



Muslim Students' Association
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In the Name of Allah, the Compassionate, the Merciful

March 8, 2010

Dear MSA Member,

The MSA Executive is proposing a new Executive Committee structure, which is reflected in a Revised MSA Constitution.

The purpose of the new structure is to achieve the following:

- **Expand MSA activities by entrusting responsibility for MSA works to a larger number of people (i.e. MSA Directors)**
- **Transform the role of the Executive into a leadership body, which supports the President in visioning for the organization, and offers guidance to Directors**
- **Make decision-making at the Executive level more efficient through a reduction in the number of Executives**
- **Expand work with other groups by including a position exclusively for work with other groups (i.e. Vice-President External), and encouraging Directorships to work in this direction**
- **Reduce the amount of work among Committee Heads by dividing their work among Directors and creating Directorships which support one another (e.g. Advertising Director) and are able to engage more members**

MSA membership is expanding significantly each year and there is great need for our organization to expand with it. In order to do that, we are in need of more leadership and more MSA departments.

The Revised Constitution reflects an Executive Structure which contains a President, Secretary, and six Vice-Presidents. Each of these VP's will be responsible for (1) assisting the President in achieving the goals of the MSA and implementing MSA policy and (2) visioning for new MSA directions and opportunities, and guiding MSA Directors with these in mind.

The MSA will have Directors who design and implement the tasks, projects and events of the MSA on the ground. Directors will be leaders of committees, and will also be responsible for achieving the goals of the MSA and implementing MSA policies. Details of these positions are found in the MSA-UTSG Handbook, which, according to the Revised Constitution, is a document which will be ratified at the beginning of each new Executive term by that Executive.

I believe that this structure will make MSA work more efficient and effective in the short and long term, insha Allah. It will empower more people to be involved with MSA by making work easier and



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involvement more accessible and enjoyable. It is a structure that is commonly used in other MSA's and governing bodies at U. of T.

I strongly encourage you to read the Revised Constitution, and to vote for or against the proposed Revision at the Referendum on Thursday, March 11, insha Allah. Your feedback is needed.

Do note that a Constitution is not a Policy Handbook. It is the backbone of an organization and details in a very straightforward manner the elements and fundamental guidelines which constitute the MSA. The policies as to how an Executive manages an organization are found in separate policy documents, of which the MSA has several.

The structure and Revised Constitution was prepared in consultation with the advice and guidance of four previous MSA Presidents, as well as other previous Executives and notable members of the community.

I ask Allah, subhaanahu wa ta'Ala to forgive our shortcomings and errors and guide us to what is best for our community in this life and the life hereafter, ameen. Please keep the MSA in your prayers, and Allah SWT will guide us to success.

Sincerely,

Asma M. Ali
President, MSA-UTSG