

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS OF THE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE CLUB

ARTICLE I.

NAME OF ORGANIZATION: The name of this organization shall be the Environmental Science Club (ESC).

ARTICLE II

PURPOSE: The purpose of this organization shall be to promote awareness of environmental issues to encourage students to make more environmentally sustainable decisions both on campus and in the community as well as provide the TSU community with opportunities to enjoy the outdoors through service oriented projects in the greater Nashville area.

ARTICLE III

OFFICERS:

Section 1. Officers

The officers of this organization shall consist of the following: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Council Representative and Social Chair.

Section 2. The qualifications of officers

Clause 1. Officers shall be an active member of the club for at least two semesters and must have been active through the previous semester.

Clause 2. Candidates for office must be enrolled as a full-time student and have an overall grade point average of 2.00 or better.

Clause 3. Candidates for office must have two full semesters of school left to be completed, one of those may be a semester of graduate school. The candidate must plan to stay in school for those two semesters.

Clause 4. Officers must attend all meetings, or notify the President or faculty advisor prior to the absence or conflict to be excused from the meeting.

Section 3. Duties of the officers

President. The president is the presiding officer at all meetings of the organization. In case of absence, the vice-president shall act in the place of the president. The president shall strictly enforce the constitution and bylaws of the Environmental Science Club. The president shall have the power to appoint active members to open chairmanships and assistant chairs. The president shall not make a motion or amend any motion, nor shall he vote on a motion unless there is an equal division among the active members present, in which case the president will cast the deciding vote.

Vice-President. The vice-president shall preside over all meetings of the club in the absence of the president. The vice-president shall distribute copies of the constitution and bylaws to all the officers following their election. The vice-president also shall assist the president in performing

duties of the club. The vice president is in charge of all pledge activities of the club and oversees all standing committees of the club.

Secretary. The secretary shall keep a written record of all club activities, coordinate all club correspondence, record attendance at club meetings, maintain a current active member list, and filing of organizational reports to the Office of Student Activities.

Treasurer. The treasurer shall coordinate and record all financial activities of the club, present the current financial status of the club at each meeting, and collect dues from all members.

Social Chair. The social chair is in charge of presenting all newsworthy information, concerning all club meetings, activities, and functions to the proper media. The social chair also must advertise upcoming meetings in the student union and in the placement of signs in other buildings throughout campus. The social chair also must keep and compile a scrapbook for display.

Council Representative. The council representative shall help the president maintain order and conduct a smooth flowing meeting. The council representative shall represent the Environmental Science Club at university meetings and activities, and report back on their activities.

Section 4. Elections of officers.

Clause 1. Time of elections.

Elections shall be held annually, taking place the last meeting in April. Newly elected officers shall take office the next meeting.

Clause 2. Method of election.

Voting will be by secret ballot and only by active members present at the meeting. The person who receives the majority of the total votes cast shall win. In the event no majority is received a run off election will be held between the two highest vote receiving candidates.

Clause 3. Officers are limited to 1 term of 2 semesters per office. Then after that term is filled the officer may run for any office that he,/she has not previously held.

Clause 4. Vacancy of office.

Any office that is vacated, except that of president, shall be filled by elections by the membership at the first regular meeting after the office has been officially vacated.

Clause 5. Presidential Vacancy. In the event that the office of the president is vacated the vice-president shall be elevated to president. An election for vice-president shall follow. The vice-president is eligible to hold the office of the president the following year, but not vice-president.

Clause 6. In the event that an officer misses three or more unexcused meetings they will be forced to give up their office. An election will be held at the next regular meeting to replace that officer.

Section 5. Faculty Advisor

At least two faculty advisors of the Environmental Science Club must be a faculty member of the College of Agriculture, Human & Natural Sciences. The advisor will serve a two-year term and will be elected by current, active members of the Environmental Science Club.

Section 4. Committees

Committees will be created as needed by the president and the executive council.

Section 5. Executive Council

The Environmental Science Club shall have an executive council composed of all elected officers, committee chairman and the faculty advisors.

Clause 1. The executive council has the power to approve payment of bills by the Treasurer.

Clause 2. The council has the power to receive, review, and organize business brought before the club.

Clause 3. The council can create positions and committees which are necessary in the performance of the Council's powers and duties or necessary to promote or ensure the best interests of the club and its members.

Clause 4. The council shall act as the membership committee with the delegated power to review, interpret and amend Article V of this constitution as becomes necessary.

