



UNIVERSITY of ROCHESTER  
STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION  
GOVERNMENT

## **UR Disability Awareness**

### **ARTICLE I - ESTABLISHMENT**

We the students, faculty, and staff of the University of Rochester hereby establish UR Disability Awareness 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**

The purpose of The UR Disability Awareness shall be to increase awareness of disabilities on campus and in the greater Rochester community by serving as a liaison between Rochester Students and the Rochester community of individuals with disabilities, and providing both students and community members with opportunities to foster inclusion and integration. Through this initiative, the group hopes to create engaging and respectful relationships between disabled and non-disabled individuals. We believe that such relationships are mutually beneficial, and are the first step in creating an equitable society in which diversity of ability is celebrated.

### **ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP**

#### **SECTION ONE - MEMBERSHIP**

- A. Eligibility - All Students' Association members shall be eligible for membership. An SA Member is an individual 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 Club Connection site. Members must be sensitive to all types of difference.

- B. Definition of active member - Members must attend at least one bi-weekly meetings per month held each semester, must participate in at least one sponsored or co-sponsored event, and be a member a full semester before being able to run for an executive board position. Members are able to vote in executive board elections.
- C. Definition of associate member - Associate members must attend at least two meetings throughout the course of the academic year, and must attend at least one event per semester. Associate members may vote in elections, but are not eligible to serve on executive board.

## ARTICLE IV - MEETINGS AND VOTING

### SECTION ONE - QUORUM

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

### 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. In the case of co-presidents, vice president will serve as tie-breaker.

## ARTICLE V - OFFICERS AND QUALIFICATIONS

### SECTION ONE - OFFICER POSITIONS

- A. All officer positions require at least one semester of active membership to qualify to hold the position.
- B. President – Must have been an active member for at least one academic year prior to taking office. Founders will serve as original co-presidents.
- C. Vice-President- Must have been an active member for at least one semester prior to taking office.
- D. Secretary- Must have been an active member for at least one semester prior to taking office.
- E. Business Manager- Must have been an active member for at least one semester prior to taking office.
- F. Campus & Community Outreach Coordinator- Must have been an active member for at least one semester prior to taking office.

## 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 Vice-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 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 Community & Campus Outreach Coordinator shall be responsible for connecting with the greater Rochester community and campus and informing organizations of our upcoming events as well as coordinating their participation. They are also responsible for looking for volunteer opportunities within the Rochester area as well as on campus, and finding out about events for our organization to participate in.

## SECTION THREE - NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

- A. Nomination and Elections Procedure - 1. Elections shall be held one month prior to the end of the classes. Any member may run for an office, stipulations are specified for each individual office. Nominations may be made from two weeks prior to the election meeting up until the election of that specific office. Officers may be elected by simple majority. In the case of a tie, the current acting President shall determine the winner. The co-presidents shall switch off as acting president for each individual election. The elections are to be made by a secret ballot at a standard group meeting. Winners are to be announced immediately and notification sent to all group members in absentia, including those running for office, within 48 hours by the Secretary.
- B. Term of Office – One full academic school year, beginning in August and ending in May, except for the case of a mid-year election due to a vacancy or resignation, in which case the term of office shall end in May.
- C. Timing of Elections – March/April of each year.

## 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.

#### SECTION FIVE - PROVISIONS OF ADVISOR(S)

### ARTICLE VII - FINANCES

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

#### SECTION TWO - FUNDING

- A. UR Disability Awareness shall be eligible for SA funding.

### ARTICLE VIII - CLASSIFICATION

SECTION ONE - UR Disability Awareness shall be classified as an awareness group.

### ARTICLE IX - ADOPTION OF THE CONSTITUTION

SECTION ONE - Two-thirds of the entire active membership must approve the constitution.

SECTION TWO - This constitution will be ratified upon the signature of the Student Organization Administration & Review Committee and approval of the Senate.

SECTION THREE - This constitution shall not conflict with the Students' Association Constitution or Bylaws.

### ARTICLE X - AMENDMENTS

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

### ARTICLE XI - BYLAWS

SECTION ONE - At least a 2/3 majority of the active membership must approve the bylaws and any amendments.

SECTION TWO - 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 organization, is not permitted by the UR Disability Awareness. 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 - NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY

The UR Disability Awareness of the University of Rochester 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.

*Tobi Abubakare*

*12/6/2017*

Signature of Confirmation

Date

Tobi Abubakare

*Alex Guerrero*

*1/22/18*

Signature of Approval

Date

Alex Guerrero

Chair, Student Organization Administration & Review Committee

