

SAVE R US (Students Against Violence Everywhere Are Us)

Group Charter

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This charter outlines the structure, goals, and guidelines of the Swarthmore chapter of SAVE R US (Students Against Violence Everywhere Are Us)

MISSION STATEMENT – *Empowering Youth Against Violence*

- To promote peace and nonviolence throughout our campus and our community
- To empower high school and elementary youth against violence through the innovative Peacemakers program.
- To train college and high school students to become “Peacemakers” to educate elementary students about bullying and violence
- To provide an open setting in which college students and the Swarthmore community can discuss local or global issues that pertain to peace or violence.

MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Meetings

- SAVE R US holds bi-weekly members meetings to discuss and plan for upcoming events. Our goal is to have our membership involved in as much planning as possible. Members input and help with planning (especially with Peace Week Swarthmore) is greatly appreciated. These meetings will be held in the evenings and will not last more than thirty minutes.
- The Executive Board (EB) meets bi-weekly (on the alternating weeks of the members meeting) for executive planning matters. These meetings will be held at the discretion of the Executive Board and will not last more than one hour.

Events

- “Unity Cafés” *Monthly*
 - One of the signature activities that SAVE R US coordinates is its “unity cafés”. These discussions are conducted in a “cafe” style atmosphere to allow students to feel comfortable to discuss serious issues that pertain to diversity, bullying and violence. Students are welcome to express their thoughts through spoken word, poetry, or music. These events are intended to bring together people from all parts of the college community to “unite” in discussion. Additionally, all participants participate in a unification activity (such as the Circle of Life activity or the painting of a peace mural)
- Peacemakers Program *Daily*
 - *College Peacemakers* – This project involves training college students to become “Peacemakers” to go into elementary schools to educate elementary students about diversity, bullying and violence.
 - *High School Peacemakers* – This project involves College Peacemakers mentoring high school students to become High School Peacemakers to

go into elementary schools to educate elementary students about diversity, bullying and violence.

- The “Peacemakers” use a variety of educational and fun activities to teach students about the harmful consequences of bullying and violence in order to prevent young students from engaging in these destructive activities. It is our hope that educating the youth of today will yield a less violent society in the future.
- The Peacemakers program will work with the Safe and Drug Free Schools Division of Delaware County Intermediate Unit to provide training for the Peacemakers.
- Peace Week Swarthmore *Annual*
 - This event will consist of a whole week of activities dedicated to promoting peace and nonviolence throughout the entire campus and surrounding community.
- Special Events
 - SAVE R US will also hold special events including, but not limited to, panel discussions, film screenings, conferences, and guest speakers. All members are welcome to contribute an idea for a SAVE R US special event.

MEMBERSHIP

- Composition
 - SAVE R US does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, age, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, gender or handicap.
 - SAVE R US invites all members of the Swarthmore community to join by attending four meetings/events/trainings per semester.
 - All members are entitled to join SAVE R US events and activities as well as vote in semester or annual elections.
 - All members are entitled to run for a position on the SAVE R US Executive Board.
- Rights & Responsibilities of Members
 - All members will be added onto the SAVE R US listserv, where they will receive updates on upcoming activities, events and meetings.
 - Members are encouraged to attend at least four meetings/events within one semester in order to maintain membership. Peacemakers trainings also count towards the membership requirement.
 - If one fails to attend four consecutive meetings/events, the Executive Board will presume that the individual wishes to conclude his/her membership.
 - All members have the right to vote in all elections, which will be announced via the above-mentioned mailing lists and at meetings.

