



UNIVERSITY of ROCHESTER
STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION
GOVERNMENT

Grassroots

Article I - Establishment

We the students, faculty, and staff of the University of Rochester hereby establish Grassroots 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 group.

Article II - Purpose of Organization/Mission Statement

Grassroots is the U of R environmental action and awareness group. We strive to raise awareness of our collective and individual responsibilities as members of the Earth, and to take action on behalf of a sustainable future.

Article III - Membership

Section A. Membership

1. Eligibility: All Students' Association members shall be eligible for membership. An SA Member is a University of Rochester undergraduate 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 group'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.
2. Definition of member: A person who has attended at least one general meeting and is on Grassroots' CCC roster.
3. Definition of associate member: A person who meets eligibility as described above, and is not an undergraduate of the University of Rochester.

4. Definition of Executive Board members: Members who hold one of the described officer positions found in Article V. Section A.

Article IV - Meetings and Voting

Section A. Meetings

A meeting shall be valid if a quorum is present. Quorum is defined as two active members plus one officer.

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.
3. Procedure – Voting procedure for an election is defined in Section C Item
4. Voting procedure to amend the constitution is defined in Article VII. All other voting decisions shall be arrived at by simple majority using a hand vote unless otherwise specified by the presiding officer. The Co-Presidents shall only vote to break a tie. In the event that they are conflicted, the Secretary shall be the deciding vote.

Article V - Officers and Qualifications

Section A. Officer Positions

Co-president (2)
Secretary (1)
Business Manager (1)
Publicity Chair(s)
Programming Chair(s)
Clothing Exchange Chair(s)
Earth Day Chair(s)
Dump 'N' Run Chair(s)
Historian(s)

There must be two co-presidents, one secretary, and one business manager. There may be any number of the other positions, as deemed appropriate by the Co-Presidents at the Executive Board meeting prior to the election. If a majority of the Executive Board disagrees with the decision of the Co-Presidents, then they may overrule the decision of the Co-Presidents by voting for an alternative number by a simple majority.

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.
3. 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 group.
5. The Co-Presidents shall preside over the meetings and shall maintain organization within the group, communicate with other officers and delegate duties to maintain a functioning group that fulfills the purposes set forth above.
6. The Business Manager shall be responsible for maintaining all finances and keep detailed records of all transactions. The Business Manager will also be responsible for attending all Business Manager meetings and reporting back to the other Executive Board members.
7. The Secretary shall send out reminder emails, take and maintain meeting minutes and keep an accurate list of group members.
8. The Publicity Chair(s) shall publicize events and spread Grassroots' message to the greater campus community.
9. The Programming Chair(s) shall plan and execute group events.
10. The Earth Day Chair(s) shall plan and execute the Earth Day celebration once a year in the Spring Semester.
11. The Clothing Exchange Chair(s) shall plan and execute monthly Clothing Exchange events.
12. The Historian(s) shall document and preserve the organization's history and also plan and execute anniversary events. The Historian(s) shall bear responsibility for the organization's storage space, collaborating with the Clothing Exchange Chair(s) to ensure that the space is organized.
13. The Dump 'N' Run Chair(s) shall plan and execute the Stop 'N' Shop fundraiser at the beginning of the Fall Semester and the Dump 'N' Run collection during the Spring Semester.

Section C. Nominations and Elections

1. **Nomination Procedure:** Nominations shall take place in general meetings one week before elections, or by emailing the secretary before the election meeting. Nominations may be self-nominations or nominations by others.
2. **Timing of Elections:** An election will take place two weeks before the termination of each semester for the election of all positions except Dump 'N' Run Chair, and Earth Day Chair. Dump 'N' Run Chair and Earth Day

Chair shall be elected only at the election at the end of the Fall semester. If a vacancy arises, an election may occur at any time, provided that there is a one week notice ahead of the nomination deadline.

3. **Terms of Office:** The term of a Co-President is one year long and reelection is not allowed. An exception to this term limit may be made in order to fill a mid-semester vacancy in the Co-Presidency generated by a resignation or removal by vote of no confidence. Co-Presidents are the only officers limited to one term. The terms of the two Co-Presidents will be staggered so that at the end of every semester one Co-President will be outgoing, and the other Co-President will be at mid-term. One presidential election will therefore occur at the end of every semester. The Business Manager and Secretary serve for a full year with a term beginning at the start of the Fall semester and concluding at the end of the Spring semester. Earth Day Chair shall serve only for the Spring semester and Dump 'N' Run Chair shall serve until the completion of the Stop 'N' Shop paperwork in the Fall semester. All other officer terms are one semester long. In the event that an officer with a full-year position cannot serve the full year (due to study abroad, leave, resignation, etc), a replacement shall be elected to complete the preceding term.
4. **Election Procedure:** Elections will occur by secret ballot. Voting privileges will be extended to all club members, as defined by Article II. Absentee ballots will not be accepted. All members present will have one vote and will vote at the same time, with the exception of the out-going Co-President. Counting of votes will be overseen by that Co-President and one other member of the executive board, but not the candidates in that election. In the event of a tie, the outgoing Co-President will draw at random from the ballots to select the winner. The election for Co-President will always take place first so that in the event that a member's election to the Co-Presidency generates a vacancy in another position, that position will be filled.

