

Neuroscience Axis Constitution

ARTICLE I – NAME

The name of this club is the Neuroscience Axis. It may also be referred to as the Stony Brook University Neuroscience Club.

ARTICLE II - PURPOSE

The purpose of this club is to facilitate the interactions between undergraduate students from all disciplines in the field of neuroscience and all other specializations under biology. To provide extracurricular opportunities for undergraduate neuroscience education such as, introducing students to potential faculty mentors and by assisting in the search for research opportunities. To inform members of the careers in neuroscience and provide access to current areas of research in the field of neuroscience.

ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP

All members must be currently registered, matriculated students of Stony Brook University and must subscribe to, or be interested in the purpose of this organization.

No person shall be denied membership or office because of sexual orientation, nation of origin, race, sex, physical disability, political or religious beliefs.

Students will be considered active members if they attend at least half of the scheduled meetings in a semester and have been doing so for the current semester.

ARTICLE IV – OFFICERS, CHAIRS

Section 1

All nominees for Executive Board positions must have attended at least half of the regularly scheduled meetings prior to being elected. If that person has not been able to meet the quota of required meetings, he or she can be recommended by his or her respective Committee Chairperson. A Chairperson can only nominate one person. All officers shall serve for one year and may be re-elected for one additional year to the same position. The two years does not include time spent as a Committee Chairperson either before or after holding an E-Board position. An E-Board member cannot also serve as a Committee Chairperson at the same time.

Section 2

- a. The President shall be the official representative (spokesperson) of the organization; he/she shall also be a non-voting ex-officio member of all committees of the organization, except the election committee.
- b. The President shall have the power to convene and preside over the meetings of the executive board and the general membership and prepare the agenda for the meetings of the executive board and the general membership. The President is given the power to appoint and remove committee chairpersons for each committee. This can only be overturned by a $\frac{3}{4}$ majority opposition by the other members on the Executive Board. The remaining members of the executive board must then unanimously select a new Chairperson for that committee.

Section 3

The Vice President shall be required to see that standing committee chairpersons are fulfilling their duties. The Vice President shall further perform such duties as may be necessary and proper in the fulfilment of his/her office, subject to the approval of the President. If a vacancy occurs outside of the academic year or during the last month of a semester, then the election should be held within the first month of the following semester. In the spring semester, it is only necessary to have one election in February.

Section 4

- a. The Treasurer shall keep detailed record of all monies allotted to the organization. The Treasurer shall also submit all vouchers.
- b. Each month the Treasurer shall perform such duties as may be necessary and proper in the fulfilment of his/her office, subject to the approval of the executive board. If a vacancy occurs, a new Treasurer will be elected in special election called by the President if a vacancy occurs in this office. As an alternative of necessity, the President if he or she chooses to do so, can appoint a new treasurer if that person is approved by a majority of the other E-Board members.

Section 5

The Secretary shall take minutes and attendance of all meetings and maintain an up-to-date active voting membership roster. The Secretary is responsible for informing all members of upcoming activities and events. If a vacancy occurs, a new Secretary will be elected in a special election called by the President if a vacancy occurs in this office. As an

alternative of necessity, the President if he or she chooses to do so, can appoint a new Secretary if that person is approved by a majority of the other E-Board members.

ARTICLE V – EXECUTIVE BOARD

Section 1

- a. The membership of the executive board shall be limited to the President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary.

Section 2

All executive board meetings shall be conducted according to Robert's Rules of Order (latest Edition), except where stated otherwise in this constitution.

Section 3

The President or shall be the chairperson and presiding officer of the executive board.

ARTICLE VI – MEETINGS

Section 1

This organization shall hold at least one general membership meeting each month.

Section 2

A quorum consisting of a majority of the total active voting membership is necessary for the transaction of any business.

Section 3

All meetings must have an agenda and five (5) school days prior notice of the meetings must be given to all organization members

Section 4

The President must convene a meeting within a reasonable amount of time if such a meeting is initiated:

- a. by a majority vote of the voting members present at a regular or special meeting; or
- b. upon a petition signed by (1/3) of the active voting membership.

ARTICLE VII – ELECTIONS

Section 1

An election committee shall be elected by the general membership in February of each academic year. It shall consist of five (5) members, none of whom may be considered for elected office. If a vacancy occurs on the committee, a special election shall be held to fill the vacant seat. This committee shall elect its own chairperson and recommend the time, manner, and pace of election pursuant to the articles contained in this constitution.

Section 2

No person shall seek the position of President, Vice President, Treasurer, or Secretary unless he/she has been a member of this organization for two semesters prior to the semester when he/she would assume office.

Section 3

All officers must be elected by majority vote of the election committee. Elections must be held within the first month of the spring semester. New officers will assume their positions on the first day of classes in the fall semester.

- a. Nominations shall be accepted from the floor at a meeting prior to the election.
- b. Election shall be by the election committee.

ARTICLE VIII – IMPEACHMENT

Section 1

An officer may only be removed for material violations of this constitution, applicable bylaws, policies of the Undergraduate Student Government, failing to meet requirements for active voting membership or a wrongful act of substance.

Section 2

In the interest of protecting the accused, no written accusations are required, nor is impeachment required for removal. Additionally, all discussion about disciplinary matters must take place in Executive Session. There shall be two methods in which an Officer of the organization may be removed from their Office.

- a. Any Executive Board Officer may be removed from their position by a $\frac{3}{4}$ affirmative majority vote of the entire voting membership of the Executive Board.
- b. Any Executive Board Officer may be removed from their position by a $\frac{2}{3}$ affirmative majority vote of the entire voting membership of the general Body.

Section 3

Upon removal of an Executive Board Officer, the Officer's position shall be considered vacant. In the case of the removal of the President, the Vice-President shall become President and the Vice-President's position shall be considered vacant. A special election for any vacancy shall be held within the next two meetings of the General Body for the vacant position, but only after all members have been notified at least 2 school days prior to the election.

Section 4

Removed Officers of dissenting members may appeal a removal to the USG Judiciary by filing a brief before the special election is held to fill the vacancy. A removed officer is still a voting member and must be notified at least 2 school days prior to the special election.

ARTICLE IX – AMENDMENTS

Section 1

Amendments to this constitution may be introduced from the floor and must be submitted to the Secretary in writing at a general body membership meeting.

Section 2

The entire voting membership shall be notified in writing at least five (5) school days prior to vote on a proposed amendment.

Section 3

A two-thirds (2/3) vote of the active voting membership is necessary for the passage of an amendment.

ARTICLE X – DISSOLUTION

In the event of the dissolution of this group, all accrued funds and assets shall revert to the Undergraduate Student Government.