacy supportive personnel. Associate members shall receive publications and general communications of the Corporation, may attend
meetings, may be granted the privilege of the floor, but are not entitled to hold elected office nor have voting privileges.

a. Supporting members may be any individual who by their work in health services, the teaching of prospective pharmacists or otherwise contributing to hospital pharmacy, makes themselves eligible for membership. Supporting members should be members of the American Society of Health System Pharmacists.

b. Student members are individuals enrolled in an undergraduate program in an accredited College of Pharmacy. Student members should be members of the American Society of Hospital Pharmacists, student member category.

3. Honorary Members are individuals who are or have been especially interested in, or who have made outstanding contributions to professional pharmacy practice. Honorary members shall not pay dues but may vote or hold office if otherwise eligible for active membership.

ARTICLE 3. MEMBERSHIP DUES

Dues for active and associate members shall be recommended by the Board of Directors and approved by general membership.

ARTICLE 4. MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS

A. ACTIVE MEMBERS - Application for active membership shall be prepared on the standard form and forwarded to the Secretary or Treasurer of the Corporation. Dues should accompany the application. The Secretary or Treasurer may approve all applications for membership, or when there is doubt as to the qualifications of the applicant, he/she may require concurrence by the Board of Directors. When an active member so changes their vocation as to no longer fit the definition of an active member, he/she may automatically become an associate member with the rights and privileges of associate membership.

B. ASSOCIATE MEMBERS – Application for associate membership shall be approved as indicated for active members.

C. HONORARY MEMBERS – Nominations for honorary membership shall be approved by a unanimous vote of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE 5. PERIOD OF MEMBERSHIP

The period of membership shall be from April 1 to the last day of March of the following year, each and every year.

Any member arrears in dues shall cease to be a member of the Corporation, and may be reinstated as a member provided his/her payment of membership dues is made.
ARTICLE 6. MEETINGS OF MEMBERS

The Corporation shall hold an annual meeting of members, either within or without the State of Vermont, at a time and place stated in the notice to members (hereinafter referred to as the “Spring Meeting”). At the Spring Meeting, the President and Chief Financial Officer shall report on the activities and financial condition of the Corporation and the members may consider and act upon other matters raised consistent with these By-Laws and Vermont’s Nonprofit Corporation Act.

ARTICLE 7. QUORUM/PROXY

One-third of active members attending the Spring Meeting shall constitute a quorum. Members may not appoint a proxy to attend a vote in their place.

ARTICLE 8. OFFICERS

The officers of the Corporation shall be the President, the Immediate Past President, the President Elect, the Secretary, the Treasurer and the Pharmacy Technicians Representative. Only active members of VtSHP may serve as officers. No person with a criminal record or suspended professional credentials (as verified by the Board) may serve as an officer of VtSHP.

The President Elect shall be elected annually for a term of one year and shall successfully ascend to the Office of President and Immediate Past President for a year in each position.

The Secretary, Treasurer and Pharmacy Technician Representative shall be elected annually.

Pharmacists may run for President, President Elect, Immediate Past President, Treasurer and Secretary.

Pharmacy Technicians may run for Pharmacy Technician Representative, Secretary and Treasurer.

A. NOMINATION, ELECTION, COUNTING OF BALLOTS, INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS.

A nominating committee of three active members shall be appointed by the President prior to the Spring Meeting. They shall announce the Candidates for the office of President Elect, Secretary, Treasurer and Pharmacy Technician Representative at this Spring Meeting, at which time additional nominations may be made from the floor. A ballot will be prepared and mailed by the Secretary or Treasurer to all active members. All ballots to be eligible for voting must be handed in to the Board at the Spring Meeting. Additional ballots will be available at the Spring Meeting in such case as members not bringing their filled ballot. Each member may vote only once in each category. A majority of such votes shall constitute election. In the case of members running unopposed and there are no other nominations from the floor, membership may vote with a yay or nay voice vote.

