

**Constitution of the Chinese Student Association  
At George Mason University  
Drafted on: Feb 10, 2022**

**Chapter I Name of Organization**

Article 1: The full name of the Association is "Chinese Student Association at George Mason University", abbreviated as CSA

Article 2: The Chinese Student Association at George Mason University (CSA) is an independent, autonomous, and self-governing organization for the purpose of serving Chinese students at George Mason University.

**Chapter II Purpose of CSA**

Article 3: The mission of CSA is to build a community for Chinese undergraduate and graduate students, especially international students, at George Mason University. We are engaged to enrich the students' spare time and establish the connection between Chinese students and the Mason community through online social media including video making and culture advertising. The activities of CSA will focus on social media including video making to share the experience and life in Mason and DMV area, and local activity with our friend organization in the community and other universities in DMV.

Article 4: The CSA adheres to the three principles of "non-profit", "non-political" and "non-religious" activities. No group or individual may carry out any activities under a "profit-making" or "religious" background.

**Chapter III Membership**

Article 5: The permanent governing body of the presidium (leaderboard), which represents the George Mason University Chinese Student Association externally.

Article 6: Membership in this organization will not restrict on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, marital status, pregnancy status, or genetic information, and anyone at George Mason University, or international friends who love Chinese culture, and who acknowledge this constitution are willing to become members of the Association. The member must register at gm.u.edu and maintain a minimum GPA of 2.0 at Mason to become member of the Association. All members are equal.

Article 7: Rights of Members.

To make comments and suggestions on the constitution and the Presidium of CSA

To supervise the work of the leaderboard and the managers of CSA

To participate and manage in school and external activities sponsored and cosponsored by CSA

To serve and help the students in Mason

Article 8: Obligations of Members.

To abide by local laws and regulations and the rules and regulations of the school.

To identify with and abide by the constitution of the CSA, and all its rules and resolutions.

To protect the interests and reputation of the Association and to maintain a good image of Chinese students in the school and surrounding areas.

Article 9: The type of member - active member and associate member are available in CSA.

Active member means the member is a currently enrolled student and fulfills the requirement of the organization. Associate member means the member is a school faculty or student who has already graduated from Mason but is still willing to support the organization.

#### **Chapter IV Officer and Advisor**

Article 10: The Presidium is a permanent body that leads the work of the Association and represents the Association externally. The term of office of each leader board is one year.

Article 11: The Presidium consists of the President, Vice-President, and the Advisory Board of the Association. The President is elected by democratic election. The Advisory Board is a supernumerary. The Association has departments for publicity, Public relations, and activities. Each department has a minister whose need is determined by the minister and several members. The President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Ministers of each department shall be approved to serve and named as the officer of the organization. The President may adjust the positions appropriately according to actual needs. The requirement of an officer is maintaining a good academic record and a minimum GPA of 2.5.

Article 12: The term of each Presidium is one year. The election period is Feb. to Mar. every year. Every officer will be reelected for their position with voting. All CSA members have the right to apply for membership in the presidium. Each year in the fall semester, the current presidium shall recruit new members on a recurring or uninterrupted basis. The presidium will evaluate the applicants and recruit selectively. Newly recruited members will be elected to the presidium for that year.

Article 13: The President, treasurer, and Advisory Board of Presidium shall be the officers.

The advisory board members shall be searched by the President and Vice President and interviewed and vetted. The officers shall play a leadership role in the Presidium, and the department leaders shall play a leading role in management and implementation.

Article 14.

The President, Vice-President, and Advisory Board of the Presidium shall constitute the Organization and shall be the highest leadership and highest authority of the CSA. The presidium presides over and is responsible for the work of the presidium, organizes the work of the Presidium until the members of each department, convene plenary and executive meetings of the CSA, and is the highest decision-maker of the Association. The Vice President assists the President in presiding over and being responsible for the work of the Presidium and assumes responsibility for the corresponding tasks when necessary. When the president is vacant, one of the vice presidents will act as the president, and the vice presidents are the secondary decision-makers of the presidium.

Article 15: A officer will be removed from the organization if:

Fail to meet the requirement of the organization

Fail on leading the activity and cause the bad influence of the organization

Obeys the law at Mason or Federal Government of United State

Impeachment which voted by all members

Article 16: The primary advisor shall be a member of the faculty or staff at George Mason University. The advisor will be selected by the president and approved by members. The advisor will help the organization with decision making and event planning. Advisor will be removed if he fails to advise the Presidium, which cannot be reached by the organization for more than 2 months.

