

GREEKSide OF THE NAVIGATORS (AKA “GREEKSide”) AT OHIO STATE CONSTITUTION

Article I: Name, Purpose, Message, and Non-Discrimination Policy

Section 1: Name: The formal name of this organization shall be GreekSide of The Navigators at Ohio State. That said, it may also be casually referred to as “GreekSide”, both in this document and in general use.

Section 2: Purpose

The purpose of GreekSide at Ohio State is to help interested students (primarily – but not exclusively – those in the IFC and PanHellenic Greek system) learn to navigate through life with a Christian worldview by:

- 2.1 providing students with opportunities to meet other Ohio State students of similar faith and values, and grow in Biblical understanding, character, sense of worth and purpose, interpersonal skills, ministry and leadership.
- 2.2 providing students with diverse learning environments wherein they can discover life-relevant principles about the Christian faith as presented in the Bible.
- 2.3 providing students who demonstrate leadership potential with more focused opportunities for mentoring, based both on the individual needs of the student as well as the long-term goals of the organization.
- 2.4 providing students with a deeper understanding of the message of The Navigators.

Section 3: Message

The Calling and Core Values of The Navigators, along with the Statement of Faith, form the message of this organization. These items that make up the message can be found at:

<http://www.navigators.org/About-Us/Statement of Faith>.

Section 4: Non-Discrimination & Sexual Misconduct Policies

As stated in the Core Values of The Navigators, we believe that every person has dignity and value, and we seek to build and maintain a healthy, strong diverse community.

Therefore, GreekSide of The Navigators at Ohio State adheres to the university’s nondiscrimination policy and invites all students to be members without regard to age, ancestry, color, disability, ethnicity, gender, HIV/AIDs status, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sexual orientation, veteran status, or any other bases under the law, in its activities, programs, admission, and employment.

Additionally, GreekSide will follow, abide by, and enforce the university’s Sexual Misconduct Policy, “and 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/wp-content/uploads/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 II: Roles within GreekSide: Members, Guests, Student Leaders, Executive Board “Officers”.

GreekSide of the Navigators will be made up of a variety of participants, including Members, Guests, Student Leaders, and the Executive Board. To give a general description of each of these parties:

2.1 Members: Members will make up the vast majority of the GreekSide student organization by far. This consists of any full-time or part-time matriculating undergraduate or graduate students that seek and attend GreekSide meetings. While it is probable that most of these students will be active participants of OSU’s Greek (Inter Fraternity Council and PanHellenic) houses, this is not a requirement of membership. Students will generally be considered a member of GreekSide if they:

- attend at least 50% of the GreekSide large group meetings for at least two (2) months.
- participate in a GreekSide small group for at least two months.

Of course, attendance exceptions can be made if the student is involved in a study abroad program or an internship, or has an extended illness.

2.2 Guests: At times, it is possible that current members may want to invite a friend or family member that is not a current student at Ohio State, and they would be considered a guest of GreekSide. Guests are welcome to attend or observe any GreekSide large group activity, with assumed initial approval of the Executive Board, unless there is communication to the contrary as outlined in Article III.

2.3 Student Leadership Team: In time, there may be student members who choose to become more involved in volunteering and serving within the GreekSide student organization. These roles could include setting up/tearing down for events, leading Bible studies, playing on a worship team, designing graphic for materials, and the like. To apply for the student leadership team, they would apply via the Navigator staff representative(s) to Ohio State, who would personally interview them.

2.4 Executive Board: GreekSide will have an Executive Board consisting of three student-held officer positions (President, Vice-President, and Treasurer), a Faculty Advisor, and a staff representative-from The Navigators national organization. Students interested in holding these officer positions in the following calendar year will apply to the current Executive Board, who will meet together to select (slate) which of the applicants will fulfill each role in the next term. Student officer positions are one-year terms, beginning with each calendar year.

BENEFITS: Anyone who attends or participates in GreekSide events will benefit from noticing a biblical perspective in the presentation and conduction of the meetings. Members will receive an additional benefit of receiving spiritual care, personalized instruction, 1:1 mentoring, and/or accountability from the leadership structure of GreekSide.

Article III: Methods for Removing Members, Guests, Student Leaders, and Executive Board Officers.

Temporary Removal from a meeting: At any point, an individual (be it member, guest, student leader or Executive Board officer) may be asked to leave a particular meeting upon a vote by the present members of the Executive Board for any of the following circumstances:

- If the individual is causing disruption to the group, is engaged in disorderly conduct, or is making threats.
- If the individual poses a danger to other students.
- If the individual's conduct rises to the level of harassment of another member of the group.

