



Political Science and Pre-Law Association Constitution 2025-2026

Article 1: Name

The Political Science and Pre-Law Association hereafter referred to as PSLA (abbreviation).

Article 2: Purpose

PSLA is a society that communes to help students enrolled in the Department of Political Science, are taking a course in Political Science, are interested in politics, and/or would like to apply to law school in the future. PSLA would like to offer these students an out of classroom experience to immerse themselves into the world of politics and law. This will be done through the execution of events and guest lectures [such as mootings opportunities, networking opportunities, trips to courthouses, trips to Ottawa, mock LSATs, etc.]. We will also provide assistance to students for editing essays and studying for midterms and exams. Students can expect PSLA to offer resources, host events, and to be a channel of communication for any concerns/suggestions they may have about the Department of Political Science.

Article 3: Membership

The PSLA's members are all full-time and part-time students enrolled in the programs (Specialist, Major, Minor) offered by the Department of Political Science, insofar as they pay their incidental fees. Additionally, any student taking an elective offered by the Department of Political Science is also a member of the PSLA. All students that thus qualify for automatic



membership will not be charged a membership fee, though a premium fee will be charged to any member that wants access to certain resources [such as trips]. Any other student who would like to be a member (not enrolled in the program or elective course) can do so but must first register with PSLA. The PSLA cannot deny membership to any student enrolled in their academic programs based on race, religion, gender, academic inclination, age, and sexual orientation.

Article 4: Executives

The PSLA's Executive shall be comprised of students specifically enrolled in the program offered by the Department of Political Science. A student not enrolled in a subject POST of Political Science cannot run for an executive position. The Executive Council shall be made up of:

1) President

- a) To oversee all of PSLA's activities including leading the planning and organizing of the society alongside the executives; including organizing the associate interviews, ensuring all executives are up to date with their specific responsibilities
- b) Leading as the Society's representative and maintaining communication with University faculty and department staff
- c) Enforcing the amendments and policies as stated in the Club Constitution of 2022-2023
- d) Moderate and foster a healthy and cooperative environment among the members of the society



2) Vice President

- a) To substitute the PSLA President in the occurrence of their absence
- b) Oversee all PSLA activities including maintaining and reviewing the budget for all events and organizing interviews of PSLA associates
- c) To foster and maintain relations with all members of the society and the external organizations and staff of university affairs
- d) To record the minutes of all meetings and ensure executives and associates are kept up to date with society updates and upcoming events

3) Finance Director

- a) Oversee PSLA's bank account, including maintaining all financial transactions and accounts
- b) Completing PSLA's Fall and Winter audit files and submitting them to UTMSU
- c) Managing all internal financial operations including setting up the budgets for each PSLA event and ensuring the society stays within the planned amount

4) Marketing Director

- a) To handle PSLA's social media and advertise the Society's events
- b) Media handling includes creating all social media posts/stories, Instagram reels, and other promotional content
- c) To sought out PSLA's promotional media ideas for the Fall and Winter terms and maintain the completion of all brainstormed ideas

5) VP Academics

- a) To brainstorm academic event ideas and oversee all events including the professor



meet and greet, post-grad workshops, and guest speaker series

- b) Work closely with other executives on running mock LSAT sessions for UTM political science students
- 6) Affairs Commissioner
- a) Coordinate all events of PSLA with executives and associates
 - b) Initiate and brainstorm ideas on raising traffic at PSLA's events
 - c) Ensure the set-up, communication with guest speakers and staff, and event breakdown is thorough and successfully met
- 7) VP Current Affairs
- a) Oversee the development and successful execution of PSLA events
 - b) To brainstorm and plan events that touch on the current social issues of Canada and the world; including new research findings and other political activities.
 - c) To run social media feedback sessions through Instagram lives, post interactions and e-mails, which will be a safe space for students to discuss current affairs



Article 5: Meetings

PSLA's Executives must meet a minimum of 8 times throughout the year, with 4 meetings occurring each semester. The PSLA Executive must also meet with the Associates bi-weekly to encourage consistency between the Executives and Associates, throughout the month. To go on a leave of absence, both the Executives and Associates must give the President and Vice President of PSLA a minimum of two weeks notice. Executives and Associates can miss up to three meetings per semester by notifying the President and the Vice President. In the event that the Vice President and President are not notified of the executive or associates absence, it will be up to the discretion of the President and Vice President of PSLA to decide upon the termination of an executive or an associate.

The PSLA must hold general meetings for the general membership twice in the academic year, one in each semester. In the general meeting occurring in the second semester, the PSLA will present its financials to its membership as part of the transparency policy it adheres to.

Article 6: Elections

The PSLA's elections must be completed by the end of the Winter Semester every academic year. All members (see Membership) can vote, but only students in the programs offered by the Department of Political Science may run for an executive position. Alumni are not eligible to vote. The elections shall be held online at www.voting.utoronto.ca or through whatever medium determined by the Council of Political Science (consulting the UTM Students' Union). The PSLA shall adhere to the UTMSU Academic Societies Policy Manual for procedural direction



when conducting the elections. The PSLA will appoint an interim executive for April-September if a position is left vacant, and then conduct a by-election for that position once the academic year commences in September. Only individuals who have held a past executive or associate position are able to run for President or Vice President.

Article 7: Recall From Office

In the event that the executives or associates have breached the terms and conditions of the 2022-2023 club constitution, their situation and circumstances will be reviewed and can be resolved by the President and Vice President and the rest of the executive team. This includes the discretion and ability to terminate an executive or associate member. The UTMSU may assist in the review process or the termination process, but the final say will be up to the executive team on the basis of majority vote.

Article 8: Amendment

Any amendments to the PSLA Constitution occurring between September – April must be done with the agreement of the entire Council, approved by UTMSU, and then presented to the general membership. The PSLA assumes responsibility of advertising the amended Constitution to its membership so its members are aware of the updates.