

Constitution for Solar Education & Outreach at The Ohio State University

Article I-Name, Purpose, and Non-Discrimination Policy

Section 1: Name: The name of this group is the “Solar Education & Outreach at The Ohio State University” or abbreviated to SolarEO.

Section 2: Purpose: The purpose of SolarEO is to educate its members, colleagues, peers, and all people associated with The Ohio State University about solar energy, its technology, uses, and how it works. Beyond solar energy we intend to incorporate all things considered “green” or sustainable into our educational agenda. We will reach out to the community to educate and advocate for solar energy and sustainable living.

Section 3: Non-Discrimination Policy: SolarEO 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

Voting Membership is limited to active members who are currently enrolled OSU students. Non-student community members including faculty, alumni, professionals, and students of other schools are encouraged and accepted as members, however, this membership is non-voting or honorary. Active members will be defined as having attended a minimum of 3 events and/or meetings during a semester.

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

SolarEO leaders represent the general membership and are elected or appointed by the organization’s voting membership depending on the size of the group at the time of designating leadership. Leadership positions include President, Vice-President, and Treasurer which will always be elected positions (assuming there are members running for the positions). Additional positions include, but are not limited to, Secretary, Webmaster, and Project Directors (as appropriate). These positions will be elected or appointed by the sitting executive board. The length of terms is one school year, unless decided otherwise, and re-election may be repeated two years in a row. Duties of the President, a position which is always elected, include running and leading meetings, requesting meeting places and times, and determining subject matter for meetings. The Vice-President will assist with the duties of the President and will perform any and all duties of the President in the President’s Absence. The Treasurer will manage and request the organization’s funds and head up any fund raising events the membership decides upon. The Secretary will keep a log of the minutes of meetings and make copies available to all members. In the absence of a Secretary, the Vice President can assume the responsibilities associated with the position. The Webmaster is tasked with updating the website and adding

relevant content when needed. The Project Directors will lead the individual projects and applicable meetings of SolarEO.

Article IV- Executive Committee: size and composition

The executive committee will be comprised of the leaders of the organization and any chairpersons or members appointed by the leaders of the organization.

Article V-Method of Removing Officers and Members

General members and elected or appointed leaders are expected to conduct themselves in such a way that reflects well on the organization. If there is need for removal of a member from the group or a leadership position, the Executive committee shall make the ultimate decision to remove persons from the group. A vote of the membership will be necessary to remove a person from a leadership position. No decision to remove a member or leader will be influenced by discrimination as noted in the non-discrimination policy.

Article VI-Advisor(s): Qualification Criteria

Advisors of SolarEO must be members of the University faculty or Administrative & Professional staff. These Advisors are expected to provide input and guidance, as well as support our leaders and membership in any way necessary or desired by the membership. To replace the Advisor, a meeting must be held to take a vote with all leadership, 70% of active members, and the advisor present.

Article VII-Meetings of the Organization: Required meetings and their frequency

Meetings of the organization occur weekly with the possibility of exceptions. Meetings are not mandatory, however members must keep in mind the 3 meeting and/or event requirement per semester to maintain active membership.

Article VIII- 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 one subsequent general meeting 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 IX-Method of Dissolution of Organization

The organization shall be dissolved when there is no longer enough interest in the group to hold leadership positions. Before the organization is dissolved all assets or debts should be resolved or distributed.

By-Laws

Article I-Creation and existence of By-Laws

Due to the current small size of SolarEO we have no By-Laws as of now. At this time the Constitution serves the same purpose. By-Laws may be proposed and voted on in the same meeting and may be passed by a simple majority of the present members. A quorum, defined in this case as >33% of membership, is necessary.