

## **RSA Constitution**

### ARTICLE I- NAME

The name of the organization shall be the Romanian Student Association.

### ARTICLE II - PURPOSE AND ACTIVITIES

#### Section 1

RSA will be, by definition, a cultural oriented organization.

Purpose. The purpose of RSA are as follows:

- to create for its members a good academic environment;
- to promote the values of Romanian culture;
- to contribute to the integration in the WPI community of the new Romanian students;
  
- to present the WPI community to the prospective Romanian students;
  
- to represent the community of Romanian students in relation with International Student Council, Graduate Student Organization, SGA , Office of Student Activities and other administration boards of WPI or other programs;
- to represent the community of Romanian Students at WPI in relationship with other Romanian student associations from other universities.

#### Section 2

Activities.

RSA shall sponsor all activities, social and cultural in nature, consistent with section one of this article.

## ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP

### Section 1

#### Membership.

Any WPI student, who expresses his/her interest in Romanian culture is eligible to become member of the association.

RSA will not discriminate against a member based on race, creed, religion, color, age, sexual orientation, disability, veteran status, marital status or national origin.

### Section 2 - Honorary Member

The Executive Board may award the title of honorary member to a distinguished member of WPI community, or to a non-WPI person whose achievements serve the principles of organization. Honorary members do not vote or hold office.

### Section 3 - Freedom of discontinuance

RSA members are free to discontinue the membership at any given time without fear of harassment or retribution.

### Section 4 - Membership Term

The membership is conditioned by good academic progress.

RSA general membership is annual, and it is renewed automatically, until a member decides to dissociate.

### Section 5 Anti-Hazing proclamation.

RSA will ensure that its membership will not practice any physically or psychologically abusive hazing behaviors either intentionally or unintentionally.

## ARTICLE IV – OFFICERS DUTIES AND REQUIREMENTS

### Section 1 - Executive Board

RSA will be run by an Executive Board.

The Executive Board is constituted of the elected offices of the President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary. The Executive Board will establish policies for RSA operation in conformity with the provisions of the Constitution. The decisions of the Executive Board will be taken by a simple majority; in case of a tie, the Faculty Advisor will be consulted.

### Section 2 - Officer Eligibility Criteria

Only an RSA voting member is eligible to be an officer provided that the individual student is a full-time WPI student and has a good academic standing. A member of the organization can have at most one position in the Executive Board.

### Section 3 - Terms

The terms of the elected officers, President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary shall be one year, from May until April of the coming year. No member shall occupy the office of President for more than two consecutive years.

### Section 4 – Responsibilities

The duties of the officers are itemized as follows.

President:

- a. Will serve as the official representative of RSA as needed.
- b. Will be responsible for all public relations of the RSA.
- c. Will preside at all RSA executive and general meetings.
- d. Will coordinate all RSA activities.

- e. Will appoint committees for approval of Executive Board and/or members.
- f. Will be responsible for all correspondence (including the one with prospective WPI students) and authenticate by his/her signature--when necessary--all documents.

Vice-President:

- a. Will, in the absence of the president, have all the president's authority and responsibilities.
- b. Will assist the president in the management of the organization.
- c. Will give notice of all RSA meetings.
- d. Will be responsible for all space bookings and equipment rental for RSA activities.

Treasurer:

- a. Will keep all financial records of the organization and receive all money due to RSA.
- b. Will report financial status of the organization to the Executive Board.
- c. Will present a budget report to the general members each academic year.
- d. Will make all financial records available upon written request to the general members.
- e. Will organize the Spring meeting for the election of a new Executive Board.

Secretary:

- a. Will be responsible for taking and maintaining a record of the minutes of the Executive Board meetings and the general RSA meetings.
- b. Will maintain a current membership list and a file of the application/renewal/resignation forms.
- c. Will maintain the RSA web-page and e-mail list.

Section 5 - Vacancies

If the president is unable to complete his/her term, the vice-president will take his/her place. If the vice-president is unable to complete his/her term, a member from the Executive Board will be appointed by the rest of the Board to his/her position. All other vacancies in the Executive Board will be open for a vote at a general meeting. In case of a vacancy for treasurer or secretary positions, the Executive Board will nominate one person to temporarily run the position until the next elections.

#### Section 6 - Committees

Committees will be created or dissolved as deemed necessary by the Executive Board. The Executive Board shall create, if deemed necessary, positions for Webmaster, PR Person and Graduate Student Liaison. These positions are created at the beginning of Term A, and are valid until the end of Term D of that academic year. The EC will nominate one person per position (which can accept or refuse the nomination). The Webmaster's responsibilities are maintaining the webpage. The PR Person's responsibilities are to advertise RSA's events and activities to the WPI Community. The GS Liaison's responsibilities are to provide a link between RSA and the Graduate Student Organization, and to participate in GSO's meetings.

### ARTICLE V - MEETINGS

#### Section 1 - General Meetings

The Executive board will schedule the general meetings. At least two general meetings per term will be held. The Executive Board may schedule additional general meetings as needed.

#### Section 2 - Executive Meetings

The elected officers will meet in executive meetings at least three times a semester. An executive meeting can be held if at least three officers are present.

### ARTICLE VI - ELECTIONS AND OFFICER REPLACEMENT/REMOVAL

#### Section 1 - General Organization

a) Regular elections shall be called by the Executive Committee (EC) and be held at a general meeting in D Term.

