



UNIVERSITY of ROCHESTER  
STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION  
GOVERNMENT

## **Bangla Bhasha**

### **ARTICLE I - ESTABLISHMENT**

We the students, faculty, and staff of the University of Rochester hereby establish Bangla Bhasha (URBB) 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**

The purpose of Bangla Bhasha is to raise awareness of Bangla (Bengali) culture and language at the University of Rochester, as Bangla is one of the most spoken languages in the world. We feel that our community is underrepresented on campus, so we would like to change that by raising awareness and uniting the Bangla speaking community. Our events will be focused on promoting the Bangla language and culture.

Since language is strongly emphasized in the Bangla speaking community, one of our goals is to also help people appreciate their mother tongue no matter where they are from with events like International Mother Language Day.

### **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 active member must attend 1 event per semester and 40% of the General Member Meetings.
- 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.

## **ARTICLE IV - MEETINGS AND VOTING**

### **SECTION ONE - QUORUM**

- A. A meeting shall be valid if a quorum is present. Quorum is defined as 1/4 of the active membership plus 3 officers.

### **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: Unless no one else is qualified, a president must have served in the e-board previously for at least 2 semesters.
- B. Vice President: Unless no one else is qualified, a Vice president must have served in the e-board previously for at least 1 semester.
- C. Secretary: Any active member is qualified to hold office.
- D. Business Manager: Any active member is qualified to hold office.
- E. Publicity Chair: Any active member is qualified to hold office.
- F. Language Chair: Unless no one else is qualified, a language chair must know how to speak Bangla.
- G. Cultural chair: Any active member is qualified to hold office.
- H. First-year Representative: Any active freshman is qualified to hold office.

### **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.
- F. The Business Manager shall be responsible for maintaining all finances and keep detailed records of all transactions.
- G. The Vice 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 Vice President shall also take roll call at all meetings, tally votes, keep an accurate list of organization members and take and maintain meeting minutes.

- I. Secretary: The secretary shall take meeting notes and send out weekly newsletters. They should also reach out to other organizations for collaborative events.
- J. Publicity Chair: The publicity chair's main job is to promote the club and run the social media pages. They should also work with the secretary to contact the organizations for collaborations.
- K. Language Chair: The language chair shall plan agendas for Bangla language workshops.
- L. Cultural Chair: The cultural chair shall set the framework for planning all cultural events and delegate responsibilities for all tasks related to event planning amongst e-board members.
- M. First-Year Representative: The first-year representative shall promote the club to first year students and advocate for their suggestions and interests.

### **SECTION THREE - NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS**

- A. Nomination- students can nominate themselves or the member they think are fit for the position through Google forms. The nominated person will either email the president or submit a Google form of their platform prior to presenting it in front of the Eboard and the general members during the following meeting.
- B. Elections Procedure - Voting is open to all active members. Each active member gets one vote and the candidate that receives the most votes wins.
  - a. Each candidate will present their platform in person and the members will vote after all the candidates for each position presented their platforms.
- C. Term of Office -Each officer will take office during the fall term and stay for the spring term of the school year under normal circumstances. The transition will occur at the end of every spring term for every e-board position. If any executive board member leaves office after one semester or mid semester, another election will be held within 2 weeks of them leaving.
- D. Timing of Elections - Elections will occur once before the last 2 weeks of Spring semester and if needed, before the last two weeks of the last day of classes of Fall semester.

### **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 Bangla Bhasha 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 Bangla Bhasha. 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 Bangla Bhasha abides by the nondiscrimination policy of the University of Rochester.

  
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Signature of Confirmation  
Faizah Ahmed  
**President, Bangla Bhasha**

01/24/2023  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Approval  
Evan Ji  
**Chair, Student Organization Administration & Review Committee**

1/23/23  
Date