Section D. Vacancies, Resignations, and Removals

1. At a 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. If a vote of no confidence on any officer is to take place, it must be given with at least seven days notice to the active membership. Any member of a group can call for a vote of no confidence.

3. A vote of no confidence is a vote to remove an officer. Such a vote shall require a 2/3 majority of the membership in attendance at a valid meeting to pass the motion.
4. An office shall be declared vacant as the result of a vote of no confidence.

Section E. Provisions of Advisor

1. The organization shall have an SA-appointed advisor.

Article VI - Committees

Section A. Purpose of Committees

1. A committee shall be an organized group within Grassroots whose mission coincides and facilitates the overall mission statement of Grassroots.
2. The goals of every committee must be in accordance and working towards the same goals as Grassroots.
3. Grassroots shall ultimately be responsible for the actions of their committees.

Section B. Committees

1. Food Recovery Network

The Food Recovery Network is a national organization that unites college campuses and students from across the country with the goal of eliminating excess food waste while attempting to alleviate hunger in our local community.

As part of the Food Recovery Network's national efforts, UR Food Recovery Network is a student run organization that works to help fight hunger in the Rochester community. We collect weekly inventories of food from various food locations on the University of Rochester's campus. We then donate the food to various food donation centers.

2. Swaraj Project

Our farm was founded on the realization that most people our age don't have a personal stake in what they eat. They neither know their farmer and his or her toil, nor the soil that must thrive to nourish them. In The Swaraj Project, we hope to start a network of urban farmers who are equipped and can equip others with the ideas of permaculture to empower both themselves and their communities through creative but sustainable farming.

Section C. Chairperson

1. A committee chairperson shall preside over a committee.
2. A committee chairperson will be elected by members of the committee via the secret ballot process outlined in Article V, Section C.
3. A committee chairperson shall report directly to the organization during regular meetings regarding current business of the committee.
4. A committee chairperson shall be responsible for maintaining the committee's Campus Community Connection webpage.
5. A committee chairperson shall be recognized as a member of the Executive Board.

Section D. Membership

1. All members of a committee shall be members of Grassroots.
2. All members of Grassroots shall be eligible for committee membership.
3. A member of the committee is a person who has attended at least one committee meeting and is part of the committee's CCC roster.

Section E. Meetings

1. Meetings shall be presided over by the committee chairperson.
2. Meetings shall be determined by the committee chairperson and committee members as needed.
3. A valid meeting shall follow the same meeting and voting rules as mentioned above in Article V.

Section F. Budget

1. Committee budgets shall be determined and allocated by the Grassroots Executive Board.
2. Committee budgets shall be managed by the committee chairperson in consultation with the Business Manager of Grassroots.
3. All financial requests shall be processed by the Business Manager of Grassroots.

Section G. Promotion and Publication

1. When promoting a committee, it shall be advertised as "X is a committee of Grassroots."
2. When advertising an event sponsored by a committee, it shall be advertised as "X event is sponsored by Y, a committee of Grassroots."

3. If the organization is SA-funded, "Grassroots is SA-funded" must also be included on all promotions, advertisements, and publications.

Article VII - Finances

Section A.

Students' Association members shall receive priority at SA-funded events conducted by this organization.

Section B. Funding.

Grassroots shall be an SA-funded group.

Article VIII - Classification

Section A.

Grassroots shall be classified as an Awareness Group.

Article IX - Adoption of the Constitution

Section A.

Two-thirds of the membership in attendance must approve the constitution.

1. A vote to change the Constitution shall be held with at least seven days' notice given to active membership.
2. There must be at least six members in attendance with at least one non-Executive Board member for the ratification of a new Constitution.
3. In the event that three meetings pass without sufficient attendance, on the third meeting, those members in attendance may take action without meeting these requirements.

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 X - Amendments

Section A.

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

Article XI - Bylaws

Section A.

Voting for bylaws will follow the same guidelines as detailed above in Article IV.
Section B.

Section B.

Bylaws should not conflict with this constitution or the SA constitution or bylaws.

Article XII - Hazing Policy

Hazing, defined as the harassment of one individual by another individual or group, is not permitted by the Grassroots. 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 XIII - Discrimination Policy

The Grassroots of the University of Rochester does not discriminate against any individual or group 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.

Tiffany Dias
Signature of Confirmation
Tiffany Dias
President, Grassroots

10/18/2018
Date


Signature of Approval

Criswell Lavery

Chair, Student Organization Administration & Review Committee

10/19/18
Date

