

Youth for STEM Equity at The Ohio State University Constitution

Article I - Name cons

Section 1: The name of this organization shall be Youth for STEM Equity at The Ohio State University (hereinafter referred to as "YSE").

Article II - Mission, Values, Approach, and Non-Discrimination Policy

Section 1: YSE works towards proliferating academic opportunities available to individuals through interpersonal engagement and interactive, gamified models of learning. YSE uses evidence-based practices for increased engagement within the STEM field through reduction in racism and discrimination. The organization fosters diversity within the STEM community regardless of personal identity to enhance the growth of the international knowledge economy. Moreover, YSE aims to shift the traditional perspectives on STEM that regard it as just a quantitative field of analysis.

Section 2: YSE funnels its efforts through the values of education, equity, and engagement as an avenue to generate the highest degree of social impact upon its target population.

Section 3: YSE uses gamified problem-solving as an avenue to target its educational programming towards students, educators, and businesses. Gamification is a model of learning that has been sparsely implicated in equitable models of learning. Interaction with content through scientific inquiry alongside others in a manner where the result serves as a positive incentive helps promote the application of education in every-day context alongside promoting long-lasting knowledge integration.

Section 4: YSE 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, and protected veteran status in its activities, programs, admission, and employment. As a student organization at The Ohio State University, YSE 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.

Article III - Membership, Conflict, and Expulsion

Section 1: All currently enrolled undergraduate students at The Ohio State University are eligible to serve as active organizational members if they fulfill the following criteria:

- a.** Student is in good academic standing at The Ohio State University (defined by The Ohio State University Code of Student Conduct as maintaining a Cumulative Point Hour Ratio of at least 2.00).
- b.** Student does not have felony sexual misconduct charges.
- c.** Student has obtained 3 points per semester and paid dues of \$5 per academic year. Points are determined by the engagement an individual performs in club-related activity. Activities include but are not limited to general body meeting attendance, fundraising, marketing efforts, and/or more. The point system is to be decided and approved by the Executive Board.

Section 2: Violations of constitutional policies and/or conflict between members of YSE will be resolved by the highest-ranking officer not involved in the conflict. They will serve as a mediator (under guidance of YSE Advisor if applicable) and execute the following responsibilities:

- a.** Arrange for a mediation meeting outside of the regular YSE general body meeting.
- b.** Explain their role as the impartial party and the objectives of the mediation.
- c.** Allow each party to express their views by allowing the conversation to go where the parties wish it to go, without talking over each other and without any hostility or aggressive language or behavior;

d. Collect any available resources that might assist in the resolution (financial documents, emails, photos, etc.)

e. In the event resolution cannot be reached, the issue will be brought before the advisor and the resolution shall be up to his/her discretion.

Section 3: YSE and YSE Advisor can exercise the ability to expel a general body member on just grounds by a majority vote of the Executive Board members. In the event of a tie, the vote of the President shall be the determining vote. An expelled member shall not be entitled to refund of any dues paid.

Article III - Executive Board Membership

Section 1: Members of the Executive Board include the President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary.

Section 2: The President serves as the spokesperson for YSE. They are responsible for running general body meetings, YSE operations and administrative tasks, updating YSE legal and maintenance, requirements, and more. The President further leads and coordinates the chapters to meet short-term and long-term goals. The position initiates key strategic decisions to leverage an audience for successfully meeting YSE's mission. The President serves as a director of all YSE operations and sparks key partnerships for meeting chapter responsibilities and roles.

Section 3: The Vice President is responsible for managing day-to-day operations by delegating tasks to specific commitments and collaborating with committee leads for executing key initiatives. The Vice President directly collaborates with the President to coordinate volunteers, create deadlines, implement a strategic plan, and advertise current efforts through connections with mass media outlets. The position is key to ensure short-term and long-term projections are being formulated and met in a timely and efficient manner.

Section 4: The treasurer manages the YSE's finances, including budgeting, record-keeping, and financial transactions. They direct help to manage the fiscal health of YSE by maintaining official fiscal records. They look over

monetary inflow and outflow out of the nonprofit accounts. Other key responsibilities include investment risk analysis, grant writing, and budgeting

Section 5: The Secretary primarily facilitates in management and scheduling of conferences. They are in-charge of the meeting minutes, YSE Newsletter, record-keeping, and other administrative functions. The Secretary further communicates with business professionals, future partners, and potential clients on behalf of the President and Vice President. Secretaries oversee the organization email and organize the Google Drive to ensure efficiency and efficacy in expanding the mission. The role works closely with the President and Vice President in finishing project tasks and menial responsibilities.

Section 6: Each member elected to the Executive Committee can serve their term until the date of graduation at The Ohio State University. No member shall serve more than one term.

Section 6: If the President is not capable of performing his/her duties, the Vice President shall assume interim duties, and the new President shall be selected according to the process in Article V of the Constitution.

Article IV - Leadership Team

Section 1: The Leadership Team of YS shall consist of the Executive Board and the Advisor.

Section 2: Voting members of the Leadership Team shall be the President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary. In the event of a tie, the vote of the President shall be the determining vote. The Advisor shall serve as non-voting members of the Leadership Team.

Article V - Executive Board Selection, Vacancies, and Removal Process

Section 1: The Executive Board Selection process shall be called by the President beginning with applications being during November.

Section 2: Any active member of YSE may submit an application for a position on the Executive Board, given that he/she is an active member during that term.

Section 3: Qualified applicants will interview before a Selection Board.

Section 4: The Selections Board shall include outgoing members of the Executive Board and the YSE Advisor.

