

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE CASE DEMOCRATS:

Preamble

The purpose of the organization shall be to promote the expression of progressive thought, engage in constructive debate, discuss Democratic politics, and contribute to an informed student body at Case Western Reserve University through discussion and activities.

Article I: Statement of Purpose

Section 1: The organization will represent itself in a way consistent with the mission and views of the membership and the Democratic Party. The organization will not claim to represent the views of the national party nor the University without their express consent.

Section 2: This organization shall be affiliated with the appropriate state and national entities.

Section 3: The Case Democrats is a partisan organization. The organization shall be permitted to endorse candidates and other ballot initiatives consistent with Democratic Party ideals only with the consent of the membership.

Article II: Membership

Section 1: Membership shall be open to all current undergraduates, faculty, and staff of Case Western Reserve University regardless of race, color, creed, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, age, or status as a veteran.

Section 2: All students currently paying the Student Activities Fee shall be eligible for membership, while not excluding graduate students and faculty.

Section 3: Membership shall occur after necessary contact information is provided and participation in an organization meeting or activity.

Article III: Executive Board

Section 1: There shall be an Executive Board comprised of a President, Treasurer, Secretary, , Public Relations Director, Membership Director, Freshman Relations Director, and Information Technology (IT) Director.

Section 2: The President shall ensure the functioning of the organization, head the Executive Board, conduct the general meetings of the organization, act as a primary liaison between the organization and the other chapters of College Democrats and other state and national organizations, give final approval for any funding requests, and create event committees when needed.

Section 3: The Secretary shall be in charge of all communication with members, meeting minutes, and other important documents.

Section 4: The Treasurer shall be in charge of submitting annual budgets to the Student Government, maintaining accurate organization finance records, and coordinating fundraising efforts.

Section 5: The Public Relations Director shall be in charge of all communications with the general student body, publicizing events and meetings, and handling all media needs, including issuing press releases for high-profile events.

Section 6: The Membership Director shall be in charge of maintaining and recruiting members for the Case Democrats organization. Duties include, but are not limited to, ensuring that the Case Democrats have a strong presence at Springfest, the Saturday Sampler, Student Activities Fair, as well as recruitment on Facebook.

Section 7: The Freshman Relations Director shall be in charge of efforts to maintain and improve freshman involvement in organization activities.

Section 8: The Information Technology (IT) Director shall be in charge of maintaining the Case Democrats website and updating that website frequently. The IT Director will also be responsible for the maintenance of the Case Democrats blog (Blogging Liberally) and the Case Democrats Wiki page. The IT Director will be appointed by the Executive Board.

Article IV: Elections

Section 1: The annual elections for Executive Board officers shall occur the first week following Spring Break. The Freshman Relations Director shall be elected during the third week of classes.

Section 2: All members shall be eligible for an Executive Board position after one academic year of participation in club activities, with exception of the Freshman Relations Director which shall be filled by an incoming first-year student and the IT Director, who shall be appointed by a majority of the newly elected Executive Board.

Section 3: Each officer of the Executive Board shall serve a term of one year beginning the first day after the end of the academic year. The Freshman Relations Director shall serve a term from their election until the annual elections.

Section 4: The general body shall appoint an Elections Director three weeks before the annual elections. The Elections Director shall officiate the elections process and shall not be a candidate for any office up for election.

Section 5: Candidates for Executive Board positions shall submit letters of intent to the Elections Director. They may do so beginning after the appointment of the Elections Director up until one week before the election. The Elections Director shall make the letters readily available to the general body beginning one week before the elections. No candidate may seek more than one Executive Board position during the same election.

Section 6: Voting shall occur by secret ballot, with each member receiving one vote per office. The votes are to be tabulated by the Elections Director and two other members not seeking office.

Section 7: A majority of ballots cast is necessary to be elected. If no majority exists, the top two candidates shall proceed into a run-off round of balloting following a short caucus period. If there is a tie, there shall be a revote between the two candidates following a short caucus period.

Article V: Vacancies, Special Elections, and Impeachment

Section 1: If a vacancy occurs in any of the Executive Board positions, a special election shall be held. Upon a vacancy in the office of President, the Secretary shall assume the duties of President until the special election can be held. The Freshman Relations director shall also be elected under the rules for a special election.

Section 2: The special election shall occur at the next general body meeting following a one week notification to the general membership in advance of the election. Nominations for the vacant office shall be accepted at the meeting. The voting procedure shall be the same as the annual elections.

Section 3: Any Executive Board member may be removed from office for failure to complete his or her duties or for misrepresenting the organization to the student body. Any member may propose a motion during a general body meeting, requiring a second, to remove an officer. The accused and accuser will have an equal opportunity to present their case to the membership. Upon a vote of two-thirds of those present, the member shall be removed from office.

Article VI: Meetings and Operations

Section 1: General Body Meetings shall occur on a weekly or biweekly basis. Meeting times and places shall be decided on by the President in consultation with the other Executive Board members.

Section 2: The Executive Board shall meet at least once between each general meeting or on a schedule decided by the President in consultation with the Executive Board.

Section 3: The President shall conduct the meeting according to an agenda set by the Executive Board prior to the general meeting.

Section 4: A quorum shall be necessary to conduct official business and shall consist of a minimum of ten members including any Executive Board members.

Section 5: Events and projects shall be headed and organized by an event director or an event committee as appointed by the President.

Article VII: Amendments

Section 1: An amendment may be proposed by any member during any general meeting, requiring a second. The proposed amendment shall be discussed then tabled for the next meeting.

Section 2: A written version of the amendment must be approved or rejected at the next general meeting following the proposal. The amendment must be approved by two-thirds of the Executive Board members and two-thirds of the membership.