



Effective Altruism Carleton - Constitution

2023-2024 Academic Year

Article I

Name of the Organization

The Organization shall be known as Effective Altruism Carleton, and herein be referred to as “The Organization.”

Article II

Purpose of the Organization

The Organization will work to support students interested in Effective Altruism and foster a community committed to seeking the best ways to help others. We seek to create a “community of [students] who have made helping others a core part of their lives, and who use evidence and scientific reasoning to figure out how to do so as effectively as possible.”¹

Specifically, Effective Altruism Carleton works to promote evidence-based and cost-effective philanthropy to do the most good possible for those in need. We seek to build a community of students passionate and curious about how best to reduce suffering through effective interventions. We host social events, guest speakers, educational workshops, and connect students to career development opportunities.

Article III

Structure

The General Membership shall be the legislative body of the organization and shall be composed of all members.

The Executive shall be the Administrative body of the organization and shall be composed of members elected by the General Membership.

Article IV

Membership

The Organization is open to all members of the University. Community members and students from other schools are always welcome at all Effective Altruism Carleton

¹ Center for Effective Altruism: Combining Empathy with Evidence

events, unless otherwise specified. Members of The Organization will be considered for expulsion if they create a disruptive environment for other members. Prior to expulsion, the member will receive an explicit verbal warning and an additional explicit electronic or written warning. The individual in question will have one final opportunity to appeal to the Executive Committee before expulsion.

Membership in the organization shall be valid from September to the Annual General Meeting held at the end of each academic year.

In the event that a member of the organization violates the organization's Constitution or any of CUSA's governing documents, and disciplinary action is being considered, the Executive shall submit a complaint regarding the matter to the Clubs Oversight Committee per the Clubs Sanctioning Procedure.

Article V

Executive

The Executive Board shall consist of the following officers: 2 Co-Presidents and a Treasurer, which shall normally be elected at the Annual General Meeting (AGM).

Any other executive positions may be created and removed at the discretion of the Co-Presidents by consensus. A club member may be appointed by the Co-Presidents to a new executive position during the first academic year of the position existing, but in following years the position must follow the leadership succession guidelines of Article VII below.

The Co-Presidents may represent The Organization, conduct Executive Board and general meetings, assign duties to and supervise officers, schedule and plan elections, and chart a vision for the organization.

The Treasurer may maintain the account of the organization, work with the Board and membership to determine budgets, apply for available funding, pay bills of the organization when receipts for expenditures are turned in, submit quarterly reports to the membership, coordinate fundraising, and disburse monies as the organization may direct.

Article VI

Meetings

An official meeting of the executive must take place at least once a semester with at least one weeks' notice. These meetings must be advertised to the club and open to

general club members. If at least two executives or over 50% of the club's general membership request a formal executive meeting, one will be held.

Exceptions to this structure can be made for informal or operational meetings that may occur more frequently or with smaller groups.

Article VII

Leadership Succession

The Organization has chosen to run elections for its Leadership Succession. An election will be held at the AGM at the end of each academic year. If an Executive position becomes vacant, a by-election shall be called to fill the vacancy within one month of the seat becoming vacant. The following are the steps necessary to be taken to run elections.

1. The executive will appoint a Succession Officer to run elections for the Club.
 - a. A Succession Officer may be any one (1) of the following individuals:
 - i. A neutral party to all elections being held within the club
 - ii. A member of the Clubs Oversight Committee
 - iii. A member of the CUSA Clubs Office
 - iv. A club member or an external student non-member
 - b. All efforts should be made for a Succession Officer to be appointed on a consensus basis. When that is not possible, a recorded vote in a first past the post majority or plurality vote winner will be appointed Succession Officer
 - c. The Organization will work with the Succession Officer to set the date of final voting membership purchase, campaign start, campaign end, voting start, and voting end.
 - d. Students-at-large will have the opportunity to join the club before the start of voting
 - e. Every voter has the right to cast their ballot in private
 - f. During counting, candidates may select an individual who is not a candidate to be present for counting and scrutinizing
 - g. Appeals, complaints, or conflict may be made to the Clubs Oversight Committee by way of emailing the Student Groups Administrator
 - h. Timeline
 - i. Day 1 - Announcement of campaign, voting, and results announcement dates
 - ii. Day 7 - Start of campaign
 - iii. Day 14 - end of campaign
 - iv. Day 15 - start of voting

- v. Day 16 - end of voting
 - vi. Day 17 - Results announced
2. The Clubs will run a ranked-choice-style election to elect executives to positions of 2 Co-Presidents and a Treasurer. If only one candidate expresses interest in running for president, there will be only one President. The two candidates for President that receive the highest share of the vote will run together as equal partners.
- a. Candidates on the ballot shall be organized alphabetically by last name, with a blank row beside candidates names where sequential numbers can be placed to denote candidate preference, with “1” being first choice, “2” being second choice, and on.
 - b. Voters may cease ranking candidates at any point they wish
 - c. A final “no-confidence” option will be offered at the bottom of the ballot
 - d. Any ballot with a number in multiple boxes or multiple same numbers will only be counted until sequential order cannot be followed, and deemed “spoiled” at that point.
 - e. Counting of the votes
 - i. First round votes will be counted.
 - ii. If a candidates receives 50% +1 vote on the first round votes, they will be considered elected to the position
 - iii. If no candidate received 50% +1 vote on the first round vote, the candidate with the fewest votes will be eliminated and all votes preferencing that candidate as their first choice will tally second choice votes and add those totals to first round totals.
 - iv. The above process will be continued for as many rounds as necessary to arrive at a candidate receiving 50% +1 votes. That candidate will be considered elected to the position.

Article VIII

Impeachment

At a general meeting of the executive, any executive or general member may propose an impeachment vote for a member of the executive. This vote will be held immediately with public ballots (raising hands or “yays/nays”). At least two-thirds of the general membership, including executive votes, must be affirmative to remove an executive from their role. Grounds for impeachment include any violation of the constitution, Carleton's Rights and Responsibilities, and/or failure to fulfill executive duties. A by-election must be called to fill the vacancy within one month of the seat becoming vacant.

Article IX

Amendments

Amendments can be proposed by any member of The Organization.

At least one week prior to any vote, the Secretary must distribute a copy of the proposed amendment to all members.

A majority vote shall be required to amend this Constitution.

Article X

Dissolution

To dissolve the Organization, at least two-thirds of the general membership and all of the executives must vote for dissolution. If an executive fails to attend a dissolution vote, and was informed at least one week before the vote, and does not express an opinion in writing beforehand, their absence can be counted as a vote for dissolution.

Upon dissolution of the Organization, all assets gained through CUSA shall be returned to CUSA and all other assets shall be donated to the [Centre for Effective Altruism](#).