Article 17: The leaders and administrators of all departments at all levels of the Organization shall listen extensively to the opinions and suggestions of all parties, actively adopt good opinions and suggestions, and adopt resolutions on this basis. All departments at all levels of the Organization shall guarantee the principles of democracy, openness, modesty, and fairness.

Article 18: Members of CSA have the right to submit to the presidium any questions, comments or suggestions regarding the current work proposals or resolutions of the department ministers or the presidium. The presidium is obligated to resolve all legitimate and reasonable requests in a timely manner and is subject to the supervision of the general membership.

Article 19: The officers and department managers shall actively implement the final decisions of the presidium and complete the assigned work. If they have any objections, they may submit them to the presidium, and if they are not accepted, they shall still carry out the established decisions.

## **Chapter V Election**

Article 20: The term of presidium is one year. The President's term of study at George Mason University shall exceed his or her one-year term and the term of office of the President shall exceed one year.

Article 21: The election of CSA will be scheduled from Feb. to Mar. It must take place before the next RSO re-registration period. All members are allowed to vote and decide the nominations. The voting section will be held for one week for all members to vote. The candidate must have 1 year of membership and actively participate in organizational events and management in the past year. The President of the CSA shall nominate the ministers of each division, and they shall be nominated by the newly elected President at the time of the change of term, and shall take office upon approval by all members and Organization advisor

Article 22: If individuals wish to resign from the position, it will inform the ministers of each department and the president will make the final decision. The transition of officer and member will be led by ministers of each department and retrain the members to new positions within 2 weeks after the transition.

Article 23: All members of the CSA shall be conscientious and responsible, united and cooperative, wholehearted, dedicated, not seeking personal gain, and completing their tasks on time. The members must not engage in any gangsterism or favoritism. They are not allowed to canvass or bribe for votes when running for or seeking various positions.

Article 24: If there is any irregularity or malfeasance among the members of the CSA, the presidium shall give a warning. If the situation is considered serious or repeated, the presidium may revoke the membership of CSA.

## **Chapter VI Impeachment or Resignation**

Article 25: An elected officer fails to perform the responsibilities or abuse the privileges of their elected position, the officer shall be subject to impeachment and removal from their office.

Article 26: The process of removal will be led by the president. The president will decide the next candidate for the missing position. The nomination of a new officer has to be passed by  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the members in the organization meeting.

## **Chapter VII Meetings**

Article 27: The presidium shall hold a plenary meeting once every two weeks or one month when it is not on vacation to make decisions and deployments for all current work. Any member who is absent from the meeting for any reason needs to request leave from the President or the Minister before the meeting, stating the reason. If you need more than two times for personal reasons, the Bureau and the editor-in-chief of your department have the authority to review and judge again. Any leave of absence after the meeting is treated as an unexcused absence. Officers must attend the meeting on time and must not be late. If they are more than 15 minutes late, they will be treated as unexcused. Anyone who misses more than two regular meetings in a semester without an excuse will be expelled from CSA. The special meeting will be called individually by the President if it is needed.

## **Chapter VIII Finance**

Article 28: The funding sources of the CSA are the George Mason University, sponsors, community support, and other reasonable income. The funds shall be used sparingly and only for the organization of various activities and the daily office expenses of the organization, and shall not be used for activities unrelated to the public affairs of CSA. Private use of public funds is strictly prohibited. The expenditure of funds shall be signed and approved by the president and recorded or handed over to the treasurer.

Article 28: The income and expenditure of funds shall be transparent and open to all CSA members. When the presidency changes, the previous presidency shall publicize the use of funds to the next president.

## **Chapter IX Amendments**

Article 29: All members of the CSA have the right to make comments and suggestions on this constitution, which will be discussed and amended by the presidium and adopted. The amendment can be added during the monthly meeting if it is needed. Student Involvement must review all amendments in the same manner as a completely new constitution.

## **Chapter X Ratification**

Article 30: This constitution shall become effective upon approval by a  $\frac{3}{4}$  vote of the membership, and a Student Involvement Staff member.

Article 31: Any matters not covered in this constitution shall be proposed by all members of the Association and decided by the President. The final interpretation of this constitution shall be the responsibility of the Chinese Student Association at George Mason University.

Wrote by President Runlin Zhang (Term 2021-2022)

English Version: 2/10/2022

Chinese Version: 1/30/2022