

## **Robotics & Automation Society – UT-Austin Chapter - Constitution**

### **1. Purpose and Mission**

1.1. The purpose of the Robotics & Automation Society (RAS) shall be to promote science and technology in the university and the surrounding community through student competitions and community programs involving engineering and other technical skills.

1.2. The mission of the Robotics & Automation Society is to excite and motivate students to pursue careers in science, engineering, and technology; and to develop leadership, business, and life skills.

### **2. The Constitution & Amendments**

2.1. This Constitution outlines the basic organization of the Robotics & Automation Society. It may be extended and clarified by the By Laws; however, if this Constitution and a by-law conflict, this Constitution shall take precedence.

2.2. This Constitution may be changed only by the amendment process.

2.3. Amendments shall be submitted in writing to the acting President. If a majority of all full members vote in favor of the amendment, this Constitution shall be amended.

2.4. This Constitution shall be made available to members and to the public at all times.

### **3. The By Laws**

3.1. The By Laws shall detail all workings of the Robotics & Automation Society.

3.2. The Officers may create, change, or revoke By Laws at any time, in accordance with this Constitution and any applicable By Laws.

3.3. The By Laws shall be made available to the members and to the public at all times.

### **4. Officers**

4.1. There shall be officers as follows: the President, Vice President, Treasurer, Corporate Relations, Historian, Secretary, Outreach, Representative Coordinator, Special Events Coordinator, Fundraising Coordinator, and Publicity Coordinator

4.2. Officers must be registered students of the University of Texas at Austin.

4.3. Each officer is a member of the Leaders.

4.4. The duties of each officer shall be detailed in the By Laws.

4.5. Officer election details, such as the nomination process and voting technique, shall be detailed in the By Laws.

4.6. Officers may resign from their positions at any time.

4.7. Officers who fail to perform to the expectations of members may be impeached in a manner outlined in the By Laws.

4.8. The method for filling vacated positions shall be detailed in the By Laws.

4.9. All powers of the Robotics & Automation Society, including changing the By Laws, approving expenditures and excluding amending the constitution, are vested in the Officers.

4.10. The Officers shall attempt to reach consensus on all matters. When consensus cannot be reached, a vote shall be taken: one vote per officer, with the majority of non-abstaining votes carrying the decision. Ties shall result in no decision being made.

## **5. Leaders**

5.1. The Leaders shall be experienced members chosen by the officers in a way described in the By Laws.

5.2. The duties and privileges of the Leaders shall be defined in the By Laws.

5.3. Leaders must be reappointed after each election is held.

5.4. The number of Leaders shall be kept to a reasonable representation of the society.

## **6. The Advisor & Mentors**

6.1. The Advisor is usually a faculty member, and is the primary liaison between the faculty and the society. Their duties and roles may be detailed in the By Laws.

6.2. The mentors of the Robotics & Automation Society shall be other faculty members or alumni with experience in areas of activities undertaken by the Robotics & Automation Society. Their duties and roles may be detailed in the By Laws.

## **7. Membership & Voting**

7.1. The Robotics & Automation Society has two types of membership: full and associate.

7.2. Any UT-Austin student may petition to become a full member of the Robotics & Automation Society. If the student meets all the current rules and regulations for participating in extracurricular activities, is not suspended or expelled from the Robotics & Automation Society, and meets any additional requirements outlined in the By Laws, the student shall be admitted into the Robotics & Automation Society as a full member.

7.3. All full members may vote in officer elections and on amendments to the Constitution and be subject to the associated benefits and responsibilities of being society members.

7.4. Associate members are those who do not meet the above requirements, but who show an interest in the club. Associate members have no benefits or responsibilities and may not vote.

7.5. Procedures and eligibility for other votes shall be detailed in the By Laws.

## **8. Suspension and Expulsion**

8.1. The Leaders may suspend or expel members of the Society for reasons including, but not limited to: failure to comply with school rules, endangering self or others, disrupting meetings, and failure to follow through with commitments to the club.

8.2. At the discretion of the Officers, refunds may or may not be given to members who have been suspended or expelled.

## **Amendments**

### **1. Committees**

1.1 Committees are autonomous subunits within RAS. They are formed to handle specific projects that RAS undertakes.

1.2 Each committee is led by a Committee Head, who is selected in a manner outlined in the By Laws. The Committee Head has autonomy of the decisions made for the committee.

1.3 The Leaders will vote on the formation and renewal of committees in a manner outlined in the By Laws.

1.4 the Leaders have the right to disband a committee prematurely with a two-thirds majority vote at a Leaders Meeting