

Constitution of the Young Democratic Socialists at the Ohio State University

Article I.

1. The name of the organization will be the Young Democratic Socialists at the Ohio State University, hereafter referred to as the Chapter.
2. Purpose statement: Our purpose is to build a strong democratic socialist movement on campus through activism and education.

Article II.

1. Our mission is to educate and organize students and young people, and to play a helpful and principled role in the movement for social justice. Within and throughout this struggle, we will articulate and defend the idea that true human liberation is impossible under capitalism. We seek social change which extends democracy into all aspects of life -- social, political and economic. This is the struggle for democratic socialism. Our vision of socialism is profoundly democratic, feminist, anti-racist, and anti-fascist.

Article III. Membership:

1. Any person who is a registered undergraduate or graduate student at the Ohio State University can become a non-voting member of the Chapter; however, you may only vote on Chapter decisions if you're a dues-paying member of the DSA or if you've been to 3 or more meetings.
2. Contact the secretary at ydsosu@gmail.com if interested in joining.
3. Members can be removed by 60% vote based on membership present if found in violation of code of conduct.

Article IV. Officers and Elections

1. The officers of the chapter shall be a President, a Secretary, Treasurer, Social Media, and Working Group Chairs. The officers form the executive board.
 - a. President is one of two co-presidents per OSU policy; they are responsible for representing the chapter at group events and in public. Additionally, they are responsible for making contact with other groups for the purposes of solidarity and collaboration.
 - b. Secretary is one of two co-presidents per OSU policy; they are responsible for taking minutes, finding meeting spaces, and taking attendance, as well as any other duties they find necessary.
 - c. The Treasurer is in charge of accounting, fundraising, and the Chapter's bank account.
 - d. Social Media is in charge of managing all social media accounts as well as spreading awareness of the Chapter.
 - e. Working group chairs are responsible for leadership in their particular working group. Working groups shall be formed around certain issues or campaigns, created or dissolved as needed. For the creation of a working group, a minimum of three members must be interested. A working group can only be dissolved via a democratic decision internal to the working group.

- f. The executive board as a collective is responsible for creating meeting agendas and consolidating the events calendar.
2. The terms of office shall start at the beginning of the academic year and end at the conclusion of spring semester, with the summer used as a transition period.
3. The elections for these offices shall be held in the spring for the next academic year. Officers who have been voted out are responsible for teaching their successor all duties associated with the role.
4. Officers do not have more authority than other members, just more responsibility.
5. Elections will occur via majority vote.
6. At least one co-President must not be a man.
7. Any general member may recommend the removal of an officer to the Exec Board. The Board shall hold a meeting at which the officer in question shall be heard; if approved, the recommendation shall be presented to the membership and voted on by 60% vote of the quorum. In the event any officer should be removed from office, the officer shall be notified in writing by the Secretary.
8. The Faculty Advisor(s) shall serve as ex-officio member(s) of the Exec Board, retaining all rights of that membership without the right to vote.

Article V.

1. Advisor(s) will be reviewed every year and the voting members will vote on whether or not to pick a new advisor or continue with the same advisor.
2. Advisor(s) can be removed by via consensus voting.

Article VI.

1. Meetings shall be held weekly, with the day, time and location decided at the beginning of the academic year by the membership. A quorum shall be a minimum of three members.

Article VII. Code of Conduct

1. 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.
 - a. No sexism, homophobia, transphobia, racism, xenophobia.
 - b. No disruptive behavior that is deliberately intended to make meetings unsafe or unproductive.
 - c. No hateful speech.
 - d. Big tent organization — everyone is welcome to come, learn, and participate.
 - e. We prohibit discrimination on the basis of age, color, disability, gender identity, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or veteran status. If a member is found participating in activities that promote intolerance, they may be removed at the organization's discretion via

voting procedures. 60% of the voting body or five members, whichever is higher constitutes a majority.

2. As a student organization at The Ohio State University, Young Democratic Socialists at Ohio State expects its members to conduct themselves in a manner that maintains an environment free from sexual misconduct. All members are responsible for adhering to University Policy 1.15 (<https://hr.osu.edu/public/documents/policy/policy115.pdf>).

3. Rules of discussion

a. Exec. Board will decide at their own discretion.

4. Conduct on social media.

a. Any account officially associated with YDS will have to follow Code of Conduct and generally post in a way that promotes the chapter in a positive manner.

b. Retweets, reblogs, reposts, etc. are not an endorsement of the account that originally posted.

Article VIII. Harassment Policy

1. **Prohibited behavior.** Members shall not engage in harassment on the basis of sex, gender, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, physical appearance, disability, race, color, religion, national origin, ethnicity, class, age, or profession. Harassing or abusive behavior, such as unwelcome attention, inappropriate or offensive remarks, slurs, or jokes, physical or verbal intimidation, stalking, inappropriate physical contact or proximity, and other verbal and physical conduct constitute harassment when:
 - a. Submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of a member's continued affiliation with DSA;
 - b. Submission to or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used as the basis for organizational decisions affecting such individual; or
 - c. Such conduct has the purpose or effect of creating a hostile environment interfering with an individual's capacity to organize within DSA.
2. Grievances can be brought to the attention of any member(s) of the Exec. Board. They are responsible for mediation and conflict resolution between the conflicting parties. These responsibilities can be passed onto another member of the Exec. Board with the permission of the person reporting the grievance. For this purpose, every member of the Exec. Board must undergo grievance training.

Article IX.

1. The constitution can be amended by circulating the suggested amendment(s) to the membership at one meeting and sent to all members via email. The proposed amendments, after being examined by the membership, will be offered up at the second meeting, for discussion and voting. Notice of a vote shall be sent to all members via the Ohio State University email, as well as via the official Chapter Slack/group chat, before the second meeting. The amendments will be voted on and have to receive a 60% majority of the membership

present.

Approved: September 26th, 2018