# College Democrats

We the students, faculty, and staff of the University of Rochester hereby establish the College Democrats of the University of Rochester and enact this constitution for its government. Failure to follow this constitution could result in revocation of Students' Association recognition of this organization.

#### Article I. Mission Statement

We, the College Democrats of the University of Rochester, have as our primary goal to promote Democratic ideas throughout our campus and the community. Our goal shall be attained by:

- 1. Informing people of what the Democratic Party stands for.
- 2. Helping both local and national Democratic candidates get elected.
- 3. Sponsoring rallies, debates and speakers on our campus to promote the Democratic Party.

#### Article II. Membership

Section A. Membership

- Eligibility All Students' Association 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 University of Rochester faculty, staff, graduate students and Eastman students shall be eligible for associate membership. All members and associate members shall be listed on the organization's Campus Club Connection site.
- 2. Definition of active member An active member remains/becomes active by attending at least three meetings a semester.
- Definition of associate member An associate member has the same rights and privileges of an active member without voting rights and cannot serve on the executive board.
- 4. Definition of prospective member A prospective member is a member who wishes to be on the mailing list but does not attend the three minimum meetings per semester and the prospective member does not have voting rights and cannot serve on the executive board.

#### Article III. Meetings and Voting

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

- 1. Voting on any issue shall be official only if the meeting is valid.
- 2. All members shall have equal voting power.
- 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 IV. Officers and Qualifications Section A. Officer Positions

All officer positions require at least one semester of active membership to qualify to hold the position

- President Most have held an executive board position to qualify.
- 2. Vice-President
- Secretary
- 4. Business Manager
- Publicity Manager

## Section B. Duties of Officers

- 1. All officers shall be members of the Students' Association.
- 2. All officers shall promote active recruitment of new members.
- All officers shall enforce this constitution.
- 4. All officers shall be responsible for knowing the sections of the Students' Association constitution and bylaws that apply to this organization.
- 5. 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 is the ultimate authority of all that the organization does.
- 6. The Vice-President assists the President as needed, takes the presidents place in his/her absence. The Vice-President also communicates with other officers and can delegate duties to fulfill the purposes set forth above.
- 7. The Business Manager will be responsible for maintaining all finances and keep detailed records of all transactions.
- 8. Secretary 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. Also, the Secretary shall take roll call at all meetings, tally votes, keep an accurate list of organization members and take and maintain meeting minutes.
- 9. The Publicity Manager is responsible for contacting The Campus Times, Weekly Buzz, and other organizations. And is responsible for promoting College Democrat sponsored events and the organization in general.

### Section C. Nominations and Elections

- 1. Nomination and Election Procedure Nominations can be made by any member, including any member who wishes to run for that position. All nominations must be seconded. A vote will be taken by secret ballot. A nominee must have a majority of quorum votes to become elected.
- 2. Timing of Elections Elections in the Fall semester will be the second week of November. Elections in the Spring semester will be the second week of April.
- 3. Term of Office President, Vice President, and Business Manager term is one year. Secretary and Publicity term is one semester. \*President and Business Manager must be able to fulfill the term.

### Section D. Vacancies, Resignations, and Removals

1. At the valid meeting following a vacancy of an office, the position is

- to be filled by the same manner described in the Nominations and Elections Procedure.
- 2. A vote of no confidence is a vote to remove an officer. Such a vote shall require a 2/3 majority of the active membership to pass the motion.
- 3. If a vote of no confidence on any officer is to take place, it must be given an official meeting's notice. Any member of an organization can call for a vote of no confidence.
- 4. An office shall be declared vacant as the result of a vote of no confidence.

#### Article V. Finances

Section A. Students' Association members shall receive priority at SAfunded events conducted by this organization.

Section B.

College Democrats shall not be eligible for SA funding.

#### Article VI. Classification

Section A. College Democrats shall be classified as a Political organization

#### Article VII. Adoption of the Constitution

Section A. Two-thirds of the active membership, or more if the organization decides, must approve the constitution.

Section B. This constitution will be ratified upon approval of the Senate and the signature of the Speaker.

Section C. This constitution shall not conflict with the Students' Association constitution or by-laws.

#### Article VIII. Amendments

Section A. Adoption and ratification of amendments to this constitution shall follow the same procedure as adoption of the entire constitution.

#### Article IX. **By-laws**

Section A. At least a 2/3 majority of the active membership must approve the by-laws and any amendments.

Section B. By-laws should not conflict with this constitution or the SA constitution or by-laws.

#### Article X. Hazing Policy

Hazing, defined as the harassment of one individual by another individual or organization, is not permitted by the College Democrats. 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 XI. Discrimination Policy

The College Democrats of the University of Rochester does not

discriminate against any individual or organization of individuals on the basis of age, color, disability, ethnicity, gender identity, gender expression, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, veteran status, or political affiliation.

Signature of Officer Submitting Constitution

Signature of SA Speaker **Granting Recognition**