



CONSTITUTION

Open Source Club

Last Revised: [Month Day, Year]

Ohio State University
Columbus, OH

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PREAMBLE

The Open Source Club at the Ohio State University has had an extensive role in OSU's tech-related student life, from sprouting into other clubs and events, to encouraging students and alumni alike to become a part of the open source community.

The current leadership of this organization would like to extend gratitude to former members and staff; open source has had a rich history, both in and out of OSU's campus, and it is with the support of those who have come before us that we are able to exercise this passion so freely.

A detailed record of past leadership for the Open Source Club at the Ohio State University is included in the complete legislature for the organization, which can be found at legislature.osuosc.org.

Additionally, the following are the available direct links to the different ways in which this constitution can be read:

- ❖ mdBook (through your browser)
- ❖ PDF (in the link provided to the right of "**Constitution**")

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ARTICLE I. Definition

Article I of the Constitution for the Open Source Club at the Ohio State University specifies the definition of the club, or, how the club ought to be referred to as, and the nature of the club and its establishment.

SECTION I. Name

The name of this student organization is to be "The Open Source Club at the Ohio State University." ("The Open Source Club", "Open Source Club", "OSC", "th(e/is) organization", "th(e/is) student organization").

The following are appropriate shorthands that may be used throughout organization legislature or in general reference to the organization:

- ❖ The Open Source Club at OSU
- ❖ Open Source Club at OSU
- ❖ OSC at OSU
- ❖ OSC@tOSU

If the name is being provided in documentation or communications strictly within the Ohio State University, suffixed terms "OSU" and "the Ohio State University" may be omitted for brevity.

SECTION II. Purpose

This student organization will dedicate itself to helping promote, propagate, and standardize the open source paradigm of technology development and use, both in software, and in other works to which the open source paradigm is applicable and societally beneficial.

The organization will strive to excel in these three vectors by:

- a. Introducing the open source model of development to OSU students and the larger OSU/Columbus community;
- b. Showcasing projects developed under an open source development model (programs, games, websites, arts, etc.);
- c. Fostering interest in the open source community, and providing ways for members to involve themselves in it (meetings, talks, workshops, etc.);
- d. Creating a space in which members can engage in constructive discourse on the topics surrounding open source;
- e. Raising awareness of the value the open source paradigm can provide to students, members of our communities, and society at large;
- f. Inspire members to think critically about the technology they use, the way that technology interfaces and affects their lives, and the ways in which we can reclaim our agency and foster solidarity in our communities through a more sustainable relationship with technology and a more democratic paradigm of technology in our societies.

SECTION III. 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.

In addition, this organization does not discriminate on the basis of academic standing, program affiliation, nor personal political affiliation.

Finally, it is this organization's policy that these statements and policies extend to - and will be required of - all individuals who choose to associate with this organization; student, faculty, or otherwise.

ARTICLE II. Membership

In the pursuit of our stated purpose, membership in this student organization is extended to all members of the OSU and Columbus community who wish to involve themselves - and learn how to benefit from - open source. No fees or dues will ever be collected from any member of the community wishing to involve themselves in the Open Source Club.

Recognizing the breadth of our potential member pool, we define the two types of members as **active** and **passive**, and elaborate on the privileges afforded to each.

SECTION I. Active Membership

Active membership is awarded to any and all currently-enrolled students of the Ohio State University, part- or full-time, who are in good standing with the organization, and who display activity within the organization to a recognizable degree. This includes, but is not limited to:

- ❖ Those who attend two or more in-person meetings in a semester
- ❖ Those who are active in existing social groups (Discord, Revolt, Matrix, etc.)
 - ❖ "Active" is loosely defined as contributing enough to online discussion so as to easily be precisely identified and recalled by members during in-person meetings, be it by username or reference to discussions of which the member in question was a part. A more precise definition is left to current officership discretion.
- ❖ Other examples left to the officers' discretion.

Active membership affords members the privilege of continuing to participate in digital social groups; being allowed to attend meetings and, to the discretion of associated organizations, meeting collaborations.

Active membership additionally affords members the privilege of being able to run for, and hold, executive officer positions; being able to vote for candidates for executive roles; being able to participate in votes for the removal of an executive officer.

