

Constitution of the Video Essay Club

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

Section 1 – Name: Video Essay Club

Section 2 – Purpose: The Video Essay Club (VEC) aims to provide a safe and open space for students to creatively explore their academic interests through the audiovisual medium of video essays. By giving members an opportunity to learn from and communicate with each other, VEC endeavours to improve members' fluency with the techniques of academic videography and inspire a shared passion for artistic and intellectual pursuit in this burgeoning genre of digital media.

Section 3 – Non-Discrimination Policy: VEC 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: Qualifications and categories of membership

Section 1 – Categories of Membership: VEC requires voting members to be a current student of The Ohio State University. Faculty, alumni, professionals, and other non-students are encouraged to become non-voting associates or non-voting honorary members. Voting membership is open to all Ohio State University students, and there are no applications required for membership.

Section 2 – Voting and Candidacy Qualifications: Members must attend at least two meetings in order to vote in annual elections. To qualify for a board position, candidates must have attended at least half of meetings held in an academic year (in the case an odd number of meetings is held in a calendar year, the required number of meetings is rounded down to the nearest whole number).

Article III: Organization Leadership

Section 1 – Procedures: The VEC Board (henceforth referred to interchangeably as “VEC Board,” “executive board,” or “officers”) is composed of the President, Vice President, and Treasurer. Terms for each officer position are concurrent and each last one full year. Elections for officership will occur on the last meeting of each calendar year, and will be held via an online ballot box. An eligible member, as defined in Article II, Section 2, may register themselves as a candidate for an officership position with the VEC Board, but each eligible member may only declare their candidacy for a maximum of one board position. Each member eligible to vote received one vote to be cast for each position (for a total of three votes). In the case of a tie, the president is given the tie-breaking vote. In the case that an officer resigns or otherwise vacates a board position for any reason, the remaining board members must unanimously appoint a replacement officer. In the case that the results of an election are disputed, the issue will be resolved with the help of the faculty advisor.

Section 2 – Incumbency Clause: The incumbent officer, when running unopposed, is offered reelection by default, provided that said officer retains affiliation with the Ohio State University as a student but

disregarding their status as a voting member or eligibility to run for office. Upon acceptance of the position, the incumbent automatically fills their previous role on the board, and is expected to resume their duties for the next term.

Article IV: Roles of Executive Board Members

President- One President will manage the VEC Board, in addition to planning the general activities of the organization. They will lead both board and general meetings, and ensure the organization is on track to fulfill the stated purpose. The President has the power to amend the constitution with advisor and majority board approval should the situation arise.

Vice President- One Vice-President will aid the President in managing the VEC Board, and is responsible for the logistical planning and execution of the organization's general activities. Responsibilities include taking attendance and maintaining communication with organization members.

Treasurer- One Treasurer will manage the financial affairs of the organization. The treasurer will additionally be responsible for booking venues for events or organization activities, and aid the President with budgetary issues, should any arise.

Article V: Advisor Responsibilities and Qualifications

The advisor of VEC will aid in resolving any issues or disputes that cannot be resolved by the board. The advisor will also help liaise between organization leadership and university administration. Pursuant to The Ohio State University's requirements, the advisor must be a full-time member of Ohio State faculty or administrative/professional staff.

Article VI: Meeting of the Organization

General meetings for all members will be tentatively planned for every other week throughout the autumn and spring semesters while classes are in session. Meetings will vary in structure between group discussions, workshops, seminars, and screenings. Members are encouraged to attend all meetings, though attendance is not required to maintain general membership. However, the attendance criteria for voting and board candidacy as denoted in Article II, Section 2 hold true.

Article VII: Method of Amending Constitution

Amendments to the organization's constitution must be first submitted for approval by the president to the other board members. If approved by the majority of the board (including the president), the amendment proposal is then forwarded for approval by the organization's advisor. Once the proposal is accepted by the advisor, the changes are permanently amended to the constitution.

Article VIII: Impeachment and Member Removal

Section 1 – Removal of a Member: In the case that a member of VEC (who is not serving a term on the VEC board) is found to have violated the Ohio State University Code of Conduct or is believed to be conducting themselves in a manner opposing the stated purpose of the organization, the organization may

remove the member via majority vote by voting members, or through a unanimous decision by the VEC Board and advisor.

Section 2 – Impeachment of an Officer: In the case that an officer of the VEC Board is found to have violated the organization constitution, Ohio State University Code of Conduct, or is believed to be conducting themselves in a prejudicial or unfavourable manner, a two-thirds majority of voting members may vote to impeach the officer in question. The officer in question is allowed a formal hearing in which they may state their case in defense to their charges, followed by a second vote to remove the officer in question. A two-thirds majority is required for officer removal, with any further disputes to be mediated by the organization advisor. Approval for officer removal may also be granted via a unanimous decision by the advisor and other members of the VEC Board.

Section 3 – Disaffiliation from the University: In the case that an officer is no longer associated with the Ohio State University as a student, their voting membership status and board position is effectively terminated. The officer in question will be considered to have entered a de facto state of resignation, and the selection of an interim officer will proceed as such pursuant to the procedures delineated in Article III, Section 1.

Article IX: Method of Dissolution of Organization

In the event that the Video Essay Club is to be dissolved, any outstanding debts will be accordingly tabulated and reimbursed with available liquid funds or assets of value fully owned by the organization. Any outstanding assets that are partially or fully owned by the Ohio State University or other parties will be returned to their rightful owners. Any assets fully owned by VEC that remain after all debts are settled are to be donated to relevant charities, or disposed of accordingly, pursuant to any laws, regulations, or contractual agreements.

Article X: Not-for-profit Statement

This is a not-for-profit organization.

Article XI: Statement of Non-Hazing

This organization will not conspire to engage in hazing, or commit any act that causes or is likely to cause bodily danger, physical harm, or personal degradation or disgrace resulting in physical or mental harm to any fellow student or person attending the institution.

Article XII: Statement of Compliance with Campus Regulations

This organization shall comply with all university and campus policies and regulations and local, state, and federal laws.

