



**Constitution of
Statistics Doctoral Students Association
(SDSA)**

The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Founded 2021

Preamble

We, the members of Statistics Doctoral Students Association (hereafter ,SDSA) , subscribing to the regulations and policies of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, establish this Constitution to govern the matters within our organization.

This document is prepared by the members of the Executive Board of the Statistics Doctoral Students Association of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in the year 2021 with the purpose of creating the SDSA structure and the framework for planning principles for this Association.

1 Name of Association, Logo and Purpose

1.1 Name

Statistics Doctoral Students Association (SDSA) at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (hereafter UIUC).

1.2 Logo

The official logo of the organization is as in the appendix.

1.3 Purpose

SDSA is an independent student organization governed by the Doctoral students at the Statistics Department at UIUC. The purpose of this Association is to create a suitable ground to foster interdepartmental interaction and collaboration, promote professional development through research presentations, discussions and training, and create a social network by holding various social events among Statistics Doctoral students at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

1.4

Any change in this constitution requires approval of two-third ($2/3$) of all the voting members at the date of general meeting held for the proposal of the change.

2 Membership

2.1

Membership is open to all regularly enrolled Doctoral students in Statistics Department of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC). Membership shall be limited to completing the registration form on the SDSA campus lab website, or the filled form returned to the SDSA board. The SDSA board has full authority in approving Membership. However, the membership shall not be denied to any person because of age, race, sex, religion, or national origin.

2.2

Membership fee, if necessary, decided by the SDSA board.

3 Membership Removal

3.1

The club reserves the right to expel any member who is in violation of the Constitution or policies of SDSA. The expulsion process shall proceed as follows:

1. Violation of the SDSA Constitution or policy by any member shall be brought to the attention of the officers.
2. Said violation must be recognized by the majority of the officers. In the absence of a majority opinion among officers, no further action shall be taken.

3. A single warning shall be given (in writing) by the officers to the violating member before the expulsion decision is made.
4. In case of a second violation, the SDSA officers shall have the authority to expel the violating member from the club. The violating member shall be notified of the removal decision in writing by the SDSA officers.
5. Within 30 days of receiving the removal notice, the expelled member can appeal the officers' decision by requesting (in writing) a review of the said violations, and a vote of active members on the expulsion decision, at a general meeting of SDSA members. The outcome based on a majority vote of the active members present in the general meeting shall be final. If no appeal is made by the violating member, the removal decision made by the officers shall be final.

4 Structure of the Executive Board and the Board of Trustees

4.1

The Executive Board has at least five officers: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Membership Director. The SDSA board may add additional officers to the Executive Board at anytime. All members of the Executive Board must be UIUC students. In addition to the above officers SDSA president may add any additional officer if deems necessary.

1. The President of SDSA shall preside over meetings and is vested the authority to organize the committee, represent the association in official meetings, and to appoint representatives to do so. He/she has the authority and responsibility of conducting the activities of SDSA with consent of membership.
2. The Vice President shall assist the President in his/her duties and shall assume the duties of the President in his/her absence.
3. The Secretary shall be responsible for all correspondence, reports, announcements and publicity.
4. The Treasurer shall be responsible for maintaining all financial records, collections and disbursement of funds, and preparation of financial reports.
5. The Membership Director shall be responsible for maintaining all records of members, sending the records to the UIUC archive and advertising membership.

4.2

SDSA may have a Board of Trustees (i.e. Advisors) from the faculty members or alumni to oversee the activities of the Executive Board by the experienced members of the association. Members of the Board of Trustees do not have a term limit as long as they adhere to this constitution. The Board of Trustees is also responsible for aiding in resolving disagreements among the members of the board.

4.3

Any faculty, staff or alumni can be a member of the Board of Trustees.

5 Election

5.1

Every year all the officers (representatives) will be elected by the voting members [See Article 2.1], in a general election.

5.2

The general election framework would be indirect for office roles. That is, members only nominate themselves to be part of the association executive board as a "Representative". Elected members (representatives), by consensus, will decide about the executive board positions among themselves.

5.3

Elections for any academic year must be conducted in September-October of the academic year. The Executive Board is responsible to announce via the website, email or any other communication tools to the members requesting nominations for the positions at least one week before the election date.

5.4

The candidates must be an enrolled UIUC Statistics Doctoral student and already be a voting member of the SDSA. Each registered candidates has the right to announce his/her plan to promote his/her plan and to seek cooperation of the members.

5.5

The process of voting will be done by secret ballot. The person monitoring the election is to be at first the SDSA advisor. In the absence of advisor, it is decide by the Executive Board.

5.6

The voting will happen in person, via campuslab platform or other online platforms of the UIUC.

5.7

The winners must earn at least one half of the votes cast at the general meeting or in absentia. If no candidate gets one half of the votes, a second round of elections will be conducted at the same general meeting between the two candidates who get the most votes in the first round.

5.8

In the event that an office becomes vacant, nominations announcement will be taken in a week following the announcement of the vacancy. The election for the vacancy will be taken place within a week after the deadline of the nomination.

5.9

In the absence of candidates for the position the election has to postponed at most up to 20 days later and re-announcing for the election immediately at the general meeting. In the second time of the absence of candidates, the incumbent president has the right to select the next officers, or dissolve the SDSA for the corresponding year.

5.10

Nomination for the election is open from the announcement date until the election at the general meeting. Nomination is allowed during the general meeting before the start of election.

5.11

The Executive Board must inform the voting members about the election calendar that shows the timeline of all activities from the call for Presidential nomination until all the votes have been counted.

5.12

Executive Board is responsible to announce the list of candidates and their proposed members to the voting members of the Association at least 3 days before the election date. The candidates will be listed in alphabetical order.

5.13

If anyone officer from the Executive Board is nominated, he/she cannot have any role in conducting the election.

6 Appendix

6.1 Logo

