

Pursuant to the provision of Article 7, Paragraph 1 of the Law on Student Governments and Other Student Organizations (Official Gazette of the Republic Croatia “Narodne Novine”. 71 / 2007) and the proposal of the new Statute of the Student Government of RIT Croatia proposed by the student body of the Student Government, Academic Senate on its regular meeting held in Dubrovnik and Zagreb on April 30, 2021 adopts

Statute
of
The Student Government of RIT Croatia

I. General Provisions

Article 1

- (1) The Statute of the Student Government (hereinafter referred to as: “Statute”) is the founding edict of the Student Government (hereinafter referred to as: “SG”) of Rochester Institute of Technology Croatia (hereinafter referred to as: “RIT Croatia”).
- (2) SG is constituted and functions in accordance with the provisions of Statute and the Law on Student Governments and Other Student Organizations (hereinafter referred to as: “Law”).
- (3) The Statute is adopted by the Academic Senate, based on the proposal drafted by the SG’s Members Cabinet (hereinafter referred to as: “MC”).

Article 2

- (1) The full name of the SG is Student Government of RIT Croatia.
- (2) The full name of the SG in Croatian is Studentski zbor RIT Croatia.

Article 3

(1) The logo of the SG is an orange square rounded on the top left corner and bottom right corner with the letters SG in the middle.

Article 4

(1) The seat and business address of the SG is in Dubrovnik: Don Frana Bulića 6.

(2) Participation and membership in SG bodies is voluntary.

(3) SG is represented by its Presidency.

Article 5

(1) The main aim of the SG is to protect the interests of the students, participate in the decisions of RIT Croatia, and influence the decisions concerning student activities, curriculum, student life quality, and the realization of student rights.

(2) SG will promote school spirit on all levels while representing the student body to the public as well as other student organizations in Croatia and abroad.

(3) SG may participate in bodies of RIT Croatia or other organizations founded by RIT Croatia in which student participation is required.

(4) SG will create yearly work plans and programs in accordance with the Statute and the Law.

(5) SG will stimulate, promote, and supervise student activities, clubs, and organizations benefiting the students and RIT Croatia.

(6) SG will prepare a budget for financing student activities and student clubs and organizations.

(7) SG will act as a link between RIT Croatia students, faculty, and staff by communicating decisions and proposals benefiting all parties.

(8) SG will appoint two Student Ombudspersons; one for the Zagreb campus and one for the Dubrovnik campus.

(9) SG will be responsible for fulfilling their other duties in accordance with the Statute and Law as well as yearly work plans and programs.

(10) All activities of the SG should be apolitical, not for profit and respectful towards principles of human rights and inadmissible of any form of discrimination, in accordance with the Statute, the Law, and the Constitution of the Republic of Croatia.

II. Bodies of the RIT Croatia Student Government

Article 6

(1) Bodies of the SG are:

- a) Student Government Members Cabinet (hereinafter referred to as: MC)
- b) Presidency of the Student Government (hereinafter referred to as: Presidency)
- c) Department Heads Committee (hereinafter referred to as: DH)

Article 7

- (1) **MC** is the main decision making body of the Student Government.
- (2) MC is the representative body chosen by the students of RIT Croatia.
- (3) MC will consist of two RIT Croatia Student Government Members Cabinets: RIT Croatia Dubrovnik campus Student Government Members Cabinet (hereinafter referred to as: DBK MC) and RIT Croatia Zagreb campus Student Government Members Cabinet (hereinafter referred to as: ZG MC), with 24 members in total.
- (4) Membership in MC is based upon election results.

Article 8

- (1) The DBK MC and the ZG MC will meet jointly at least twice a semester.
- (2) Each MC will meet at least once a month, for the duration of fall and spring semester.
- (3) A minimum of two thirds (2/3) of the total members must be present at a meeting in order to reach a decision making quorum.

- (4) Due to legitimate reasons, MC members can attend a meeting through the means of teleconferencing or other digital communication tools.
- (5) All members of MC are considered equal and have the same voting power.
- (6) The simple majority of fifty percent plus one vote (50% + 1 vote) will determine the results of voting in the MC.

Article 9

- (1) ZG MC and DBK MC will each consist of 12 members, equally representing all RIT Croatia year levels.
- (2) ZG MC and DBK MC will have separate meetings at least once a month.
- (3) A minimum of two thirds (2/3) of total members must be present at a meeting in order to reach a decision making quorum.
- (4) Due to legitimate reasons, MC members can attend a meeting by means of teleconferencing or other digital communication tools.
- (5) All members of MC are equal and have the same voting power.
- (6) The simple majority of fifty percent plus one vote (50% + 1 vote) will determine the results of voting in the MC.

