

Constitution of the Uvalde STEM Club

Preamble

We encourage all students to pursue higher career aspirations in the STEM fields. We nurture their practical, critical thinking, teamwork and leadership skills, ambition, work ethic, and ability to maintain an excellent academic performance and participation in both STEM projects and STEM career-oriented club activities.

Article I – Name

Section 1. The name of this organization shall be the Uvalde STEM Club.

Article II – Purpose, Power and Scope

Section 1. The purpose of this club is to encourage undergraduate students, in particular, minorities and women to pursue research and careers in the sciences and engineering fields. The club is specifically designed to inform students of STEM opportunities while also providing students with valuable experience that can be used beyond graduation. To broaden the scope of interest in STEM within the community, the STEM Club will tackle a community issue each year, and through its various disciplines and innovation, will attempt a solution through a STEM project.

Section 2. These purposes shall be accomplished through a series of workshops and seminars that guide students help them prepare for their continuing education. These workshops and seminars include, but are not limited to, research and information sessions on scholarships, internships and undergraduate programs.

Section 3. All activities executed by the Uvalde STEM Club are legal and non-profit in nature.

We will follow policies and procedures of SWTJC as described by the Board of Trustees Policies and Procedures, RSO rules, State and Federal Laws, and this handbook.

Article III – Membership

Section 1. Qualifications

- a) All members of the STEM Club must be students attending Southwest Texas Junior College.

- b) No person shall be denied membership in this club/organization because of race, color, sex, handicap, national origin, religious affiliation or belief.

c) Members must have high academic standing and dedication to education and careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM).

d) All expulsions may be appealed by the expelled member to the Student Government Association, but until the appeal is decided, the member shall not enjoy the rights nor privileges of membership.

Section 2. Membership Procedure

a) To become a member, a person must adhere to Article II Section 1, pay the required dues (if any), and attend a certain number of meetings as agreed upon by the STEM Club. The number of persons who may be members shall not be limited.

Article IV – Officers, Elections, Tenure and Faculty Advisor

Section 1. Officers

a) The officers of this organization shall be as follows:

- 1. i. **President**
- 2. ii. **External Vice President**
- 3. iii. **Internal Vice President**
- 4. iv. **Secretary**
- 5. v. **Treasurer**

b) The President shall coordinate and preside at all meetings, facilitate at all online meetings, promote the STEM club and its activities, and help oversee STEM projects.

c) The Vice-President shall reserve room and equipment for club activities and be responsible for equipment setup at events. The vice president must assume the duties of President in the absence of the President.

e) The Treasurer shall collect all dues, help maintain whatever account may exist in Business and shall be responsible for completing requisition requests with the club sponsor. The Treasurer shall periodically give an account of the club/organization’s finances to the membership or upon notice of request.

f) The Secretary shall take minutes, handle all correspondences, and forward a copy of all approved minutes to all non-present members and sponsors.

g) In the event that there are no officers, an internal Vice President shall be appointed to aid the president and also help newly elected officers transition to their new roles.

Section 2. Elections, Tenure

a) Elections shall be held in the Spring Semester for the next upcoming academic year.

b) Candidates are elected based on the one with most votes.

c) If the group wishes to remove an officer for not doing his job, an executive meeting will be held and the meeting recorded with a digital voice recorder and minutes recorded. Members will then be informed and a new officer will be elected.

d) Tenure

The Tenure shall be one (1) year. The new officers shall take office at the conclusion of a meeting to be held on a weekday of the last full week before Spring finals (or before.)

Section 3. Sponsor

a) All sponsors shall be directly involved with the STEM Club in support of its purpose.

Article V – Meeting and Quorum, Rules of Order

Section 1. The STEM Club shall meet on a weekly basis.

Section 2. Quorum

A quorum consisting of two officers plus 25% of members in good standing are necessary for the transaction of any business.

Section 3. Rules of Order members who have attended 2 meetings are eligible to vote.

All parliamentary questions not determined by the constitution or these By-Laws shall be decided according to Robert's Rules of Order Revised.

Article VI – Amendment Procedures

All amendments to this constitution shall require at least two-thirds affirmative vote of the membership. Amendments shall be proposed one regular membership meeting at least one week later, or through majority vote for a special meeting.

Article VIII – Amendments and Bylaws

Amendments

Section 1. All amendments to the Constitution shall be submitted to the President and Secretary, and then read at a meeting in which the amendment will be voted upon.

Section 2. Amendments to the Constitution shall be ratified by a two-thirds majority vote by the club members present.

Section 3. All amendments to the Constitution and bylaws are subject to the approval of the Dean of the School of Engineering.

Bylaws

Section 1. Elections shall be conducted by a show of hands. Absentee ballots shall not be allowed.

Section 2: A vacancy of the Presidency shall be filled by the Vice-President. The Vice-Presidency shall then be filled by a majority election by the Executive Board.

Section 3: Any non-attendance of the meetings for a long period of time will be considered as a voluntary resignation.