



UNIVERSITY of ROCHESTER  
STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION  
GOVERNMENT

# **Undergraduate Political Science & International Relations Council**

## **ARTICLE I - ESTABLISHMENT**

We the students, faculty, and staff of the University of Rochester hereby establish the Undergraduate Political Science and International Relations Council (UPSIRC) 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 Undergraduate Political Science and International Relations Council aims to promote the pursuit of a well-rounded political science and international relations experience for majors, minors, and other interested parties. Our mission extends to facilitate the proliferation and exchange of relevant ideas while encouraging discourse about topics in modern day political arenas and to increase student satisfaction with their educational experience and enhance student-faculty relationships.

## **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 - A member is defined as attending 50% of the meetings. Only members that have adhered to this attendance policy will be granted a vote in the spring elections.
- 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 compete nor travel as part of a college student organization. If a member is unable to attend the necessary number of meetings to be considered a full member, they may remain on the mailing list and attend meetings whenever their schedule permits. Associate members will not be granted a vote in member elections.

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

### **SECTION ONE - QUORUM**

- A. A meeting shall be valid if a quorum is present. Quorum is defined as 1/2 the total active group membership, plus one officer present.

### **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. The officer positions in the Undergraduate Political Science and International Relations Council are the President (Co-President, if two are elected), Vice President, Secretary, Business Manager, Publicity Director, and Rochester Political Review Editor-in-Chief. To be eligible for an officer position the member must achieve an active membership status in the semester prior to the start of their term.

### **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 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.

- H. The Secretary shall also take roll call at all meetings, tally votes, keep an accurate list of organization members and take and maintain meeting minutes.
- I. The Publicity Director shall create fliers, Facebook events, and contact the necessary University publicity resources in order to promote UPSIRC's events.
- J. The Rochester Political Review Editor-in-Chief shall oversee a committee under UPSIRC that publishes political science and international relations-related papers and articles.

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

- A. Nomination and Elections Procedure - At the end of the semester, an open meeting will be held for both candidates and voters. Candidates will nominate themselves but must have two active members second this nomination. Once every running candidate has been nominated, they are allowed to give a platform of up to two minutes. After all candidates for a position have presented their platform, they will be asked to leave the room and the winner will be determined through a secret ballot vote with simple majority.
- B. Term of Office - The term of office is one full academic year.
- C. Timing of Elections - Elections will be held at the end of the fall semester, at least 2 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 Undergraduate Political Science and International Relations Council of the University of Rochester will abide their Resource Agreement.

## **ARTICLE VII - HAZING POLICY**

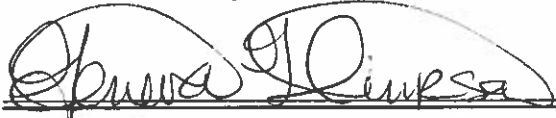
Hazing, defined as the harassment of one individual by another individual or organization, is not permitted by the The Undergraduate Political Science and International Relations Council. Behavior prohibited under this rule includes actions threatening substantial risk of physical or mental injury; actions 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 Undergraduate Political Science and International Relations Council abides by the nondiscrimination policy of the University of Rochester.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Confirmation 4/26/21  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date  
Lea Thome  
**President, Undergraduate Political Science & International Relations Council**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Confirmation 4/26/21  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date  
Geneva Hinkson  
**President, Undergraduate Political Science & International Relations Council**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Approval 04/27/2021  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date  
Eden-Lyn Thomas  
**Chair, Student Organization Administration & Review Committee**