

Students' Rights and Responsibilities (cont.)

Section 3: Membership

The makeup of working groups must include a minimum of one senator. If that senator is the entire makeup of the group, the senator should be open to consultation and seek input collaboratively.

The senate may appoint student members of faculty or administrative committees as members of a working group.

The senate may appoint faculty or staff members to sit on working groups as ex officio, nonvoting members. Working groups may invite other students, staff, and faculty members to attend meetings as guests.

ARTICLE IV: REFERENDA AND CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGE

Section 1: How to Call for a Referendum

A referendum can be called by a majority vote of the senate or by a petition with 100 student signatures presented to the senate. Petitioners should have a topic on the petition that is a singular phrase or clause and in line with the preamble to this constitution.

Section 2: Results

The senate and its working groups are compelled to consider the results of any referendum.

Section 3: Constitutional Change

Amendments that significantly change the structure or intent of this constitution must pass a student referendum. A minimum of 50 percent of students must vote, and a majority must approve the amendment.

Section 4: Senator Removal Via a Referendum

A senator may be removed by a student referendum. For the referendum to pass, 20 percent of students must vote and two-thirds of those voting must approve the referendum.

ARTICLE V: STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS AND ASSOCIATION

Section 1: Organizing Groups

Any group of students is free to organize for any purpose in accordance with the regulations of Oberlin College.

Section 2: Advisors

Advisors to student organizations will be chosen or approved by the organizations concerned.

Section 3: Publications

- a. Students may publish newspapers, journals, magazines, or other publications as they wish.
- b. The senate or college authorities may not exercise censorship over the content of these publications.

Section 4: Amendments to Student Organization Charter

The charter of a student organization may be amended by the respective organization, subject to approval by the Senate, Student Life Committee and General Faculty.

ARTICLE VI: POWERS

Nothing in this constitution prevents the General Faculty, the President of the College, or the Board of Trustees from acting with the powers accorded to them by the by-laws of Oberlin College. This constitution supersedes and overrides any previous constitutions, charters, and regulations.

C. Student Organizations, Clubs, Associations, Publications

Any group of students is free to organize for any purpose in accordance with the regulations of Oberlin College. Advisors to student organizations will be chosen or approved annually by the organizations concerned. All student organizations are subject to the by-laws of the Student Senate and in concurrence with the General Faculty Student Life Committee and the General Faculty.

All procedures related to the initiation of new charters, the amendment of existing charters, or the re-initiation of inactive charters should be presented by the student organization, and should be directed to the Wilder Student Union office. All charters and their amendments are subject to the approval of the Student Senate, the General Faculty Student Life Committee, and the General Faculty. Copies of all charters are on file at the Student Union.

All student organization funds are subject to the provisions of the Student Financial Charter.

D. Secret Societies

No secret society is allowed at Oberlin, and no other societies or self-perpetuating organizations are allowed among students, except by permission of the faculty. This is to be understood to include social and rooming-house clubs.

E. Athletics

The supervision and control of official athletic activities of the college is the responsibility of the Department of Athletics and Physical Education. The department has the counsel and assistance of an Advisory Committee on Athletics consisting of members of the General Faculty and students.

Oberlin College is a member of the North Coast Athletic Conference and the National Collegiate Athletic Association. The rules of the college and of these conferences and associations govern intercollegiate athletics for men and women.

No student may officially represent Oberlin College in any intercollegiate athletic contest without the prior approval of the Department of Athletics and Physical Education.

III. Student Bill of Rights

A. Philosophy

It is understood that Oberlin students are adults. Therefore, Oberlin College does not act in loco parentis. The college provides students with the freedom and encouragement to