The Constitution of the International Students Association

ARTICLE I: ORGANIZATION

Section 1. The name of this organization shall be the International Students Association (ISA).

Section 2. The purpose of this organization is to further the following objectives:

1. To bring together the greatly diverse community of undergraduate and graduate international students at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.
2. To improve the well being and MIT experience of international students at the Institute.
3. To bring elements from our distinct and richly diverse cultural backgrounds to share them with the MIT community at a cultural, academic and social level.
4. To provide a guidance network of current students and admitted international students to facilitate the transition and increase the enrollment.

ARTICLE II: MEMBERSHIP

1. Any member of the MIT community is eligible to become a member of this organization.
2. One is considered a member of this organization in any given academic term if s/he has attended at least one of the club’s general activities or board meetings in the preceding or current term.
3. One is considered an active member of this organization in any given academic term if s/he has attended at least the integer part of half of the club’s general activities and at least one board meeting in the preceding or current term.
4. The organization’s membership will at all times consist of at least 5 MIT students and be more than half MIT students.
5. This organization will not discriminate based on any characteristic listed in the MIT's Nondiscrimination Statement.
6. If this organization charges any monetary dues, there will be exceptions made for students that cannot afford these dues.
ARTICLE III: GOVERNMENT

Section 1. Officers.

1. The officers of this organization shall be two co-Presidents, Treasurer, Secretary, two Social Chairs, Publicity Chair and Webmaster.
2. All officers of this organization must be distinct MIT students.
3. The officers for the following term shall be elected in the following order:
   President, Treasurer, Secretary, Social Chairs, Publicity Chair and Webmaster.
4. The co-president position is meant to be held two semesters, one co-president shall be elected every semester, to allow for adequate transition, their time in office shall be off-set by a semester.
5. If, after the elections, any office is vacant aside from the co-President's office, then the officers may make an Executive Vote in order to appoint a member that has shown interest in the office in question. If no members are interested in the position, the task will be divided among the officers until a member has been appointed to this office.

Section 2. Duties of the officers.

1. Co-Presidents:
   a. The co-presidents shall be the official representatives of the group to any other organization and to MIT.
   b. The co-presidents will preside over all meetings.
   c. The co-presidents are responsible for determining when meetings are and publicizing this to the organization.
2. Treasurer:
   a. The treasurer shall be responsible for managing the financial situation of the organization and making sure that it remains in good financial standing throughout the semester and in the long run.
   b. The treasurer must approve all disbursements from the group's accounts, including reimbursements to members.
   c. The Treasurer is to coordinate with other officers on setting budgets and planning out the semester.
3. Secretary:
a. The secretary of the organization is responsible for taking minutes in all meetings and sending them to the membership (or respective committees) after each meeting when it is relevant.

b. The secretary shall record the attendance of members at meetings, and shall be responsible for tallying the votes during elections and any other time the Board or membership votes.

c. The secretary is also responsible for putting together the respective mailing lists of the organization.

4. Social Chairs:
   a. The social chairs shall coordinate organized social and cultural activities.
   b. The social chairs shall cooperate in the coordination of activities where the help of the ISA is requested.
   c. The social chairs are responsible for coming up with and maintaining a social calendar for the semester, which shall be open to the public.

5. Publicity chair:
   a. The publicity chair shall advertise events that are open to the Membership and the MIT community.
   b. The publicity chair shall create advertisements for ISA events as required by the ASA, Finboard or the Institute.

6. Webmaster:
   a. The webmaster is responsible for keeping the website of the organization updated.
   b. The webmaster shall coordinate with the publicity chair to advertise the events on the website.

Section 3. The co-presidents of the organization can also create ad hoc committees as they are needed. These can be “legal committees” to revise certain laws of the organization, or “action committees” to achieve an attainable goal by the end of the semester.

Section 4. Elections.

1. Elections of officers shall occur at the end of every semester.
2. Any member of this organization is eligible to run for any office.
3. Any active member of this organization is eligible to vote.
4. Elections are considered board meetings.
5. Quorum for elections is at least one-half of the officers and at least one-third of the active membership.
6. Any member is elected if s/he wins a majority of the voting members.
7. If more than two people are running and no one wins a majority, then the person with the fewest votes is dropped from the ballot and votes are recast.
8. The term of office runs from one election to the subsequent election.
9. Elections are run by the co-presidents. They will also communicate the way in which they will be held, always respecting all the articles of this constitution.

Section 5. Removal from office. Officers may be removed by a two-thirds vote of the present active members during a board meeting. An extraordinary election for the respective position shall happen immediately after the officer is removed.

ARTICLE IV: MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES

Section I: Quorum.

1. A quorum for board meetings shall consist of at least three-quarters of the officers.
2. As stated in Article V, Section 4.3 of this constitution, quorum for elections is at least one-half of the officers and at least one-third of the active membership.

Section II: Board meetings.

1. Any member may attend board meetings.
2. Board meetings shall happen at least twice per semester. The time and location of the Board meetings shall be announced to the membership by the co-presidents.
3. Board meetings shall be presided over by the co-presidents, unless they are absent, and in that case the treasurer shall preside.
4. All decisions shall be made by a majority vote of all active members present.
Section III: General activities. General membership activities shall be held at least once a semester and are also open to all the MIT community.

ARTICLE V: AMENDMENTS

1. Amendments shall be presented by any member of the organization at a board meeting.
2. Amendments shall be passed by a two-thirds vote of the members present.
3. For amendments regarding particular events or meetings that require change, a committee that specializes in that event or that particular area the event will be held in can be formed, and a majority vote within that committee will result in amendment.

ARTICLE VI: ASA GOVERNANCE CLAUSE

The International Student Association agrees to abide by the rules and regulations of the Association of Student Activities, and its executive board. This constitution, amendments to it, and the by-laws of this organization shall be subject to review by the ASA Executive Board to ensure that they are in accordance with the aforementioned rules and regulations.