Newly elected officers shall be installed at the next meeting of the Board, to hold office until the following year.
B. DUTIES OF OFFICERS

PRESIDENT – The President shall preside at all meetings. He/She shall appoint all committees and shall be ex-officio member of each. This is otherwise known as Chairman.

PRESIDENT ELECT – The President Elect shall perform the duties of President in the absence of the President and shall serve as Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors.

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT – He/She shall serve on the Board of Directors, shall serve as Chairman of the Board of Directors in the absence of the President and President Elect.

SECRETARY – The Secretary’s duties shall include keeping the minutes of all meetings, maintaining roll of members, receiving and preparing all correspondence of the Corporation, mailing minutes, forwarding all funds received to the Treasurer or President and approving all applications according to these By-Laws.

TREASURER – The duties of the Treasurer shall include receiving and keeping accounts of all monies received by the Corporation in the form of dues or remittances and shall disburse at the direction of the Board of Directors.

PHARMACY TECHNICIAN REPRESENTATIVE – The Technician Representative duties involve keeping member technicians informed of Corporation functions and answering related questions in conjunction with the other members of the Board, and advocating for the needs of technicians of the profession.

C. VACANCIES

Authority is granted to the President to appoint a member to fill any vacant office for an unexpired term, with the exception of the President Elect.

1. To fill a vacancy for President Elect after the annual Election, the Board of Directors shall present two nominations to the active membership for a special election.
2. If both the President and President Elect shall become unable to perform the duties of their office, the Board of Directors shall appoint from the membership of the Board of Directors a President pro tempore to serve the remaining portion of the unexpired term. At the next Spring Meeting of the Corporation, nominations shall be presented by the Committee on Nominations for the offices of President and President Elect and an election conducted in accordance with the provisions of the By-Laws.
ARTICLE 9. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

A. COMPOSITION - The Board of Directors shall consist of the President, President Elect, Immediate Past President, Secretary, Treasurer and Pharmacy Technician Representative. Directors must be active members of VtSHP. No person with a criminal record or suspended professional credentials (as verified by the Board) may serve as a Director of VtSHP.

B. TERM - Elected officers shall serve for a term of one year from June 1 to May 31.

C. OFFICERS – The President of the Corporation shall serve as Chairman of the Board of Directors, the Secretary shall serve as Secretary of the Board of Directors.

D. MEETINGS – The Board of Directors may meet at the call of the Chairman.

E. QUORUM – A majority of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum.

F. RESPONSIBILITIES – The Board of Directors shall have charge of the property of the Corporation and shall have authority to control and manage the affairs and funds of the Corporation; to supervise all publications of the Corporation and to select editors for Corporation publications; to make ultimate decisions regarding the acts of committees and officers on professional matters as well as administrative; to accept on behalf of the Corporation grants, contribution gifts, bequests or devices to further the purpose of the Corporation; to do and perform all acts and functions not inconsistent with these By-Laws.

ARTICLE 10. COMMITTEE CHAIRS

The President shall appoint chairs of councils and Committees as are required.

FUNCTION - In working toward achievement of the objectives of the Corporation, each council and/or committee shall function in development and advisory capacity, developing and implementing programs authorized by the Board of Directors and recommending programs and policies to the Board of Directors in the major area of Corporation interest to which it is assigned. Committees are developed as deemed appropriate by the Board.

The Technology Committee. This committee is responsible for the operations of the website. www.vtshp.org.

Program Committee: Coordinates and supports speakers (and associated continuing education requirements) for meetings as directed by the Board.

ARTICLE 11. AMENDMENTS

Every proposition to alter or amend by the By-Laws shall be submitted by an active member at a regular meeting of the Corporation and shall be approved by a majority of the active membership in attendance. It shall be submitted to the entire membership for vote by paper (US mail or at the spring meeting) or electronic (e-mail) ballot, voting only once by whichever means suits the member.

Adopted July, 2009.  Certified by: _______________________________  President