

College Republicans Club Constitution

Mission Statement: Eastern College Republicans is a campus club dedicated to the activism and expression of all conservative and libertarian values on the campus of Eastern Connecticut State University. Through tact and perseverance, Eastern College Republicans will strive to show the student body of Eastern that all students should have a free, equal voice to express their opinions – not just the loud majority. The College Republicans’ goal is to ensure that all students have a right and a place to express their opinion, without censorship, because every worldview deserves to be expressed without fear of belittlement, mistreatment, or marginalization.

ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of this club shall be College Republicans of Eastern Connecticut State University, hereafter referred to as Eastern College Republicans or CR.

ARTICLE II - PURPOSE

It shall be the purpose of this organization to promote conservative and libertarian political theory and philosophy, as well as to promote the principles of the Republican Party among the students at Eastern Connecticut State University, to recruit Eastern students as members of this organization and as members of the Republican Party, and to aid in the election of Republican officials at all levels of government.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. This organization will be open to all students currently registered at Eastern Connecticut State University.

Section 2. Anyone who attends two consecutive meetings will be considered a voting member of the Eastern College Republicans Club. However, anyone who has three inexcusable absences from regular meetings during the same semester will lose their voting privileges.

Section 3. Any voting member unable to attend a meeting for an excusable reason may vote by an absentee ballot.

Section 4. Membership shall not be denied to any student because of race, religion, gender, color, ancestry, national origin, age, creed, sexual orientation, disability or veteran status except as sanctioned by federal or state law.

Section 5. If a student wants to be a member but is unable to attend regular meetings due to conflict with class schedules, the student may be eligible for an absentee membership. Such a membership will contain all the privileges and duties of a voting member without the attendance requirement.

ARTICLE IV - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE & OFFICERS

Section 1. The membership of the Executive Committee shall consist of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. The Faculty Advisor shall serve as a non-voting ex-officio member of the Executive Committee.

Section 2. The Executive Committee shall have general supervision of the affairs of the organization between its regular business meetings and shall make policy recommendations to the organization. The Executive Committee shall be subject to the rules of the organization and shall not act in conflict with actions taken by the organization.

Section 3. The Executive Committee shall have the power to establish all standing and ad hoc committees of the organization. The President, with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee, shall have the power to appoint the chairpersons of all standing and ad hoc committees.

Section 4. The Executive Committee shall meet no less than once per month during the academic year. Meetings of the Executive Committee shall be called by the President of the organization.

Section 5. A majority of the membership of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum. All decisions made by the Executive Committee shall be by a majority vote of the members present and voting.

ARTICLE V - ENUMERATION OF POWERS AND DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Officers shall perform the duties prescribed by this constitution and by the parliamentary authority adopted by the organization. Duties shall include but shall not be limited to the following.

Section 1. The President shall:

- a) prepare the meeting agendas
- b) have the power to call Executive Committee meetings and all regular and special meetings of the organization
- c) sign all official papers related to the club (including financial paperwork in the absence of the treasurer)
- d) have the power, with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee, to appoint the chairpersons of all standing and ad hoc committees

- e) appoint a temporary secretary to take minutes when the secretary is absent
- f) act as the spokesperson for the organization
- g) be an ex-officio member of all standing and ad hoc committees except the nominating committee
- h) be the official contact person for all official correspondence of the organization, namely with contacts outside the University

Section 2. The Vice-President shall:

- a) assist the President with responsibilities as needed
- b) carry out the duties of the President in the absence of the President
- c) automatically assume the powers and duties of the President if the President resigns, if the office of President becomes vacant, or if the President is impeached
- d) coordinate all social functions of the organization
- e) serve as coordinator of all standing and ad hoc committees
- f) be an ex-officio member of all standing and ad hoc committees
- g) be the official director of Political Affairs, and in this role, shall:
 - i. Be charged with keeping members politically informed and active.
 - ii. Coordinating campaign activities, rallies, debate watches, and speaker events.

iii. Coordinate all policy information efforts, including but not limited to, general meeting current affairs updates, documentary screenings, and panel discussions on relevant issues.

Section 3. The Treasurer shall:

a) expend funds as authorized by the membership of the organization as indicated in the organization's minutes

b) keep an accurate account of all receipts, membership dues, expenditures of the organization

c) complete, sign, and submit all financial paperwork

d) submit a financial report

e) keep track of the club's accounts, income, and expenditures

f) give a Treasurer statement of balance at every meeting

g) request financial assistance from the Student Government Association and Budget and Management Committee if needed

h) be responsible for the organization complying with the policies

i) procedures set forth by the Student Activities office.

j) be the official director of Social Activities, and this role, shall:

i. Be charged with promoting non-political gatherings and service endeavors, including, but not limited to, coordination efforts and organizing other social events such as club dinners and trips to political events.

- ii. Coordinate all service events and charity fundraisers.

Section 4. The Secretary shall:

- a) keep a proper record of all activities of the club, including the minutes of every meeting;
- b) take attendance at all business meetings of the organization;
- c) prepare a roll call of members and call it when necessary;
- d) authenticate by his/her signature all records and documents of the organization;
- e) carry on the official correspondence of the club; which will be signed by the President;
- f) give 72 hours of notice of all meetings;
- g) distribute minutes within 48 hours of the meeting in accordance with the procedure set by the Student Activities Office.

