

The Carleton University Philosophy Society

Preamble

In order to promote philosophical learning and inquiry and to help foster a safe and enjoyable environment for all students, we the members of the executive committee of the Carleton University Philosophy Society have seen fit to create a new constitution.

Article I – Name

The full title of this organization shall be “The Carleton University Philosophy Society” hereafter referred to as “the philosophy society”, “the society” or “society”.

Article II – Executive Committee

The executive committee, hereafter referred to as “the committee” shall be made up of a number of executives not less than two. Each member of the committee must be registered in one of the programs listed on the “Programs Offered” page on the Carleton University Philosophy website.

Article III – Executive Committee, Decision Making

1. Meetings of the Executive Committee

- a. A meeting shall be said to be in session if all communicating executives agree that the meeting is in session and there exists a quorum.
- b. A meeting shall be said to be out of session if all communicating executives agree that the meeting is out of session or if the meeting loses quorum.

c. Quorum

- i. Without quorum no decisions made or votes held will be considered valid or binding.
- ii. The committee will be said to have quorum when 2/3 (two thirds) or more of the executives are present.
 - a) An executive can be said to be present when they are either physically in the room with the other executives or when they are being informed in real-time or near real-time of the proceedings and agree to be counted as present.
- iii. The committee will be also said to have quorum if there is a zoom meeting in which all the executives participate and:

- a) 2/3 (two thirds) of the executives have indicated in the zoom meeting that they are present, willing and able to participate in the meeting.
 - b) At the conclusion of the meeting the executive who initiated the meeting ends the meeting according to the proper procedure outlined in article IV (four) subsection 1 (one) subsection b.
 - iv. The committee will be said to have retroactively had quorum if a vote is held via an online poll and all members have confirmed they have voted.
- 2. The committee shall, where possible, come to collective decisions by consensus. However, if any executive calls for a vote then a vote must be held according to the regulations defined in article IV (four) subsection 3 (three).
- 3. Voting
 - a. Unless otherwise indicated, each executive has one vote and only executives have a vote.
 - b. In voting the committee will use two definitions of majority when considering questions in which only two options are possible.
 - i. A simple majority, in which the requirement for the passing of a resolution is more than 1/2 (half) of the voting executives in favour of it.
 - ii. A supermajority, in which the requirement for the passing of a resolution is more than (2/3) two thirds of the voting executives in favour of it.
 - c. When choosing between three or more options whichever option receives the plurality of votes will be the option selected by the committee.
 - i. If a plurality can not be established the option with the least votes will be eliminated and the vote will be held again.
 - ii. If a plurality can not be established and all options have the same number of votes, a vote will be held to eliminate an option according to the procedure outlined in article IV (four) subsection 3 (three) subsection c.
 - d. In the case of an unresolvable tie an executive previously selected by the committee will act as a tiebreaker and their vote shall count twice.
 - e. Votes will be held by show of hands, voice or other physical indication of agreement when in person, by some word of agreement when in sms or internet messenger or by an anonymous method to be determined by the committee when the matter is considered sensitive.

Article IV – Executive Committee, Selection and Expulsion

- 1. If it is considered prudent by the committee to add executives to the committee and a vote is called the proposal to add a new member must pass by a supermajority. 3. Expulsion
 - a) If the committee wishes to expel an executive from the committee an anonymous

vote must be held.

- i. For the purposes of the vote the member whose expulsion is up for consideration will be considered not an executive.
- b) Before voting, grounds for expulsion must be established by the committee. If a vote is called to decide this, the voting procedure will follow article IV (four) subsection 3 (three) subsection c. the options presented will be:
 - i. Failure to fulfill duties without reasonable cause. This can non-exhaustively include missing meetings without notification, missing too many meetings without reasonable cause or failure to complete assigned or volunteered duties. Expulsion on these grounds requires a supermajority.
 - ii. Misconduct. This can non-exhaustively include intentionally misusing society resources or maliciously impeding the functioning of the committee/society events. Expulsion on these grounds requires a supermajority.
 - iii. Violent or aggressive behaviour. This can non-exhaustively include threats against executives or other people in and outside of the university community or actual acts of violence, physical or otherwise, against executives or other people in or outside of the university community. Expulsion on these grounds requires a simple majority.

2. Leadership Succession: Consensus-Based

Carleton University Philosophy Society has chosen to run a Consensus-Based process for its Leadership Succession. The following are the steps necessary to facilitate a Consensus-Based process.

1. All club members would be informed more than a week in advance of a meeting to attempt to decide the future leadership of the club in a consensus fashion and of a meeting location, with virtual options available for those unable to attend in person
2. The club membership may work towards consensus across multiple meetings
3. If successful, the members shall also designate a member to inform the Student Groups Administrator
4. If unsuccessful, the outgoing club president shall inform the Student Groups Administrator that the group will either pursue an election or ask for permission to have an application and interview process.

Article V – Executive Committee, Additional Powers

1. The committee has the power to create and dissolve offices in order to further the

enforcement of this constitution or other society business.

2. The committee has the power to create and dissolve subcommittees in order to further the enforcement of this constitution or other society business.

Article VI – Record Keeping

The committee shall designate an executive tasked with keeping accurate records of meeting proceedings and the results of votes in order to inform absent executives and allow for dispute resolution. These records should be made available, but not editable, to all executives.

Article VII – Amendment

1. Proposals to amend this constitution will be affirmed by supermajority. 2. In the event that an executive named in article V (five) subsection 1 (one) leaves or is expelled from the committee their names can be removed without vote, in the event that they all leave or are expelled the entire subsection can be removed without vote and the other subsections can be renumbered appropriately.