

# **Constitution of Buckeye Bengalis of The Ohio State University**

*Created: October 2016*

## **Preamble**

We, the graduate students, post-doctoral researchers and ex-alumni of The Ohio State University, create this student organization, hereby called Buckeye Bengalis of The Ohio State University. Having recognition from the faculty and administration of this university, Buckeye Bengalis aims to enhance 'cultural diversity' at the Ohio State University. With this broader purpose in mind, this organization will focus on 1) promoting bengali culture and values of eastern India through its creative and innovative efforts to the discerning audience 2) organize social and cultural events mostly related to the traditional values of eastern India.

We recognize that certain statutes of the Ohio Revised Code and bylaws of The Ohio State University Board of Trustees govern the administration of The Ohio State University. Accordingly, we recognize our freedoms with respect to these existing statutes.

## **Article I: Name, Purpose, and Non-Discrimination Policy of the Organization.**

*Name of the Organization:* Buckeye Bengalis at The Ohio State University

*Purpose:* The purpose of the organization will be to encourage appreciation for bengali culture and values of eastern India by organizing a) social and cultural events, b) voluntary works, c) social discussion and mutual learning forums pertaining to bengali art, literature, and culture outside of formal academic setting and d) fundraising and awareness events.

*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

## **Article II: Membership**

1. This organization will consist of an executive board and other members.
2. Any student currently enrolled at The Ohio State University is eligible for membership. Student members may vote and run for office.
3. Member responsibilities may include volunteering for various social, cultural, fund raising and awareness events.
4. Members can only be a part of the election procedure if and only if:
  - a. their semester dues have been cleared.
  - b. they actively have participated in a project of the organization.
  - c. The above clause stands valid both in the case of wishing to be elected to the board as well as having voting rights.

## **Article III: The Executive Board**

1. There will be 3 major elected positions on the Executive Board.
2. The organization shall be headed by the Executive Board which shall comprise of: President, Treasurer, and Secondary Leader.
3. Election for the 3 members of the Executive Board shall be held annually. The Executive Board officers will be elected by a written or virtual ballot system. Members will present their ideas for the organization and future officers in a public meeting open to all members of the organization, to be held prior to the election. Current officers will count the ballots and a majority of votes will constitute a victory.
4. Current officers may or may not be re-elected depending on the discretion of the members participating in the public meeting to be held prior to the election.
5. All office bearers must also be full-time OSU students with a valid Buck-ID and dot number.
6. The Executive Board may also create new leadership positions and committees to meet the needs of the organization.

### *A. The President*

1. The President shall serve as the chief executive of the organization. Only full-time OSU students with a valid Buck-ID and dot number may run for the captain positions. Nominations of the President shall be confirmed or rejected by the Executive members; confirmation shall require a two-thirds vote.

2. The responsibilities of the President are as follows:

- a. Preside over all the organizational general meetings.
- b. Authorize all organizational official documents, by signing them.
- c. Ensure production of an Executive Report at every general Board meeting.
- d. Held responsible for each decision proposed and executed by the Executive Board.
- e. Responsible for any event held by the organization.
- f. Answerable to all members of the organizations by replying memo generated by them
- g. The outgoing president shall serve as the Ex-Officio of the organization.
- h. Ensure that all against organization members are treated equal irrespective of age, color, disability, gender identity or expression, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, veteran status, friendship, or values.

### *B. The Treasurer*

The treasurer is required to be a current student of the Ohio State University and must hold a valid buckID. Also (s)he should be an undergrad, grad or PhD student of the same. The treasurer shall be nominated in a similar fashion as that of the President. (S)he shall be the Chief Officer of all the finances of the organization.

The responsibilities of the treasurer are as follows:

1. Work in close connection with the President to form the budget.
2. Maintain contact with all sponsors.
3. Responsible for indulgence of new sponsors
3. Record all finances in a binder or in an excel sheet that will be in a global cloud based drive subject to review at Board meetings and at the request of organization members.

### *C. Secondary Leader and Executive Board Members*

They are required to be a current student of the Ohio State University and must hold a valid buckID. Also (s)he should be an undergrad, grad or PhD student of the same.

1. The Secondary Leader and Executive Board Members are elected positions.

2. Shall serve in an advisory capacity to the Executive Board.
3. Shall have voting rights.
4. The secondary leader acts as president in the absence of the president.
5. Shall act as Organization Manager whose responsibilities are the following:
  - a. Shall be responsible for keeping order **during practice**.
  - b. Book rooms throughout the year for meetings and events
  - c. Ensuring attendance of organization members.
  - d. Responsible for contacting event coordinators, organizations and colleges for events to participate in.

#### **Article IV: Advisor(s) or Advisory Board: Qualification Criteria.**

1. The appointed advisor must be an Ohio State Faculty or Administrative staff.
2. The advisor's responsibilities are as listed:
  - a. The advisor shall provide organizational support and enthusiasm.
3. The advisor is not *required* to attend any organization event.

#### **Article V: Oath of Office**

1. The Oath of Office for the President, Co-President, Advisor and Treasurer and the Directors shall be:  
*"I promise to faithfully uphold the Constitution of Buckeye Bengalis' of The Ohio State University and to defend and respect the rights of each individual student to the best of my ability."*

#### **Article VI: Method of Selecting Officers.**

1. Election of Officers for the upcoming year shall occur during the spring quarter of the previous academic year by the team members (50% vote) and by the current and past captains (50% vote).
2. Treasurer and Secondary Leader shall be elected through a majority vote of all the current and past organization members.
3. Officers must have the following qualifications:
  - a. Must be a full-time Ohio State student with a valid buckID.
  - b. Must have a minimum GPA of 3.2.

#### **Article VII: Impeachment of Officers and Members**

1. Executive Board members can only be impeached by the entire member body with a 2/3 majority of team members and a 2/3 majority vote of current captains and captains from the previous year. At least two team members will have to put forth the impeachment proposal.
2. Members of the organization can only be impeached by the entire member body with a 2/3 majority. At least two team members will have to put forth the impeachment proposal.

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

1. At least once in a month there will be a meeting of executive committee in the academic year 2016-2017.
2. The presence of President and Treasurer is compulsory in all the executive meetings except one during the whole academic year. Absences are required proper reasoning.
3. Members are required to attend all executive meetings except 5 throughout the academic year. Absences are required proper reasoning.
4. Member's excuses for absence must be given to any officer a recommended minimum of 24 hours before the meeting.
5. More than three unexcused absences are subject to review by the Executive board. This is applicable for both the officers and members.

#### **Article IX: Amendment of the Constitution**

A member of the organization or the Executive board could propose the amendment of the constitution. In each case the 2/3 majority will debate on the amendment.

***Article X: Method of Dissolution of Organization***

*The termination of the organization is possible if the 2/3 majority of the organization's members approve that.*