Permanent Removal of a Member from the Student Organization: If an individual has been asked to temporarily leave more than two meetings (for any of the detrimental reasons above) without any outward expression on their part of wanting to work through differences or change their behaviors to meet OSU Code of Conduct guidelines or GreekSide expectations, then they may be asked to rescind their membership and involvement within GreekSide events via a majority vote of the officers in consultation with the organization's advisor.

At any point, a member can choose to end their belonging/involvement with GreekSide by simply letting one of the Exec Board Officers know that they no longer want to be involved, and not attending future events.

Permanent Removal of an Executive Board Officer: In the case of officers of the Executive Board, there may be the rare circumstance whereby an individual could be asked to step down from their position.

A member of the Executive Board may initiate a motion for an officer to be considered for removal. Additionally, an active member may petition for the impeachment of an elected officer as well. In this latter case, a written request for removal signed by at least two active members needs to be delivered to the Executive Board.

In either case, the Executive Board must meet within fourteen (14) days. The reason for impeachment must then be stated, and the officer charged shall be allowed to respond. No officer may be removed without first receiving a full and fair hearing from the Executive Board.

Since GreekSide is an organization with representation from both OSU students and The Navigators organization, the outcome will be decided by majority vote of the remaining Executive Board members, yet it is required that least one student Executive Board member **and** at least one Navigator staff representative both have some voting representation on the "winning" side. (In other words, so that it is not a student overthrow of Navigator staff representation, or vice versa).

Possible reasons for an EB Position removal include:

- Habitual repetitive actions described above
- Repeated absences of Executive Board that are holding up decision or progress
- Character/integrity issues that are new or discovered that poorly represent GreekSide or Ohio State.
- An officer no longer modeling the purpose and/or message of The Navigators through his or her behavior or beliefs, thus compromising the integrity of the purpose and/or message. Disagreement with the Statement of Faith, Calling or Core Values may also be grounds for removal.

Article IV: Organization Leadership.

The organizational leadership of The GreekSide of The Navigators consists solely of an **Executive Board (or “officers”)**, with no additional or separate Executive Committee. This board will be looked upon for overall leadership and direction of the organization. It consists of the following roles:

President (one term, appointed after application and vote of prior EB): The President will be looked upon for overall student leadership of GreekSide at Ohio State, and model a life consistent with the values of both Ohio State and The Navigators. He/she shall organize and preside over all Executive Board meetings. He/she should be proactively thinking about how to grow the organization and bring to the attention of other officers issues/concerns that come up that hinder achieving this goal. The President shall be the ex-officio member of all standing boards.

Vice-President (one term, appointed after application and vote of prior EB): The Vice-President, in the absence of the President, along with the Executive Board shall organize all meetings of the organization and preside over Executive Board meetings. The Vice-President shall be responsible for organization communication and membership records. The Vice-President shall also perform such duties as are assigned to him/her by the President of the Executive Board or The Navigators staff representative.

Treasurer (one term, appointed after application and vote of prior EB): The treasurer shall be responsible for all fiscal matters concerning GreekSide, including reporting and other fiscal arrangements with the university. He/she will also fill in the duties of other officers in the event of their absence.

Advisor (no term length designation, remains from prior year unless resignation or votes to have another one): see Article VIII.

Staff Representatives from The Navigators national organization: (no term length designation, appointed by The Navigator national organization): The staff representation should be the liaison between the Ohio State chapter of GreekSide and The Navigators national organization. He/she shall also help develop the leadership and character skills of the other officers.

Article V: Election/Selection of Executive Board Officers.

GreekSide of The Navigators at Ohio State will have three student officers: President, Vice-President, and Treasurer.

Qualifications/Eligibility: Because they are the most visible representatives of The Navigators on the campus, prior to being considered for service as an officer, candidates must commit to lead The Navigators in a way that is consistent with the purpose, and faithful to the message, of The Navigators.

Eligibility to hold these offices shall include a demonstrated commitment to The Navigators' Calling, Core Values, and Statement of Faith (i.e. the message of The Navigators), and to living out these

values in their daily lives. Elected officers are considered pastoral representatives of the organization who not only perform leadership duties but also help fellow students in the understanding of Christian beliefs. Additionally, officers explain and interpret The Navigators Calling, Core Values and Statement of Faith to others, and accept responsibility for the spiritual health of the organization and its members.

To be an officer, a student must be an active member, achieving and maintaining a 2.5 or above cumulative grade point average, and be in good standing with Ohio State. They must have been involved with The Navigators for a minimum length of one (1) year.

Process:

In the spring of each calendar year (March/April), any student wishing to be an officer the following year may nominate themselves or be nominated by another active member by submitting an email to the current Executive Board.