Article 10

- (1) **MC** members have a mandate which lasts two years, including the training period which will last from the moment of their election until the end of their first semester in that role.
- (2) The MC member's mandate will start by either being elected by the student body to represent a generation or being appointed to a certain function within the SG - be that Presidency or Head of Department.
- (3) MC's main purpose is to work on achieving the goals cited in Article 5 of the Statute.

Article 11

- (1) Presidency consists of 3 members: Student Government President (hereinafter referred to as: RIT Croatia SG President) and two Student Government Vice Presidents (hereinafter referred to as: DBK Vice President, and ZG Vice President) chosen among the MC members.
- (2) The Presidency members are elected at the end of the academic year.
- (3) The eligible MC members may apply and vote among themselves in order to appoint members to various functions of the Presidency prior to the regular elections.
- (4) The DBK MC members may apply for DBK positions and ZG MC members may apply for ZG positions.
- (5) The Dean will announce the members of the Presidency to the RIT Croatia community after being elected.
- (6) RIT Croatia SG President will represent the RIT Croatia Student Government to the entire RIT Croatia community and general public, always acting in the best interest of the students.
- (7) RIT Croatia SG President role will be rotated between campuses at the end of the mandate.
- (8) The DBK MC Vice President will represent DBK MC and the ZG MC Vice President will represent ZG MC to the RIT Croatia community and general public, always acting in the best interest of the students.
- (9) The mandate for the members of Presidency lasts one year for each presidency position, with the possibility of being reelected after the first year, hence having two consecutive mandates.
- (10) RIT Croatia SG President is responsible for assembling the MC at least twice a semester.
- (11) All members of the Presidency will participate in the work of the MC and have a voting right in the decision making process.
- (12) No member of the MC can have two assigned functions in the Presidency at the same time.
- (13) Presidency will meet at least twice a semester and will be responsible for the planning and implementation of all SG activities and other tasks proposed by the MC or RIT Croatia, in

accordance with the Statute and the Law, with a purpose of achieving goals set in Article 5 of the Statute.

Article 12

- (1) Student Government will choose student representatives from the Zagreb campus and the Dubrovnik campus and appoint them to be a student ombudsperson.
- (2) One member of the Student Government leadership – usually a head of an appropriate department will be nominated to be the student ombudsperson.
- (3) This nomination can be either confirmed or rejected by the SG Advisor, who then proceeds to call upon the SG Members Cabinet to vote on the nomination.
- (4) The student ombudspersons will have a mandate of one year.

Article 13

- (1) Duties of the RIT Croatia student ombudspersons may include:
 - a) Receive complaints from students regarding student rights and serve as a liaison with RIT Croatia advising services.
 - b) Advise students on how to exercise their rights appropriately.
 - c) Take part in committees and task forces for student rights.
- (2) The student ombudspersons from both the Zagreb campus and the Dubrovnik campus will report both to the RIT Croatia ombudspersons, who are appointed by the Dean, as well as SG Advisors, having in mind students' best interest and representation.
- (3) The student ombudspersons from the Zagreb campus and the Dubrovnik campus will cooperate with the RIT Croatia ombudspersons in order to ensure student rights are upheld.

Article 14

(1) Members of the SG bodies can be relieved of duty before the end of their mandates.

(2) Reasons for relieving SG members of their duties include:

- a) Losing RIT Croatia student status by graduation, academic or disciplinary suspension, or leaving RIT Croatia.
- b) Being placed on academic probation.
- c) Performing an act of academic dishonesty.
- d) Resigning from their function due to personal reasons.
- e) Being unable to perform their duties as outlined by the Statute and/or in their SG Plan of Work.
- f) Violating the provisions of the Statute or the Law intentionally.
- g) Other reasons in accordance with article 6 of the Law.

(3) In the event that a member is not able to perform the duties determined by the Statute, he or she will receive an official written warning signed by the RIT Croatia SG President prior to being relieved from SG duties. If within two weeks the member fails to perform their duties, the SG President and the campus Vice President, and the appointed SG Advisor have authority to relieve them of their duties.

(4) Should there be a vacant position in the MC, the resigned member will be replaced by the best suitable candidate who applied in the open call that the MC organized due to the vacant position. The mandate of the newly elected member will concur with the mandate of the resigned MC member.

III. Members Cabinet Elections

Article 15

(1) All RIT Croatia students are eligible to vote for members of the MC.

(2) All RIT Croatia students with a GPA of 2,5 or higher, who are not on probation or suspension are eligible to run for positions in the MC.

(3) All students are guaranteed discrete voting and free choice among the candidates running for MC.

(4) The election process will be held separately on each campus.

Article 16

(1) Regular MC elections will take place annually at the end of the spring semester, where students will be able to choose their representatives for the next academic year.

(2) Regular MC elections will be announced by the Dean of RIT Croatia in accordance with SG's Code of Conduct and Election Procedure, at least a month before the voting is about to begin.

