

CONSTITUTION

**Taiwan Republic of China Student
Association at the University of Toronto
(Taiwan ROCSAUT)**

Last Revised: August 2023 by Kevin Liu

Constitution of “ROCSAUT”

1. Article One – Name and Purpose

- 1.1. The official name of the recognized student group is “Taiwan Republic of China Student Association at the University of Toronto”
- 1.2. The official acronym or abbreviation of the group is “ROCSAUT” of “Taiwan ROCSAUT”
- 1.3. The purpose, objectives, mission and/or mandate of the organization is to To promote Taiwanese culture, and provision of services to the members in the Taiwanese and the University of Toronto community through social events, monthly gatherings, academic support, as well as services with sponsor partners.
 - 1.3.1. To promote Taiwanese culture, and provision of services to any individual, regardless of gender, ethnicity, race, and cultural background, inside or outside of the Taiwanese and the University of Toronto community through social events, monthly gatherings, academic support, as well as services with sponsor partners.

2. Article Two – Membership and Membership Fee

- 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. The membership fee will be \$35 per year. Membership is given on an annual basis; the membership is valid from the beginning of September (Clubs Day) to August 31st of the following year. Membership is automatically terminated once this period expires; the only exception to this is the VIP membership, which has perpetual validity.
- 2.6. VIP Membership is granted for members who have significantly contributed to the association and for those in their fourth year of university studies. In addition, previous staff members, at the directorial positions, would also be granted VIP membership, on request. As a VIP member of ROCSAUT, one would be able to be seated in the VIP section during large events, such as the annual Semi-Formal dinner. VIP membership can only be issued by ROCSAUT Headquarters at UTSG, and the annual membership is exempted for VIP members.

3. Article Three – Rights of Members

- 3.1. All members may apply for a full refund of their membership fee within one (1) month of becoming a member.
- 3.2. All voting members have a right to attend all general meetings of members.
- 3.3. All voting members have a right to cast votes at all general meetings of members.

Commented [1]: The relevant section from the Policy on the Recognition of Student Groups is 1.c:

“Membership in Student Groups should be open to all registered student members of the University without restriction on the grounds outlined by the Ontario Human Rights Code’s Prohibited Grounds of Discrimination”.

Commented [2]: The relevant section from the Policy on the Recognition of Student Groups is 2.e

“Non-voting membership may be extended to interested staff, faculty, and alumni, or persons from outside the University, without restriction on those grounds outlined by the Ontario Human Rights Code’s Prohibited Grounds of Discrimination.”

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

4. Article Four - 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 4 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.

Commented [3]: The relevant section from the Policy on the Recognition of Student Groups is 2.a

"Executive members with voting privileges shall be currently registered students¹ of the University of Toronto."

Commented [4]: The relevant section from the Policy on the Recognition of Student Groups is 2.b.

"Staff, faculty, or alumni members may hold non-voting executive positions. These nonvoting executive positions shall be limited to a maximum of one (1) or ten per cent (10%) of the full executive body, whichever is greatest"

Commented [5]: The relevant section from the Policy on the Recognition of Student Groups is 2.c.

"Registered students may be executive members on one or more Student Groups but may only serve as a financial signing officer on one Student Group at a time."

5. Article Five - Executive Committee Composition and Duties

5.1. The President 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. Serve as spokesperson for the group,
- 5.1.4. Hold signing and financial authority along with the Vice President of Operations,
- 5.1.5. Preside over meetings of the Executive Committee and/or members,
- 5.1.6. Ensure a transition of office from one year to the next.
- 5.1.7. Hold signing officer authority along with the Treasurer for financial purposes

5.2. The Vice President of Operations shall:

- 5.2.1. Be responsible for all the association finances; this includes: ensuring the repayment and collection of debts, assessing the budget for expenses whenever required, approving expenditure and funds, maintaining and providing financial records monthly and whenever requested, as well as managing and maintaining the association bank account
- 5.2.2. Ensure the transparency of all financial transaction, Hold signing and financial authority along with the Vice President of Operations.
- 5.2.3. Reject event proposals and refusing to authorize the financial transaction on the grounds of potential financial loss, and make all major financial decisions along with the rest of the Presidential/ Executive committee members

- 5.2.4. Provide estimates and evaluations of return on investment for events.
- 5.2.5. Network with sponsors and other community groups.
- 5.2.6. Be responsible for the communication between the association and its related University of Toronto administration such as: Office of Student Affairs, SAC, ISC, OSM, Ulife, and Hart House.

5.3. The Vice President of Communication shall:

- 5.3.1. Ensure the efficiency and coherence of all internal organizations.
- 5.3.2. Serve as the communication gateway between the Presidential/Executive Committee and the rest of the staff team
- 5.3.3. Responsible for all designs of ROCSAUT related posters, cover photos, and items
- 5.3.4. Promote ROCSAUT through social networks and in other traditional ways
- 5.3.5. In charge of communication with ROCPPPL Magazine and provide graphical support if necessary
- 5.3.6. In the absence of President, the VPC shall assume the communication duties and responsibilities of the position.

5.4. The Vice President of Events shall:

- 5.4.1. Develop new events and improving existing ROCSAUT events to increase student attendance and participation
- 5.4.2. Responsible for the execution and logistics of all events run by the association
- 5.4.3. Must coordinate and organize additional duties such as event plans, hiring transportation, printing promotional materials, selling event tickets, making marketing plans, event promotion, etc.
- 5.4.4. Work closely with the executive team as role depends highly on other positions.
- 5.4.5. Work closely with the VP of Operations to establish event budgets.
- 5.4.6. Order all promotional material such as event gifts, banners, etc.
- 5.4.7. Delegate tasks for other executive members during/before events

6. Article Six – 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.
- 6.8. **Nomination Eligibility**

6.8.1. Nominations will only be accepted from the staff team who are also registered University of Toronto Students for the candidacy of Presidential/Executive Committee positions. Candidates have to be members in good standing and be part of the group for at least thirty (30) days prior to the nomination period.

Commented [6]: This part has been edited based on the recommendation of the Student Life Officer.

7. Article Seven – Finances

- 7.1. The VP of Operations shall keep an active record of income and expenses.
- 7.2. The Treasurer 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. Article Eight – 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. Article Nine - Termination of Membership

- 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. Article Ten – 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.