Constitution of African Students' Association

Updated as of April 28, 2026

Article I: Name and Purpose

1.1 The official name of the Campus Group will be African Students' Association at the University of Toronto Scarborough.

1.2 The campus group may be referred to by the acronym ASA.

1.3 The purpose, objectives, mission and/or mandate of the organization is to provide a community presence for the African students on campus.

Article II: Membership

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 The membership fee will be $3 per year.

Article III: Rights of Members

3.1 All members may apply for a full refund of their membership fee within one (1) month of becoming a member.

3.2 All voting members have a right to attend all general meetings of members.

3.3 All voting members have a right to cast votes at all general meetings of members.

3.4 All voting members have a right to stand for election unless otherwise stated in this document.

3.5 All voting members have a right to cast votes in all group elections and referenda.

3.6 All voting members have a right to propose and vote on amendments to this constitution.

The rights prescribed in Article Three are not awarded to non-voting members as described in Article Two.

Article IV: 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 15 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 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.

Article V: Elections

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

5.2 All voting group members shall be eligible to seek nomination to and cast a ballot for each voting position.

5.3 All non-voting group members shall be eligible to seek nomination only for non-voting positions on the Executive Committee.

5.4 Non-voting group members shall not be eligible to cast a ballot for any elected position.

5.5 The nominee winning the plurality of votes cast in the election for each position shall be deemed the winner.

5.6 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.

5.7 The elections must be held in a nonbiased manner. No individual who is seeking election may participate in planning or administering the election.

5.8 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)

Article VI: Termination of Membership

6.1 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.

6.2 A vote to revoke membership must be held at a meeting of the Executive Committee.

6.3 A two-thirds majority of the Executive Committee is required to approve any motion to revoke membership.

6.4 Any member facing removal shall have the right to appeal the decision of the Executive Committee to the general membership.

6.5 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.

6.6 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.

6.7 Executive Committee members are subject to the same termination of membership process as general members.

Article VII – Amendments

7.1 All constitutional amendments shall require a 2/3 majority vote to be passed at a general meeting.

7.2 All voting members may propose and vote on amendments to the constitution.

7.3 The Executive Committee shall submit the revised constitution to staff in the Student Life programs office at the University of Toronto Scarborough within two (2) weeks.

7.4 Amendments to the constitution shall take effect only once the revised constitution has been approved by staff in the Student Life programs office at the University of Toronto Scarborough.

Article VIII: Executive Meetings

8.1 The purpose of executive meetings is to provide a forum for the organization's executives to discuss and make decisions on day-to-day matters affecting the organization.

8.2 Executive meetings will be facilitated by the President of the organization. The President shall be responsible for:

8.2.1 Formulating and distributing an agenda for each meeting;

8.2.2 Ensuring appropriate conduct and leading the meeting in an efficient, reasonable manner;

8.2.3 Moderating the discussion at meetings according to the agenda;

8.3 There shall be a minimum of one (1) executive meeting held every two (2) weeks during the period September 1 to April 30. The date of each subsequent executive meeting will be confirmed at the preceding meeting and will be reiterated to executives via email a minimum of two (2) calendar days prior to the meeting.

8.4 The frequency of executive meetings occurring between May 1 and August 31 will be left to the discretion of the executive committee.

8.5 Executive meetings may be called to order by the President or through a petition signed by three (3) executive members.

8.6 Executive meetings are restricted to executive members only. Quorum will be established by the presence of a simple and clear majority of the total executives for the organization.

8.7 Minutes of all executive meetings must be recorded and maintained for reference purposes by the Vice President of Administration.

8.8 Executives must notify the President a minimum of six (6) hours before an executive meeting to inform them of new business they wish to discuss. The President will then add the discussion item to the agenda.

8.9 Each executive member of the organization shall be entitled to one (1) vote at a valid executive meeting.

8.10 Any question at an Executive Meeting shall be decided by a show of hands.

8.11 Whenever a vote by show of hands occurs, a declaration by the President that the vote has been carried, carried by a particular majority, or failed shall be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

8.12 In case of an equality of votes at an Executive Meeting, the motion will be recorded as having failed.

8.13 The President may, with the consent of the majority of executives, decide to adjourn these meetings from time to time.

Article IX: Emergency Meetings

9.1 Emergency meetings can be called for extenuating or unforeseen circumstances that may arise from time to time.

9.2 These meetings must abide by the respective rules outlined in sections VII and VIII depending on the nature of the meeting.

9.3 Notice of these meetings must be provided a minimum of 24 hours in advance.

9.4 Less notice for emergency meetings may be provided at the discretion of the President in agreement with a minimum of five (5) general members.

Article X: Transition

10.1 All outgoing executives are required to transfer all organizational resources used relative to a particular role over the course of the preceding year to new executives upon leaving the position.

10.2 All outgoing executives are responsible for providing a detailed report to incoming executives that stipulates the status of ongoing projects in their portfolio and evaluations of previous projects and programs that they lead.

10.3 All outgoing and incoming executives will participate in a joint training session occurring no later than the end of May each year to assist with the transition between new executive teams.

Article XI: Emergency Powers

11.1 In the case of extenuating circumstances, the executive shall be afforded the ability to act without direction from the organization's members.

11.2 An extenuating circumstance is defined as any instance that may jeopardize the immediate functioning of the organization including but not limited to: executive vacancies, unexpected cancellations, removal from position, or lack of response from members.

11.3 Emergency powers may only be used for such a period of time as is needed to address an extenuating circumstance.

11.4 General members have the ability to remove emergency powers where appropriate through submission of a signed petition from at least 10% of the entire general membership.

Article XII: Food Handling on Campus

12.1 African Students' Association will conform to Provincial and Municipal Health Regulations when events which include the sale and/or service of food products are held on the University of Toronto Scarborough campus.

Article XIII: Precedence of University Policies

13.1 African Students' Association will abide by all pertinent University of Toronto policies, procedures, and guidelines. Where the University's policies, procedures, and guidelines conflict with those of African Students' Association, the University's policies, procedures, and guidelines will take precedence.

Article XIV: Legal Liability

14.1 The University of Toronto Scarborough does not endorse the African Students' Association's beliefs or philosophy nor does it assume legal liability for the group's activities on or off campus.

Article XV: Banking

15.1 African Students' Association agrees to provide the name of the bank, the branch number and address, transit number, bank account number, and a list of all signing officers for all bank accounts opened in the organization's name to the Department of Student Life, University of Toronto Scarborough.

Last Updated by: Temitayo Adewuyi (President),

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25-26 Executive Committee