

Environmental Conservation Organization

September 2008

Article I – Name

The name of this organization shall be the Environmental Conservation Organization (ECO).

Article II – Purpose

The club will promote its interests in environmental and human rights through raising public awareness by a variety of methods. These methods may include Earth Day events, on- and off-campus projects, such as tabling for current issues, low energy usage competitions, and any other projects, programs, etc. which are deemed appropriate by officers and members. The club may also participate in fundraisers to help pay for club activities.

Article III – Membership

Section 1

Membership shall consist of any member of the CUSA who has paid the activities fee and has been properly registered according to the by-laws and has paid any additional dues required by the organization as defined by the CUSA finance policy.

Section 2

Any Clarkson University graduate student, faculty, or staff member may apply for membership, provided that they meet the eligibility requirements of the CUSA and the club by-laws and they have paid their required activities fee.

Section 3

A. Any member found committing an unsafe or irresponsible act, or an act contrary to organization's rules or purpose of the club shall have his or her membership reviewed for possible suspension or removal by the Executive Board. A 2/3 vote of the Executive Board will suspend a person's membership for no longer than one semester's time.

B. A person will be able to speak in their defense before a vote is taken for either suspension or removal. The person must be notified at least week before a vote is taken on their possible suspension or removal. It is the member's responsibility to familiarize themselves with the rules and regulations of the club.

C. If any member is found committing an unsafe or irresponsible act, or an act contrary to the organization's rules or purpose of the club, the executive board can make the

recommendation to the membership for the removal of a member. A 2/3 vote of the membership will remove a member from the club.

D. A 2/3 vote of the membership can override any member suspension decision of the executive board.

E. If a member believes that he or she has been unjustly removed or suspended from the club, the member may call on the Activities Committee for a review of the club's actions and possible reinstatement of the member. A 2/3 vote of the Senate is required to reinstate a member. In the case of expulsion, the club may also restore a person to membership or office through the same preliminary steps and vote as is required for an election.

F. All dues and fees paid by a suspended or removed member will be forfeited.

Article IV – Executive Board

Section 1- Executive Board

A. The executive board of this organization shall consist entirely of a President, a Vice-president, a Secretary, and a Treasurer. They shall be elected for a term of one academic year. The officers will take office at the first meeting following the elections meeting. No person may hold more than one office at a time.

B. The executive board shall have the power of veto. The executive board needs a 3/4 vote to veto any actions of the club. The membership may override the veto by a 2/3 vote.

Section 2 – Election of Officers

Part i – Elections Meeting

The election of officers shall take place within the first month of the fall semester. The election must be announced to the entire membership at least two weeks prior to the date of elections. The election shall take place after an announced meeting where nominations for officers shall be opened, which must be at least one week before elections.

Part ii – Nominations

Nominations shall remain open until the voting of a particular office. At any time within this nomination period, someone can be nominated for office by contacting the current President. Anyone may make a nomination. The nominee may accept or decline the nomination.

Part iii – Voting

Voting shall be done by secret ballot and the results shall be made known within one week following the election. Elections must take place at a meeting where a quorum has been met. Absentee ballots may be accepted up to the day of the election meeting. Elections will proceed in the order listed in this constitution: President through

Committee Chairs. Candidates must win by a simple majority of the vote. If anybody isn't nominated for a position, write-in candidates will be accepted. If nobody is elected to a position, the president will appoint somebody. The appointee must be a member of the club and eligible for office as stated in the by-laws.

Part iv – In Event of Tie

In the event of a tie, the current Executive Board shall hold a re-vote. The election will follow the same guidelines stated above within one week following the announcement of the election results and will follow the same guidelines as the elections meeting except that only the candidates that tied for office will be allowed to run in the re-vote.

Section 3 – Duties of Officers

Part i – President

The president shall preside over the meetings and see that all business is carried out in a proper manner. He/she shall vote only in the case of a tie. The president shall choose the chairs of any committees formed. He/she shall oversee the elections for the year to succeed theirs, except in the case where he/she is being considered for another office. In this case the current executive board should choose an arbitrary member that is not being considered for the office.

Part ii – Vice President

The Vice President shall assist the president in carrying out his/her duties, and shall, in the absence of the president, carry out the duties of the president as described in Part i.

Part iii – Secretary

The secretary shall keep an accurate written record of all meetings. Also, the secretary shall carry out all correspondence, keep attendance, and be the custodian of all documents and records. The secretary shall be responsible for the correspondence of the organization and the CUSA, CUSA Senate, and appropriate faculty and administration. The secretary shall be responsible for an annual written report of activities of the organization, stating goals and intentions of the organization for the coming year, to be presented to the CUSA Senate.

