

Lotus Sangha

Student Organization Constitution

ARTICLE I. NAME OF ORGANIZATION

Lotus Sangha

ARTICLE II. ORGANIZATION PURPOSE

Lotus Sangha promotes mindfulness and wellness through meditation and Buddhist-inspired practices—encouraging self-care, growth, and well-being.

ARTICLE III. UNIVERSITY REGULATIONS

Section A. Harassment and Discrimination, including Sexual Misconduct

Lotus Sangha agrees that it will not engage in sexual misconduct nor any harassment or discrimination 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 basis in accordance with the Student Organization Registration Guidelines.

Section B. Hazing

Lotus Sangha agrees to maintain a zero-tolerance policy for hazing, in compliance with Ohio State University and Collin's Law. All members must conduct themselves in a manner that supports an environment free from hazing. Hazing includes any activity, regardless of consent, that causes or creates a substantial risk of physical, mental, or emotional harm or humiliation to any individual as part of membership or affiliation with the student organization. If found responsible for hazing, members and/or the organization may face disciplinary actions.

Section C. Bylaws

Lotus Sangha retains the right to maintain separate bylaws to outline the day-to-day operations of the organization and to clarify policies and procedures otherwise not included in the previous articles. Bylaws and/or other guiding documents may not take precedence over the requirements set forth by local, state, and federal laws, The Ohio State University's regulations, policies, and procedures, and the Council on Student Affairs (CSA) Student Organization Registration Guidelines. Organizations may make amendments and changes to the bylaws without consulting the Ohio Union & Student Activities department, and changes to bylaws do not require approval. All elements of organizational bylaws shall be consistent with the organization's currently approved constitution on file and CSA constitution requirements.

ARTICLE IV. MEMBERSHIP

Section A. Membership Eligibility

Membership for Lotus Sangha at The Ohio State University is open to all members of the campus community including currently enrolled Ohio State students and other non-student members, such as faculty, alumni, professionals, etc.

Section B. Member Selection

Membership is open. Members must fill out membership form.

Section C. Membership Timeline

Membership is open on a rolling basis.

Section D. Member Removal

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 through a majority vote of the Executive Board in consultation with the organization's advisor.

ARTICLE V. ADVISOR

Section A. Advisor Duties and Responsibilities

Advisors of student organizations must be full-time members of the University faculty or Administrative & Professional staff. If a person is serving as an advisor who is not a member of the above classifications, a coadvisor must be chosen who is a member of these University classifications. The faculty advisor is responsible for helping the organization meet the detailed goals by providing their own assistance, or connecting the executive board to outside resources. The advisor for the organization will need to complete required university training to serve in this position.

Section B. Advisor Term

The Advisor shall serve continuously until they no longer meet the University's eligibility requirements for advisors or voluntarily resign from the position.

Section C. Advisor Selection

Advisors will be selected by a majority vote (51%) from the current executive board. The current President and Vice President are responsible for identifying candidates. This must be confirmed by the President afterwards. The advisor must meet the requirements set by University standards.

Section D. Advisor Replacement

Should an advisor resign or no longer qualify, the executive board will begin the process to identify a new advisor. An advisor will be removed if they engage in behavior that is detrimental to advancing the purpose of the organization, violate the organization's constitution or bylaws, or violates the Code of Conduct, university

policy, or federal or state law. A qualified faculty or staff member will be nominated and confirmed through a majority vote of the Executive Board.

ARTICLE VI. ORGANIZATION LEADERSHIP

Section A. Officer Positions

President (Primary Leader): The primary role for the campus organizer is to oversee, approve, and provide advice on all tasks, events, and strategies. The primary leader for the organization will need to complete required university training to serve in this position.

Vice President (Secondary Leader): The primary role for the Vice President is to assist in tasks in collaboration with the President. The Secondary Leader will take over Presidential duties, should the Primary leader be unable to fulfill their duties.

Treasurer: The primary role for the treasurer is to communicate with the Office of Student Life regarding funds, maintaining a budget for the academic year, and performing the duties of the campus organizer and secretary in their absence. The treasurer for the organization will need to complete required university training to serve in this position.

Section B. Officer Eligibility

To be eligible for the Executive Board, the person must be a member of Lotus Sangha at The Ohio State University and in good standing with the university to be enrolled for the following academic year. To be eligible for the Presidential position, the person must have previously held an Executive position

Section C. Officer Selection Process

All Executive Board positions will be selected via election. Every Executive Board position is eligible for reelection of the same individual. Executive Board members shall be selected based on their abilities, past experience, and dedication to the organization & its mission statement. There shall not be any bias based on level of acquaintance from the current Executive Board. Interested future executive board members will complete the application form. They will be voted on by the current executive board and must acquire a majority (51%), and decisions will be finalized by the President.

Section D. Officer Removal

Any Executive Board member may be removed from their position for cause. Cause for removal includes, but is not limited to: violation of the constitution or by-laws, failure to perform duties, or any behavior that is detrimental to advancing the purpose of this organization, including violations of the Student Code of Conduct, university policy, or federal, state, or local laws. The eligible voting body needs to recommend impeachment and confirm through a majority vote.

ARTICLE VII. ORGANIZATION DISSOLUTION

Section A. Dissolution Requirements

In the event that the organization no longer meets university requirements for maintaining active status, such as less than 5 members for an academic year, the organization will dissolve.

Section B. Dissolution Procedures, including Assets and Debts

Any debts or assets will be handled at the discretion of the Treasurer and President. This includes closing any existing bank account associated with the organization. This money will be used to handle any debts, and if not enough will be split between the remaining executive board members. The President will decide how any organization assets will be handled. The Office of Student Life Student Activities will be informed should the organization choose to dissolve.

ARTICLE VIII. CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

Section A. Amendment Process

Any Executive Board may propose an amendment to the Constitution by submitting their amendment to the organization in writing. An amendment proposal shall be communicated via email to the General Assembly, at lotussangha.osu@gmail.com, at least 48 hours prior to an Executive Board meeting. During the meeting, the Executive Board members can vote on the proposed amendment presented. An amendment may be proposed at any time, but no more than two weeks should pass between an amendment being introduced and an amendment being voted on. At least two-thirds of the Executive Board should be present in order for a vote on an amendment to occur. If two-thirds of members are not present at the meeting an amendment is proposed, the amendment process must be repeated to be introduced for a vote at a future meeting. A newly ratified constitution goes into effect immediately upon ratification. The constitution should not be amended easily or frequently.