Once all nominations are received prior to the communicated deadline, each candidate must also complete the available application that will be provided to them.

Once applications are received prior to the communicated deadline, each candidate will be interviewed by a selection board that will consist of volunteer members of the current Executive Board. During the selection process, applicants will be reviewed and shall be asked about their faith, beliefs, and views. Potential officers shall be asked to express their views on matters that are necessary for advancing the purpose and message of GreekSide, as well as their willingness to model the Navigators' purpose and message through their behavior so that the purpose and message are communicated with integrity.

The current Executive Board shall choose individuals to serve in each officer position for the following year. The Executive Board shall review The Navigators' purpose the national Navigators Statement of Faith, Calling and Core Values prior to making their selections. The Executive Board will, among other things, base their decisions on their assessment of the applicant's willingness and ability to promote The Navigators' purpose and message, to best represent their views, and to lead with integrity. Selection shall require a simple majority of the Board.

All officers serve for a term of one (1) year or until their successors shall be duly elected and qualified.

Elections will be held during the month of April. Elected officers will take office approximately two weeks after their election, to allow for a couple weeks of transition.

Article VI: Executive Committee: Size and Composition of the Committee.

GreekSide of the Navigators does not have any additional Executive Committee outside the already stated Executive Board, consisting of Student Officers, a Faculty Advisor, and Navigator Staff representation. There is no "Board of Directors". [For clarification, however, The Navigator staff representative does have reporting authority back to The (national) Navigators organization (in Colorado Springs, CO), but that national umbrella organization leaves local governing decisions to the local Executive Board outlined in Article V above.]

Article VII: Standing Board: Student Leadership Team.

Without any voting power and under the authority of Executive Board, there may be a Student Leadership Team consisting of members that desire to volunteer and serve the GreekSide organization at large. These serving roles could include setting up/tearing down for events, leading bible studies, playing on a worship team, designing graphic for materials, and the like.

Although the Student Leadership Team has no voting power or formal authority, we also recognize they are a vital and necessary part of seeing the mission and purpose of GreekSide to advance and strengthen. Therefore, it is still important that they model an integrity and lifestyle that is consistent with the goals and values of both The Navigators organization and Ohio State. As such, there is still an application process, although much less formal than that for the Executive Board officers.

Applications will be available and communicated each spring for the following school year. In order to apply for the GreekSide Student Leadership Team, any current active member would submit an application to the current Executive Board, would be interviewed by a current Executive Board member, and would be granted acceptance unless a glaring simply staff representative(s) to Ohio State, who would personally interview them.

Article VIII: Advisor: Qualification Criteria.

GreekSide of the Navigators at Ohio State values the input and experience of Ohio State's exceptional faculty, and will embrace having a Faculty Advisor on its Executive Board. In order to be in compliance with Ohio State's student organization requirements, this individual must be a full-time member of Ohio State's faculty or Administrative & Professional staff.

While it is the hope that GreekSide's faculty advisor would desire to attend periodic events and meetings to have a "finger on the pulse" of its happenings, there is not a minimum requirement of meetings that he/she must attend. His/her roles will include staying in strong communication with the staff representative from The Navigators, being the liaison between GreekSide and Ohio State's official policies, giving input and counsel, and helping to break down barriers if issues arise. When available, he/she would be a voting member of the Executive Board, and help interview candidates for the next year's officer selection. His/Her term is undefined, and will continue each year with agreement between him/her and the Executive Board.

Article IX: Meetings, Events, and Attendees of the Organization: Required Meetings and their Frequency.

GreekSide will hold a variety of meetings that could change over time in size, frequency, location depending on overall growth and needs of the students and the organization over time. That said, there could be:

1:1 meetings: that exist for planning, training, organizing, mentoring, recruiting, screening or interviewing purposes.

Small group meetings: that exist as Bible studies, spiritual discussions, planning teams, event organization, etc.

Leadership Meetings: that exist for trainings, teachings, accountability checks, etc.

Large Group Meetings: that exist for broad outreaches, teachings, worship sessions, etc.

Executive Board Meetings: that exist for evaluations, voting, addressing issues, etc.

Special Events: that exist for fun, bonding, recruiting, fellowship, serving the community, etc.

Article XI: Method of Amending Constitution: Proposals, Notice, and Voting Requirements.

Amendments to this Constitution may be proposed to the Executive Board by any active member. The Executive Board has a reasonable amount of time, not to exceed (1) month, to inform active officers of the proposed amendment and call it to a vote. Amendments to this Constitution shall require the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the Executive Board by a majority vote.