

Constitution of “Student Association for Geriatric Empowerment (SAGE)”

1. Article One – Name and Purpose

- 1.1. The official name of the recognized student group is “**Student Association for Geriatric Empowerment**”
- 1.2. The official acronym or abbreviation of the group is “**SAGE**”
- 1.3. The purpose, objectives, mission and/or mandate of the organization is to
 - To improve the mental well-being of socially isolated senior citizens
 - Promote a call program between volunteers and a senior companion
 - Organizing social events and activities for seniors to participate in
 - Raise awareness on the social isolation of senior citizens through the organization of academic panels

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.

3. Article Three – 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. 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 seven (7) voting members.
- 4.3. All voting members of the Executive Committee must be currently registered students of the University of Toronto.

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 Secretary shall:**
- 5.2.1. Be eligible to cast votes at meetings of the Executive Committee,
 - 5.2.2. Maintain a list of group members,
 - 5.2.3. Maintain the group website and member contact list,
 - 5.2.4. Record notes and motions for meetings,
- 5.3. The Treasurer shall:**
- 5.3.1. Record all financial transactions of the group,
 - 5.3.2. Hold signing authority over the club bank account along with the President,
 - 5.3.3. Maintain a budget of income and expenses,
 - 5.3.4. Advise members on financial position of the group,
 - 5.3.5. Prepare an annual budget for the group
 - 5.3.6. Apply for UTSU funding.
- 5.4. The Events Committee shall:**
- 5.4.1. Work with president to organize club meetings
 - 5.4.2. Organize events to promote club recruitment
 - 5.4.3. Plan and organize social events and fundraisers for senior citizens and healthcare workers
 - 5.4.4. Work with Communication Director to advertise events
- 5.5. The Volunteer Program Director shall:**
- 5.5.1. Be the liaison between club members and the Companion Link call program
 - 5.5.2. Act as the expert on the logistics of the call program (i.e. hold information sessions, answer questions)
 - 5.5.3. Organize call program orientation and training sessions
 - 5.5.4. Work with the Events Director to organize social events with the call program seniors
 - 5.5.5. Manage a call log for all Companion Link volunteers recruited by the club and communicate concerns over any participant to the organization
- 5.6. The Communication Director shall:**
- 5.6.1. Notify all members of general meetings.
 - 5.6.2. Manage the club's social media accounts
 - 5.6.3. Communicate club events via the mailing list, social media accounts, and academic departments
- 5.7. The Education and Advocacy Committee:**
- 5.7.1. Write, edit and publish the club blog
 - 5.7.2. Plan and organize academic events to raise awareness on the club's mission
 - 5.7.3. Seek out ways of expanding the club's reach and impact
- 5.8. The Outreach Director**
- 5.8.1. Reach out to other UofT clubs to organize partnerships for events, fundraisers, socials, etc.
 - 5.8.2. Find sponsors and partners in the greater Toronto community
 - 5.8.3. Seek out ways of expanding the club's reach and impact

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. The nominee winning the plurality of votes cast in the election for each position shall be deemed the winner.
- 6.4. 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.
- 6.5. The elections must be held in a nonbiased manner. No individual who is seeking election may participate in planning or administering the election.

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 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 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.