ARTICLE IV

QUORUM:

A quorum shall constitute a minimum of 40% of all active members to conduct any business concerning the club.

ARTICLE V

MEMBERSHIP:

Section 1. Active Membership

Clause 1. Any regularly enrolled undergraduate or graduate student of Tennessee State University who is actively interested in biology, agriculture, environment and/or other related fields is eligible for active memberships. Members must maintain a minimum of a 2.0 GPA.

Clause 2. To be classified as an active member, a student must have all dues paid up to date, and must be in good standing in regards to attendance requirements.

Clause 3. Members shall be regulated to inactive status for the following reasons: (A) Non-payment of dues and assessments when due; (B) Failure to meet attendance requirements of the organization; (C) On the request by an active member regarding his/her own membership.

Section 2. Attendance requirements

Clause 1. Any member who fails to attend three consecutive regular meetings shall be relegated to inactive status for the remainder of the semester.

Clause 2. Any member who has missed two consecutive meetings shall be notified by the secretary regarding his or her attendance status.

Clause 3. Any member who is forced to be absent from a meeting due to unavoidable circumstances may petition the executive council to have such absence excused by presenting a written statement to any member of the executive council. The absences excused by the executive council shall not count against the member. The executive council shall decide what is excused or unexcused

Section 3. Expulsion Clause

Clause 1. Any member may be expelled from the organization by a 4/5 vote of the active members sitting in a regular meeting, providing 40% of the active members are present.

Clause 2. A member who has been expelled has the opportunity to appeal the decision at the next meeting.

Section 4. Honorary membership

Honorary memberships may be conferred upon any person with an active interest in the environmental science field. A majority of the club members present must approve the honorary membership. Honorary members shall pay no fees or dues.

ARTICLE VI

DUES

Section 1. Fees

Clause 1. Organization members will have the option to pay dues as follows:

\$15.00/year membership for 1 year without club t-shirt

\$10.00/semester membership for 6 months without t-shirt

\$25.00/year membership for 1 year with t-shirt

\$20.00/semester membership for 6 months with t-shirt

Clause 2. Dues must be paid by the third meeting of the semester.

Clause 3. Inactive members must pay a reinstatement fee of \$1.00.

Section 2. Expenditure of money

Clause 1. The treasurer shall be responsible for the group's finances

Clause 2. The treasurer must have approval by the executive council or a majority of active members present at a meeting to pay bills or expend money.

Clause 3. No member shall be allowed to use or borrow club money for their own personal needs.

ARTICLE VII

BY-LAWS

Section 1.

By-laws to this constitution, or amendments or deletion of the bylaws, may be passed at any regular meeting of the organization by a majority vote, provided that a quorum is present.

Section 2.

By-laws may be passed as long as they do not conflict with the provisions of this constitution, or the constitution of the TSU Student Association.

ARTICLE VIII

REPORTS TO THE OFFICE OF STUDENT ACTIVITIES CENTER

Section 1. At the beginning of the fall semester, the Environmental Science Club shall report the name of its officers and advisors to the Office of Student Activities and shall promptly report any changes that occur during the year.

Section 2. The funds of the Environmental Science club will be deposited with the university banking service and these will be audited yearly, preferably at the time a new treasurer is installed.

Section 3. It is understood that failure to submit such materials, either through continued negligence or willful omission, will result in the suspension of the charter of this organization by the Committee on Student Organizations.

ARTICLE IX

AMENDMENTS

Section 1. Any provision of this constitution may be amended or deleted when such amendment or deletion is approved by a 2/3 majority of the active members constituting a quorum, and when ratified by the TSU Student Senate.

Section 2. The proposed amendment must be presented in writing at a regular club meeting. The President will then assign the amendment to a committee consisting of two members of the executive council, the person who proposes the amendment, and any two active members of the club.

Clause 1. The committee must decide if the proposed amendment conflicts with any rules or bylaws set forth by TSU Office of Student Activities. If the amendment does conflict the amendment will be dropped. If the amendment does not conflict it will continue to clause 2.

Clause 2. The committee has until the next regular meeting to decide the constitutionality of the amendment. The committee then submits the amendment to the floor for debate and a vote by the active members of the Environmental Science Club.

Section 3. Upon passage of the amendment the same committee listed in section 2 then must submit the constitutional change to the Office of Student Activities for approval by the Committee on Student Organizations.