

Constitution of “Forensic Autonomy & Law Association (FALA)”

1. Article One – Name and Purpose

- 1.1. The official name of the recognized student group is “Forensic Autonomy & Law Association”
- 1.2. The official acronym or abbreviation of the group is “FALA”
- 1.3. The purpose, objectives, mission and/or mandate of FALA is to explore the intersection of forensic analysis and legal reasoning through experiential learning, case simulations, and interdisciplinary discussion.

2. Article Two – Membership

- 2.1. The group shall maintain a list of group members.
- 2.2. Voting membership is open only to registered students of the University of Toronto.
- 2.3. Voting rights shall not be contingent on attendance, participation history, or any additional conditions beyond being a registered University of Toronto student.
- 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 \$0 per year.

3. Article Three – Rights of Members

- 3.1. All 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 referendums.
- 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. Multiple consecutive terms are permitted.
- 4.2. All voting members of the Executive Committee must be currently registered students of the University of Toronto.
- 4.3. Persons holding non-voting positions on the Executive Committee cannot serve as an officer, financial authority, signing authority, primary contact, or secondary contact.
- 4.4. 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.

4.5. The Executive Committee may create, modify, or dissolve non-voting roles at any time during the year to support operational needs. These positions do not hold voting rights, signing authority, or financial authority.

5. Article Five - Executive Committee Composition and Duties

5.1. The Co-President, Vice President of Operations shall:

- 5.1.1. Be eligible to cast votes at meetings of the Executive Committee,
- 5.1.2. Serve as the primary contact for Student Life,
- 5.1.3. Manage internal operations, scheduling, and policy oversight,
- 5.1.4. Hold signing and financial authority,
- 5.1.5. Oversee the Internal Affairs Team,
- 5.1.6. Preside over meetings and ensure organizational consistency.

5.2. The Co-President, Vice President of Strategy shall:

- 5.2.1. Be eligible to cast votes at meetings of the Executive Committee,
- 5.2.2. Co-lead the club's direction and programming strategy,
- 5.2.3. Serve as the secondary contact for Student Life,
- 5.2.4. Hold signing and financial authority,
- 5.2.5. Oversee the Internal Affairs Team,
- 5.2.6. Guide the Events Team and ensure alignment with club values.

5.3. The Vice President of Communications shall:

- 5.3.1. Be eligible to cast votes at meetings of the Executive Committee,
- 5.3.2. Lead internal and external communication strategies,
- 5.3.3. Coordinate messaging across execs and teams,
- 5.3.4. Coordinate cross-campus and external collaborations,
- 5.3.5. Support social, aesthetic, and brand clarity across events.

5.4. The Vice President of Marketing shall:

- 5.4.1. Be eligible to cast votes at meetings of the Executive Committee,
- 5.4.2. Supervise the social media team and design content,
- 5.4.3. Ensures all branding and content consistently reflect and support the club's objectives,
- 5.4.4. Oversees the Social Media Team.

5.5. The Vice President of Events shall:

- 5.5.1. Be eligible to cast votes at meetings of the Executive Committee,
- 5.5.2. Lead planning and execution of club events,
- 5.5.3. Liaise with the VP Strategy and Internal Affairs team to manage timelines and logistics,
- 5.5.4. Oversees the Events Team.

5A. Article Five-A - Non-voting Executive Roles and Duties

5A.1. Non-voting roles may be created by the Executive Committee at any time to support the operational needs of the organization.

5A.2. Non-voting roles are appointed by a majority vote of the Executive Committee. No general election is required.

5A.3. Individuals in non-voting roles shall report directly to the Vice President responsible for their portfolio.

5A.4. Non-voting roles may include, but are not limited to:

5A.4.1. Secretary

5A.4.2. Finance Coordinator

5A.4.3. Video/Visual Coordinator

5A.4.4. Events experience Coordinator

5A.4.5. Any additional non-voting roles required to support club operations

5A.5. Non-voting roles shall not count towards quorum in Executive committee meetings.

5A.6. The scope of each non-voting role shall be defined by the Vice President overseeing the relevant team.

5A.7. Non-voting members are subject to the same Code of Conduct, performance expectations, and termination procedures as voting members.

6. Article Six – Elections

6.1. All voting positions on the Executive Committee shall be filled through an annual election.

6.2. All voting members of the organization shall be eligible to seek nomination for, and to cast a ballot in, elections for any elected executive position.

6.3. Elections shall be conducted in a fair, accessible, and non-biased manner.

6.4. No individual seeking election may participate in the planning, administration, or oversight of the election in which they are a candidate.

6.5. The candidate receiving the plurality of votes cast for a position shall be deemed elected.

6.6. Where multiple candidates are elected to the same position, those receiving the highest number of votes shall be elected until all positions are filled.

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

6.8. Executive members seeking to continue in their position for an additional term may do so through a **Renewal Confirmation Vote**:

6.8.1. A confirmation vote shall be held in which voting members vote “Yes” or “No” on the renewal of the executive member.

6.8.2. A simple majority (50% + 1) of “Yes” votes is required for renewal.

6.8.3. If the executive member does not receive a majority of “Yes” votes, the position shall become open for election through the standard nomination and voting process.

7. Article Seven – Finances

- 7.1. The VP of Strategy shall keep an active record of income and expenses.
- 7.2. The Executive Committee must approve all expenditures over \$100.00 through a majority vote at a meeting of the Executive Committee.
- 7.3. The group may not engage in activities that are essentially commercial in nature.
- 7.4. The group may not function as a chapter of a commercial organization.
- 7.5. The group will not provide services and goods at a profit when that profit is used for purposes other than those of the group.
- 7.6. The group will not pay salaries to any of its officers.

8. Article Eight – Meetings

- 8.1. The Executive Committee shall meet a minimum of every two months. The quorum for Executive Committee meetings shall be 50%+1 of the voting members of the Executive Committee.
- 8.2. The group shall provide an annual activity plan to members.
- 8.3. The Executive Committee must announce the date of a general meeting to the general membership at least one week prior to the date of the meeting.
- 8.4. Executive members may not miss more than three (3) biweekly executive meetings per semester. Exceeding this limit may result in a performance review and potential removal from the position by a majority vote of the voting Executive Committee.

9. Article Nine - Termination of Membership

- 9.1. The Executive Committee may revoke the membership of any member of the group who commits an act negatively affecting the interests of the group and its members.
- 9.2. Decisions regarding removal from office or termination of membership may be made by a majority vote of the Executive Committee.
- 9.3. Any individual facing removal shall have the right to appeal the decision to the general membership at a general meeting.
- 9.4. Following a termination of membership, the member will be removed from the group's membership and will lose any privileges associated with being a member of the group.
- 9.5. The appeal process must be conducted by members who were not involved in the initial decision.

10. Article Ten - Amendments

- 10.1. All constitutional amendments shall require a $\frac{2}{3}$ 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.