



UNIVERSITY of ROCHESTER
STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION
GOVERNMENT

ROCTalks

ARTICLE I - ESTABLISHMENT

We the students, faculty, and staff of the University of Rochester hereby establish the ROCTalks (ROCTalks) 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

ROCTalks aims to make unique voices heard through changing the sphere of public speaking and speaking louder for issues and ideas that we are passionate about, to the university's diverse audience and the rest of the modern world.

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 of the organization is required to attend 50% of meetings per semester and must participate in at least one open mic event throughout each semester.
- 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 one-half of the active membership plus two or more 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: Must have served on the executive board previously, unless no one else is qualified; Must be an active member of the organization and in good standing.
- B. Vice President: Must be an active member of the organization and in good standing, unless no one else is qualified.
- C. Business Manager: Must be an active member of the organization and in good standing, unless no one else is qualified.
- D. Event Manager: Must be an active member of the organization and in good standing; Must have been present for at least one prior ROCTalks event, unless no one else is qualified.
- E. Publicity Chair: Must be an active member of the organization and in good standing, unless no one else is qualified.
- F. Curation Chair: Must be an active member of the organization and in good standing, unless no one else is qualified.

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 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. President: responsible for overseeing other officers, chairs, and the organization as a whole while also working in coordination with the Vice President to manage and oversee campus events and GMM activities.
- J. Vice President: responsible for overseeing meeting activities and planning meeting ideas, while also working in coordination with Publicity Chair to create university wide events to engage campus community in the ROCTalks mission.
- K. Business Manager: responsible for reserving the room for the annual talk event working in conjunction with the Event Manager and also reserving rooms for our campus-wide events throughout the semester along with the GMM room reservation, while also managing the finances and budget to plan out events

(also working with Event Manager) and planning any fundraising events if necessary.

- L. Event Manager: responsible for finding a proper venue for mini talk events every semester, working in coordination with the Business Manager, overseeing and planning decorations and logistics of events, working with Publicity Chair for proper marketing strategies to advertise events to the campus community and beyond, while also assisting the Vice President throughout the semester with planning other smaller public speaking events (discussions, debates, presentations on current events and other educational topics that members may be interested in leading, etc.) for the campus community.
- M. Publicity Chair: responsible for the advertising and marketing of events, working with the Vice President and Event Manager to plan out entertaining and dynamic university-wide events that can properly engage the student body, and finally managing the organization's social media presence.
- N. Curation Chair: responsible for finding and assigning speakers for the mini talk events while also ensuring that there is a wide diversity of topics and questions being proposed at all of the events held by ROCTalks to engage several academic disciplines and audiences across the university.

SECTION THREE - NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

- A. Nomination and Elections Procedure – The President and Vice President will be nominated by the outgoing Executive Board. After being nominated, their elections will be done by a simple majority of the voting members of the quorum present, discounting abstentions. All other positions will be directly elected by the general members.
- B. Term of Office – Elections will be held towards the end of spring semester prior to the final mini talk event, such that the newly elected Executive Board may work alongside the prior Executive Board in a one-week transition period to oversee the event and will then stay in office for the coming year.
- C. Timing of Elections – Elections will be held towards the end of the month of March, assuming that the final mini talk event will take place early April. Elections must be held at least two weeks before 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

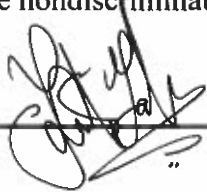
- A. The ROCTalks of the University of Rochester will abide by their Resource Agreement.

ARTICLE VII - HAZING POLICY

Hazing, defined as the harassment of one individual by another individual or organization, is not permitted by the ROCTalks. 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 ROCTalks abides by the nondiscrimination policy of the University of Rochester.



October 27th, 2023

Signature of Confirmation
Keertana Terala
President, ROCTalks

Date



10/30/23

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

Date