

Society of Undergraduate Philosophers Constitution

Effective: 10/01/2003

Article I – Name

Section 1 The name of this organization shall be Society of Undergraduate Philosophers.

Article II – Purpose

Section 1 It shall be the purpose of this organization to provide a community among philosophically inclined students through interactions with faculty and peers in an informal, non-classroom setting.

Article III – Affiliations

Section 1 This organization does not have any off-campus affiliations.

Article IV – Membership

Section 1 The majority of the membership of this organization shall consist of regularly enrolled undergraduate students of the University of Washington. Only those Members who are currently registered University of Washington students have voting privileges.

Section 2 This organization allows Associate Members (University of Washington staff, faculty, alums, and non-University persons); however, Associate Members do not have voting privileges.

Section 3 This organization does not have any eligibility requirements beyond those requirements already established by the University of Washington.

Article V – Officers

Section 1 The Officers of this organization shall consist of five registered University of Washington students only. The Officer positions are listed as follows:

Title: President

Duties of the President shall consist of running SUPS meetings, serving as contact person for the group, acting as liaison with the department,

maintaining organizational structure, scheduling both officer and group meetings, and other duties as needed

Title: Vice-President

Duties of the Vice-President shall consist of offering support to the president, taking on leadership roles when the president is unavailable, acting as an “idea person” for future SUPS events and speakers, maintaining the undergraduate and/or SUPS library, and other duties as needed.

Title: Treasurer

Duties of the Treasurer shall consist of handling/keeping track of group funds and budget, arranging for food at events and meetings, managing fundraisers, and other duties as needed.

Title: Secretary

Duties of the Secretary shall consist of taking minutes at both officer and public meetings, organizing calendar, serving as liaison with Webmaster, managing publicity, and other duties as needed.

Title: Webmaster

Duties of the Webmaster shall consist of managing and updating this organization’s website in an effective and timely manner.

Section 2 Qualifications

Any Member in good standing of this organization can be Officer, provided that Member can effectively carry out the duties of an Officer’s position for an entire year from the first day of instruction of Winter quarter.

Section 3 Term of Office

The term of office for the President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, and Activities Coordinator of this organization shall be from the first day of instruction of Winter quarter for a period of one year. There is no term of office for the Webmaster, as long as the incumbent is a Member in good standing of this organization and a registered University of Washington student.

Section 4 Provisions for Removal

This organization shall consider the following reasons sufficient for removal of an Officer:

The Officer is no longer a registered University of Washington student.

The Officer has violated the University's rules for student-run organizations.

The Officer has misused or abused the rights and privileges of their position.

The Officer has misrepresented him/herself while a Candidate running for an Officer position during a general or special election.

The Officer cannot fulfill the duties of his/her position.

Article VI – Elections

Section 1 Selection of Officers shall be held in the month of October each year in a general election. Incumbent Officers will notify the membership of upcoming elections via email announcements, posted flyers, website announcements, and other usual and customary methods. Notification of upcoming elections will be made at least 14 days prior to the general election.

Section 2 Procedures for Filling Vacancies

General Election Vacancies

Those Members in good standing as of the first day of instruction for Autumn quarter are eligible for nomination for President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary.

Special Election Vacancies

In the event there is an unscheduled vacancy for President, Vice-President, Treasurer, or Secretary, a special election will be held to fill the vacancy. The special election will generally follow the same procedures as outlined for the general election, with the noted exception that the special election will be held within 45 days of the vacancy or during the general election in October, whichever comes first and can be reasonably accommodated. Those Members in good standing at the time the vacancy is announced are eligible for nomination for the vacant Officer position. There will be no special elections held during Summer quarter.

Section 3 Procedures for Voting

Members in good standing are eligible to vote. Voting will be done in person, and each Member will be given one ballot for this purpose. Once the voting poll is closed, no fewer than three incumbent Officers will

collect and count the ballots. Candidates will be notified first, and as soon as reasonably possible, of the election's outcome. A successive general announcement will be made to the membership.

Article VII – Meetings

- Section 1 Regular meetings of this organization shall be held at least once a month. Notification of upcoming meetings will be done via email announcements, posted flyers, and website announcements. Summer meetings are optional.
- Section 2 A quorum, if required for a vote, shall consist of at least 50% of the voting members present at any regular or special meeting.

Article VIII – Executive Board

- Section 1 There is no Executive Board for this organization. Management of this organization shall be vested in the Officers listed in Article V, Section 1.
- Section 2 Each Officer shall report their activities to the other Officers and to the membership at least once a month or as requested by the other Officers.
- Section 3 The duties for each Officer are described in Article V, Section 1.

Article IX – Advisers

- Section 1 There shall be one or more staff or faculty advisor from the Department of Philosophy who shall be members ex officio with no voting privileges.
- Section 2 Selection of a staff or faculty advisor will be jointly made by the Department of Philosophy Chair and the Officers of this organization.
- Section 3 The duties of an advisor to this organization are consistent with the general duties of any advisor of a student-run organization at the University of Washington.

Article X – Committees

- Section 1 Standing committees shall be identified and formed from within the existing membership. Any Member in good standing is eligible to lead and/or participate in a standing committee.
- Section 2 Appointment of committees shall be done by the Officers.

Article XI – Dues

- Section 1 Members are not required to pay dues.

Article IX – Constitutional Amendments

- Section 1 The constitution may be amended by a vote of at least a 60% majority membership at any regular or special meeting.
- Section 2 Constitutional amendments can be proposed at any regular or special meeting by any Member in good standing. Voting on a constitutional amendment will then take place at the next regular meeting in order to provide enough lead time to notify the entire membership of the upcoming vote on the proposed amendment.

Article XIII – Bylaws

- Section 1 Roberts Rule of Order or Sturgis Code of Parliamentary Procedure (latest edition) shall govern meetings of this organization within the requirements of this constitution and bylaws adopted by the membership of this organization.