

Mechanical, Aerospace, And Nuclear Engineering Graduate Student Association (MEGA)

Student Organization Constitution

ARTICLE I. NAME OF ORGANIZATION

Mechanical, Aerospace, And Nuclear Engineering Graduate Student Association (Mega)

ARTICLE II. ORGANIZATION PURPOSE

Our mission is to create a group that advises, assists, supports, socially involves, and encourages the professional development of graduate students in the Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering (MAE) at The Ohio State University (OSU). By serving as a reliable resource for information, providing a voice for the graduate student population, acting as a liaison between graduate students and the mechanical and aerospace engineering faculty and administration, and fostering a sense of community through social activities, we strive to enhance the experience of all graduate students in the department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering.

ARTICLE III. UNIVERSITY REGULATIONS

Section A. Harassment and Discrimination, including Sexual Misconduct

Mechanical, Aerospace, And Nuclear Engineering Graduate Student Association (Mega) *agrees that it will not engage in sexual misconduct nor any harassment or discrimination on the basis of age, ancestry, color, disability, gender identity or expression, genetic information, HIV/AIDS status, military status, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, protected veteran status or any other basis in accordance with the Student Organization Registration Guidelines.*

Section B. Hazing

Mechanical, Aerospace, And Nuclear Engineering Graduate Student Association (MEGA) *agrees to maintain a zero-tolerance policy for hazing, in compliance with Ohio State University and Collin's Law. All members must conduct themselves in a manner that supports an environment free from hazing. Hazing includes any activity, regardless of consent, that causes or creates a substantial risk of physical, mental, or emotional harm or humiliation to any individual as part of membership or affiliation with the student organization. If found responsible for hazing, members and/or the organization may face disciplinary actions.*

Section C. Bylaws

Mechanical, Aerospace, And Nuclear Engineering Graduate Student Association (Mega) *retains the right to maintain separate bylaws to outline the day-to-day operations of the organization and to clarify policies and procedures otherwise not included in the previous articles. Bylaws and/or other guiding documents may not take precedence over the requirements set forth by local, state, and federal laws, The Ohio State*

University's regulations, policies, and procedures, and the Council on Student Affairs (CSA) Student Organization Registration Guidelines. Organizations may make amendments and changes to the bylaws without consulting the Ohio Union & Student Activities department, and changes to bylaws do not require approval. All elements of organizational bylaws shall be consistent with the organization's currently approved constitution on file and CSA constitution requirements.

ARTICLE IV. MEMBERSHIP

Section A. Membership Eligibility

All OSU students pursuing a graduate degree in the Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering are eligible to become members of MEGA. All members have the right to participate in any function or activity the organization holds.

Section B. Member Selection

Membership is voluntary. Eligible students may become members by attending a MEGA meeting or expressing written interest (e.g., by email or official sign-up) in joining the organization. This organization does not discriminate on the basis of age, ancestry, color, disability, gender identity or expression, genetic information, HIV/AIDS status, military status, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, protected veteran status, or any other bases under the law, in its activities, programs, admission, and employment.

Section C. Membership Timeline

New members are recruited in August at the start of each school year.

Section D. Member Removal

Members may be removed from MEGA for conduct that violates university or departmental (for the Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering) policy or code of conduct, subject to a majority vote of the executive board.

ARTICLE V. ADVISOR

Section A. Advisor Duties and Responsibilities

The faculty/staff representative will be chosen after the annual elections by the Executive Committee. The faculty/staff representative shall complete the training prescribed by the OSU Student Union and serve as the organization's advisor as required by the OSU Student Union. She/he will serve as an interpreter of the departmental rules and regulations and as an envoy between the Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering and MEGA. The faculty/staff representative is a non-voting member of MEGA during his/her term.

Section B. Advisor Term

Each advisor term lasts two years, with the opportunity to renew their term an infinite number of times, if the faculty/staff member wishes to continue advising our club.

Section C. Advisor Selection

Faculty or staff within the Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering are eligible to serve as an advisor for MEGA. The advisor will be selected by a simple majority vote of the council members annually.

Section D. Advisor Replacement

If we need to replace an advisor, we will recruit a new faculty/staff advisor from within the Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering.

ARTICLE VI. ORGANIZATION LEADERSHIP

Section A. Officer Positions

President

The President shall complete the prescribed training and fulfill all requirements mandated by the OSU Student Union. The President shall serve as the primary contact for the organization. The President shall call, set the agenda for, and lead meetings of the organization.

Vice-President

The Vice-President shall perform the duties of the President or the Treasurer in his/her absence.

Treasurer

The Treasurer shall complete the prescribed training and fulfill all requirements mandated by the OSU Student Union. The Treasurer shall serve as the secondary contact for the organization, oversee all monetary issues, and, when necessary, interface with departmental administration and/or administrative staff in fiscal-related matters.

Council Members

The council members shall be responsible for supporting the executive committee in fulfilling the duties of MEGA. The duties of the council members will be jointly decided on by the executive committee as necessary, and can include but are not limited to secretary, professional development, volunteer and service coordination, web moderation, and social development. The exact number of council members can vary from year to year, but should be no less than 2 and no more than 4.

Section B. Officer Eligibility

The Executive Committee shall consist of the President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Council Members. It is desirable for the composition of the Executive Committee to reflect the diverse degree programs (e.g., BS/MS, MS, PhD), focus areas (e.g., applied mechanics), and disciplines (e.g., nuclear engineering) within the Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering. It is also favorable that at least one of the elected leaders (i.e. president, vice president, treasurer) has previously served as a MEGA council member to facilitate leadership transition from year to year.

Section C. Officer Selection Process

Elections for new Executive Committee members will be held annually toward the end of the spring semester, with those elected taking office at the start of the following summer semester. Only members of MEGA are eligible to submit nominations. Following nominations, voting shall be open to the membership of MEGA, and candidates shall be elected by a simple majority vote of members casting ballots.

Section D. Officer Removal

In the event that an executive committee member does not meet the expectations of their role, as listed above, even after being confronted about it once by the faculty/staff representative, the executive committee will take an anonymous vote for the removal of this executive committee member from his or her position, initiated and led by the faculty/staff representative. If there is a tie in the votes, the faculty/staff representative will be asked to vote. It should be noted that all executive committee members will be protected through the non-discrimination policy (see Article IIIA) throughout this process.

ARTICLE VII. ORGANIZATION DISSOLUTION

Section A. Dissolution Requirements

The organization may be dissolved by either:

- a. A two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the active membership, provided that notice of the proposed dissolution has been given to all members at least two weeks in advance of the vote; **or**
- b. When no members are willing or able to serve in leadership positions for the following academic year.

Section B. Dissolution Procedures, including Assets and Debts

In the event of dissolution, all debts of the organization must be paid in full. Any remaining assets shall be transferred to Ohio State's Student Activities Office or the Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, depending on the original funding source of the assets, in accordance with university policies. No part of the organization's assets shall benefit any individual member. Upon official dissolution, the officers (or remaining members) of the organization are responsible for notifying the Student Activities staff so that the organization's information may be removed from the university website and official records.

ARTICLE VIII. CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

Section A. Amendment Process

An amendment to the Constitution shall first be presented to the Executive Committee, who may then ask that the amendment be distributed to the membership for discussion. After being presented to the membership, the amendment shall be voted on and accepted or rejected by a majority of the members present.