

Neuroscience Club Constitution

I. **Purpose:** The Neuroscience Club at St. Olaf meets once a week for an hour during the to discuss various topics in neuroscience. Academic articles, TED talks, or scheduled guests inform topics. This club provides a forum for students with an interest in neuroscience to learn more about the field and learn about neuroscience research on campus. Additionally, the club is responsible for organizing activities and spreading awareness during Brain Awareness Week.

II. **Membership:**

- A. Any student at St. Olaf College is welcome to become a member of the Neuroscience club. Club meeting attendance and participation in events determines active club membership. In order to be considered an active member, one must attend at least 50% of all club events or meetings in a given semester. Any student in the St. Olaf community with an interest in neuroscience is welcome to come to neuroscience meetings. Members are responsible for attending meetings, participating in discussions, participating in decisions regarding the club, and electing club officials.
- B. The Neuroscience Club does not discriminate in its membership or activities on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin, ancestry, age, religion or religious creed, disability or handicap, sex or gender (including pregnancy, sexual harassment and other sexual misconduct including acts of sexual violence such as rape, sexual assault, sexual exploitation and coercion), gender identity and/or expression (including a transgender identity), or sexual orientation.
- C. Voting Rights: All active members are allotted a single vote in all elections. Election information and ballots are sent out via email. Active members on the Neuroscience Club email alias are encouraged to cast a ballot. Status as an active member, and eligibility to vote, is considered under the Honor Code.
- D. Powers of the Organization:
 1. Budgeting: active members in a 51% majority vote must approve the budget.
 2. Final authority in all matters is left up to the executive board, provided that the board follows what is in the best interest of the club and its members. If the club members believe a decision by the executive board is not in the best interest of the club and its members, they may override the decision with a clearly stated petition signed by 75% of the active members.
 3. A 51% majority vote is required to approve all legislation and elections. If a 51% majority vote cannot be reached, the club advisor may have the final say.

4. Quorum is necessary when less than 40% of active members or less than 2 executives are in attendance for a vote. Meetings and events that do not require votes are valid regardless of the number of members or executives are in attendance.

III. The Governing Body:

- A. The executive board: The executive board is made up of: The President, Vice President, Treasurer, and the Public Relations Director. In the event that a position cannot be filled, the President or Vice President must take up the remaining responsibilities. There must always be a President and a Vice President. The President and Vice President agree to one-year terms and can be re-elected at the end of each year. At the start of a semester, if there are positions available in the executive board, an election may be held to fill positions.
 1. President: The President is responsible for the club's welfare. The president's duties range from leading meetings and events, requesting rooms, scheduling activities, and communicating with the club's academic advisor and the program director, to dealings involving the school including issues of compliance, sponsorship, and communication with the community.
 2. Vice President: The Vice President is expected to aid the president in all dealings with the school, club activities, and communication with the club's academic advisor and neuroscience director. The vice president is responsible for acting as one of the go to mentors for new members. The vice president will be in charge of counting votes in all elections.
 3. Treasurer: The treasurer is responsible for managing the club's budget, applying for funding, and fundraising. If the club collects money, the treasurer is responsible for collection as well as keeping track of where the money came from. The treasurer is responsible for making all necessary purchases, or must be present for all purchases.
 4. Public Relations Director: The public relations director is responsible for making posters, advertising the club in order to recruit new members, and managing the club's Facebook group.

IV. Recalling Officers:

- A. Automatic recall: a member of the executive board can be automatically recalled if they are found to be taking actions that violate the ethics of the constitution such as stealing from the club. In addition, if a member of the executive board fails to remain in good academic standing, they can automatically be recalled.
- B. Recall: A member of the executive board can be recalled if it is deemed that they are not fulfilling their duties or seen as giving the club a poor image due to their actions outside of the club. There are two ways a member of the executive board may be recalled:

1. Active club members can recall an executive board member with a petition containing the signatures of 75% of the club members.
2. The academic advisor can recall a board member if the advisor believes the board member is failing to fulfill their obligations to the club.

V. Amendments:

- A. Ratification of the constitution requires 75% of active club members and the academic advisor.