Part ix – Treasurer

The Treasurer shall have charge of the funds of the organization and shall make financial reports and expenditures as authorized by the Executive Board. The Treasurer shall be responsible for working along with the CUSA Senate to obtain funding for any event/project that requires CUSA assistance. The treasurer shall act in accordance with the finance policy.

Part x – Committee Chairs

The Committee Chairs shall be in charge their respective committees. They shall hold meetings and report to the Executive Board.

Section 4 – Removal of Officers

Any member may challenge an officer by presenting a name and reason to the president. If the president is the party in question, a member may go to the vice-president. Officers may be removed by a 2/3 vote of the membership at a meeting at which quorum has been met. This meeting must be announced to the entire membership at least one week in advance. The officer(s) affected must be allowed to speak in his/her defense to the entire membership.

Section 5 – Replacement of Officers

If an officer is removed, resigns, or can no longer perform his/her duties, then they shall be replaced in a meeting that follows the same guidelines stated in Article 4, Section 2 for each vacant office.

Article V – Voting

A. A vote will only be effective if taken at a meeting where a quorum, defined as 2/3 of the membership. If a quorum has not met, the vote shall be tabled until one can be established. All members must be notified of a vote two days before the meeting at which the vote will take place. Absentee ballots will count towards a quorum.

B. Quorum of the executive board shall be 3 members.

Article VI – Amendments

Section 1. Any member may propose amendments to this constitution by presenting it to the President at least a week before the member intends to bring it to the floor. The proposed amendments must be made available to the entire membership at least one week before they are to be debated on the floor. The member will bring the amendment to the floor for debate. An amendment shall be adopted upon an affirmative vote by two-thirds of the entire membership and subsequent approval by the CUSA senate. Upon passage, the Secretary will make the proper correction to the Constitution. Only a two-thirds vote of the entire membership and subsequent approval by the CUSA senate nullifies this Constitution. The CUSA Senate shall approve all amendments to the club constitution before becoming effective as outlined in the CUSA Constitution

Section 2. Any member may propose amendments to the club by-laws. The amendment must be submitted to President at least a week before the member intends to bring it to the floor. The amendment must be made available to the entire membership one week before the member brings it to the floor. The member will bring the amendment to the floor and open debate. The amendment will be adopted and added to the by-laws upon a two-thirds majority vote of the membership.

Article VII – Meetings

Meetings shall be held as determined in the by-laws. A quorum for a meeting shall be 2/3 of the membership. Meetings shall be announced to the entire membership at least one week in advance. The president may call special meetings.

Article VIII – Finances

The organization shall derive its funds from dues, lawful profit making activities, and from the CUSA, if needed, by submitting a budget to the CUSA Senate for approval. The budget shall be prepared by the treasurer and approved by a vote of the membership before being submitted to the CUSA Senate. This organization shall be in accordance with the CUSA Finance Policy. In the event that the organization becomes defunct, all tangible assets shall revert back to the CUSA.

Article IX – Dissolution

In case of dissolution, all assets will revert to the CUSA.

Article X – Hazing

Neither this organization nor any of its members may authorize or participate in an action or situation that recklessly or intentionally endangers the mental or physical health of another member. The consumption, forced or voluntary of alcohol or drugs for purpose of initiation into, or affiliation with, this organization shall not be allowed. This organization shall be subject to rescission of permission to operate on campus property, and loss of CUSA recognition. Any members may face legal penalties if in violation of local, state, or federal laws.

Article XI – Sexual Harassment

Neither this nor any of its members shall participate in any act of sexual harassment. The Executive Board should be notified of any alleged acts of sexual harassment. Sexual Harassment will be handled by the CUSA Senate according to their procedures.

Article XII – Supremacy

The constitution of the CUSA is recognized as supreme over this constitution.

Article XIII – Ratification

This constitution shall become effective upon the approval by a 2/3-majority vote of the membership of the club and its subsequent approval by the CUSA Senate.

Article XIV – Constitutional Review

The constitution of ECO is subject to review every four years by the club. Then, the approved version with any revisions passed by the membership shall be dated and submitted to the CUSA Activities Committee.

Article XV – Advisorship

The CUECO shall choose a faculty advisor or advisors from the staff of Clarkson University by the second meeting of the fall semester. This advisor shall attend meetings in a nonvoting capacity.