

Constitution of the Roosevelt Institution, Middlebury Branch

The Roosevelt Institution seeks to engage in the national dialogue on the future of the progressive movement by articulating the principles of progressive politics, finding progressive solutions to the problems facing our nation today, and presenting these in a compelling way to the American public. In the process of this, we will educate ourselves and others about our country and progressive politics with the aim of producing thoughtful and committed progressive citizens and leaders.

Article I Name: The name of this organization shall be the Roosevelt Institution, Middlebury Branch.

Article II Purpose: The purpose of the organization is to involve students in the public field, and in the process build skills and networks that will make students more effective change agents upon leaving the College. These goals will be accomplished through a collection of policy committees, which will generate policy analysis and ideas, and an administrative committee, which will facilitate the logistical aspects of the organization. The organization is a non-partisan, public policy research institution, or a think tank.

Through the policy committees and the guidance of the Executive Committee, the Roosevelt Institution will:

- Analyze current public policies
- Write critiques of these policies
- Propose new and progressive policies

At the end of each semester, the Institution will:

- Publish its findings
- Submit the briefs to the national Roosevelt organization on the Stanford University Campus

Members of the Executive and Policy Committees will be asked to present their analysis to interest groups and politicians, as well as attend national Roosevelt Institution Conferences. The Institution will also host events on campus.

Article III Membership: Membership is open to all Middlebury College students.

Article IV Officers: The Administrative duties of the organization shall be overseen by the officers. All officers must be students of Middlebury College. The offices are outlined below. Their duties include, but are not limited to the following:

1. Executive Director:
Charged with overseeing the organization and responding to the needs of the policy and executive committees.
2. Director of Development:
Charged with promoting the organization to the campus. Serves as a liaison between the organization and Middlebury College campus.
3. Director of Media Relations:
Charged with designing strategic communication tactics in order to promote the organization through the media: local, state, and National.
4. Director of Treasury:
Charged with serving as the formal liaison between the organization and the Student Government Association Finance Committee.
5. Director of Technology:
Charged with designing/ maintaining the organization's website, databases, and all other technologically related aspects of the organization.

Article V

Elections: Elections of the officers must be completed by March 15th of each year. The term of each office shall be one year; however, any officer may be re-elected as long as he or she remains a student of Middlebury College. A quorum is defined as two-thirds of all active members, and a quorum must be present in order to hold an election. The person who receives a simple majority of the total votes counted shall be determined to be the winner of the election. Should no candidate receive this number of votes, a new vote will be taken of the two candidates with the most votes. Should the need arise, the mode of succession will be for the Director of Development to assume the role of the Executive Director until an emergency election can be held. In this case, the emergency-elected Executive Director shall finish the term of the former Executive Director.

Article VI

Meetings: Meetings shall occur on an as-need basis.

Article VII

Committees: Specific Policy Committees shall develop as the Executive Committee votes to establish them. A specific policy committee may develop from either of two ways: 1. The Executive Committee may actively recruit a student who specializes in a particular policy area to lead a policy center, or 2. A student may approach the Executive Committee about organizing a specific policy center. In either case, the Executive Committee will vote to recognize each new policy center under the auspices of the Roosevelt Institution. At this point, the

policy center meets with its members as often as it deems necessary. Periodically, the policy centers will present their information to the other policy centers during an Executive Committee meeting. The Executive Committee monitors the progress of the policy committees through reports from the Executive Director, who is in touch with all leaders of the policy committees, and they may vote to remove a committee at any time.

Article VIII

Faculty Advisor: The membership agrees to maintain an advisor from the faculty or staff, as required.

Article IX

National Affiliation: The organization is affiliated with the Roosevelt Institution, based on the Stanford University Campus in Palo Alto, CA. The organization shall not be affiliated with any political party, either national or local.

Article X

Discrimination Policy: This student organizations operates in full accordance with Chapter Four, Section II, A of the Middlebury College Handbook concerning Student organization Policies of Discrimination, Freedoms of Association, Anti-Hazing, Freedoms of inquiry and Express, Student Publication, Funding, Advertising, and Scheduling. Any and all changes made to the Student Organizations Policies section of the Middlebury College Handbook will immediately become policies adopted by the Roosevelt Institution, Middlebury College Branch.

Article XI

Ratification:

A. This constitution must be ratified by a two-thirds majority of the membership.

B. This constitution must be approved by the Student Government Constitution Committee.

Article XII

Amendment:

A. The constitution must be ratified by a two-thirds majority of the membership.

B. The constitution must be approved by the Student Government Constitution Committee.

Approved as to form

April 25, 2005