

Constitution of “University of Toronto Students for Life”

1. Article One – Name and Purpose

- 1.1. The official name of the recognized student group is “University of Toronto Students for Life”
- 1.2. The official acronym or abbreviation of the group is “UTSFL” or “ U of T Students for Life”
- 1.3. The purpose, objectives, mission and/or mandate of the organization is to stand for protecting all human life from fertilization to natural death by advocating for the right to life for all human beings
- 1.4. UTSFL effectuates its mission by educating students, faculty and alumni on current life issues through seminars, guest speakers, documentaries, research, and more.

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. There will be no membership fee for joining and participating in the club.

3. Article Three – Rights of Members

- 3.1. All voting members have a right to abstain from participating in the club.
- 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.
- 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 eight (8) 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 percent (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.
- 4.8. The Executive may appoint Directors or Coordinators for various committees who do not hold executive decision-making authority and are not eligible to cast votes at meetings of the Executive Committee.
- 4.9. Any executive officer is permitted to step down and terminate his or her occupation of the office at any 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 Treasurer,
- 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.

5.2. The Vice-President shall:

- 5.2.1. Be eligible to cast votes at meetings of the Executive Committee,
- 5.2.2. Assume the duties of the President in their absence,
- 5.2.3. Ensure activities of the club comply with the policies of the University of Toronto,

5.2.4. Coordinate organizational recruitment efforts.

5.3. The Treasurer shall:

- 5.3.1. Be eligible to cast votes at meetings of the Executive Committee,
- 5.3.2. Record all financial transactions of the group,
- 5.3.3. Hold signing and financial authority along with the President,
- 5.3.4. Maintain a budget of income and expenses,
- 5.3.5. Advise members on the financial position of the group,
- 5.3.6. Prepare an annual budget for the group.

5.4 The Communications Liaison shall:

- 5.4.1. Establish a friendly connection with all groups relating to UTSFL,
- 5.4.2. Extend an invitation to these groups for UTSFL events,
- 5.4.3. Help with promoting and advertising for events.

5.5 The Education Coordinator shall:

- 5.5.1. Create an outline for the education seminars,
- 5.5.2. Teach apologetics and dialoguing techniques in the seminars,
- 5.5.3. Invite and encourage executive officers and/or general members to teach.

5.6 The Outreach Coordinator shall:

- 5.6.1. Contact organization(s) that offer volunteer opportunities that align with UTSFL's mission statement,
- 5.6.2. Coordinate volunteer sessions with the aforementioned organization(s).

5.7 The Hospitality Officer shall:

- 5.7.1. Ensure rooms are booked for all general meetings,
- 5.7.2. Coordinate with the other executive officers for room booking and catering options for major events.

5.8 The Webmaster shall:

- 5.8.1. Update and maintain the UTSFL blog, website, events calendar and social media outlets,
 - 5.8.2. Invite and encourage members to contribute articles to the blog,
 - 5.8.3. Moderate the comments and discussions on the articles of the blog.
- Create an outline for the education seminars,

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. For all unfilled positions, the remaining officers will share the duties and responsibilities until someone can be found to fulfill the positions(s) through a by-election and vote of simple majority (50% + 1)

7. Article Seven – Finances

- 7.1. The Treasurer 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 once per semester. 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 1 week 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 of its approval by general members.

- 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.
- 10.5. Proposed amendments must be circulated to the club members one week (seven days) prior to the scheduled meeting for the vote.
- 10.6. Each club member who is a registered U of T student is permitted one vote.
- 10.7. Member(s) and/or executive officer(s) may abstain from voting.
- 10.8. Executive officer(s) who did not endorse the proposed amendments may vote. These officer(s) are permitted one vote.
- 10.9. A member or an executive officer may vote in absentia. He or she must notify, in writing and signed, both to the President and the Vice President, of his or her vote prior to the scheduled meeting for the vote.

11. Article Eleven: Agency Clause

- 11.1. The University of Toronto Students for Life is not an agent of the University of Toronto Students' Union, and its views and actions do not represent those of the University of Toronto Students' Union.
- 11.2. The club values sustainability and stewardship of the environment and seeks to integrate these values in the course of carrying out its mission.