**Constitution**

**Article I**: **Name, Purpose, and Non-Discrimination Policy Section 1:** Name

*Elites Academy*

**Section 2:** Purpose

*Elites Academy (EA) is devoted to promoting the mental and psychological health and development of children in early and middle childhood. EA has adopted the Philosophy for Children movement, abbreviated to P4C, begun by Professor Matthew Lipman in the 1970s. Our organization will focus on studying and practicing Philosophy for Children (P4C). We will provide Ohio State students who are interested in education with the chance to share their educational philosophy with each other. Our organization will offer extracurricular activities to the children of visiting Chinese scholars at The Ohio State University. EA would like to host P4C classes, field experience observation, volunteer teaching opportunities, and informal seminars. Because our organization attaches more attention to Chinese education, the intended membership is Chinese students who love education and students from all over the world who are interested in Chinese.*

**Section 3:** Non-Discrimination Policy

*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.*

*As a student organization at The Ohio State University, EA 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, which can be found here:* [*https://hr.osu.edu/public/documents/policy/policy115.pdf*](https://hr.osu.edu/public/documents/policy/policy115.pdf)

*If you or someone you know has been sexually harassed or assaulted, you may find the appropriate resources at* [*http://titleIX.osu.edu*](http://titleIX.osu.edu) *or by contacting the Ohio State Title IX Coordinator at* *titleIX@osu.edu*

**Article II:** **Membership Qualifications and Categories**

*The organization’s voting membership should be limited to currently enrolled Ohio State students. Others non-student members, such as faculty, alumni, professionals, etc., may become members, but only as non-voting associate or honorary members.*

*There is no specific time when EA recruits its members. A prospective member may contact the Co-Advisor, Dr. Fang Zhang (the founder of Elites Academy), with their intention at wechat: christelle\_paris or send an email to elitesacademy@foxmail.com. EA will arrange an interview for prospective members.*

**Article III:** **Methods of Removing Members and Executive Officers**

*In the case of removing an executive officer, only standing committees have the right to do so.*

III.a. *If a member engages in behavior that is detrimental to advancing the purpose of this organization, violates the organization’s constitution or by-laws, or violates the Code of Student Conduct, university policy, or federal, state or local law, the member may be removed through a majority vote of the officers in consultation with the organization’s advisor.*

III.b. *Any elected officer of the chapter may be removed from their position for cause. Cause for removal includes, but is not limited to: violation of the constitution or by-laws, failure to perform duties, or any behavior that is detrimental to advancing the purpose of this organization, including violations of the Student Code of Conduct, university policy, or federal, state, or local laws. The Executive Committee may act for removal upon a two-thirds affirmative vote of the executive board in consultation with the organization’s advisor.*

III.c. *In the event that the reason for member removal is protected by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) or cannot otherwise be shared with members (e.g., while an investigation is pending), the Executive Committee, in consultation with the organization’s advisor, may vote to temporarily suspend a member or executive officer.*

**Article IV:** **Organization Leadership**

*President\*:*

1. *Coordinate among different departments and board members.*
2. *Discuss with department leaders and advisor and set annual goals for the organization.*
3. *Lead weekly meeting.*
4. *Communicate with department leaders to make sure that everything is on track.*
5. *Attend mandatory training session held by The Ohio State University.*

*\*May only be consecutively elected as president for two years.*

*Treasurer:*

1. *Apply for funding from Student Activities office at The Ohio State University.*
2. *Attend mandatory training session held by The Ohio State University.*
3. *Apply for room or spaces for activity or classes.*

*Advisor:*

1. *Attend mandatory training session held by The Ohio State University.*
2. *Advise Elites Academy with its annual goals.*
3. *Actively participate in activities or events (including, but not limited to: speaking on various topics, occasionally meeting with members of EA).*
4. *Introduce and share university resources to members.*

*Leader of Teaching and Learning:*

1. *Organize weekly meetings with members of curriculum department.*
2. *Design curriculum system as a whole.*
3. *Make 20-week schedule (e.g., time, teacher, and course).*
4. *Mediate conflicts between members and/or departments.*
5. *Organize teacher training session.*
6. *Attend weekly leader meeting.*

*Leader of Outreach:*

1. *Organize events and activities other than regular classes (Including, but not limited to: social events among members, informational sessions, and entertainment activities).*
2. *Coordinate outreach to other organization and promote EA both on- and off-campus.*

*3. Attend weekly leader meeting.*

**Article V:** **Election and Selection of Organization Leadership**

*Individuals who wish to be elected as department leaders, treasurer, or president may submit a petition before a designated date. The executive and standing committees will conduct in-person interviews and nominate potential candidates, according to the criteria for nomination. After the interview phase, the Executive Committee has the right to recommend a potential president and treasurer, then the standing committees will carefully decide on the president and treasurer. On a designated day, potential candidates will give a speech. Department leaders will only be elected by members who are in that specific department, thus members from other departments do not have the right to vote for candidates who will not be the respective leader in their own department.*

**Article VI:** **Executive Committee Size and Composition**

*The Executive Committee will be composed of the current advisor(s), president, treasurer, and leaders of each department.*

**Article VII:** **Standing Committees**

*These committees serve the organization leadership, the Executive Committee, and general membership. Standing committees are permanent and designed to carry out the basic functions of the organization.*

*Executive committee members will have the right to apply for membership in the standing committees. Standing committee members will have the right to decide the petition. The first standing committee is the founder of Elites Academy, Dr. Fang Zhang.*

**Article VIII:** **Advisor(s) Qualification Criteria**

*Advisor(s) must be full-time members of the University faculty or Administrative & Professional staff. If a person is serving as an advisor who is not a member of the above classifications, a co-advisor must be chosen who is a member of these University classifications.*

**Article IX:** **Required Organization Meetings and Events**

*Elites Academy will be holding classes weekly. Members are welcome, but not required, to observe the classes, unless it is a condition of training as a teacher. Each department will hold meetings separately. Elites Academy will hold events occasionally. Members should attend at least 70 percent of the meetings for each academic semester – with the exception of summer semester – to maintain active membership status.*

**Article X:** **Constitutional Amendments: Proposals, Notice, and Voting**

*Any proposed constitutional amendments should be presented to the organization in writing and should not be acted upon when initially introduced. Upon introduction, the proposed amendments should be read in the general meeting, then read again at a specified number of subsequent general meetings and the general meeting in which the votes will be taken, and must either require a two-thirds or three-quarter majority of voting members (a quorum being present) or a majority or two-thirds of the entire voting membership of the organization, present or not. The constitution should not be amended easily or frequently.*

**Article XI:** **Method of Dissolution of the Organization**

*In case of the dissolution of Elites Academy, there should be a meeting(s) among standing and executive committees. The Executive Committee is responsible for written notification of dissolution; Dr. Fang Zhang AND 90 percent of the standing committees must be signatories for dissolution. After dissolution, the Executive Committee should inform the Ohio State University Student Activity office.*

*All debts should be made under the supervision and approval of both the executive and standing committees. Should any organizational assets and debts exist after dissolution, both the executive and standing committees are responsible for the payment of these debts or disposal of these assets.*