

Constitution for The Ocular Disease & Neuro-Optometry Club
at The Ohio State University College of Optometry

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

Section 1: Name

Ocular Club of Disease at The Ohio State University College of Optometry (OCD)

Section 2 - Purpose:

- To raise awareness of the opportunities available to optometry students in the fields of ocular disease and neuro-optometry
- To explore the role of optometrists in hospital settings as well as in MD practices
- To emphasize the importance of yearly eye exams to individuals
- To host optometrists currently practicing in these fields to lecture about their experiences
- To tour OD/MD practices and hospitals with practicing optometrists

Section 3 - 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: Qualifications and categories of membership.

The organization welcomes all interested students and faculty of The Ohio State University College of Optometry to gain free membership.

All members will hold “General Member” status and will have access to all lectures, tours, meetings, etc. held by the organization.

Those who wish to discontinue membership may do so at any time.

After graduation, students will be removed from the club by default.

Article III – Methods for Removing Members and Executive Officers

If a member engages in behavior that is detrimental to advancing the purpose of this organization, violates the organization's constitution or by-laws, or violates the Code of Student Conduct, university policy, or federal, state or local law, the member may be removed through a majority vote of the officers in consultation with the organization's advisor.

Any elected officer of the chapter may be removed from their position for cause. Cause for removal includes, but is not limited to: violation of the constitution or by-laws, failure to perform duties, or any behavior that is detrimental to advancing the purpose of this organization, including violations of the Student Code of Conduct, university policy, or federal, state, or local laws. The Executive Committee may act for removal upon a two-thirds affirmative vote of the executive board in consultation with the organization's advisor.

In the event that the reason for member removal is protected by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) or cannot otherwise be shared with members (e.g., while an investigation is pending), the executive board, in consultation with the organization's advisor, may vote to temporarily suspend a member or executive officer.

Article IV - Organization Leadership:

The Executive Committee is the leadership of the organization. It consists of a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Fundraising Chair and Faculty Advisor. The current advisor of the organization is Dr. JP Maszczak.

Roles of The Executive Committee:

- President – uphold the beliefs and values of the club, oversee all lectures, tours and activities, contact interested ODs, organize meetings, attend yearly training session
 - The Executive Committee may choose to elect a President-elect to help with leadership transitions
- Vice President – assist President in all above duties in addition to brainstorming further ideas for future meetings
- Secretary – record information presented in meetings, update the Constitution, store all OD contacts, update meeting/lecture/activity times in the school calendar
- Treasurer – maintain the funding of the organization, attend yearly training session
 - The Executive Committee may choose to elect a Treasurer-elect to help with leadership transitions
- Fundraising Chair- organize fundraising events or merchandise to be sold and work closely with the Treasurer

Article V- Election / Selection of Organization Leadership

The Executive Committee (with the exception of the Advisor) must be students that are near completion of their second year of optometry school (i.e. about to enter their third year, or about to enter their second year in the case of an "elect" position). The Executive Board will be reelected every April. Any current second year student can run for any position and members of the club will vote for who will hold each position.

Only those who are *very* interested in the organization should choose to run.

Nominations can be made by the current Executive Committee.

Article VI - Executive Committee: Size and composition of the Committee.

The Executive Committee consists of a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Fundraising Chair and Advisor. The Executive Committee may choose to have a President-elect and/or a Treasurer-elect to aid with leadership transitions.

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

Dr. JP Maszczak is the Advisor of the organization indefinitely unless he chooses to step down. In this case, another optometry faculty advisor should be sought out by the current President.

The Advisor can be any current faculty member at the College of Optometry

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

Members may come to as many or as few meetings and activities as they wish. However, if a member chooses to run for Executive Committee, it is recommended that they attend at least 50% of all activities held by the organization.

Article IX – Attendees of Events of the Organization: Required events and their frequency.

The organization reserves the right to address member or event attendee behavior where the member or event attendee's behavior is disruptive or otherwise not in alignment with the organization's constitution.

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

Any proposed amendments should be presented to the organization in writing and should not be acted upon when initially introduced. Upon initial introduction, the proposed amendments should be read in the general meeting, then read again at a specified number of subsequent general meetings and the general meeting in which the votes will be taken. Proposed amendments should either require a two-third or three-quarter majority of voting members (a quorum being present) or a majority or two-thirds of the entire voting membership of the organization, present or not. The constitution should not be amended easily or frequently.

Article XII – Method of Dissolution of Organization

Requirements and procedures for dissolution of the student organization should be stated. Should any organization assets and debts exist, appropriate means for disposing of these assets and debts should be specified clearly and unequivocally. Upon the official dissolution of the organization, Student Activities staff must be contacted to remove organization information from website.