

**The Bioethics Society**  
**at**  
**The Ohio State University**

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

**Section I.** Name: The name of the organization shall be “The Bioethics Society at The Ohio State University”, hereafter referred to as “The Society”

**Section II.** Purpose: The purpose of “The Society” is to provide an opportunity for an interdisciplinary forum to allow discussion on and raise awareness of the ethical issues brought forth from advances in science and medicine. An open-minded exploration of the issues’ effects on the fields of biology, biotechnology, genetics, medicine, theology, philosophy, politics, law, and other relevant topics will be a central goal. The four central tenets of the examination of these topics are:

1. Discussion
2. Investigation
3. Research
4. Analysis

**Section III.** 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**

**Section I.** Qualifications and categories of membership: Members are limited to currently enrolled Ohio State University students, with exceptions made at the discretion of the Executive Committee. Members must attend five meetings/semester to be considered a member of the organization. All Ohio State University students are welcome to attend meetings, but one would not be considered a member if this requirement is not met. Membership will be awarded or voided for individual students at the end of each semester. These students will be made aware of these changes via email.

**Section II.** An individual’s general membership with this organization may be terminated by an Executive Committee vote requiring an absolute majority. In order for an individual’s membership to be terminated, that individual’s actions or behavior must be disruptive or harmful to the organization. Membership termination cannot occur on account of discrimination on the basis of age, ancestry, color, disability, gender identity or expression, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or veteran status.

**Section III.** Membership dues are to be determined annually by the Executive Committee but must be equal for all individuals joining within the same scholastic year.

**Section IV.** Students are welcome to begin the process of becoming members at any point during the scholastic year. Recruitment will take place at the Student Involvement Fairs.

### **Article III. Organization Leadership**

**Section I.** The offices to the Society include President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, Director of Communications, Director of Social Events, Director of Recruitment, and Director of Outreach. These officers make up the Executive Committee. In addition, the President can appoint coordinators for specific topic committees.

**Section II.** President - The President shall prepare an agenda, call, preside over, and adjourn all organization gatherings, including Executive Board meetings. In addition, the President will appoint coordinators for committees.

**Section III.** Vice President - The Vice President shall assume the duties and responsibilities in the absence of the President. The Vice President will also supervise inter-committee communication.

**Section IV.** Treasurer - The Treasurer will oversee all financial matters of clubs, including paperwork and management of funds for purposes including but not limited to discussion sessions and speakers.

**Section V.** Secretary – the Secretary will be in charge of the documentation of all Society related activities for each chapter including taking meeting minutes, and photo/video documentation of Society activities. The Secretary is also expected to help his/her fellow officers in whatever capacity that he/she may.

**Section VI.** Director of Communications – The Director of Communications will be in charge of sending out both the reminder email and follow-up email for each meeting. The Director of Communications will also be in charge of handling any requests related to the email list. The Director of Communications will also be in charge of handling all communications with the various speakers and faculty members “The Society” will require for events.

**Section VII.** Director of Social Events – The Director of Social Events will be in charge of organizing social events for “The Society”. The Social and Recruitment Chair will also be in charge of managing any social media pages for “The Society”.

**Section VIII.** Director of Recruitment – The Director of Recruitment will be responsible for organizing efforts to recruit new members of “The Society” and working with other officers to advertise “The Society”.

**Section IX.** Director of Outreach – The Director of Outreach will be tasked with making efforts to plan at least one service event with charitable organizations in the Columbus area each semester.

#### **Article IV. Election of Officers**

**Section I.** The initial founding class of each chapter of the Society will be elected by majority vote by the Executive Committee.

**Section II.** One may be added onto the Executive Committee by majority vote by the Executive Committee.

#### **Article V. Term of Office**

**Section I.** The term of office for each Executive Committee member shall be for the duration of one year.

**Section II.** Executive Committee members may be re-elected for multiple terms, as long as they remain undergraduate students during that period of time and were not impeached during their previous term.

**Section III.** Any Executive Committee member may call for impeachment proceedings. A member is impeached if a majority of the Executive Board votes in favor of terminating the officer's position.

**Section IV.** Any absence without explanation for longer than a one-quarter period, despite communication efforts made by other Executive Committee member, can warrant an immediate termination of that Officer.

**Section V.** Executive Committee members will step down from their position at the end of each Spring semester, allowing the newly elected Executive Committee members to take their place beginning in the Summer semester, with meetings for the new school year beginning each Fall semester. Previous and new Executive Committee members will be expected to communicate with one another in order to have a smooth transition into new leadership.

#### **Article VI. Formation and Dissolution of Committees**

**Section I.** Committees at the chapter level may be formed and disbanded with the appointment of the President.

#### **Article VII. Chapter Advisor(s) Qualification Criteria**

**Section I.** Advisor(s) must be full-time faculty members of The Ohio State University or Administrative and Professional Staff.

**Section II.** Advisor(s) should aid the Society as needed.

### **Article VIII. Meetings**

**Section I.** Both Executive Committee and general member meetings will be held as needed by the Executive Committee members.

### **Article VIII. Quorum**

**Section I.** In order to conduct the business of the Society, a quorum consisting of at least 75% of the voting membership must be in attendance.

### **Article IX. Amendments**

**Section I.** Amendments to the Constitution may be made by a simple majority vote of the Executive Committee members.

**Section II.** Amendments may be removed from the Constitution by a simple majority vote of the Executive Committee members.

**Section III.** Amendments cannot be voted on until at least a week after they are proposed.

### **Article X. Method of Dissolution**

**Section I.** The Bioethics Society at The Ohio State University can be dissolved only with the unanimous consent of the Executive Committee.

**Section II.** In the case of outstanding debt, the remaining members will make a case to the SOURCE to see if the debt can be absorbed by the SOURCE.