



## **Constitution and Bylaws Rochester Institute of Technology Chapter**

### **Article I. Name**

The name of this organization shall be the Rochester Institute of Technology Chapter of the Public Relation Student Society of America.

### **Article II. Objectives**

The objectives of this chapter shall be to encourage the understanding of current theories and procedures in the practice of public relations, to provide students of public relations with the opportunity to become acquainted not only with their peers but with professional practitioners as well, to encourage students to adhere to the highest ideals and principles of the practice of public relations and to instill in them a professional attitude.

### **Article III. Membership**

Membership shall comprise undergraduate and/or graduate students, regardless of age, race, color, creed, sex or national origin, who are either public relations majors or have demonstrated an interest in public relations. Only those students enrolled in Rochester Institute of Technology shall be eligible for membership.

### **Article IV. Officers**

The officers of this chapter shall be president, vice president, secretary, public relations officer, historian and treasurer. (The offices of treasurer and secretary may be combined.) Election of officers and advisors shall be held before April 15 each year, with those elected assuming office the following June 1 for one calendar year. Other chapter officers may be elected to handle local needs. One-third of the dues-paying membership of the chapter shall constitute a quorum. A simple majority vote of the quorum is required for election to office.

### **Article V. Duties of Officers**

The duties of the president, vice president, historian, secretary, treasurer (or secretary-treasurer) and public relations officer shall be such as described in Article XII, Section 6(b) of PRSSA National Bylaws.

### **Article VI. Faculty Advisor**

The chapter shall elect annually, before April 15, for a one-year (renewable) period a Faculty Advisor who is a Member or Associate Member of PRSA. He/she shall teach at least one of the public relations courses required for the establishment of a PRSSA chapter. The Faculty Advisor shall be recognized as the official faculty representative in and to the chapter, and shall act as the official link between the student chapter and the Public Relations Society of America. The elected Faculty Advisor shall assume office on June 1.

### **Article VII. Professional Advisor**

The chapter shall elect annually, before April 15, for a one-year (renewable) period one or two Professional Advisors who are Members of the Public Relations Society of America, at least one of

whom must be a Member who is Accredited, who shall represent the practice rather than the academic. The elected Professional Advisor(s) shall assume office on June 1.

#### **Article VIII. Meetings**

The chapter shall meet at least one during each month that school is in session in the Idea Factory of the Library.

#### **Article IX. National Dues**

National dues shall be collected from each member by the chapter treasurer at the outset of each academic year and sent, with the official form provided by PRSSA, to PRSSA Headquarters, no later than November 1. On payment of such dues, a student is entitled to one full year's membership extending from November 1 to October 31 of the following year. National dues for students joining the chapter on March 1 may be forwarded by the chapter treasurer, together with the official form provided by PRSSA, to PRSSA Headquarters in the spring. On payment of such dues, a student is entitled to one full year's membership, extending from March 1 to the last day of February of the following year. There shall be no prorating of dues during either one-year period.

#### **Article X. Chapter Dues**

Any fees that may be needed to carry local expenses, chapter activities and/or projects will be collected by the chapter treasurer.

#### **Article XI. Removal from Chapter Office**

Any chapter officer may be removed by a two-thirds vote of the entire chapter membership during a special meeting held for this purpose. Petition for removal must be submitted to all parties concerned at least three weeks in advance of a special convocation of the chapter and all parties concerned shall have the opportunity to present their cases. Grounds for removal shall be intentional misconduct so as to bring discredit to PRSSA or PRSA, dereliction of assigned duties, intentional violation of PRSSA Bylaws, or the Chapter Bylaws, and/or failure to maintain acceptable academic standards. Proceedings in such cases shall be confidential. A removed officer shall be replaced by one elected by a plurality vote of the chapter membership.

#### **Article XII. Chapter Activities**

All activities of the Rochester Institute of Technology PRSSA chapter must be taken in the name of the chapter. The chapter may not merge with other organizations. No chapter activity shall impose any liability or obligation upon the Public Relations Society of America.

#### **Article XIII. Amendments**

These bylaws may be amended by a three-quarters favorable vote of the membership of the chapter, provided that the amendment shall have been proposed at least one meeting previous to the time of the voting. Amendments to the Chapter Constitution and Bylaws, however, shall become effective only upon their approval by the National Committee of the Public Relations Student Society of America. Such amendments shall conform to the National Bylaws of the Public Relations Society of America.