

CONSTITUTION

Hong Kong Student Association, The University of Michigan

Article I – Overview

Section 1 The name of the organization will be “Hong Kong Student Association, The University of Michigan”, henceforth referred to as HKSA.

Section 2 HKSA is a student organization in the University of Michigan. The objectives of HKSA are:

1. Connect and serve our members
2. Strive for the benefits of our members
3. Encourage academic, cultural and social environment at the University of Michigan

The purpose of events held by HKSA includes strengthening friendship among members, assisting members in problem-solving, and helping members in understanding the academic, culture and community at the University of Michigan.

Section 3 HKSA will finance the activities it engages in by, but not confined to, the following means:

1. Membership fees
2. Income from events
3. Donations
4. Selling merchandise

Article II – Membership

Section 4 Any persons from Hong Kong who is officially connected with the University of Michigan as faculty, staff or registered students, and their family members, are eligible as an “active member” of HKSA.

Any other persons interested in HKSA are eligible as a “supporting member”

The Executive Committee can invite any special persons (e.g. University of Michigan faculty from Hong Kong) as an “honorary member” of HKSA. An “honorary member” is also an “active member”.

Membership qualifications are examined and approved by the Executive Committee.

Section 5 Membership of HKSA extends from September 1st of each year to August 31st of the following year.

Section 6 Each member has the right to vote and run for the Committee. Member can join in the discussion and vote during general meetings. Supporting members shall only discuss during meetings; they cannot run for the committee, and are not granted voting privileges. **

The bylaws regarding election, voting and qualification of candidates have to be approved by the Committee.

Section 7 Membership fees shall be determined by the Committee. By payment of a membership fee and dues, a member accepts the principles of HKSA as expressed in its object and submits to and agrees to comply with and be bound by the constitution and bylaws of this club, and on these conditions alone is entitled to the privileges of this club. Each member shall be subject to the terms of the constitution and bylaws regardless of whether such member has received copies of them.

Article III – Organization

Part 1 General Meeting

Section 8 The General Meeting is composed by all the HKSA members, which has the most power for policy-making.

Section 9 The General Meeting must be held at least once a year. Its main goal is to let the Executive Committee members convene. The Executive Committee can convene a temporary General Meeting if they feel the need to, or if it has been proposed by one fifth of the official members. The Executive Committee must inform the members with the agenda of the General Meeting at least seven days beforehand. The quorum for the General Meeting is at least one third of all official members. Important proposals, such as the amendment of the constitution and termination of any members of the Executive Committee, can be passed only when there are votes from two-thirds of the attending active members.

Section 10 The General Meeting can exercise the following authority:

- 1) Explain the constitution
- 2) Revise the constitution
- 3) Elect or dismiss members of the Executive Committee
- 4) Other jobs that should be exercised by the General Meeting

Part 2 Executive Committee

Section 11 The Executive Committee is the authorized body enacting any decisions in the period between General Meetings.

Section 12 HKSA shall elect the Executive Committee during the General Meeting. The Committee includes the President, Vice President in Operations, Vice President in External Relations, Treasurer, Internal Secretary, Activities Director, Communications Director, Publications Director and Information Technology Director.

Section 13 The President serves as the chief executive of the Executive Committee who oversees the general administration of the HKSA. The Vice President in Operations assists the President in the administration process, facilitates communication between the President and the executive committee and serves the role of chief executive when requested by the President or when the situation requires. All important decisions must be made by the President and the Executive Committee.

Section 14 The Executive Committee of the HKSA is elected every year during the General Meeting. Each Executive Committee member holds the position for one year, starting from November 1st to October 31st of the same year.

Section 15 The duties of the Executive Committee are as follows:

- 1) Responsible for membership registration and the general administration of HKSA
- 2) Holds the General Meeting and implements resolutions of General Meeting.
- 3) Host all HKSA events
- 4) Appoints members for any Executive Committee member vacancy
- 5) Organizes and manages work groups

Part 3 Work Groups

Section 16 In order to handle particular matters, the Executive Committee can set up work groups that are managed, and with the structure and duties formulated, by the

Executive Committee.

Part 4 Fiscal Year

Section 17 The fiscal year of HKSA starts from January 1st to December 31st of the same year.

Article IV Election and Dismissal

Part 1 Executive Board Election

Section 18 The HKSA Executive Committee should hold a General Meeting at a certain point each year in order to elect the following members of the Committee.

Section 19 Candidates must be official members

Section 20 All the nominations and election must be held during the General Meeting. Every voter can cast a vote for one candidate in one position.

- 1) If a position has two or more candidates, one must gain more than half of the accept votes to win the position. If no one gets more than half on the first round, then the person with least accept votes will be eliminated before going into the second-round.
- 2) If there is only one person running for a position, then the candidate must gain more than two-thirds accept votes in order to win the position.
- 3) If a position is vacant, the Executive Committee can elect a member to fill in

Part 2 Removal of Executive Committee Members

Section 21 If any members of the HKSA Executive Committee has violated HKSA's purpose, constitution or duties, a General Meeting may be held to decide the removal of the Committee member. If one-fifth or above of the official members request to hold a General Meeting as a resolution to the member in violation, then the Executive Committee must hold the Meeting.

Section 22 Any Executive Committee members absent to three Committee meetings without prior notice or valid reasons can be regarded as automatic resignation.

Article V Executive Committee Meeting

Section 23 The quorum for the Executive Committee meeting is at least half of the Committee members

Section 24 Any Executive Committee members who has to be away for thirty or more days must give a written notification to the Committee at least seven days prior to leaving. The Committee will then select an official member as a stand-in.

However, this does not include leaving Ann Arbor during the summer break.

Article VI Constitution

Section 25 The Executive Committee makes the final decision regarding the interpretation of constitution in the period between General Meetings.

Section 26 Amendments to the Constitution must be proposed by the Executive Committee during the General Meeting.

- 1) The Executive Committee must notify members about the proposal at least seven days prior to the General Meeting involving amendments to the constitution.
- 2) Proposed amendments will become effective following approval of two-thirds vote of all official members.

End