

Wikipedians of the University of Michigan's Constitution

Preamble:

We, the members of the Wikipedians of the University of Michigan, seek to uphold the mission of the Wikimedia Foundation. Our mission is to empower and engage the students at the University of Michigan to collect and develop educational content under a free license or in the public domain, and to disseminate it effectively and globally.

Article I – Name

The name of the organization will be Wikipedians of the University of Michigan.

Article II - Purpose

Wikimedia Foundation's top priority is to encourage more people to edit Wikipedia. The purpose of the organization is to transform Wikipedia readers to Wikipedia editors. By equipping students with the necessary skills to navigate Wikipedia's editing code, students can in turn transfer the knowledge gained in the classroom to increase the information offered to the world through Wikipedia. In addition, our members who go abroad, can teach those that they come into contact with abroad to edit Wikipedia thus broadening the scope of editors even more. This organization is a service organization and we aim to disseminate knowledge to the global community.

Article III - Membership

Membership is open to all students without respect to sex, race, religion, creed, national origin, sexual orientation, ability/disability, age, or marital status. Any student, graduate and undergraduate, is eligible for membership. Faculty, staff and community members are also eligible for membership; however, they cannot receive scholarship funds for travel to any Wikipedia conferences through Wikipedians at the University of Michigan.

Students remain active members by:

- 1.) completing a minimum of 5 adequate edits a month on any Wikimedia Project.
 - Edits are to be self-reported to the Secretary, and will be taken on good faith.
 - The Organization will not have any records of member's Wikimedia login names.
- 2.) paying in full of any financial obligations
 - for the inaugural year, the membership dues will be \$5 from each member to cover the registration fee for Festifall (University of Michigan fall recruiting for student clubs), club publicity, and organization of trivia nights.
- 3.) submitting questions and attending at least one trivia nights hosted by Wikipedians of the University of Michigan
- 4.) attending all monthly meetings. A total of two meetings are excused with prior written notice or clearance with the president.

There are no restrictions for membership.

If a student is mistakenly blocked from a Wikipedia project by the Wikipedia Community/Admin, a two-thirds vote may reinstate them as being still an active member of the club and must continue to edit once the block has expired.

How does one become a member? How are members identified?

One becomes a member by attending the informational meeting and signing up for email notifications

from the organization. Members are identified by being on the list serve and actively participating in editing Wikipedia entries.

Voluntary withdrawal of membership can be explained here.

If one would like to voluntarily withdraw from membership one must notify the president.

Article IV- Officers

How many Officers are there? What are their titles and duties?

Wikipedians of the University of Michigan will be governed by the following means:

- 1.) The role of the President is to maintain accurate records of membership and is actively involved with recruiting of new members. The President will also help the Fundraiser apply for funds for the organizations. The President is also responsible for maintaining the same qualifications for active membership.
- 2.) The role of the Vice President will be to preside at all meetings and functions that the President cannot attend.
- 3.) Wikipedians of the University of Michigan shall also maintain a Treasurer who will handle all dues and accounts. The Treasurer is also responsible for maintaining the same qualifications for active membership.
- 4.) Wikipedians of the University of Michigan shall also elect a Secretary charged with keeping accurate records of the number of edits to Wikipedia, and on what Wikipedia pages made by members. In order to keep the anonymity that Wikipedia editors may wish to have (so not to have a record of login names with the associated student members), members will be self logging their edits to the Secretary. The records will only be the number of edits recorded for each student rather than record of all edits in the different Wikimedia Projects made by the club. If it is necessary in the future to access this information, the club will have contact information of the members to ask permission for access to their login name to view his/her contributions. The Secretary is also responsible for maintaining the same qualifications for active membership.
- 5.) Wikipedians of the University of Michigan shall also elect a Public Relations Chairperson who applies for grants from university organizations and organizes fundraising activities (e.g. trivia nights) for funds to donate and contribute to the Wikimedia Foundation. The Public Relations Chairperson is also responsible for maintaining the same qualifications for active membership.

Will the Officers constitute an executive committee?

