



UNIVERSITY of ROCHESTER
STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION
GOVERNMENT

American Sign Language Club

ARTICLE I - ESTABLISHMENT

We the students, faculty, and staff of the University of Rochester hereby establish the American Sign Language (ASL) Club of the University of Rochester and enact this constitution for its governance. Failure to follow this constitution could result in penalties or revocation of Students' Association recognition of this organization.

ARTICLE II - MISSION STATEMENT

Our goal is to provide a rich environment in which students can express and share their interest in American Sign Language (ASL) and Deaf culture and to create a welcoming atmosphere for the development of signing skills as well as to promote and enrich cultural awareness of the Deaf community through the collaboration of University of Rochester students and the Rochester Deaf community.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP

SECTION ONE - MEMBERSHIP

- A. Eligibility - All Students' Association (SA) members shall be eligible for membership. An SA Member is a University of Rochester undergraduate of the College who has paid their SA activities fee. All members and associate members shall be listed on the organization's Campus Community Connection site. Membership is automatically renewed yearly unless the member graduates, requests to cancel their membership, or fails to meet membership requirements.
- B. Definition of active member - An SA member who attends at least 30% of Silent Coffees or American Sign Language Club events per semester. The Executive Board will define club events at the beginning of each semester. An active member may retain active membership in the club while on official leave from the university (i.e. study abroad, sabbatical, etc.) provided that the member had met all active membership requirements the semester immediately preceding the member's leave.
- C. Definition of associate member - All University of Rochester faculty, staff, graduate students and Eastman students shall be eligible for associate membership but not eligible to hold an officer position. Graduate students, faculty, and staff are not eligible to perform, compete, nor travel as part of a college student organization. Associate members must attend at least 15% of Silent Coffees or American Sign

Language Club events per semester.

ARTICLE IV - MEETINGS AND VOTING

SECTION ONE - QUORUM

- A. A meeting shall be valid if a quorum is present. Quorum is defined as ½ of the active membership plus one officer.

SECTION TWO - VOTING

- A. Voting on any issue shall be official only if the meeting is valid.
- B. All members shall have equal voting power.
- C. Procedure – All decisions shall be arrived at by simple majority using a hand vote unless otherwise specified by the presiding officer. The President shall only vote to break a tie.

ARTICLE V - OFFICERS AND QUALIFICATIONS

SECTION ONE - OFFICER POSITIONS

- A. President, Business Manager, Events Coordinator, Public Relations Officer, Secretary

SECTION TWO - DUTIES OF OFFICERS

- A. All officers shall be members of the Students' Association.
- B. All officers shall promote active recruitment of new members.
- C. All officers shall enforce this constitution.
- D. All officers shall be responsible for knowing the sections of the Students' Association constitution and bylaws that apply to this organization.
- E. The President shall preside over the meetings and shall maintain organization within the club, communicate with other officers and delegate duties to maintain a functioning club that fulfills the purposes set forth above. The President shall settle any disputes outstanding and act as the liaison between the club and the ASL Department. The President shall ensure the club is acting in accordance with Deaf culture. A ¾ majority vote of the officers, excluding the President, can override the President.
- F. The Business Manager shall be responsible for maintaining all finances and keep detailed records of all transactions.
- G. The President shall be responsible for maintaining a current copy of this constitution open to inspection by all members of this organization, Senators, and all members of the Students' Association.
- H. The Secretary shall also take roll call at all meetings, tally votes, keep an accurate list of organization members and take and maintain meeting minutes. The Secretary shall also maintain the official ASL Club email and the ASL Club CCC page.
- I. The Events Coordinator shall plan and coordinate all events hosted by ASL Club and act as the on campus liaison with other student organizations.
- J. The Public Relations Officer shall be responsible for creating and distributing marketing content for the club. They will act as the liaison between the club and the Rochester Deaf community and ASL Club alumni.

SECTION THREE - NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

- A. Nomination and Elections Procedure - Nominations can be made by any active member, including the member who wishes to run for that position. All members running for a position must be an active member. Nominations and platforms will be sent over email to the secretary. The vote will be held in a general membership meeting. Votes will be taken by casting secret ballots that will be counted by the secretary. If the secretary is running for a position, the counting of the votes will be the responsibility of the president. A nominee must have a majority of quorum votes to be elected. In the event of a tie, the final decision will go to the faculty advisor.
- B. Term of Office - All Executive Board positions will have a term of one academic year. Transition meetings will occur prior to the last day of classes in the spring semester. Newly elected officers will take office on the last day of the spring semester's classes.
- C. Timing of Elections - Elections will occur in April. Elections must be held at least two weeks prior to the last day of classes.

SECTION FOUR - VACANCIES, RESIGNATIONS, AND REMOVALS

- A. At the first valid meeting following a vacancy of an office, the position is to be filled by the same manner described in *Article V, Section Three*.
- B. A vote of no confidence is a vote to remove an officer. Such a vote shall require a $\frac{2}{3}$ majority of the entire active membership to pass. Any member of the organization may call for a vote of no confidence.
- C. If a vote of no confidence on any officer is to take place, they must be notified one week in advance.
- D. An office shall be declared vacant as the result of a vote of no confidence.

ARTICLE VI - RESOURCES

SECTION ONE - RESOURCES

- A. The American Sign Language Club of the University of Rochester will abide by their Resource Agreement.

ARTICLE VII - HAZING POLICY

Hazing, defined as the harassment of one individual by another individual or organization, is not permitted by the American Sign Language Club. Behavior prohibited under this rule includes actions threatening substantial risk of physical or mental injury; actions exposing the individual to distressing, repulsive, or alarming situations or sensations; forced consumption of alcohol or drugs; actions in the form of social pressure which might cause harm to an individual.

ARTICLE VIII - NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY

The American Sign Language Club abides by the nondiscrimination policy of the University of Rochester.



4/8/2022

Signature of Confirmation

Date

Kayla Gunderson

President, American Sign Language Club



04/12/2022

Signature of Approval

Date

Noah Hathaway

Chair, Student Organization Administration & Review Committee