

Constitution of “QueerSphere”

1. Name and Purpose

- 1.1. The official name of this recognized campus group is “QueerSphere”
- 1.2. The acronym or abbreviation of this group is: QS
- 1.3. The Queer Sphere is a student run organization committed to promoting and advocating awareness for 2SLGBTQIA+students in Engineering and STEM. Under the mandate of and as an official chapter to the EngiQueers Canada, the QueerSphere club, through campus-wide events, training seminars, and inclusive activities upholds the following values:
 - Education
 - Advocacy
 - Community
 - Visibility
 - Support
 - Participation

for the 2SLGBTQIA+ students at the University of Toronto.

The QS is committed to building a community based on our core values related to inclusivity, anonymity, and awareness, by establishing a supportive environment. Students of all academic background are welcome to the club. Several events are held throughout the year as a means to invite and promote our values. While the club holds anonymity in high standing, it actively participates in open university happenings for participation and creating awareness.

2. Membership

- 2.1. The group shall maintain a list of group members.
- 2.2. Voting membership is open to all registered students of the University of Toronto.
- 2.3. Voting membership is open only to registered students of the University of Toronto.
- 2.4. Non-voting membership is open to University of Toronto staff, faculty, alumni, and to persons from outside the University. Unless otherwise stated, non-voting members do not hold any rights awarded to voting members.
- 2.5. Members are not required to pay any membership fee.

3. Rights of Members

- 3.1. All voting members have a right to attend all general meetings of members.
- 3.2. All voting members have a right to cast votes at all general meetings of members.
- 3.3. All voting members have a right to stand for election unless otherwise stated in this document.
- 3.4. All voting members have a right to cast votes in all group elections and referenda.
- 3.5. All voting members have a right to propose and vote on amendments to this constitution.
- 3.6. The rights prescribed in Article Three are not awarded to non-voting members as described in Article Two.

4. Executive Committee

- 4.1. The term for all positions on the Executive Committee shall be from May 1st to April 30th.
- 4.2. The Executive Committee shall be comprised of three (3) voting members.
- 4.3. All voting members of the Executive Committee must be currently registered students of the University of Toronto.
- 4.4. Non-voting members may hold only non-voting positions on the Executive Committee.
- 4.5. The maximum amount of non-voting positions on the Executive Committee shall be one (1) position or ten per cent (10%) of the positions on the Executive Committee, whichever is greatest.
- 4.6. Persons holding non-voting positions on the Executive Committee cannot serve as an officer, financial authority, signing authority, primary contact, or secondary contact.
- 4.7. No person may serve as a financial authority or signing authority for the group if they are currently serving as a financial authority or signing authority for another recognized student group at the University of Toronto.

5. **Executive Committee Composition and Duties**

- 5.1. *The Co-Presidents (2) shall:*
 - 5.1.1. Be eligible to cast votes at meetings of the Executive Committee
 - 5.1.2. Oversee the operations, management and success of the group
 - 5.1.3. Be the spokespersons for the group
 - 5.1.4. Preside over board meetings as well as general meetings
 - 5.1.5. Oversee the various committees
 - 5.1.6. Ensure transition of office to the future Executives
 - 5.1.7. Coordinate organizational recruitment efforts
 - 5.1.8. Ensure that all the activities of the club meet regulations and policies of the University of Toronto
 - 5.1.9. One will hold signing and financial authority along with the Finance Director for financial purposes
- 5.2. *The Finance Director (1) shall:*
 - 5.2.1. Be eligible to cast votes at meetings of the Executive Committee
 - 5.2.2. Record all financial transactions of the group
 - 5.2.3. Hold signing and financial authority along with one Co-President for financial purposes
 - 5.2.4. Maintain a budget of income and expenses along with receipts
 - 5.2.5. Advise members on financial position of the group
 - 5.2.6. Prepare an annual budget for the group as well as budgets for specific events
 - 5.2.7. Apply and secure funding for the group, and fulfill any subsequent tasks required for said funding

6. **Elections**

- 6.1. All voting positions on the Executive Committee shall be filled through an annual election.
- 6.2. All voting group members shall be eligible to seek nomination to and cast a ballot for each voting position.
- 6.3. All non-voting group members shall be eligible to seek nomination only for non-voting positions on the Executive Committee.
- 6.4. Non-voting group members shall not be eligible to cast a ballot for any elected position.

- 6.5. The nominee winning the plurality of votes cast in the election for each position shall be deemed the winner.
- 6.6. On the condition that multiple candidates are to be elected for a single position, the nominees winning the largest share of the votes cast shall be deemed the winners until all positions are filled.
- 6.7. The elections must be held in a nonbiased manner. No individual who is seeking election may participate in planning or administering the election.

7. Finances

- 7.1. The Finance Director shall keep an active record of income and expenses.
- 7.2. The Finance Director shall present the group's updates on the group's financial position at annual general meetings.
- 7.3. The Executive Committee must approve all expenditures over \$100.00 through a majority vote at a meeting of the Executive Committee.
- 7.4. The group may not engage in activities that are essentially commercial in nature.
- 7.5. The group will not have as a major activity a function that makes it an on-campus chapter of a commercial organization.
- 7.6. The group will not provide services and goods at a profit when that profit is used for purposes other than those of the group.
- 7.7. The group will not pay salaries to any of its officers.

8. Meetings

- 8.1. The Executive Committee shall meet monthly. The quorum for Executive Committee meetings shall be 50%+1 of the voting members of the Executive Committee.
- 8.2. The group shall hold general meetings at least twice per year to provide the general membership an opportunity to review the group's annual activity plan, financial health, and propose or vote on constitutional amendments.
- 8.3. The Executive Committee must announce the date of a general meeting to the general membership at least two (2) weeks prior to the date of the meeting.

9. Termination of Executives or General Members:

- 9.1. The Executive Committee may revoke the membership of any member of the club who commits an act negatively affecting the interests of the club and its members, including non-disclosure of a significant or continuing conflict of interest.
- 9.2. A vote to revoke membership must be held at a meeting of the Executive Committee.
- 9.3. A two-thirds majority of the Executive Committee is required to approve any motion to revoke membership.
- 9.4. Any member facing removal shall have the right to appeal the decision of the Executive Committee to the general membership.
- 9.5. In the case of an appeal, a simple majority vote at a meeting of the general membership shall be required to sustain the revocation of membership.
- 9.6. Following a termination of membership, the member will be removed from the club's membership and will lose any privileges associated with being a member of the club.
- 9.7. Executive Committee members are subject to the same termination of membership process as general members.

10. Amendments

- 10.1. All constitutional amendments shall require a 2/3 majority vote to be passed at a general meeting.
- 10.2. All voting members may propose and vote on amendments to the constitution.
- 10.3. The Executive Committee shall submit the revised constitution to staff in the Division of Student Life at the University of Toronto within two (2) weeks.
- 10.4. Amendments to the constitution shall take effect only once the revised constitution has been approved by staff in the Division of Student Life at the University of Toronto.