Constitution

*Article l - Name, Purpose, and Non-Discrimination Policy of the Organization.*

Section 1: Name:

Graduate Student Film & Photography Organization

Section 2 - Purpose:

The purpose of this organization is to provide a point of focus for graduate students and health professionals students interested in some aspect of the visual arts, including but not limited to: photography, film, and theater. As a student organization, we will put on events available for graduate students (but also open to undergraduate students) related to the visual arts. We will host workshops teaching aspects of visual arts, as well as events that students may attend. Intended membership is broad, and could range from 20 to 200 students.

Section 3 - Non-Discrimination Policy:

This organization and its members shall 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.*

There are no qualifications for membership in this organization. All current students at The Ohio State University will be counted as voting members. All faculty or non-current students will be non-voting members.

*Article III - Organization Leadership: Titles, terms of office, type of selection, and duties of the leaders.*

Organization leaders represent the Executive Committee and general membership and are elected or appointed from the ranks of the organization’s voting membership. The titles of organization leaders, the length of terms, specification as to which leaders are elected or appointed and by whom, and the general duties of each leadership position should be clearly specified. Organizations need to have the necessary leaders to conduct their activities.

*Article IV - Executive Committee:*

The executive committee shall consist of the president, vice president, treasurer, secretary, and faculty advisor.

*Article V - Standing Committees:*

Sub-organization committees: These committees will function to provide workshops and various events for members of the organization as well as the student body. These groups will promote their activities by providing information and upcoming events through the Ohio State University’s student organization web site, as well as various other marketing outlets.

*Article VI – Method of Selecting and/or Removing Officers and Members.*

Section 1: Method of Selecting Officers

At the end of each school year, the executive committee will inform members of the organization to submit their names and desired positions to the executive committee via e-mail. On the specified election date, candidates will give a 2 minute speech. After all the candidates have finished, the ballots will be passed out. After voting has finished, the executive committee will then tally the votes and announce the new leaders in a timely manner. To win a leadership position, the candidate must win by a majority.

Section 2: Removal of Leaders

If the members of this organization feel that a leader needs to be removed, a petition needs to be written stating why the leader needs to be removed from the organization. This petition must be signed by 2/3 of the members of the organization and submitted to the faculty advisor. The faculty advisor will then conduct a hearing with only the executive committee. After the hearing the executive committee will vote (advisor included, leader in question excluded) as to whether the leader shall be removed from the organization. If the executive committee votes to retain the leader, the vote will be brought to the general body. A quorum (50% + 1) will be necessary for this vote. If the general body votes by a 2/3 majority to remove the leader from the organization, the general body will overrule the executive committee and the leader will be removed from the organization.

*Article VII – Advisor(s) or Advisory Board: Qualification Criteria.*

Advisors of student organizations must be members of the University faculty or Administrative & Professional staff.

*Article VIII – Meetings of the Organization: Required meetings and their frequency.*

This organization must meet at least two times per semester. The summer term does not count as a semester.

*Article IX – Method of Amending Constitution: Proposals, notice, and voting requirements.*

Proposed amendments should be in writing, should not be acted upon but read in the general meeting in which they are proposed, should be read again at a specified number of subsequent general meetings and the general meeting in which the votes will be taken. Approval should require at least two-thirds of voting members present (and to conduct any business an organization should have quorum present at a business meeting, which is at minimum 50% + 1 of total organization members). The constitution should not be amended easily or frequently.

*Article X – Method of Dissolution of Organization*

In order to dissolve the club a written petition signed by 2/3 of the members of the general body must be submitted to any member of the executive committee. The executive committee will then vote on the dissolution of the organization. The executive committee must pass the dissolution by a 2/3-majority vote. Then, the vote will be passed on to the general body and a quorum (50% + 1) must be present. In order for the organization to be dissolved, the general body must pass the dissolution vote by a 2/3 – majority. If the organization is to be dissolved, the current executive committee will make sure the club is in good standing with the university prior to dissolution.

By-Laws

*Article 1 – Parliamentary Authority*

The rules contained in Robert’s Rule of Order shall govern the organization in all cases to which they are applicable, and in which they are not inconsistent with the by-laws of this organization.

*Article II- Membership*

A member is considered any university-associated individual who has attended at least one meeting of the organization per semester.

*Article III- Election / Appointment of Government Leadership*

Section 1: Leadership

The leadership of this organization will consist of the President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary and the Faculty Advisor.

Section 2: Terms

Each of the leadership positions except for the Faculty Advisor will be held for a full academic year. If for some reason new leaders are not elected at the end of an academic year, the non-graduating members of the executive committee will continue to serve until a new executive committee is elected. The position of faculty Advisor can be held for as long as the faculty member wishes to remain associated with the organization or is removed from this organization by its members.

Section 3: Elections

In order for a person to be elected to a position, he or she will have to obtain a majority (50% + 1) vote. If no majority is obtained, a run off election will occur between the top two (the ones that received the most votes) candidates for that specified position.

*Article IV- Executive Committee*

President: The president shall be responsible for the following items:

1. Be present at all meetings of the organization.
2. Be the official spokes-person of the organization.
3. Organize activities and meetings for the organization.
4. Ensure that every year the organization is in good standing with the university.
5. Assist other leaders when necessary.
6. Oversee sub-organization committees.

Vice President: The vice president shall be responsible for the following items:

1. Shall assist the president with respect to the presidential duties.
2. Shall assume the role of president for the remainder of the term if the current president is no longer fit to lead or is voted out by the members of the organization.

Treasurer: The treasurer shall be responsible for the following items:

1. Organize and collect monies from members of the organization if the organization decides to participate in an activity that requires money.
2. Manage and maintain records of the funds to ensure they are being spent/allocated in an appropriate manner.
3. Attend appropriate meetings to remain in good standing with the university.

*Article V- Standing Committees (if needed)*

N/A

*Article VI - Advisor/Advisory Board Responsibilities*

Faculty Advisor: The faculty advisor will be responsible for the following items:

1. Attend as many meetings as deemed possible by his or her schedule.
2. Be an active part of decision making with-in the organization.
3. Help recruit faculty participation in meeting, events and fundraisers.
4. Suggest ideas for activities, fundraisers, and seminars.
5. Approve spending and finances to maintain the organization in good standing with the university

*Article VII - Meeting Requirements*

This organization must meet at least two times per semester. The summer term does not count as a semester.

*Article VIII - Method of Amending By-Laws*

By-laws may be amended by proposing in writing and reading the change at a general meeting of the membership and then bring the proposed change up for a vote at the next general meeting with a 2/3 majority vote of the membership present (a quorum being present).

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