

# Constitution

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

Section 1: Name: Iranian Student Union

Section 2: The Iranian Student Union (ISU) at OSU provides students with a network of Iranian students at OSU and other students interested in Iran and in Persian culture. This club allows students to interact with other students with similar cultural interests. The ISU also puts on cultural events such as movie nights, potlucks, and holiday celebrations. Additionally, ISU enables students to speak Farsi with one another.

Section 3: Non-Discrimination Policy: Discrimination by this organization and its members against any individual based upon protected status, which is defined as age, color, disability, gender identity or expression, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or veteran status, is strictly prohibited.

## Article II - Membership, qualifications and categories of membership.

Voting privileges are limited to members currently enrolled in at least 3 credit hours at The Ohio State University or its branches. Membership is open to anyone, including to individuals with no knowledge of Iranian/Persian Culture. Once a member has graduated, they will attain a lifetime alumni membership, which allows them to attend events at their own discretion without the loss of membership status.

## Article III - Organization Leadership: Titles, terms of office, type of selection, and duties of the leaders.

Co-President: To be the rais (co-president), a member must be currently enrolled in 12 credit hours of classes at The Ohio State University, meet GPA requirements stated by the Ohio State University and have been a member of ISU for 2 full quarters. If the qualifications are met, then an individual can run for election during Spring Quarter. The duties of the rais (co-president) include organizing meetings, conducting events, representing Iranian Student Union, casting the deciding vote if the need arises for other leadership positions and conducting non-financial business with The Ohio State University.

Treasurer: To be the Treasurer, a member must be currently enrolled in 12 credit hours of classes at The Ohio State University, meet GPA requirements stated by the Ohio State University and have been a member of Iranian Student Union for two full quarters. If the qualifications are met, then an individual can run for election during Spring Quarter. The Treasurer manages the financial affairs of the group. Their responsibilities include maintaining accurate financial records, budgeting for the organization's activities and events, and coordinating fundraising events.

Coordination Director: To be the coordination director, a member must be currently enrolled in 12 credit hours of classes at The Ohio State University, meet GPA requirements stated by the Ohio State University and have been a member of Iranian Student Union for two full quarters. If the qualifications are met, then an individual can run for election during Spring Quarter. The duties of the coordination director include planning events, spreading awareness of the club, preparing and sending out weekly newsletters, and working with other organizations.

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

The advisor of the Iranian Student Union must be somehow familiar with Iranian Culture. The advisor(s) must be full-time members of the University faculty or Administrative & Professional staff. The Advisor's duties include securing meeting space, allowing their office to be used for club postal business if necessary, and ensuring legitimacy of Iranian Student Union elections.

#### Article V - Meetings of Organization: Required meetings and their frequency.

Each quarter will consist of at least four meetings: Every two weeks there should be a meeting. Required attendance means attending at least two meetings per quarter and missing no more than 3 meetings per year.

#### Article VI - Method of Amending Constitution: Proposals, notice, and voting requirements.

Proposed amendments should be presented in a written manner. The period between introduction and voting will be 1 meeting. At the meeting for voting (2nd meeting after proposal), four-fifths of the voting membership must be present, and a majority of two-thirds of the entire voting membership must vote for the proposed amendment to

become official. If the amendment fails, the following meeting may also include an amended proposal for voting. If the proposal fails again, then the initial procedure must be retaken for amendment to be considered again.

#### **Article VII - Method of Dissolution of Organization.**

The Iranian Student Union can be dissolved in two ways: the first requires unanimous votes to disband the organization with every voting member present and the second will be if the event arises when no officers are elected for the following school year. When a situation without officers arises, the voting membership will be required to give two-thirds support of disbandment. If the Iranian Student Union is disbanded, then the debts that may cumulate will become the responsibility of each member and the credits that may cumulate can be used by the sitting President for one final event or to be returned to the source.

