



The Health Outreach, Partnerships, Equity Alliance

ARTICLE I - ESTABLISHMENT

We the students, faculty, and staff of the University of Rochester hereby establish The Health Outreach, Partnerships, Equity Alliance (HOPE) of the University of Rochester and enact this constitution for its governance. Failure to follow this constitution could result in revocation of Students' Association recognition of this organization.

ARTICLE II - MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to empower passionate students to engage in public health equity initiatives at local, national, and global levels. Through forming partnerships with organizations, we strive to learn about evolving complex health challenges through volunteering, fundraising, and education.

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 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 CCC 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 is defined as a member who participates in volunteering opportunities, fundraising events, and attends all meetings (with the exception of 3 excused absences and 1 unexcused absence). Executive Board Members must also attend all Executive Board meetings. Absences for these Executive Board Meetings are included in the 3 excused and 1 unexcused absence rule. Active members can choose to join the committee system and must fill

out a placement survey to choose which committee they would like to participate in. Active members are not required to be placed into a committee.

- 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 hold no committee obligations to the organization, but are welcome to attend meetings and other events hosted by HOPE.
- D. Definition of inactive member - An inactive member is one who has decided to take a semester leave of absence from HOPE, whether on campus or abroad. This membership may only be granted after discussion with the Co-Presidents. In this time, inactive members hold no obligations to the organization. Upon return the following semester, inactive members will fill out a returner survey to indicate their involvement interests.

ARTICLE IV - MEETINGS AND VOTING

SECTION ONE - QUORUM

- A. A meeting shall be valid if a quorum is present. Quorum is defined as $\frac{1}{2}$ of the active membership plus five 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 proposed changes must be opened to the members for thorough discussion at least one week before voting. All decisions shall be arrived at by simple majority using a hand vote unless otherwise specified by the presiding officers. The Co-Presidents shall only vote to break a tie.

ARTICLE V - OFFICERS AND QUALIFICATIONS

SECTION ONE - OFFICER POSITIONS

- A. In order to hold office in any of the following positions, applicants must have been in HOPE for at least one semester before commencement of their term. All officers are also required to commit to the position for the duration of the summer and the academic year.
 - a. Co-Presidents: Must have served on the executive board for at least 1 academic year, unless no one else is qualified.
 - b. Directors of Communications: Must have been an active member for at least 1 semester unless no one else is qualified.

- c. Directors of Community Building: Must have been an active member for at least 1 semester unless no one else is qualified.
- d. Global Health University Director: Must have been an active member for at least 1 semester unless no one else is qualified.
- e. Directors of Partnerships: Must have been an active member for at least 1 semester unless no one else is qualified.
- f. Directors of Projects: Must have been an active member for at least 1 semester unless no one else is qualified.
- g. Business Manager: Must be an active member at the time of run for candidacy unless no one else is qualified.

SECTION TWO - OTHER LEADERSHIP POSITIONS

- A. GROW Coordinator - this leader is responsible for coordinating all travel details for the annual summer GROW internship. To apply for this position, members must be a current member of HOPE, and must be able to commit to the position for the duration of the academic year and summer preceding the GROW internship, unless no one else is qualified.

SECTION THREE - 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. All additional officers are required to uphold the mission and vision of HOPE at the University of Rochester and serve to help all members actualize their vision and potential in HOPE.
- E. The Co-Presidents 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 Co-Presidents 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. The Co-Presidents shall also take roll calls at all meetings, tally votes, keep an accurate list of organization members and take and maintain meeting minutes.
- F. The Business Manager shall be responsible for maintaining all finances and keeping detailed records of all transactions.
- G. The Directors of Communications shall be responsible for publicizing HOPE's events in order to raise awareness about global health and HOPE on campus.