Section 5: The term of appointment begins with the Transfer of Powers after the election process has been concluded.

Section 6: Removal of an Executive Board Member can be done at any point on just grounds through a vote of the Advisor and two other Executive Board Members. The Committee Chair or Executive Board member who is in question, must be given a directly communicated warning before he/she can be removed from office.

Section 7: Under circumstances where an Executive Board Member Position is left vacant due to lack of applicants, removal of the member, and/or resignation, an application will be sent out to all Campus Chapter members to apply for the open position(s). Selected applicants will receive an interview run by the remaining Executive Board Members. In the event of a tie vote the highest-ranking Executive Board Member shall be the tie breaker. An announcement and application should be sent out at the meeting following the vacancy. The position should be filled within 30 days.

Article VI - Meetings

Section 1: YSE General Body will meet no less than three times during each academic semester.

Section 2: YSE Executive Board will meet no less than three times during each academic semester.

Section 3: YSE Leadership Team will meet no less than one time during each academic semester.

Section 4. The President, with the consent of the Vice President or a majority (50%+1) of the Executive Board Members, may change meeting frequency.

Section 5. Any member of the Executive Board and the Advisor may call special meetings should they seem fit.

Section 6. The Executive Board and the Advisor reserves the right to determine all meeting times and locations.

Article VII - Anti-Hazing Policy

Section 1: Hazing is strictly prohibited. Hazing shall be defined as any conduct which subjects another person, whether physically, mentally, emotionally, or psychologically, to anything that may endanger, abuse, degrade, or intimidate the person as a condition of association with a group or organization, regardless of the person's consent or lack of consent.

Section 2: All incidents of hazing will be investigated by the Advisor and the Executive Board Members. Should further actions be deemed necessary, the Office of Student Life's Department of Student Conduct will be involved.

Article VIII - Embezzlement

Section 1: Any stealing or financial discrepancy shall be handled by the Executive Board and the Office of Student Life Advancement Business Manager.

Article IX - Finances

Section 1: YSE funds are to be deposited and handled exclusively through the Executive Board.

Section 2: YSE shall not have any undisclosed accounts.

Section 3: Dues collective for active membership are \$5 per academic school year unless changed by the Treasurer with majority vote from the Executive Board.

Section 4: Dues are to be collected within the first month of the beginning of fall and spring semesters for members. New members have one month from attending his/her first meeting to pay dues in order to be considered active.

Article IX - Minor Participants Policy

Section 1: As a student organization at The Ohio State University, YSE expects its General Body Members to adhere to University Policy 1.50, which can be found here: <https://hr.osu.edu/wp-content/uploads/policy150.pdf>. The purpose of this policy is to promote the safety and welfare of minors who participate in activities and programs with minors, who are entrusted to the university's care.

Article X - Mental Health Statement

Section 1: YSE is committed to the welfare and success of each of its members. As a student you may experience a range of issues that can cause barriers to learning, such as strained relationships, increased anxiety, alcohol/drug problems, feeling down, difficulty concentrating, and/or lack of motivation.

Section 2: The Ohio State University offers services to assist you with addressing these and other concerns you may be experiencing. If you or someone you know is suffering from any of the aforementioned conditions, you can learn more about the broad range of confidential mental health services available on campus via the **Office of Student Life Counseling and Consultation Services (CCS)** by visiting ccs.osu.edu or calling **614-292- 5766**. **CCS is located on the 4th Floor of the Younkin Success Center and 10th Floor of Lincoln Tower. You can reach an on call counselor when CCS is closed at 614--292--5766 and 24 hour emergency help is also available through the 24/7 National Suicide Prevention Hotline at 1- -800--273--TALK or at suicidepreventionlifeline.org. Also, the OSU Student Advocacy Center is a resource to help students navigate OSU and to resolve issues that they encounter at OSU – visit <http://advocacy.osu.edu/>.**

Article XI - Constitutional Amendments

Section 1: Any "good standing" YSE member may propose a constitutional amendment via formal written or electronic communication to the Executive Board. The amendment can be instilled via majority (50%+1) vote of the active and "good standing" YSE members. If a member does not cast a vote, it is considered an abstention.

Section 2: The Secretary may, without a formal amendment, make formatting and grammatical changes to the Constitution.

Section 3: All amendments are subject to the approval of the Office of Student Activities.

Section 4: The Constitution shall be officially adopted. It shall take effect upon the approval by the Office of Student Activities.

Article XII - Constitutional Review

Section 1: The Constitution shall be reviewed every year. The Secretary shall convene an Ad-Hoc Committee and its progress. The Secretary shall be responsible for ensuring all edits and revisions are made

Article XII - Parliamentary Authority

Section 1: "Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised" by Sarah Corbin Roberts shall be used in all cases not covered by this Constitution to structure YSE.

Article XIV - Dissolution

Section 1: YSE may be dissolved by a majority vote (50%+1) of the Executive Board or by Youth for STEM Equity HQ for any reason.

Section 2: The Advisor reserves the exclusive right to disband and restart YSE should any of the three (3) following circumstances arise with Youth for STEM Equity HQ approval:

- a.** YSEE overall does not strive to fulfill or fails its Mission, Values, and Approach or violates several of the points of this Constitution or any university policy.
- b.** Executive board is using YSE's reach and finances for personal benefit not correlated to extending the Mission, Values, and Approach.
- c.** YSE may directly or indirectly inflict damage to an individual or group of individuals

Section 3: Any money that remains after dissolution of the Organization shall be donated to Youth for STEM Equity HQ (EIN: 87-1375549). Dissolution shall be handled by the Advisor and the Office of Student Life Advancement Business Manager.