#### **Article VIII – Method of Selecting and/or Removing Officers and Members.**

The Iranian Student Union is an open organization. No specific religious beliefs are required to be a member of this group. Officers are chosen based on a democratic system. At the end of the spring quarter, a meeting is held and all of the members from the year are able to run for all positions except for Presidency. The president must have held an office position for at least one year before running for presidency. The members of the association elect the officers by voting for the candidate of their preference. Officers must conduct themselves well throughout the year and must complete their tasks. If these criteria are not met, a meeting is held and if two thirds of the officers vote against the officer, the office position will be lost. Members can also lose their membership. If all officers have a consensus on expelling a member, that member will lose membership.

### **By Laws**

#### **Article I - Parliamentary Procedure.**

The rules contained in Robert's Rule of Order shall govern the organization in all cases to which they are applicable, and in which they are not inconsistent with the by-laws of this organization.

## Article II - Membership

Membership of the Iranian Student Union is open to everyone, and to become an official member one must attend meetings and sign a form stating their membership. A member who graduates will be given lifetime membership privileges but cannot vote. Membership will be terminated if, and only if, a member misses more than 2 consecutive meetings in a quarter, more than 3 meetings in the school year. The termination can be appealed to the general body, and the member will have one quarter (two if Spring Quarter) of prohibition where voting privileges will be revoked and can be returned if the member attends the following three consecutive meetings.

## Article III - Election / Appointment of Government Leadership.

Elections will be held the fourth week meeting of the Spring Quarter. Candidates can announce their candidacy the first week meeting of Spring Quarter and may campaign until the fourth week meeting. The ballot will be Australian in design: voting is private. The winner will be announced via email to all members after seven days. If the voting members, which includes candidates, of the organization select a plurality, then the candidate winning plurality is the rais (president) of the following Autumn Quarter. When an event arises that no rais (president) can be selected, the disputed candidates must submit proposals for their tenure to the current advisor and the current advisor will select the candidate based on the written proposals. If the voting members, which includes candidates but excludes the current rais (president), of the organization select a plurality, then the candidate winning plurality is the naayeb rais jemhur (vice-president) of the following Autumn Quarter. When an event arises that no naayeb rais (vice-president) can be selected, the current rais (president) will cast the deciding vote. If the voting members, which includes candidates but excludes the current rais (president), of the club select a plurality, then the candidate winning plurality is the konjoor (treasurer) of the following Autumn Quarter. When an event arises that no konjoor (treasurer) can be selected, the current rais (president) will cast the deciding vote. Once a konjoor (treasurer) has been selected, it is the duty of the current konjoor (treasurer) to train the new officer. If a standing official resigns, or is voted out in act of incompetence, then an emergency meeting will be held and vote can be taken via email to the advisor of the organization.

## Article VI - Advisor/Advisory Board Responsibilities.

The advisor will serve as an overseer, but not a leader, of the club. Acquiring meeting space, breaking ties between presidential candidates, and providing guidance to

inquiring officers during transition periods if requested will be duties of the sitting advisor.

### Article VII - Meeting Requirements

Meetings will be open to everyone, including non-members. Meeting times may be changed at the start of the Quarter, but the general format will be at least 4 meetings, once every two weeks.

### Article VIII - Method of Amending By-Laws.

The By-Laws may be amended if the following procedure is observed. A written proposed amendment will be read at a meeting. At the following meeting, the written proposed amendment will be voted on if one-half of the voting population is present. The proposal passes if one-half of the votes cast support the amendment. Otherwise, the proposal may be changed and can be voted on for three consecutive quarters.

### Article IX – Zero-Tolerance for 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.

### Goals

1. The Iranian Student Union aspires to serve as strong allies to other minority communities within the United States, especially to spark positive social reform. From institutional racism to gender inequality, ISU aims to raise money and awareness for social reform.
  - a. Social Perspective Taking, Wellness, Purpose and Goals, Fundraising and Philanthropy, Diversity and Inclusion, Connection to Student Organizations, & Commitment to Social Change.
2. The Iranian Student Union also aims to establish a stronger Persian community for undergraduate students at Ohio State. ISU intends to encourage and embrace cultural differences and similarities between members for the betterment of the organization, while celebrating Iranian heritage through food, language, music, dance, and art.

a. Leadership Capacity and Confidence, Purpose and Goals, Membership Recruitment and Retention, Collaboration, Diversity and Inclusion, & Connection to Student Organizations.

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