(3) Special MC elections for filling vacant positions in the MC will be announced by the Dean of RIT Croatia at least a week before the voting is about to begin.

(4) Each generation may vote for candidates from their respective generations only.

(5) Incoming freshmen will go through the open call recruitment procedure in the beginning of the academic year, unlike other year levels. Their status as the generation representatives will be confirmed or denied at the end of the Academic Year.

Article 17

(1) Application, campaign, voting and election procedures will be specified in detail through a special act prepared by the Student Government called the Members Cabinet Election Procedure.

(2) Members Cabinet Election Procedure will define how to apply for MC membership, handle the election campaign, manage public presentations of the candidates, determine time frames of application, explain campaign and voting processes, vote counting, announcing of the election results, and how to handle the protesting of results.

(3) MC will provide timely and transparent insight to the RIT Croatia community regarding all the elections, in accordance with the Statute, the Law, and the Executive Committee Election Procedures.

IV. Student clubs

Article 18

- (1) Student clubs may be formed to promote student activities, benefit the students, and improve student life at RIT Croatia.
- (2) Student clubs may submit their semester and yearly plans and reports to the MC.
- (3) RIT Croatia may provide mentoring, administrative and technical support to the clubs.

V. Financing of the SG

Article 19

- (1) SG will be awarded a budget from RIT Croatia every academic year.
- (2) The amount of the budget will be determined by RIT Croatia management upon evaluating the budget proposal from the MC.
- (3) MC will prepare a budget proposal at the end of every academic year and submit it to RIT Croatia management for their review.

Article 20

- (1) SG and student clubs will be financed:
 - a) From the SG budget, as well as from additional RIT Croatia funding.
 - b) From donations.
 - c) From fundraising activities organized by them, in the coordination with the SG.
 - d) From all other sources of income in accordance with the SG goals, the Statute, and the Law.

Article 21

- (1) SG and all other RIT Croatia student organizations will be not for profit and all the money raised will be invested in achieving the SG goals.
- (2) The budget of the SG will be prepared and managed by the MC as well as RIT Croatia management.
- (3) SG and RIT Croatia management will supervise the financial funds in accordance with the SG annual program and budget plan which has to be revised on a semester basis. The SG manages the financial funds autonomously.

Article 22

- (1) All the monetary transactions of the SG will be operated through the RIT Croatia account.
- (2) RIT Croatia will supervise the use and management of SG funds.
- (3) SG is responsible for all assets bought by the SG and student clubs and organizations are responsible for all assets bought for them using the allocated SG budget.
- (4) Bodies of the SG are obliged to distribute and spend the budget in order to achieve SG goals set in Article 5. All spending must be approved by RIT Croatia management.
- (5) The MC will create semester and yearly financial reports and submit them to RIT Croatia.

VI. Supervision over Student Government Activities

Article 23

- (1) The work of SG is public and transparent.
- (2) Presidency will be responsible for securing appropriate public insight on all activities fully or partially organized by SG or other RIT Croatia student organizations.

Article 24

- (1) RIT Croatia will supervise the work of SG in accordance with the Statute of RIT Croatia.

(2) RIT Croatia will supervise the financial transactions of SG and other RIT Croatia student organizations financed by the RIT Croatia budget.

(3) RIT Croatia will respect the autonomy and independence of SG and other RIT Croatia student organizations, in accordance with the Statute of RIT Croatia, the Statute, and the Law.

Article 25

(1) RIT Croatia will maintain an advisory role in SG and other RIT Croatia student organizations.

(2) RIT Croatia will appoint advisors from each campus who are chosen from RIT Croatia staff.

(3) SG advisors will monitor and assist with the work of the MC.

(4) SG advisors will advise the MC in their work and assist them with setting, maintaining, and updating standard operational procedures for SG activities.

(5) SG advisors will be allowed to participate in meetings of all SG bodies but will not have the right to vote.

VII. Provisional and final regulations

Article 26

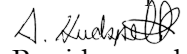
1) This statute will come into effect on the 8th date of publishing on the RIT Croatia web site upon receiving approval from the RIT Croatia Academic Senate.

(2) This statute replaces the RIT Croatia Student Government Constitution dated January 31, 2013 entirely and puts all of its provisions out of effect.

(3) The provisions of this statute will be further specified in the following sets of rules: “RIT Croatia Code of Conduct” and its annexes such as: “Student Government Handbook”, “Election & Appointment Procedures for the Members Cabinet, the Presidency of the RIT Croatia, and Heads of Departments”, “Student Clubs - Rules and Procedures”, and “Student Government Code of Ethics”, as well as Student Government Standard Operating Procedures. The statute will be used in conjunction with the above listed documents.

(4) The provisions indicated in article V.1.3. of this Statute will be created no later than three months after the statute is adopted.

Don Hudspeth



President and Dean