

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

Critical Tinkers Constitution

October 26, 2009

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Article I Name

The name of this organization shall be Critical Tinkers of Iowa State University.

Article II Purpose & Goals

Section One – Mission Statement

Critical Tinkers is a team of undergraduate students in electrical and computer engineering who use and develop their critical thinking skills to create exciting projects. The goals of the group are to learn to think critically, develop hands on demos, projects, and activities, create, perform, and help faculty in department presentations and demos, do high school visitation and demos, be a source of enthusiasm and excitement in the department, and create life-long learning. The group believes learning should be interesting, challenging, creative, and engaging.

Section Two – Policy Statement

Critical Tinkers abides by and supports established Iowa State University policies, State and Federal Laws.

Article III Membership

Section One – Eligibility and Requirements

Membership shall be open to all registered students in the College of Engineering at Iowa State University. Dues shall not exceed a maximum of \$50.00 per semester.

Section Two - Expectations

Students in the Critical Tinkers are an integral part of the student community in the Electrical and Computer Engineering Department. Critical Tinkers work closely with the student chapter of IEEE, the professional society for electrical and computer engineers. The group looks to build and enhance the student community by creating an atmosphere of community and excitement among engineering students, learning from and teaching other engineers, prospective engineering students, and community members, connecting students with faculty through projects, activities, and demos.

Article IV Officers

Section One – Offices to be Established:

1. President

Presidential Duties

- a. Plan, schedule and preside over all organizational meetings
- b. Serve as a representative of the organization to the rest of campus

- c. Maintain regular communication with organization's adviser
 - d. Ensure the organization is operating in accordance with Iowa State University and Student Activity Center standards
2. Secretary
Secretarial Duties
 - a. Keep a record of all meetings and distribute to all members
 - b. Keep a record of all active members
 - c. Schedule meetings or correspond with appropriate University offices
 - d. Organize and document all proposals, reports, etc.
3. Treasurer
Treasurer Duties
 - a. Maintain accurate log of all of the organization's transactions
 - b. Determine and collect dues
 - c. Develop organizational budget (to be presented to organization for review)
 - d. Cosign any checks with the Adviser
 - e. Coordinate with the Fundraising officer regarding events
 - f. Solicit funds (if available) from the Student Government
4. Technician Consultants
Technological Consultant Duties
 - a. Serve as reference for information during project planning
 - b. Coordinate with appropriate faculty and/or advisers when guidance is needed
5. Public Relations/Community Outreach/Fundraising.
PR/Outreach Duties
 - a. Coordinate organizational promotional events and advertise accordingly
 - b. Seek out corporate sponsorship
 - c. Keep detailed reports of organizational accomplishments and present to appropriate sources
 - d. Coordinate with community to set up demonstrations, etc. to raise awareness or promote interest
6. IEEE Representative
IEEE Representative
 - a. Serve as a liaison between Critical Tinkers and IEEE
 - b. Plan functions with IEEE and Critical Tinkers
7. Adviser
Adviser Duties
 - a. Coordinate and meet with necessary officers on regular basis
 - b. Review and approve all major financial expenditures
 - c. Ensure that the organization is operating in conformity with the standards set forth by Iowa State University and Student Activities Center committees that are needed to carry out organization goals.

Section Two – General Officer Qualifications:

1. Officers must carry out in a timely fashion all of the specific duties relevant to that office

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2. All officers of the organization must meet the following academic requirements:
 - a. Have a minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.00
 - b. Maintain a minimum GPA of 2.00 in the semester immediately prior to term of election and during terms of appointment – in order for this provision to be met, the student must have been enrolled in at least six hours for the given term.
 - c. Be in good standing with the university and enrolled: at least half time (six or more credit hours), if an undergraduate student (unless fewer credits are required to graduate in the spring and fall semesters) during the term of office, and at least half time (four or more credits), if a graduate level student (unless fewer credits are required in the final stages of their degree as defined by the Continuous Registration Requirement) during their term of office.

Any member failing to meet the above criteria is ineligible to hold an office within this organization.

Section Three – Election to Office Statement:

Election of officers will require a majority vote from the general membership. If a candidate fails to receive a majority of votes, a runoff election will be held with the top two candidates that received the most votes. Members interested in becoming an officer must meet academic requirements as established by the Student Organization Recognition Policy.

Section Four – Term of Office Statement:

The term of office will be on full year (from Fall semester of the given year through Spring semester of that same academic year). In the case that an officer is elected at a later date, they will still occupy their office through the Spring semester of the given academic year. All elected officers shall comprise the Executive committee of the organization. In addition to regularly scheduled organizational meetings, the Executive Committee shall meet separately; additionally, the Executive Committee shall appoint such committees that are needed to carry out all organizational goals.

Section Five – Officer Removal/Resignation Statement:

In the event that an officer fails to meet the eligibility requirements, they will be asked to immediately step down and a new member shall be elected to that office. If an officer feels that he or she is unable to perform their duties to the best of their abilities, they may voluntarily step down from their elected office and a new member shall be elected. Officers may be removed from office by $\frac{1}{2}$ votes of the other officers and $\frac{3}{4}$ votes of the general membership if actions are deemed inappropriate by the membership. The officer is permitted to speak before the Executive Committee and the general membership about the charges made concerning his/her performance. The officer is not permitted to participate in the deliberation of the Executive Committee regarding the charges against them.

Article V Finances

Section One – Organization Funds

Any monies or items of value received through organization activities or associated with this organization are classified as belonging to the organization. All monies belonging to this organization shall be deposited and disbursed through a bank account established for this organization at the Campus Organizations Accounting Office and/or approved institution/office (must receive authorization via Campus Organizations Accounting Office). All funds must be deposited within 48 hours after collection. The Adviser to this organization must approve and sign each expenditure before payment.

Section Two - Use of Funds

The use of organization funds shall promote growth of the organization by promoting learning in organization member in the fields of electrical and computer engineering, and by increasing public and member interest in the organization

Section Three - Organization Fees

The organization may establish reasonable dues that must be paid by all members. The amount of the dues will be determined in the beginning of the academic year by the Executive Committee. Dues must be paid by the second week of membership. The treasurer shall maintain all financial records and shall countersign with the president for all organization transactions.

Article VI Amendments & Ratification

This constitution may be amended and subsequently ratified at any time, with the unanimous approval of the organization officers and a simple majority of the general members. Members will be given one week to consider amendments. Ratified amendments to this Constitution must be submitted to the Student Activities Center within 10 days.