

2011-2012

Constitution

The University of Akron Environmental Law Society

THE UNIVERSITY OF AKRON ENVIRONMENTAL LAW SOCIETY

Constitution

ARTICLE I: Name

The official name of the organization shall be THE UNIVERSITY OF AKRON ENVIRONMENTAL LAW SOCIETY.

ARTICLE II: Purpose

The purpose of this organization shall be to enhance student opportunities to learn about and become involved in environmental law.

ARTICLE III: Membership

1. Those eligible for membership are students in good academic standing at the University of Akron School of Law who have an interest in the field of environmental law.
2. To become a member of the Society, a student must pay dues.
3. All members shall be voting members and have the right to vote on issues presented.
4. Membership may be revoked (removed) by the organization under the following conditions:
 - a. Failure to attend one of four consecutive meetings without excuse or
 - b. Failure to pay dues.

ARTICLE IV: Officers

1. Officer positions of the organization shall be: President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer.
2. Power and duties of the officers shall be:
 - a. PRESIDENT: Running the meetings, coordinating the committees, setting up the agenda, serving as ex-officio member of all permanent and ad hoc committees, serving as the Society's representative at external functions.
 - b. VICE-PRESIDENT: Assuming all of the President's duties in case of his or her absence.
 - c. SECRETARY: Taking accurate minutes of the meeting, keeping a roster of all members, carrying on

any correspondence deemed appropriate. The Secretary shall report to the appropriate law school administrator the details of any event that is performed in direct service to the community or as a fundraiser for a charitable organization outside the School of Law.

d. TREASURER: Overseeing all financial transactions, keeping accurate and up-to-date financial records, collecting dues, supervising all fund raising activities.

3. Election of officers (to be held in the spring semester)

a. To qualify to be an officer, one must be a member in good standing.

b. Nomination of the officers may be by self-nomination or by the floor.

c. Election Procedure: Voting for each office will occur following nominations to that office. The second-place finisher may opt to stand for election to a lower officer by self-nomination.

d. The candidate receiving more than a 50% affirmative vote of present ELS members will be declared the winner and will take office on May 1.

e. The terms of Officer shall be from May 1 to April 30.

4. Should vacancies occur before the completion of a term of office, they will be filled by special election.

a. Any officer elected by special election will hold term of office from elected date until May 1.

5. Impeachment charges may be brought against an officer for the following reasons:

a. The commission of any crime

b. Extreme and unjustifiable negligence in performance of official duties

6. Impeachment proceedings may be initiated upon a $\frac{3}{4}$ vote of a quorum.

7. If impeachment proceedings are voted to occur, the following procedure will be followed:

- a. Officer in question is notified
- b. A special meeting set up to discuss the charges where all parties are allowed to respond
- c. If a decision on impeachment is to be made, a vote will be taken. A $\frac{3}{4}$ majority vote of all members is required for impeachment to occur.
- d. A replacement shall be chosen through special election.
- e. The newly elected officer shall immediately take office.

ARTICLE V: Organizational Structure

1. The Executive Committee shall consist of the following persons:
President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and the Faculty Advisor
2. The Executive Committee shall be responsible for overseeing all activities of ELS.
3. Committees shall be organized as needed by appointment of the executive committee.

ARTICLE VI: Faculty Advisor

1. In order to qualify to be Faculty Advisor, the individual must be a full-time faculty/staff member at The University of Akron School of Law.
2. The Faculty Advisor will be selected by appointment.
3. The length of term for a Faculty Advisor will be one year.

ARTICLE VII: Rules of Procedure

1. ATTENDANCE POLICY: Members must attend 1 of every 4 meetings to retain membership
2. Organizational meetings will be held at least once a month.
3. In order to conduct business, a quorum will consist of 50% + 1 of all members.
4. In the event of a conflict concerning proper rules of procedure, ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER will serve as the recognized authority.

ARTICLE VIII: Finance

1. Dues for membership will be an annual amount determined by a vote held in the spring.

2. Other sources of organizational funding (besides University funding) shall be the legal, corporate, and environmental communities and from any other appropriate source.

3. The ENVIRONMENTAL LAW SOCIETY will manage its own finances, but in accordance with the rules and regulations prescribed by the University of Akron.

ARTICLE IX: Amendments

All amendments to this constitution must be made by the following process:

1. Any proposed amendment must be presented in writing to the membership or to the Executive Committee who would then take it to the membership.

2. Discussion will occur.

3. A vote of acceptance/approval will occur at a following meeting.

4. The amendment shall become of this constitution upon a $\frac{3}{4}$ vote of a quorum.

ARTICLE X: Discrimination Clause

The ENVIRONMENTAL LAW SOCIETY shall not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, national origin, ancestry, sex, age, handicap, or sexual orientation in the selection of its members or in its programs unless federal or state law allows for such exceptions.

ARTICLE XI

The ENVIRONMENTAL LAW SOCIETY shall maintain a list of current officers, their addresses, the name of the required Faculty Advisor, and the most recently amended constitution with the Officer of Student Development.