- H. The Directors of Community Building shall be responsible for coordinating local volunteering opportunities in Rochester, NY and cultivating HOPE's on-campus community through on-campus and off-campus activities.
- I. The Global Health University Director shall be responsible for educating the members about global health equity through our curriculum for students to learn key information, develop critical thinking skills, and apply knowledge to address global health challenges.
- J. The Directors of Partnerships shall be responsible for maintaining contact with our established partners and coordinate access to communication with our partners.
- K. The Directors of Projects shall be responsible for organizing events for HOPE to involve the campus community on mission. This may involve fundraising for operating costs to put on events for The Health Outreach, Partnerships, Equity Alliance, and the community.

SECTION THREE - NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

- A. Nomination and Elections Procedure - Health Outreach, Partnerships, and Equity Alliance at the University of Rochester employs a deliberations process in selecting executive board members and Co-Presidents. Executive board members undergo a blinded application process. Reading applications and participation in deliberations is open to all non-applying current members of HOPE. Co-Presidents undergo an application process that may also be blinded at the discretion of the current officer managing the deliberations process, and an interview process. Because there is an open application process, there is no nomination process in place. Once selected, the active members shall approve of the nominations made by the outgoing E-Board during deliberations.
- B. Term of Office - Each officer position lasts the duration of one academic year and the summer preceding it. Incoming officers are decided in late March/early April. Incoming Co-Presidents and Eboard members begin transitioning immediately upon coming into the position, mostly entailing shadowing the current officer and gauging what went well and didn't go well for the year. All outgoing officers will continue their term through the end of the academic year, ensuring appropriate transition of incoming officers. Each Co-President will be limited to a maximum of two terms whether consecutive or non-consecutive.
- C. Timing of Elections - Co-President application and deliberations occur over the course of the month of March, while EBoard application and deliberations occur at least 2 weeks before the end of the 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 - COMMITTEES

SECTION ONE - OPEN MEMBERSHIP STRUCTURE

- A. HOPE at the University of Rochester welcomes all active and associate members to participate in activities hosted by HOPE.
- B. Assuming the responsibility of being a committee member is voluntary and all active members interested in participating must fill out a placement survey. No member is to be excluded from participating in a committee.
- C. Committee Members will meet with their Committee Co-Directors once a week to assist in the planning and execution of HOPE's projects.

ARTICLE VII - RESOURCES

SECTION ONE - RESOURCES

- A. The University of Rochester Health Outreach, Partnerships, and Equity Alliance will abide by their Resource Agreement.

SECTION TWO - PARTNERSHIPS

- A. The University of Rochester Health Outreach, Partnerships, and Equity (HOPE) alliance is committed to fostering and sustaining a meaningful partnership with the Mt. Hope Family Center.
- B. The University of Rochester Health Outreach, Partnerships, and Equity (HOPE) alliance is committed to maintaining and strengthening a meaningful relationship with the Garden of Hope, led by a dedicated community advocate focused on reducing food deserts in Rochester and offering healthy food options to underserved populations. Through this partnership, we aim to support initiatives that enhance food security and ensure equitable access to nutritious food for those in need, aligning with our mission to promote community health and address key social determinants of wellness.
- C. The University of Rochester Health Outreach, Partnerships, and Equity (HOPE) alliance will incorporate new partnerships as opportunities arise, expanding its outreach to support diverse communities locally and/or globally.

ARTICLE VIII - HAZING POLICY

Hazing, defined as the harassment of one individual by another individual or organization, is not permitted by The Health Outreach, Partnerships, Equity Alliance. 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 IX - NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY

The HOPE Alliance does not discriminate against any individual or organization of individuals on the basis of age, color, disability, domestic violence status, ethnicity, gender identity or expression, genetic information, marital status, military/veteran status, national origin, race, religion/creed, sex, sexual orientation or any other status protected by law.

 5/5/25

Signature of Confirmation Date
Gizelle Villanueva
Co-President, The Health Outreach, Partnerships, Equity Alliance

 5/5/25

Signature of Confirmation Date
Vanessa Perez Capcha
Co-President, The Health Outreach, Partnerships, Equity Alliance

 5/14/2025

Signature of Approval Date
Jessie Li
Chair, Student Organization Administration & Review Committee