

Constitution of the National Organization for Women
Eastern Connecticut State University Delegation



National Organization For Women: The Mission Statement

The National Organization for Women (NOW) shall work to engage, educate, and inform students of Eastern Connecticut State University about NOW's constant mission to promote equality and justice within our society.

Article I - Name

The name of this club shall be The National Organization for Women of Eastern Connecticut State University.

Article II - Statement of Purpose

- Section 1 - NOW shall fill a void by bringing a feminist organization on campus that shall promote activism within Eastern Connecticut State University as well as the local community.
- Section 2 - The Eastern Connecticut State University NOW Delegation also will seek out ways to assist and join the larger NOW network active in the United States to assist in actions to bring fairness for all marginalized people.
- Section 3 - “NOW is one of the few multi-issue progressive organizations in the United States. NOW stands against all oppression, recognizing that racism, sexism and homophobia are interrelated, and that other forms of oppression such as classism keep power and privilege concentrated in the hands of a few ... Together, we can create the change we've been dreaming of — our unity is our strength.”

Article III - Membership

- Section 1 - This organization will be open to all students currently registered at Eastern Connecticut State University for voting membership; faculty and staff members can become honorary members.
- Section 2 - Anyone who attends two consecutive meetings will be considered a voting member of NOW. However, four unexcused absences from meetings or any academic misconduct at Eastern Connecticut State University may cause voting privileges to be forfeit.
- Section 3 - Membership shall not be denied to any student because of race, religion, gender, color, ancestry, national origin, age, sexual orientation, or disability. Diversity is and always will be welcome at NOW.
- Section 4 - Any individual who wants to support the organization may request to be an honorary member. Honorary members will not have voting rights within the organization,

yet will be welcomed at all meetings and activities. Honorary members will be contacted and given updates as would any other member of NOW.

Article IV - Executive Board, Officers & Deadlock

- Section 1 - The officers of the National Organization for Women shall be known as the Executive Board.
- Section 2 - The membership of the Executive Board shall consist of the President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer.
- Section 3 - The Faculty Advisor shall serve as a non-voting ex-officio member of the Executive Board.
- Section 4 - The Executive Board shall have supervision of the organization between its regular meetings. The Executive Board shall not be above any member in terms of being subject to rules of the organization. The Executive Board is the example and shall not act in conflict with actions taken by the organization.
- Section 5 - The President shall have the power to establish committees of the organization and appoint the chairperson of said committees with the approval of the fellow Executive Board members.
- Section 6 - The Executive Board can proceed with a decision only when a majority vote is established. If an Executive Board meeting needs to be called, the President and Vice President must attend. At least one other Executive Board member must be present for a vote to take place. Majority consensus shall be binding by all members of the organization.
- Section 7 - In the event the Executive Board cannot reach a majority on an issue, the issue then will be offered to the voting members of the club. The Executive Board shall have a representative present the issue to members, and the decision of the majority shall stand. If a majority still is not reached, the President then may cast the tie-breaking vote.

Article V - Powers and Duties of Officers

Officers shall perform the duties listed in this constitution and shall be removed from office if constantly abandoning said duties inexcusably.
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Section 1 - The President shall:

- Prepare the meeting agendas;
- Have the power to call the Executive Board meetings and all regular and special meetings of the organization;

- Sign all official papers related to the club (including financial paperwork in the absence of the treasurer);
- Have the power to appoint committees and chairpersons with majority approval from the Executive Board;
- Act as the spokesperson for the Organization.

Section 2 - The Vice President shall:

- Act as the President in the absence of the President;
- Assist the President with responsibilities as needed;
- Automatically assume the powers and duties of the President if the office of the President becomes vacant for any reason;
- Coordinate all social functions of the organization.

Section 3 - The President and Vice President:

- Are expected to attempt to establish communication and assistance with the United States NOW Network;
- If the Eastern Connecticut State University chapter of NOW does any correspondence, they together are the spokespersons.

Section 4 - The Treasurer shall:

- Expend funds as authorized by the membership of the organization as indicated in the organization's minutes;
- Keep an accurate account of all receipts, membership dues, and expenditures of the organization;
- Complete, sign, and submit all financial paperwork;
- Submit a financial report;
- Keep track of the club's accounts, income and expenditures.

Section 5 - The Secretary shall:

- Keep a record of all activities of the club, including the minutes of every meeting;
- Take attendance at all business meetings of the organization;
- Carry on the official correspondence of the club, which will be signed by the president;
- Give 5 days notice of all meetings, aside from emergency meetings;

- Distribute minutes within 48 hours of the meeting in accordance with the procedure set by the Student Activities Office.

Article VI - Advisor(s)

- Section 1 - Faculty advisors shall serve as ex-officio members of the Executive Board.
- Section 2 - The advisors shall give advice for optimal performance of the organization.
- Section 3 - Each advisor shall meet his or her responsibilities to the organization as stated in written directives issued by the Student Activities Office and in the Club Advisor's Operating Manual located on the Student Activities website.

Article VII - Meetings

- Section 1 - Meetings of the organization shall be held at least bi-weekly during the academic year, although more meetings can be conducted. There must be 48 hours notice of all emergency meetings.
- Section 2 - A quorum shall be defined as 50% +1 member of the club's voting membership. A quorum must be present for any action to take place by the membership.
- Section 3 - The president shall call any emergency meetings.

Article VIII - Vacancy of Office & Impeachment

- Section 1 - In the event of a vacancy in the office of the President, the Vice President will carry out the duties of the office and a new Vice President will be elected.
- Section 2 - In the event of a vacancy in any other office, the President will appoint a volunteer temporary officer who shall finish the term.
- Section 3 - Any officer may be impeached for failing to fulfill their duties or for conduct unbecoming a representative of the university.
- Section 4 - A quorum must be met to vote on any impeachment.
- Section 5 - In order for any officer to be impeached, the motion must be passed by 2/3 of the total voting membership of the organization.
- Section 6 - An officer who is impeached will be banned from all duties, events, meetings, and organized functions of the club until the advisors (as stipulated in Article VI) and Executive Board agree with a 2/3 majority to re-allow membership, if at all.
- Section 7 - If an officer has more than 4 unexcused absences, they will automatically forfeit their position. In such an instance, impeachment is not necessary for removal from office.

Article IX - Amendments

- Section 1 - Amendments can only be proposed when incorporated to a future meeting.

- Section 2 – Amendments to this constitution must be approved by a 2/3 majority of the total voting membership.

Article X - Parliamentary Authority

- Robert's Rule of Order, Newly Revised shall act as the Parliamentary authority for all meetings of the club.

Article XIII - Ratification

- This constitution must be ratified by a majority vote at a regular meeting and approved by the Student Government Association Budget and Management Committee.