Constitution of "The CrimSL Graduate Student Association"

1. Article One – Name and Purpose

1.1. The official name of the recognized student group is "The CrimSL Graduate Student Association"
1.2. The official acronym or abbreviation of the group is "CrimSL GSA"
1.3. The purpose, objectives, mission and/or mandate of the organization is to represent, promote, and advocate for students and individuals in the CrimSL graduate department, interested in Criminology or Sociology, and/or anyone who wishes to join a welcoming and supportive student group. The group shall strive to plan events, foster social and professional relationships among members, and provide opportunities for discussion on both conversational and emerging matters relevant to the academic and student experience.

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. The membership fee will be $0 per year.

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.

4. Article Four - Executive Committee

4.1. The term for all positions on the Executive Committee shall be from September 29th to May 1st.
4.2. For the founding year of the organization, an Interim Executive Committee shall oversee the establishment of the organization and its initial activities. The Interim Executive shall serve until the first Annual General Meeting, at which elections for the Executive Committee shall be held.
4.3. The Executive Committee shall be comprised of five (5) voting members.
4.4. All voting members of the Executive Committee must be currently registered students of the University of Toronto.
4.5. 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.

4.6. 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.

5. Article Five – Executive Committee Composition and Duties

5.1. **The President, Vanessa Ciofani, 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.
- 5.1.7. The President may delegate certain responsibilities of the office to other members of the organization who are willing to assume such duties.

5.2. **The Vice-President, Roseleen Ladi, shall:**
- 5.2.1. Be eligible to cast votes at meetings of the Executive Committee,
- 5.2.2. Assume duties of the President in their absence,
- 5.2.3. Ensure activities of the club comply with policies of the University of Toronto,
- 5.2.4. Coordinate organizational recruitment efforts.
- 5.2.5. The Vice-President may delegate certain responsibilities of the office to other members of the organization who are willing to assume such duties.

5.3. **The Secretary, Sasha Kerr, shall:**
- 5.3.1. Be eligible to cast votes at meetings of the Executive Committee,
- 5.3.2. Maintain a list of group members,
- 5.3.3. Maintain the group website and member contact list,
- 5.3.4. Record notes and motions for meetings,
- 5.3.5. Notify all members of general meetings.
- 5.3.6. The Secretary may delegate certain responsibilities of the office to other members of the organization who are willing to assume such duties.

5.4. **The Treasurer(s), Teresa Gallina and Amanda Ghany, shall:**
- 5.4.1. Be eligible to cast votes at meetings of the Executive Committee,
- 5.4.2. Record all financial transactions of the group,
- 5.4.3. Hold signing and financial authority along with the President,
- 5.4.4. Maintain a budget of income and expenses,
- 5.4.5. Advise members on financial position of the group,
- 5.4.6. Prepare an annual budget for the group.
- 5.4.7. The Treasurer(s) may delegate certain responsibilities of the office to other members of the organization who are willing to assume such duties.

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. Non-voting group members shall not be eligible to cast a ballot for any elected position.
6.4. The nominee winning the plurality of votes cast in the election for each position shall be deemed the winner.
6.5. 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.
6.6. The elections must be held in a nonbiased manner. No individual who is seeking election may participate in planning or administering the election.
6.7. 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. One of the Treasurers (or any other executive member(s) who wants to assume the responsibility) shall keep an active record of income and expenses.
7.2. One of the Treasurers (or any other executive member(s) who wants to assume the responsibility) 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 as needed. 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.