

Constitution of “Discovery”

1. Article One – Name and Purpose

- 1.1. The official name of the recognized student group is “Discovery”
- 1.2. The official acronym or abbreviation of the group is “Discovery”
- 1.3. The mission of Discovery is to channel its members’ passion for education, critical thought, and community to empower high school students to explore and build confidence in realistic science and engineering environments. Each year, our volunteer team of graduate and undergraduate mentors collaborate with Toronto District School Board teachers to develop educational experiences that allow high school students to explore aspects of physics, biology, and chemistry in new and creative ways beyond what's possible in a traditional classroom. Participating high school students complete inquiry-based projects in U of T laboratory spaces while being guided and mentored by Discovery members during multiple visits to campus throughout the semester. Members of the Discovery program have a unique opportunity to gain pedagogical experience and foster the next generation of scientists and engineers within the community.

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 is no fee required to volunteer for or participate in Discovery.

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 July 1st to June 30th.
- 4.2. The Executive Committee shall be comprised of six (6) 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.
- 4.8. The Executive may appoint Leads or Mentors for various committees who do not hold executive decision-making authority and are not eligible to cast votes at meetings of the Executive Committee.

5. Article Five - Executive Committee Composition and Duties

5.1. The Internal Director 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 alongside the External Director,
- 5.1.3. Hold signing and financial authority along with the External Director,
- 5.1.4. Preside over meetings of the Executive Committee and/or members and record minutes,
- 5.1.5. Oversee recruitment, onboarding, and communications for Discipline Leads and volunteer mentors,
- 5.1.6. Prepare templates for volunteer use (e.g., programming materials, Quercus pages),
- 5.1.7. Prepare and maintain an annual budget for the group alongside the External Director,
- 5.1.8. Oversee program-related research activities alongside the External Director,
- 5.1.9. Ensure activities of the club comply with policies of the University of Toronto,
- 5.1.10. Ensure a transition of office from one year to the next.

5.2. The External Director shall:

- 5.2.1. Be eligible to cast votes at meetings of the Executive Committee,
- 5.2.2. Oversee the operations, management, and success of the group alongside the Internal Director,
- 5.2.3. Hold signing and financial authority along with the Internal Director,
- 5.2.4. Coordinate with Toronto District School Board partners and UofT lab coordinators to run Discovery programming every semester,
- 5.2.5. Handle program logistics, including but not limited to room booking, food/merch ordering, and collection of student forms,
- 5.2.6. Prepare and maintain an annual budget for the group alongside the Internal Director,
- 5.2.7. Record all financial transactions of the group,
- 5.2.8. Oversee program-related research activities alongside the Internal Director,
- 5.2.9. Ensure activities of the club comply with policies of the University of Toronto,
- 5.2.10. Ensure a transition of office from one year to the next.

5.3. The Physics/Biology/Chemistry Heads shall:

- 5.3.1. Be eligible to cast votes at meetings of the Executive Committee,
- 5.3.2. Appoint and onboard Discipline Leads for each subject to develop programming materials each semester,
- 5.3.3. Oversee the development of subject-specific projects prior to the start of programming,
- 5.3.4. Approve and record programming expenses made by Discipline Leads,
- 5.3.5. Maintain discipline-specific communications with TDSB educator partners and UofT lab coordinators.

5.4. The Marketing Head shall:

- 5.4.1. Be eligible to cast votes at meetings of the Executive Committee,
- 5.4.2. Coordinate organizational recruitment efforts,
- 5.4.3. Maintain a list of group members,
- 5.4.4. Maintain the group website, social media platforms, and member contact list,
- 5.4.5. Notify all members of general meetings and program dates.

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 Internal/External Directors shall keep an active record of income and expenses.
- 7.2. The Internal/External Directors 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 at least 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 once 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.