Constitution of the Japanese Conversation Club, Oshaberi-kai

Article I - Name, Purpose, and Non-Discrimination Policy of Japanese Conversation Club, Oshaberi-kai

*Section 1- Name*

This organization is titled Japanese Conversation Club, Oshaberi-kai.

*Section 2 - Purpose*

Oshaberi-kai exists to provide a forum for students at OSU to interact in Japanese and to facilitate a better understanding of Japanese culture.

*Section 3 - Non-Discrimination Policy*

Oshaberi-kai 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.

Article II - Membership

Voting membership is limited to currently enrolled OSU students. Others, such as faculty, alumni, professionals, etc. are encouraged to become members as non-voting associate or honorary members.

Article III - Organization Leadership

*Section 1 - Titles and Duties*

As a small organization, Oshaberi-kai officers share responsibilities according to the needs of the organization, and thus share responsibility for the administration of activities and the execution of tasks, with only the exception of the treasurer’s control over financial matters.

The president schedules and presides over committee meetings and oversees all organizational activities. The President will complete the Primary Leader training required by OSU annually.

The vice president assists the president with the oversight of the organization and supervises student organization meetings in the absence of the president.

Treasurer provides support for the president and controls and keeps account of organization funds and ensures they are used according to the needs of the organization and the rules set forth by source. The Treasurer will complete the Treasurer training required by OSU annually.

Secretary provides support for other officers and keeps minutes at committee and general meetings.

*Section 2 - Terms of Office*

Officers for the following academic year are elected by Oshaberi-kai members in each semester. Officers serve for one semester. Ideally, an officer only serves one term, but may serve again. No officer is limited as to the input (s)he may provide both during and outside scheduled meetings.

*Section 3 - Election Procedures*

At the end of each semester, the current Oshaberi-kai committee holds elections. Any Oshaberi-kai member may run for office by submitting his/her name to the committee. Committee members may also nominate candidates for the election process. Both self-nominating and selected candidates may run for any committee position, and may run for multiple positions, however if elected may only occupy one position at a time. Each candidate must write a brief statement as to his/her goals for Oshaberi-kai and how (s)he would work to reach those goals in the position(s) (s)he is running for. Officer positions are decided by a majority of anonymously cast ballots.

*Section 4 - Method of Removing Officers*

General members and elected or appointed leaders are expected to meet certain standards and conduct themselves in a way that reflects well on the organization. In the event that a member or leader does not meet those expectations, fails to fulfill his/her duties, or in the case of academic misconduct, the committee may discuss the possibility of probation or removal from office. All other committee members must agree unanimously upon appropriate actions to be taken depending on the individual case.

Article VII - Advisor

The Oshaberi-kai advisor may be a lecturer or faculty member in the Department of Languages and Literatures (DEALL) at OSU. Advisors continue to serve one-year terms until (s)he either decides to give up his/her position or leaves DEALL.

Article VIII - Meetings of the Organization

Committee and general meetings should be held on a regular basis, at least once a month or four times per semester, with the exception of the summer semester, according to the needs of Oshaberi-kai members.

Article IX - Method of Amending Constitution

Proposed amendments must be in writing, must not be acted upon but read in the committee or general meeting in which they are proposed, and must be read again at a specified number of subsequent committee or general meetings and the committee or general meeting in which the votes are taken. Approval requires at least two-thirds of voting members present.

Article X - Method of Dissolution of Organization

Dissolution of the organization must be agreed upon by a two-thirds vote at a general meeting only, not at a committee meeting. All debts must be paid before Oshaberi-kai’s dissolution. The payment of debts within $100 is incurred by committee members; the payment of debts beyond $100 requires discussion with the adviser. All assets must be relinquished to SOURCE.

It is in keeping with the goals and responsibilities here stated that the Oshaberi-kai committee adopts this constitution.