SECTION II. Passive Membership

Passive membership is awarded to any and all individuals who are in good standing with the organization, and who display interest in the organization to a recognizable degree. This includes, but is not limited to:

- ❖ Those who subscribe to any existing mailing lists.
- ❖ Those who interact with any existing social media accounts.
- ❖ Those who are members of any existing social groups (Discord, Revolt, Matrix, etc.)
- ❖ Those who have expressed explicit interest in the club, but are unable to consistently interface with it due to personal constraints.
- ❖ Other examples left to the officers' discretion.

Passive membership affords members the privilege of continuing to participate in digital social groups; being allowed to attend meetings and, to the discretion of associated organizations, meeting collaborations.

ARTICLE III. Procedures for Removing Members and Executive Officers

It may be the case that a member of the organization, be they passive, active, or an executive officer, has their behavior deemed incongruent with the stated goals of the organization, in violation of the Ohio State University Standards, the Student Code of Conduct, and/or the Non-Discrimination Policy as expressed in Article I, Section III, or otherwise deemed unacceptable by the expectations of this organizations and its membership. For these regrettable cases, and in the interest of fostering a productive, accessible, and equitable community for the OSU community at large, a procedure for removing the offending organization member is defined.

In calculating a non-unanimitities (i.e. majorities or pluralities), abstentions from active members are ignored. In calculating a unanimity, abstentions are equivalent to nays.

Members removed from the organization through the procedures forthcoming lose their status of good standing for two academic years.

SECTION I. The Removal of a Non-Officer

Non-officer members being considered for removal will be notified of this consideration, whereafter a one-week voting period open to active members, passive members, and officers will commence. The removal will be successful if:

- ❖ A unanimous decision to remove is made among the officers.
- ❖ A simple majority decision to remove is made among passive and active members, separately.

SECTION II. The Removal of an Officer

Officer members being considered for removal will be notified of this consideration, whereafter a two-week voting period open to active members will commence. The removal will be successful if:

- ❖ A $\frac{2}{3}$ majority decision to remove is made among active members.

ARTICLE IV. Executive Officership

In the pursuit of effective organization management, a structure of executive officership is designed for active members of the organization to play a role in maintaining the community and longevity thereof.

SECTION I. Titles and Responsibilities

Any role not marked with an asterisk (*) is considered supplementary, and its being unfulfilled during an academic term is acceptable. In such an event, the available executive officership will take on the stated responsibilities at their discretion. As a default, any role not fulfilled will have their associated responsibilities taken on by the President and Vice President as appropriate.

All Executive roles will have alternative titles that are to be recognized by past leadership and advisors as valid. They exist so as to allow flexibility in how members of the Executive Board of OSC represent their Officership to others, be that in professional documents, in communicating with non-OSC parties, or otherwise.

- ❖ ***President:** The President is the primary leader of the executive board, and oversees the large-scale success of the organization.
- ❖ The following is a non-exhaustive list of the expected responsibilities of the President of Open Source Club:
 - ✦ Deciding meeting times and topic;
 - ✦ Maintaining appropriate and welcoming behavior in OSC spaces (in-person, digital, and otherwise);
 - ✦ Establishing and/or disestablishing social media accounts and virtual social groups;
 - ✦ Representing OSC in matters with non-OSC parties;
 - ✦ Ensuring detailed records and recommendations of OSC procedure are maintained;
 - ✦ Ensuring all training and documents are completed and filled by all members of the Executive Board by time frames places by the Office of Student Life of the Ohio State University;
 - ✦ Providing a model for what an effective, inclusive, and mindful member of OSC ought to behave like;
 - ✦ Being mindful of the assets and events presently and in the future under OSC's purview.

SECTION II. Voting and Tenure

CHAPTER I. Time Allotted to Self-Nomination and Voting

CHAPTER II. Precise Voting and Vote-Counting Procedure

CHAPTER III. Tenure

RATIFICATION

We, the undersigned, hereby ratify this Constitution on behalf of the Open Source Club at the Ohio State University.

President

Faculty Advisor

Vice President

Date of Ratification