OChemTALKS Constitution

Preamble

OChemTALKS is a student-run seminar series whose purpose is to promote awareness and understanding of the field of organic chemistry within the Ohio State University (OSU) community as well as to highlight the achievements of OSU's graduate students.

Article I Name, Purpose, and Non-discrimination Policy

Section 1: The name of the organization shall be “OChemTALKS”

Section 2: The purpose of this organization is to continue working with the well-established goals of coordinating a successful student-run lecture series. The seminar series shall be organized by chemistry graduate students, for chemistry graduates students with a four-fold mission: (1) to allow students to learn from and interact with prominent members of the scientific community, (2) for attendees to learn more about the research being conducted by their fellow graduates, (3) to facilitate and strengthen a sense of community among graduate students within the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, and (4) to expose graduate students to different avenues and career paths related to chemistry.

Section 3: This organization and all its members, presenters, and attendees will not discriminate against any individual(s) for reasons of age, color, disability, gender identity or expression, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or veteran status.

Article II Membership qualifications and categories of membership

Section 1: Membership shall be open to all university faculty, staff, and students who show interest related to the advancement and understanding of the field of chemistry and biochemistry. Any university personnel who attend at least three (3) OChemTALKS meetings per year shall be considered “members.” OChemTALKS members are awarded voting privileges. Membership will likely consist of graduate students faculty, and post-doctoral fellows in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry.

Section 2: Membership to the club may be discontinued at any time throughout the year as requested by the individual. In the event that a member is unruly, obscene, and does not have the best interest of the club at heart, a majority vote of the current members, chair and advisor may dismiss the member from the organization. At the end of each club term, current members may choose to continue their role as a “member” in the club, may nominate themselves as a potential chair candidate, or may discontinue their membership for the upcoming year.

Article III Organization Leadership: Titles, terms of office, type of selection, and duties

Section 1: Leadership & duties

OChemTALKS shall be lead by the chair who is voted on annually by the members. The position of a treasurer shall also be voted on annually by the members. The chair will be responsible for organizing the OChemTALKS meetings and delegating responsibilities while the treasurer will primarily be responsible for managing the budget and preparing the requisite audits. A vice-chair will be voted upon by the members annually and will help organize and plan events in conjunction with the chair and treasurer. All duties may be split between the chair, treasurer, and vice-chair as they see fit.
Section 2: A chair may step down from their position as a result of personal reasons (that may or may not be disclosed to the rest of the club members). A new chair will be selected according to a majority vote of the rest of the club and fulfill the leadership duties for the duration of the school year. At the end of the school year (or transition period for new clubs), the chair may nominate themselves for chair for the following year (as will be voted on by the members), may step down from the leadership role and become a member, or may discontinue membership in the club all together. In the event that a chair is unruly, obscene, and does not have the best interest of the club at heart, a majority vote of the current members and advisor may dismiss the chair from the organization or remove them from the leadership role. The other officer positions including vice-chair and treasurer may be selected or removed from office according to the same procedure as chair.

Section 3: There shall be no maximum term limit for the chair, treasurer, or vice-chair. However, all officers shall commit to a minimum of 1 academic year of service to the organization.

Article IV Standing Committees: Names, purposes, and composition

There will be no “Standing Committees.” However, should any need creating, it will be up to the discretion of the OChemTALKS members.

Article V Advisor(s) or Advisory Board: Qualification Criteria

Section 1: The advisor shall provide guidance and counsel and promote general welfare of the OChemTALKS organization. The advisor shall attend OChemTALKS events as permitted by his/her schedule. The advisor shall help oversee officer transition when necessary.

Section 2: The advisor may step down from their position as a result of personal reasons (that may or may not be disclosed to the rest of the club members). A new advisor will be selected according to a majority vote of the rest of the club and fulfill their duties for the duration of the school year. A new advisor may be selected at the end of each school year registration period at the discretion of the OChemTALKS members and officers. If a new advisor is desired, this advisor will be chosen based upon a majority vote of the OChemTALKS members.

Article VI Meetings and Programming of the Organization

Section 1: OChemTALKS shall meet throughout year with monthly frequency for the entire academic year. However, some semesters may have a larger or smaller number of meetings depending upon weather, university scheduling, and other possible unforeseeable circumstances. These meetings will be open to all interested parties.

Section 2: The David J. Hart Symposium will be given annually by a prominent, researcher in organic chemistry focused around the area of total synthesis or related fields outside of OSU nominated and voted on by the members of this organization. The speaker gives one lecture that is attended by faculty, staff, graduate, and undergraduate students throughout OSU community. Besides giving their seminar, these speakers will be given the opportunity to meet with all interested graduate students, post-doctoral researchers, and faculty during their visit.
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Section 3: The OChemTALKS Synthetic Strategy Lectures will be given annually by a prominent, researcher in organic chemistry focused around the area of developing synthetic strategies or related fields outside of OSU nominated and voted on by the members of this organization. The speaker gives one student-hosted lecture open to all interested parties including faculty, staff, graduate, and undergraduate students throughout OSU community. Besides giving their seminar, these speakers will be given the opportunity to meet with all interested graduate students, post-doctoral researchers, and faculty during their visit.

Section 4: The OChemTALKS Industry Lectures will be given as permitted by a prominent, researcher in organic chemistry from an industry setting or related fields outside of OSU nominated and voted on by the members of this organization. The speaker gives one student-hosted lecture open to all interested parties including faculty, staff, graduate, and undergraduate students throughout OSU community. Besides giving their seminar, these speakers will be given the opportunity to meet with all interested graduate students, post-doctoral researchers, and faculty during their visit.

Section 5: The number of lectures held will be dependent on scheduling and funding, however, every effort will be made to host as many speakers as possible with a minimum of 1 speaker per semester. All invited speakers will be prominent researchers in organic chemistry or related fields outside of OSU and give a student-hosted lecture open to all interested parties including faculty, staff, graduate, and undergraduate students throughout OSU community. The speakers will be nominated and voted on within the membership. These speakers will be given the opportunity to meet with all interested graduate students, post-doctoral researchers, and faculty during their visit.

Article VIII Method of Amending Constitution: Proposals, notice, and voting requirements

Proposed amendments to the constitution should be submitted by the OChemTALKS members. Votes will be collected at a OChemTALKS meeting and will require a two-thirds majority of voting members of the organization.

Article IX Method of Dissolution of Organization

Upon dissolution of the chapter for any reason whatsoever, after the discharge of its debts and settlement of its affairs, all assets and property of the organization shall be conveyed to the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry for use in the promotion of the objectives of the organization in the advancement of education and science.