



UNIVERSITY of ROCHESTER
STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION
GOVERNMENT

Undergraduate Philosophy Council

ARTICLE I - ESTABLISHMENT

We the students, faculty, and staff of the University of Rochester hereby establish the Undergraduate Philosophy Council (PhilCo) 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

Our mission is to discuss intriguing philosophical questions and to promote philosophy on campus more broadly. We intend our discussions on the big questions to be open to everyone, intellectually stimulating, and beneficial to our members.

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 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 shall attend at least 7.25% of the meetings or events per academic year.
- 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 $\frac{1}{4}$ of the active membership plus one officer.

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
- B. Vice President
- C. Business Manager
- D. Event Chair
- E. Publicity Chair
- F. Thomistic Institute Liaison
- G. Bioethics Society Representative

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. The President shall also take roll call at all meetings, tally votes, keep an accurate list of organization members and take and maintain meeting minutes. The President shall be responsible for planning and hosting meetings.
- F. 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. The Vice President shall assist the President in preparing and hosting meetings. The Vice President shall also assist other officers on any tasks.
- G. The Business Manager shall be responsible for maintaining all finances and keeping detailed records of all transactions. In the event of the Vice President's absence, the Business Manager may act as Vice President, taking on the responsibilities of the Vice President.
- H. The Event Chair shall be responsible for planning non-regular meeting events such as guest lectures, debates, and reading groups.
 - a. Non-regular meetings shall be defined as general members meeting.
- I. The Publicity Chair shall be responsible for running the organization's Instagram account, hanging up posters to advertise events, and maintaining relationships with other on campus student organizations.
- J. The Thomistic Institute Liaison shall be responsible for planning Thomistic Institute events or other events of philosophical interest, such as guest lectures, debates, and reading groups.
- K. Bioethics Society Representative shall be responsible for planning and executing all Bioethics Society events or other events of bioethical interest, such as guest lectures, debates, reading groups, and workshops.

SECTION THREE - NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

- A. Nomination and Elections Procedure - Any active member shall be allowed to run for an office, unless no one is qualified. In the case of lack of voluntary nominations, the Eboard should nominate active members for offices.
- B. Term of Office - The term of office will be one academic year.
- C. Timing of Elections - Elections will occur at the end of every Spring semester, 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

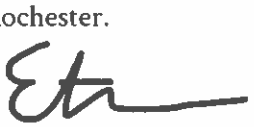

- A. The Undergraduate Philosophy Council of the University of Rochester will abide by their Resource Agreement.

ARTICLE VII - HAZING POLICY

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

  4/9/25

Signature of Confirmation
Ethan Shahan
President, Undergraduate Philosophy Council
Date

 4/9/2025

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