- b) The President shall notify all members of the association at least two weeks in advance about the elections.
- c) The duties of the new EC shall begin immediately after the end of D Term.
- d) The outgoing EC must transfer all documents no later than two weeks after the end of D Term.
- e) The new EC shall work alongside the present EC on an apprentice level throughout D Term. The new EC will be expected to attend all general meetings and events.

### Section 2 - Nominations

- a) The EC will set up a mailing alias that will be used to make nominations.
- b) Nominations shall be made at least two days prior to the elections. Any member of the association can nominate another Member . A member can nominate him/herself.
- d) A member may be nominated for no more than two positions.
- e) A nominated member may refuse the nomination, and therefore not candidate for the nominated position.

### Section 3 - The election process

- a) The elections are presided by an Electoral Committee consisting of the Advisor(s) and one Electoral Assistant.
- b) The Electoral Assistant will be selected from the Members by the EC and the Advisor(s) prior to the elections meeting.
- c) The Electoral Assistant(s) cannot be a candidate to the election nor can he/she vote in the process.
- d) The Electoral Committee has the responsibility to establish the ballots and to supervise the voting process. It is required that the voters be informed of the voting process (and Articles of the constitution pertaining to the elections) at the beginning of the election meeting. Furthermore the voters should be notified that if they choose to leave before completion of the elections, the results of the elections could be affected.

e) Immediately after the end of the voting process, the Electoral Committee shall count the votes, at the meeting, and declare the Members elected to the EC.

f) After declaring the members elected to the EC, the Electoral Committee ceases to exist.

#### Section 4 - Quorum

a) An election meeting must consist of an election quorum (30% of the Members of the association). If a quorum is not obtained on elections day, the Electoral Committee shall postpone elections by no more than two weeks, and shall notify the members of the date and place of the new elections meeting.

b) A quorum is not required for a rescheduled election meeting; the results of such an election shall be considered final.

#### Section 5 - Personal Statements

a) All nominees are recommended to give a statement about their background and suitability for the position(s) they have been nominated for. Statements will be made at the election meeting and immediately prior to the elections at the Electoral Committee's prompting.

b) It is the responsibility of the Electoral Committee to inform the nominees about their status and their opportunity to make a statement no later than one week prior to the election.

c) If the nominee is not in attendance, the nominee must provide the Electoral Committee with a statement in the form of a letter. This statement shall include the reason(s) for not being in attendance and the position the nominee is running for. This statement is required in order to be eligible during the vote, and shall be read during the elections meeting by the President.

#### Section 6 - Decision

a) The nominee receiving the greatest number of votes is elected to the position he/she is running for.

b) In the event of a tie between the top contenders the voting process is repeated with only these nominees running for the respective position. A small discussion regarding the top contenders must precede the voting process.

c) If a tie still persists, another vote is held. This time and only this time each eligible voter has two votes that can both be given to one candidate or be split between the two.

d) If a tie still persists, the vote will be decided by chance, and this decision will be final.

#### Section 7 - Proxies and voting by mail

a) There shall be no voting by mail.

b) Any member who will be officially off-campus due to participation in WPI's Global Opportunities/CO-OP programs during elections may vote by proxy.

c) Such a member is required to notify the Advisor(s) two weeks in advance of the elections so that the Advisor(s) can verify with the WPI administration as well as the named proxy.

#### Section 8 - Officer Removal

An officer may be removed if he/she neglects to perform his/her responsibilities as stated in this constitution, by the simple majority vote of the quorum at a regular meeting.

### ARTICLE VII – JUDICIAL ACTION

#### Section 1

THE ASSOCIATION WILL ABIDE BY DECISION OF THE CAMPUS HEARING BOARD IN DEALING WITH CHARGES BROUGHT AGAINST THE ORGANIZATION.

### ARTICLE VIII - FINANCES

#### Section 1 - Fees

The participation in RSA is free for all the members.

#### Section 2 - Finance

Financing of the objectives of the Association may be obtained through request to SGA, GSO, fund-raising events, donations and special events fees.

### Section 3 - Expenditure of funds

The executive Board shall approve the expenditure of all funds. The Treasurer will observe the decisions of the Executive Board in administrating RSA funds and accounts.

### ARTICLE IX - ADVISOR

The faculty Advisor must be a full-time WPI faculty or professional staff members and will serve as a consultant to the Executive Board and the association in general. In addition, he/she will serve as a liaison between RSA and WPI administration. She/he will be appointed by the Executive Board of Directors at the end of the Spring semester. The advisor's term will be from May until April of the next academic year.

The faculty Advisor will be a non-voting member of the RSA.

### ARTICLE X – AMENDMENTS/REVISION

This constitution may be amended after a committee of interested members has drafted the desired revisions.

Notices about the amendments must be posted for two weeks prior to vote.

These revisions shall be presented to a quorum of members (30%), at which time it will take at least a two thirds majority of the quorum to approve the amendment.

The constitution cannot be amended more than one per semester (Term A and B or Term C and D).

The new constitution shall take effect immediately after the vote.

ARTICLE XI. SOC & ORGANIZATIONS AFFIRMATION CLAUSE

THE ROMANIAN STUDENT ASSOCIATION AGREES TO ABIDE BY THE POLICIES OF WORCESTER POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE AS WELL AS ALL FEDERAL, STATE AND LOCAL LAWS. ANY CHANGES TO THIS CONSTITUTION AND/OR BYLAWS WILL FOLLOW, IN WORD AND SPIRIT, ALL WPI POLICIES AND ALL FEDERAL, STATE AND LOCAL LAWS.