

ACSSY Bylaws

Article One: Name

1. The informal name of the organization is “Chinese Students & Scholars Association” (hereafter “the Association”), the organization has a registered brand “ACSSY”, which stands for the Association of Chinese Students and Scholars at Yale. The official name is registered under the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences of Yale University.

Article Two: The Statement of Purpose

1. “The Association” is an independent, non-political and non-profit organization dedicated to promoting social, intellectual and cultural wellbeing for Chinese students and scholars at Yale and for other interested members of the Yale community. It also strives to provide opportunities and benefits for its members by facilitating the exchange of information between China and overseas Chinese students and scholars and by protecting the interests of its members.

Article Three: Membership

1. There are two types of memberships in “the Association”: general membership and registered board membership. There is no membership fee for either of them.

2. General Membership of “the Association” is automatically approved for any students or scholars (including their spouses) from mainland China, Taiwan, Hong Kong, and Macao. General Membership is also open to all students and scholars (including their spouses) currently at Yale and interested in the organization. All individuals shall have the privilege of using the Association’s mailing list after subscribing online.

3. Registered Board Membership as known as “Board Member” of “the Association” is open to students or scholars from mainland China, Taiwan, Hong Kong and Macao. All such individuals, who have General Membership and are in good standing (meaning that they have abided by the bylaws of “the Association”), shall have the right to apply for Registered Board Membership. The decision regarding the eligibility of a Registered Board member of “the Association” shall be made by the President, subject to appeal to “the Association” Board.

4. Any member can withdraw membership by formally informing the President of “the Association” by the Email he/she registers membership with.

Article Four: The Board

1. The Board shall consist of the President, Vice Presidents, the Treasurer, the Secretary, Chairs of each department, and other Registered Board Members.

2. The Core Board consists of the President, Vice Presidents, the Secretary and the Treasurer. The President has the right to assign other members of ACSSY Board into the Core Board if necessary.

3. All members of the Core Board shall be nominated by the President of “the Association”.
4. The President shall be the chief executive officer of the Association. He/she shall exercise general supervision and retain overall control over its programs, as well as draft meeting agenda, and chair regular meetings.
5. The Vice Presidents shall be responsible for fundraising, organizing community events and promoting public relations, etc., in various functioning departments of “the Association” respectively.
6. The Treasurer shall be responsible for the receipts and custody of all the funds of “the Association”, the accurate accounting thereof, and the disbursement thereof as authorized by the President, preparing and issuing the budget and other financial statements and reports.
7. The Secretary shall be responsible for the day to day internal administration of the Board; draft, distribute, and file all official communications; issue notices of all meetings of the Members; maintain the public records of the Corporation, including the Bylaws, lists of Members and Officers, and the Annual Report; submit annually the list of Officers and the Annual Report to the corresponding office of Yale University; maintain institutional memorandums of the organization to be distributed to all officers each year
8. The Chairs of the departments shall lead and execute specific parts of activities of “the Association” under the guidance of specific Vice Presidents.
9. The other board member(s) shall execute the activities of “the Association” under the supervision of specific Vice Presidents and Chairs.

Article Five: The Senate

1. Only emeritus president is eligible to become a Senator subject to majority approval of the Senate.
2. The Senate shall consist of not less than five Senators. It shall not participate in the management of the organization.
3. The term of a Senator member shall not exceed five years.
4. The Senate shall supervise the enforcement of “the Association” by-laws.
5. The Senate shall listen to the feedback of members and advise Board regularly based on feedback from members of “the Association”.
6. The Senate shall organize the Election Committee when it is necessary.

Article Six: Elections

1. The election of President shall be held annually, and no later than two weeks before the end of the Commencement day of the Spring semester, by anonymous ballot in the membership meeting or other legitimate ways determined by the Election Committee. Only Registered board Members have the privilege to vote.
2. The incumbent board shall call for presidential nominations no later than two weeks before the Election Day. Any candidate shall be nominated by a petition of more than 20 general members or 2% of the general membership, whichever is more, at least one week before the Election Day. The Nominated candidate(s) (1) must be a degree-seeking student in Yale GSAS or the Professional Schools throughout his/her Presidency if elected, (2) obtain(s) abovementioned number of nominations, and (3) must receive approval of at least two-thirds of the core board members to be eligible in participating in the Presidential Election as the President Candidate(s). The incumbent board shall publicize the statements of all Nominated Candidates using the resources of “the Association.”
3. An Election Committee of at least three people shall be organized by the “the Association” Senate to ensure the fairness and efficiency of voting procedures. No incumbent officer or nominee for any of those positions may serve on the committee.
4. A candidate who obtains a majority of all eligible votes in the Presidential Election shall be elected as the President. In the event that no candidates receive a majority, a simple majority (50%) vote shall be held between the two candidates with the highest number of votes.
5. The new team of officers shall commence duties no later than the beginning of June.
6. No person shall be elected as the President more than once or serve as the President for more than one year.

Article Seven: Impeachment

1. In order to remove the President of “the Association”, a membership meeting shall be held by petitioning to “the Association” Board or “the Association” Senate.
2. The President of “the Association” can be removed from the position by the faculty advisor with unanimous approval from “the Association” Senate.

Article Eight: Meetings

1. Membership meetings shall be held at least once a year by “the Association” Board. Only Registered Board Members can participate in the membership meeting. “The Association” Board shall present the annual report in the membership meeting. Election shall be held in the membership meeting.
2. The Core Board can call for Membership Meetings. Membership meetings must be held within

two months when a petition of more than 50 Registered Members or 5% Registered Membership, whichever is more, is submitted to “the Association” Board.

3. Board Meetings of “the Association” shall be called by “the Association” President and shall be held no less than once every three months. These regular Board Meetings are open to any members of “the Association”.

4. The President shall preside over all respective meetings of “the Association”. In the absence of the President, the Vice President designated by the President shall assume the responsibility.

5. The time, venue and agenda of a membership meeting shall be publicized in the Registered Membership at least one week before the meeting.

Article Nine: Dissolution

1. Should 75% of the membership of “the Association” vote to dissolve the organization or if “the Association” has been inactive for three years or longer, its remaining assets shall be transferred to non-profit organizations or dissolve otherwise as determined by a membership meeting.

Article Ten: Amendments of Bylaws

1. Registered Board Members of ACSSY have the responsibility to absorb recommendations and comments from anyone to the By-Laws.

2. The Core Board or “the Association” Senate can call the meeting for making amendments. The amendments of bylaws shall be made by approval from the Senate.

*Remark: ACSSY reserves the right of final interpretation for the content hereinabove.