

University of St. Michael's College in the University of Toronto – Student Society Leadership Policy

Date effective: September 22, 2017

1. Introduction and Purpose

Leaders of student societies and student groups at the University of St. Michael's College (USMC) are valuable contributors to life on campus. Student leaders acknowledge the mission of USMC, a Catholic institution that seeks to provide an environment that fosters intellectual, moral and spiritual development in its students. As such, leaders of student societies accept personal responsibility for their activities and exemplify behaviour that encourages an understanding of and respect for the values that inspire and inform USMC in its mission.

This policy is guide for leaders of student groups, which outlines the expectations of behaviour and sets forth the parameters in which leaders may undertake their duties with the support of USMC.

2. Definitions

Student Societies

"Student societies" are student organizations on whose behalf USMC collects compulsory non-academic incidental fees from students of USMC. The student societies at USMC include: 1) the St. Michael's College Student Union (SMCSU); 2) the St. Michael's Residence Council (SMRC); 3) *The Mike* newspaper; 4) other student clubs/organizations that are recognized by SMCSU or USMC, and receive funding from SMCSU; 5) student academic societies from USMC's four sponsored academic programs.

Student Groups

"Student Groups" is a broader term that covers the Student Societies referred to above and other student organizations at USMC who may receive support from the College in the form of applied-for funding or office space to conduct activities.

Leaders

Refers to any individual who is responsible or shares responsibility of the actions and activities of a student society and student group. These individuals may have been voted into their positions or been appointed.

4. Eligibility

In addition to being in accordance with the University of Toronto Student Code of Conduct, leaders of student groups will be in good academic standing, be a University of Toronto student, agree to model good citizenship, and engage in responsible and respectful conduct that reflects positively on USMC students, USMC, and the broader University of Toronto community.

5. Relationship to USMC

Leaders of student groups at USMC acknowledge that their groups are not legal entities unto themselves and that their status is derived from their affiliation with USMC. The actions of student societies and their leaders

must reflect positively on the name and reputation of USMC and USMC students. Furthermore, leaders accept their ethical obligation to act in accordance to USMC's mission as a Catholic university that is dedicated to the academic and spiritual life of its students.

6. Fiduciary Responsibility

Leaders of student societies are financially responsible to the students who support them. Leaders ensure their funds are properly accounted for and their societies operate in an open, transparent and democratic fashion. Leaders of student groups that do not receive compulsory non-academic incidental fees from USMC students are also financially accountable when using funds they have received from USMC. In addition, leaders of student groups shall prepare annual budgets that they will make reviewable to the public and the funding entity.

7. Prohibited Actions

Hazing & Initiation

USMC strictly prohibits all hazing and initiation-related rites, ceremonies, exercises and activities. The activities include, but are not limited to, any act that demeans or humiliates a student or puts a student's safety at risk. Leaders of student societies at USMC acknowledge the grave nature of these activities and do not participate in them or condone them. If they become aware of such activities, they are to promptly report to USMC or campus police.

8. Training & Guidance

Leaders will seek training and guidance from USMC's Office of the Director of Student Life and the Office of the Bursar. These offices will provide leaders with training and guidance that helps their groups achieve their goals and enrich their experience as student leaders.

9. Implications of Offences

Leaders who violate the policies of this document or the related policies cited in section 10, will face disciplinary consequences in accordance with USMC and University of Toronto policies.

10. Related Policies

- University of Toronto Governing Council Code of Student Conduct
- Policy Document for Student Societies at the University of St. Michael's College
- Constitution of the St. Michael's College Student Union
- St. Michael's College Student Union Bylaws
- Ontario Human Rights Code