Yes, the officers will constitute an executive committee.

What are the duties of the advisor?

The advisor encourages the members of the club in their work and oversees the financial obligations of the club.

Article V - Operations

Who is eligible for office?

Any actively participating member, as stated in Article III, with commitment to carry out the duties of the office for the entire term may be eligible for office.

Exceptions are made for the inaugural year of the organization for the establishment of the organization.

How are officers elected? What type of ballot? When are the elected (month)? For what purpose are they elected?

Officers are elected by a vote of active members of the organization at the time of the election. Elections are held annually in March for the following academic year. They are elected to govern and maintain organization of the group/club.

The President will take nominations from the floor, the nomination process is closed and the movement seconded. The nominated parties will be allowed to vote.

Voting is done by secret ballot to be collected and tabulated by the Secretary and one other voting member, appointed by the current/outgoing President.

When do Officers assume their positions?

Officers assume their positions in April and hold their positions through the academic school year, until the following March.

What is the role of the advisor in elections (if applicable?)

Not applicable

Article VI - Finances

How will your organization finance its activities?

Wikipedians will finance the activities it engages in by the following means:

- 1.) Receive direct funding from the University's General Fund
- 2.) Apply for funds through organizations that offer funding to student organizations
- 3.) Collect membership dues
- 4.) Host campus wide trivia nights

What position(s) within your organization is/are responsible for the organization's Finances?

President and Treasurer are responsible for the organization's finances.

Article VII – Amendments

How are amendments to be proposed?

Amendments can be proposed at the monthly meetings and all Officers must be present for the proposal and be there for the ruling of the proposal. The proposal is discussed by the Officers and seconded by an Officer then voted on by those present at the meeting. A two-thirds majority of the membership present must support the amendment for it to pass.

Who can propose them?

Any active member can propose amendments.

Do you want to provide a certain amount of time before bringing forth an amendment and voting on it? How will you vote on your proposed Amendments?

The amount of time before bringing forth an amendment is to be decided by the Officers on a case-by-case basis. In most cases, there will not be a certain amount of time before bringing forth an amendment and then voting on it. We will vote on proposed Amendments by an Officer seconding an amendment then a majority rule of the active members present at the meeting.

Article VIII – Registration Renewal

To help with transitioning from year to year, this section may contain a statement that specifies a date for your organizations registration renewal. If your organization has elections, a good time for renewal may be one month after those elections.

The date for the organization's registration renewal will be the first week of April when the new officers assume their positions. Wikipedians will re-register with the Michigan Student Assembly on an annual basis, no later than September 15. The president will be responsible for submitting a registration renewal and to gather a list of members willing to continue their active status. Wikipedians will return a signed SOAS card no later than September 15.

Article IX – Removal of Membership

If your organization has Officers, under what circumstances shall they be removed? (ex failure to comply to rules and regulations, criminal offense, did not pay dues, etc)

Any officer of Wikipedians in violation of Wikipedian's purpose or constitution, and inadequately carrying out their duties as an officer may be removed from office by the following process:

- 1.) A written request by at least 3 active members (Article III) of Wikipedians
- 2.) Notification must be given to the Officer of the request, and if improvement is not seen by the remaining officers in good standing, the officer will be asked to be present at the next meeting and prepared to speak
- 3.) A two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of all present active members is necessary to remove the officer.

What is the process for removing Officers? (eg voting out, trial, decision of organization president)

See above

Under what circumstances shall members of the organization be removed?

Members are first placed on probation if they cannot comply with the requirements for active duties. If the member can retroactively complete the requirements for active duties within two months, the member will return to good standing. However, if the member cannot complete the requirements, they will be removed from the organization.

What is the process for Removal of organization members?

The member is removed from the roster and email list-serve and will no longer be eligible for grants to various conferences or organization memorabilia. If the member is to represent the organization at a later date (at a conference), that member to be removed will be replaced by an active member.

Article X – Statement of Compliance

By completing the registration process, we agree to abide by the University's policies. We understand that the organization's registration is contingent on the acceptance of these policies.