Section 5. The Director of Public Outreach Recruitment and Relations (hereafter referred to as DPORR) shall:

- a) be responsible for planning and carrying out all recruitment activities;
- b) keep the membership informed about internship opportunities, leadership seminars, special political events, and other activities that might be of interest to the general body;
- c) be charged with creating and distributing all advertisements and press releases with the consent and approval of the Executive Committee;
- d) be responsible for the maintenance of the club's social media presence.

ARTICLE VI - ADVISOR(S)

Section 1. The advisor shall be chosen by the Executive Committee Officers at a duly constituted meeting of the Executive Committee by majority vote.

Section 2. The faculty advisor shall serve as a non-voting ex-officio member of the Executive Committee.

Section 3. The advisors shall give advice for the better performance of the organization.

Section 4. The advisor shall meet his/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.

Section 5. The advisor shall serve at the discretion of the University.

ARTICLE VII - NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Section 1. Elections shall be held for all offices, including those that are filled temporarily.

Section 2. Officers shall be elected for a term of one (1) year or until their successors are elected. They shall hold office until one month after new elections are held, when their successors shall assume office. During this month they shall work with the newly elected officers to help train and advise them on how to perform their duties.

Section 3. Elections shall be held during the Spring semester. Elections shall take place no earlier than April fifteenth (15) and no later than May fifth (5) of each year. If decided by a three-fourths (3/4) majority of the Executive Board, the date of elections may be altered.

Section 4. Only active members shall be allowed to vote. Voting shall be by secret ballot unless there is only one candidate for an office in which case election may be by voice vote.

Section 5. Officers shall be elected by a majority of those members voting in the election. If no candidate receives a majority vote on the first ballot, a revote will occur with the Chairman casting a vote.

Section 6. Notification of elections and nominations must be given a week's notice prior to voting.

ARTICLE VIII - VACANCIES

Section 1. In the event of the vacancy of the office of Chairman, the duties will be carried out by the Vice-Chairman. The office of Vice-Chairman will be offered to the Secretary and/or Treasurer. If neither officer wishes to fill the Vice-Chairmanship and election for the position will be held. If an existing officer does accept the Vice-Chairmanship an election will be held for the vacant position.

Section 2. In the event of the vacancy of any other offices, the Chairman will appoint a temporary officer, and an election will be held as per the provision of Article VII Section 1.

ARTICLE IX - IMPEACHMENT AND/OR RECALL

Section 1. Any officer is subject to impeachment and /or recall and removal from the office for failing to fulfill his/her constitutional responsibilities.

Section 2. An impeachment request must be given at least a week in advance of the actual impeachment voting. Both the request and the voting must take place during regular meetings.

Section 3. Upon conclusion of the discussion and arguments for and against impeaching the officer, a vote shall be taken. No officer shall be impeached except by a two-thirds (2/3) vote. Voting shall be by secret ballot.

Section 4. An officer who is impeached shall immediately relinquish his/her office but shall be allowed to maintain active membership in the organization unless his/her actions have brought discredit to the organization.

Section 5. If an officer is impeached, the organization shall fill the position following the procedures outlined under Vacancies.

Section 6. If the reason for impeachment is not found to be one that is especially egregious, the officer may be temporarily suspended for a period of one month. During that month, the officer will work with an interim officer who is nominated by the Executive Committee and voted on by the entire membership. At the end of the month, the membership will vote on whether to make impeachment permanent with a two thirds (2/3) majority vote or to allow the suspended officer to resume the elected office.

ARTICLE X - MEETINGS

Section 1. Meetings of the organization shall be held at least once a month during the academic year. There must be 48 hours of notice of all emergency meetings.

Section 2. Quorum... a quorum shall be defined as 50% + 1 member of the club's total voting membership. A quorum must be present for any action to take place by membership.

Section 3. A quorum shall be required to conduct any official business of the organization except to adjourn.

Section 4. If voting results in a tie a re-vote will take place with the Chairman casting a vote.

ARTICLE XI – AMENDMENTS and REVISIONS

Section 1. Amendments and revisions to this constitution must be approved by a 2/3 majority of the voting membership present.

Section 2. Proposed amendments and revisions to the constitution shall be automatically tabled until the next scheduled meeting of the organization.

Section 3. Prior written notice of the proposed change(s) and the date of the meeting at which the proposed change(s) shall be voted on shall be provided to all members of the organization.

Section 4. The constitution may be amended or revised at a duly constituted meeting of the organization by two-thirds (2/3) majority vote provided that prior notice has been given.

ARTICLE XII - PARLIMENTARY AUTHORITY

Section 1. Robert's Rule of Order, Newly Revised shall act as the Parliamentary authority for all meetings of the club.

ARTICLE XIII - RATIFICATION

Section 1. This constitution must be ratified by a majority vote at a regular meeting and approved by the Student Government Association Budget and Management Committee.