

Constitution

Astronomy Club of Virginia Tech

ARTICLE I – NAME

Name. The name of the organization shall be the Astronomy Club of Virginia Tech, herein referred to as the ACVT.

Territory. The territory of this organization encompasses, but is not limited to, the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (herein referred to as Virginia Tech) campus at Blacksburg, VA and the surrounding area, including Prices Fork Observatory.

Faculty Advisor. The faculty advisor for the ACVT shall be a faculty member of the Physics Department of Virginia Tech.

ARTICLE II – PURPOSES

1. To promote the study of the science of astronomy through public education in the Blacksburg community and surrounding areas.
2. To improve and increase the ACVT members' knowledge of astronomy.

ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Eligibility. Subject to the limitations contained in this and other Articles of the Constitution and By-laws, a person with an interest in astronomy or a related science is eligible for membership. The ACVT shall not discriminate with regard to age, sex, race, creed, or national origin.

Section 2. Membership. Upon payment of dues, an individual becomes a member of the Organization. Said member shall be entitled to hold office in the Organization, vote on Organization matters and receive the Organization publications. Family members and close friends of a member shall be permitted to participate in meetings and other activities, but shall not be entitled to hold office in the Organization or vote without payment of annual dues.

Section 3. Guests. Meetings are open to the public. Guests are invited to attend Organization meetings, but shall not be entitled to hold office in the Organization, vote on Organization matters, or receive the Organization publications.

Section 4. Expelling of Members. The elected officers of the Organization shall have the power to expel any member by majority vote of the officers for conduct damaging the property or reputation of the ACVT or its members. Failure to pay

financial obligations due to the Organization shall result in termination of membership.

Section 5. Disposition of Dues and Fees. Any member who resigns or is expelled from the Organization shall also forfeit dues, fees, or money paid to the Organization, subject to waiver by a majority vote of the Organization officers.

ARTICLE IV – OFFICERS

The elected officers of the Organization shall include the President, Vice President, Webmaster, Secretary, and Treasurer. The appointed officers shall include any other positions of responsibility the elected officers deem appropriate. The Organization offices, both elected and appointed, shall be occupied by voting members in good standing who are currently students of Virginia Tech.

ARTICLE V – DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1. President. The President shall preside at all meeting of the Organization and the performance of such other duties as are necessary and incident to the proper administration of the Organization except such duties as are specifically delegated to others by the Articles of the Constitution and By-laws. He or she shall be charged with the responsibility of assigning the supervision of such committees as the membership may designate and of supervising the functioning of all officers and committees. Subject to the approval of other elected officers, the president shall appoint any “appointed officers” of the Organization as needed. A decision of the President may be overruled by a majority vote of the membership.

Section 2. Vice President. The Vice President shall be in charge of public relations for the Organization and shall preside as President over all meetings in the absence of the President. He or she shall oversee the promotion of Organization events, including but not limited to Gobblerfest and any other public events that the Organization holds or opts to take part in. He or she shall also seek to collaborate with other organizations that share similar interests, as deemed appropriate.

Section 3. Webmaster. The Webmaster shall be responsible for the maintenance of the official Organization website and tending to any means by which the club content is made available to the public using web resources. The Webmaster is responsible for ensuring that the website content is consistent with the purposes of the Organization and that it is not used for any purpose or activity prohibited to the Organization.

Section 4. Secretary. The Secretary shall keep records of the regular meetings, perform the annual registration of the Organization with Virginia Tech Student Activities, handle and submit other paperwork and documents as needed, maintain a complete and current roster of members and their email addresses, maintain an inventory of Organization property and its location, maintain a complete and current copy of the Constitution and By-laws, and perform other such duties which

ordinarily pertain to the office of Secretary or as specified by the Articles of the Constitution and By-laws.

Section 5. Treasurer. The Treasurer shall receive and bank the funds of the Organization, take an active role in raising funds for the Organization, keep records of all financial transactions involving the funds of the Organization or funds allocated the Organization for special projects, account to the officers for the funds and transactions quarterly and when otherwise requested to do so, maintain a list of all members and the status of their dues payments, and perform other duties which ordinarily pertain to the office of Treasurer.

Section 6. Appointed Officers. The “appointed officers” shall include any position of responsibility that the elected officers deem necessary.

ARTICLE VI – ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Section 1. Time of Election. The elected officers of the Organization shall be elected at or before the last regular meeting at the end of each academic year by a majority vote of the voting members present.

Section 2. Terms of Officers. Officers shall serve for a period of one year commencing with the next ensuing on the first day of classes of each Fall semester and extending to the first day of classes of the subsequent Fall semester.

Section 3. Vacancies in Office. If an office becomes vacant during the year, the voting members present shall elect the successor by a majority vote to serve for the remainder of the unexpired term at the next regular meeting. If the vacancy is in the office of president, the vice president will assume duties as president until election are held. For any vacancy, the duties of the office shall be conducted by whomever the president shall appoint until elections are held.

Section 4. Limitations of Office-Holding. There shall be no limitations placed on terms of both elected and appointed positions.

Section 5. Impeachment and Removal of Officers. In the event that an officer is found to be negligent with regard to their duties as specified in the Constitution and By-laws or acts in a way that is detrimental to the Organization, the other elected officers have the option of impeaching the offending officer. For removal from office, a majority vote of the officers is required. The officers then may opt to expel the offending officer in accordance with the provisions of Article III, Section 4.

ARTICLE VII – AMENDMENTS

This constitution may be amended by a 2/3 vote of the members by proxy and/or absentee ballot or online poll or in person, provided that the proposed amendment was presented to members at least one month prior to the vote for approval of amendments.

On behalf of the membership of the Astronomy Club of Virginia Tech, this constitution is declared in-force from 25 August 2014 forward by the undersigned officers of the organization:

Nick Anderson, President

Maria Haas, Vice President

Jennie Paine, Webmaster

Rebecca Rye, Secretary

Alec Hoke, Treasurer