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

- The SAVE R US Executive Board shall consist of one President, two Vice-Presidents, one Secretary, one Treasurer, and one Public Relations Director.
- General Duties of the Executive Board
 - Executive Board members must read, understand, and always act according to this Constitution/Charter.
 - Executive Board members must serve and represent the organization and its membership.
 - Regular attendance to all (Executive Board and membership) meetings and events is mandatory. If more than three consecutive absences occur, the member will be asked to resign from his/her position.
 - Executive Board members may be required to take on additional responsibilities should a position of the Executive Board be vacated for whatever reason. In this event, the substituting Executive Board member(s) may continue to fill this function until the next election; or the Executive Board may call a special election at the next regular meeting.
- Definition and Specific Duties of the Executive Board
 - President
 - Shall set the agenda for and facilitate meetings
 - Ensures that the Executive Board carries out their responsibilities
 - Maintains relationships with community partners
 - Serves as the spokesperson and representative for the organization when necessary.
 - Vice President – College Events Director
 - Assumes duties of the President as needed
 - Assumes all the duties of the President when the President can no longer serve as President.
 - Responsible for working with the President, Student Council, the Dean’s Office and the President’s Office in planning and coordinating all SAVE R US campus events including “Unity Cafés,” Peace Week Swarthmore, and special events.
 - Only one vice-president can be a senior, the other must be an underclassman.
 - Vice-President – Peacemakers Director
 - Assumes duties of the President as needed
 - Responsible for working with the President, the Lang Center for Civic & Social Responsibility, the Delaware County Intermediate Unit, the local high school and elementary schools, and community organizations to plan and coordinate the College Peacemakers and High School Peacemakers program.
 - Only one vice-president can be a senior, the other must be an underclassman.
 - Secretary
 - Shall take minutes (and post them on the SAVE R US listserv) from all Executive Board meetings and SAVE R US Members meetings

- Shall compile a list of membership and keep a record of attendance at all meetings
- Shall send out regular reminders of meeting times to the membership
- Shall oversee the maintenance of the SAVE R US mailing list, network folder and SCCS website.
- Treasurer
 - Must not be a senior
 - Shall serve as a representative to the Student Budget Committee
 - Shall maintain records of all transactions pertaining to the budget (keep copy of receipts, make money transfer requests)
 - Shall regularly update the Executive Board on the state of the budget
 - Shall present the budget for the following year at Spring Budgeting and the SAVE R US April Annual Meeting
- Public Relations Director
 - Shall publicize all SAVE R US events and activities through flyers, emails, posters, and regular maintenance of the SAVE R US Parrish board space
 - Be responsible for ensuring adequate photographic coverage of SAVE R US events, including the Peacemakers program
 - Shall serve as a liaison to the editorial staff of the Phoenix, the Daily Gazette and the Halcyon to ensure adequate coverage of SAVE R US and SAVE R US events.
 - Coordinates organization recruitment efforts.
- Elections
 - The President and Vice-President positions are one-year appointments and are up for renewal every April.
 - The Secretary, Treasurer and Public Relations Director positions are semester appoints and are up for renewal in December and April.
 - A member of the Executive Board may remain on the Executive Board for however long she/he shall be revoted in.
 - Willing candidates present themselves and their platform at the Election Meeting (in December and April) and the voting is by ballot. If a tie or any discrepancies should arise, a revote will be called at a special meeting to be held within four days.
 - A candidate needs to receive a simple majority of votes from those present in order to attain for the position for which he/she runs.
 - The new Executive Board members will then meet for one final planning meeting before Winter Break and before Summer Break to plan and set goals for the new Executive Board for the upcoming semester.

EXPENSES

- Source of Funding
 - Student Budget Committee
 - SAVE R US will rely on the SBC for most of its expenditures to do with the group infrastructure and the ability to remain a viable presence on campus.
 - Student Affair Committee, Dean's Office, President's Office
 - SAVE R US will apply for funding from SAC, the Dean's Office and the President's Office for large events open to the entire community such as Peace Week Swarthmore.
- Budgetary Needs
 - Photocopying and stationary supplies for outreach, publicity and for copying materials for the Peacemakers program.
 - Funds for a group-owned subscription to the Journal of School Violence for McCabe Library
 - Funds for certified peace educators to conduct training workshops for the Peacemakers program.
 - Funds for unity café setup supplies, materials and refreshments
 - Funds to subsidize the cost of van usage to transport college students to the high schools and elementary schools as a part of the Peacemakers program.
 - Honoraria and transportation costs for guest speakers to come to Swarthmore
 - Funds for Peacemakers program supplies including travel boxes, markers, and other school supplies.

NOTICE OF APPROVAL (FOR SGC USE ONLY)

This charter was approved on: DECEMBER 7, 2004 .


Charter Classification: OPEN .

Charter Funding Classification: FULLY FUNDED .

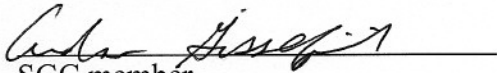
Renewal Date: FALL 2007 .




Student Groups Advisor



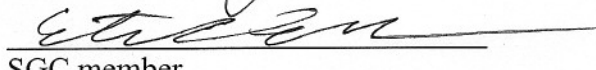
SGC member



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