

# **Global Energy and Sustainability (GES) Constitution**

Organization at The Ohio State University

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

### **Section 1: Name**

The name of the club/organization is Global Energy and Sustainability, also known as “GES”.

### **Section 2: Purpose**

Global Energy and Sustainability’s goal is to educate students on what different countries are doing to combat climate change through renewable energy and sustainability measures. Students will have the opportunity to learn about global initiatives around clean energy, green building, ecosystem restoration, and sustainability efforts from local and international professionals. Students will have the option to work on projects relating to these fields to gain real world experience in the international and local fight against climate change.

### **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.

As a student organization at The Ohio State University, Global Energy and Sustainability expects its members to conduct themselves in a manner that maintains an environment free from sexual misconduct. All members are responsible for adhering to University Policy 1.15, which can be found here: <https://hr.osu.edu/public/documents/policy/policy115.pdf>.

If you or someone you know has been sexually harassed or assaulted, you may find the appropriate resources at <http://titleIX.osu.edu> or by contacting the Ohio State Title IX Coordinator at [titleIX@osu.edu](mailto:titleIX@osu.edu).

## ***Article II - Membership: Qualifications and categories of membership.***

Global Energy and Sustainability’s voting members are limited to currently enrolled Ohio State students. Faculty, alumni, and professionals are welcome as non-voting associate or honorary members, yet Global Energy and Sustainability is to remain student initiated, student led, and student run.

Requirements for active membership:

- I. Active members are not required to pay a membership fee.

- II. Active members must attend a minimum of three GES meetings per semester. The Executive Board will make exceptions for special circumstances.
- III. Active members must attend a minimum of one GES event per semester. These events may include, but are not limited to, general body meetings, fundraising events, volunteering events, or social events. Members will be made aware of events during the semester.

### ***Article III – Methods for Removing Members and Executive Officers***

#### **Section 1: Removing Members**

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 by the Executive Board with the concurrence of three-fourths of the members voting at the meeting.

#### **Section 2: Removing Executive Officers**

If an Executive Officer engages in behavior that is detrimental to advancing the purpose of this organization, violates the organization's constitution or by-laws, violates the Code of Student Conduct, university policy, or federal, state, or local law, or is not fulfilling the requirements as stated in the constitution, the member may be removed. The Executive Board with the concurrence of three-fourths of the members voting at the meeting may remove any officer of the Executive Board and elect a successor for the remaining term. No officer of the Executive Board shall be expelled without an opportunity to be heard and notice of expulsion should be presented at least one week before the voting takes place.

### ***Article IV - Organization Leadership:***

The Executive Board members of Global Energy and Sustainability consist of the President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary. They comprise the Executive Board elected or appointed from the ranks of the organization's voting membership and are described as follows:

#### **Section 1: President**

- I. Act as a chair for all general and executive meetings
- II. Appoint the chairs of all committees, with the approval of the Executive Board
- III. Approve the appointment of all committee members
- IV. Coordinate activities and execute the business and policies of the section between meetings
- V. Authorize the disbursement of section funds within the budget approved by the Executive Board
- VI. Perform other duties normally associated with the office of president or as may be assigned by the Executive Board

#### **Section 2: Vice President**

- I. Assume the duties of the president if the president is temporarily unable to serve

- II. Provide oversight and guidance to the committee chairs as assigned
- III. Perform such other duties as may be assigned by the President or the Executive Board
- IV. Responsible for sending out committee interest forms to new members and assigning them to a committee
- V. Collaborate with other chairs to ensure they are in line with organization guidelines and are knowledgeable of organization branding

### **Section 3: Secretary**

- I. Maintain the records and documents
- II. Responsible for monitoring organization email
- III. Provide oversight and guidance to the committee chairs as assigned
- IV. Perform such other duties as may be assigned by the President or the Executive Board
- V. Sending weekly/bi-weekly organization updates to members

### **Section 4: Treasurer**

- I. Keep an updated record of all financial transactions
- II. Submitting yearly requests for funds
- III. Prepare regular financial statements and report financial status to the Executive Board during executive meetings
- IV. Creating and actively monitoring organization budget
- V. Ensure the financial regulations of student organizations at The Ohio State University are followed

### **Section 5: Advisor**

- I. Assist executive members in the execution of their roles
- II. Provide feedback to the organization in regards to Executive Board and operations of the organization
- III. Serve as a resource to the organization
- IV. Will not be a voting member of the organization

## ***Article V- Election / Selection of Organization Leadership***

Elections will be held through annual election meetings in April. They will be conducted through a nominating committee in the following manner:

- I. The nominating committee, which will be created through volunteers that will not participate in executive elections, will propose at least one qualified candidate for each of the Executive Board positions and the counselor position. The information will be presented to the members of the organization by mail, electronic mail, or posting on the section web site by the end of May of each year. The nominating committee chair will be elected by the committee itself.
- II. Candidates must:

- A. Be a part of the organization for at least a year
  - B. Give written consent to being placed on the ballot
  - C. The petition, together with the written consent, is submitted to the chair of the nominating committee.
- III. Officers and current Executive Board members will vote. The nominating committee will receive and count the votes, and be responsible to report the results to the president.
- IV. Each term will be served for one year.
- V. Any member who, during the course of their term of office, ceases to meet the criteria for active membership shall be removed from office, and an interim officer shall be appointed by the remaining board officers. If an officer is to be out of school due to a conflicting opportunity, an interim officer shall also be appointed by the board officers to replace that officer for the remainder of their term.

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

### **Section 1: Composition**

The governing body (President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary) shall be the Executive Board. The officers will constitute the voting members of the Executive Board. Committee chairs shall be non-voting members of the Executive Board.

### **Section 2: Duties**

The Executive Board is responsible for:

- I. Organizing meetings
- II. Implementing section policies as determined by the membership
- III. Connecting the members of the nominating committee
- IV. Approving the appointment of all committee chairs
- V. Ensuring that each committee is represented at meetings
- VI. Approving the section budget and authorizing expenditures not included in the approved budget.

### **Section 3: Conducting Business**

- I. The Executive Board shall meet regularly to conduct the business of the section upon the call of the section president or by the combination of two Executive Board members.
- II. Unless otherwise restricted by law or these bylaws, the Executive Board may also conduct business by telephone, mail, electronic mail, fax, or other electronic devices.

## ***Article VII - Standing Committees (if needed): Names, purposes, and composition.***

Committees will be added and responsibilities assigned as needed. The following committee chairs will be created as needed:

- I. International Outreach Chair

- II. Projects Chair
- III. Fundraising Chair
- IV. Sustainability Chair

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

General body meetings will be held bi-weekly. The Executive Board may call meetings in addition to these as they deem appropriate. In order to remain a member, students must attend a minimum of 3 general meetings.

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

There are no current required events for this organization. Events may be created as needed but attendance is not a requirement. For the case of an event and a student behaves in a disruptive (i.e., behavior that interferes with students, faculty, or staff and their access to an appropriate educational or work environment) or do not align with your organizations constitution, the Code of Student Conduct, university policy, or federal, state or local law, the Executive Board is permitted to remove their membership and remove them from the area.

***Article X – 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. They will then be read again at a defined number of following meetings and again at the general meeting in which the votes will be taken, and should require a two-third or three-quarter majority of voting members 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 XI – Method of Dissolution of Organization***

No dissolution should be taken into effect unless three-quarter of the members agree. In case of agreement the assets should cover the debts. If there are remaining assets or debts they should be divided in equal proportions among the members of the organization. Upon the official dissolution of the organization, Student Activities staff must be contacted to remove organization information from the website.