

CONSTITUTION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI (UNDERGRADUATE ENGLISH SOCIETY)

ARTICLE I- NAME

The name of the organization shall be the University of Cincinnati Undergraduate English Society.

ARTICLE II- PURPOSE

To allow students interested in literature, film, or other cultural pursuits to engage in constructive discourse and form lasting friendships within the undergraduate class.

ARTICLE III -MEMBERSHIP

3.1 There shall be three (3) classes of members; voting, non-voting, and honorary.

3.2 Voting membership shall be open to any full/part-time graduate and undergraduate students.

3.3 This organization shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, national origin, age, gender, disability or handicap, religion, sexual orientation, disabled veteran's status or Vietnam era veteran's status in any of its policies, procedures and practices. This policy will include but is not limited to recruiting, membership, organization activities, or opportunity to hold office

3.3 Non-voting membership shall be open to any student, and any member of the University faculty or administrative staff.

3.4 Honorary membership shall be open to any person desiring such membership, elected to such membership by a majority of the voting members.

3.5 There shall be NO LIMIT ON THE SIZE OF THE MEMBERSHIP of the Student Organization, provided, however, that the number of the non-voting and honorary members together, shall not exceed the number of voting members.

ARTICLE IV- OFFICERS

4.1 The officers of the Student Organization shall be a PRESIDENT, VICE- PRESIDENT, SECRETARY, AND TREASURER.

4.2 (1) In order to run for office in your respective organization you must have a 2.3 or above accumulative GPA.

(2) While in office the officer must maintain a 2.3 GPA and must not have below 2.3 for more than one semester.

(3) Officer must be a matriculated student and be in good standing with his or her college.

4.3 All officers serve for a term of ONE (I) YEAR or until their successors shall be duly elected and qualified.

4.4 Any officer who, during the term of his/her office, ceases to be a voting member, or fails to maintain his/ her status as a matriculating undergraduate/graduate (exception University organizations) student maintaining a 2.3 GPA, in good academic and disciplinary standing with their respective college, shall be removed from his/her office and a replacement shall be elected.

ARTICLE V- MEETINGS

5.1 Regular meetings of THE STUDENT ORGANIZATION shall be held at (minimum) at least twice a semester, the time for such meetings shall be determined by the Executive Board, with the approval of the voting members.

5.2 Special meetings of THE STUDENT ORGANIZATION may be called at any time by the Executive Board upon one week's notice to each member or by a petition of a majority of the membership, submitted one week before the scheduled meeting.

ARTICLE VI- UNIVERSITY ADVISOR

The advisor of this organization is Professor Gary Weissman.

ARTICLE VII- AMENDMENTS

7.1 Amendments to this Constitution may be proposed by a member and shall be voted upon at the next meeting of the Student Organization following notice of such proposed amendment to the voting members, SUCH NOTICE SHALL BE GIVEN WITHIN ONE WEEK OF THE TIME ANY SUCH AMENDMENT IS PROPOSED.

7.2 Amendments to this Constitution shall be the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of all voting members and with the approval of the appropriate governing board.

ARTICLE VIII- RATIFICATION

Ratification by two-thirds (2/3) of the charter members of the Student Organization shall be sufficient to establish this constitution between said members so ratifying and with the approval of the appropriate governing board.

BYLAWS OF THE UNDERGRADUATE ENGLISH SOCIETY

SECTION 1 - STUDENT OFFICERS

1(1) The President shall be the Executive Officer of the Student Organization and shall preside over all meetings of THE STUDENT ORGANIZATION AND THE EXECUTIVE BOARD. He/she shall be an ex-officio member of all standing committees.

1(2) The Vice-President, in the absence of the President shall PRESIDE AT ALL MEETINGS OF THE STUDENT ORGANIZATION AND OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD. The Vice-Presidents shall ALSO PERFORM SUCH OTHER DUTIES AS ARE ASSIGNED HIM/HER BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD.

1(3) The Treasurer shall be responsible in conjunction with the University advisor, to all fiscal matters of the student organization.

(a) The Treasurer shall collect and receive all funds paid to the student organization and shall deposit them in the official depository.

(b) The Treasurer, in conjunction with the University Advisor, will have final approval of all student organization expenditures. The Treasurer will co-sign all checks with the University Advisor in payment of bills.

(c) The Treasurer will abide by all Policies and Guidelines set down by their respective Funding Board (Undergraduate Funding Board, Graduate Student Association, Medical Student Association, or Student Bar Association).

(d) The Treasurer is responsible for educating his/her successor on the obligations of this position.

(e) The Treasurer will keep the accounts and books which, at all times, must be open to Inspection by the President, Executive Board, Funding Board, or any authorized auditor.

(f) The Treasurer will make reports a report at the Student Organization meetings and at other such times as the President or Executive Board may direct.

(g) Failure to abide by these aforesaid policies will result in Financial Probation of the Student Organization as defined by their respective Funding Board.

1(4) The Secretary shall keep the records of the membership and the minutes of the meetings of the Student Organization and the Executive Board. He/she shall make a report at the annual meeting of the Student Organization and at such time as the President or the Executive Board may direct.

SECTION 2 - ELECTIONS

2(1) Elections will be held AT THE FIRST MEETING IN September.

2(2) All officers shall be elected by a majority vote of those persons casting ballots.

2(3) Officers will take office IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THEIR ELECTION.

SECTION 3 - EXECUTIVE BOARD

3(1) The Executive Board shall be composed of THE ELECTED OFFICERS OF THE STUDENT ORGANIZATION AND THE UNIVERSITY ADVISOR.

3(2) The Executive Board shall DETERMINE THE POLICIES AND THE ACTIVITIES OF THE STUDENT ORGANIZATION, DISCIPLINE MEMBERS, APPROVE THE BUDGET AND HAVE GENERAL MANAGEMENT OF THE STUDENT ORGANIZATION.

3(3) THE EXECUTIVE BOARD SHALL MEET REGULARLY AT LEAST ONCE EACH MONTH AND AT THE CALL OF THE PRESIDENT.

3(4) THE IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT, TO BE A VOTING MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD, MUST BE AT THE PRESENT TIME A FULL/PART-TIME STUDENT ENROLLED IN ANY OF THE COLLEGES, SCHOOLS OR DIVISIONS OF THE UNIVERSITY, AND MAINTAINING A 2.3 SEMESTER GPA, AND IN GOOD ACADEMIC AND DISCIPLINARY STANDING IN HIS/HER RESPECTIVE COLLEGE, SCHOOL OR DIVISION. (UNIVERSITY ORGANIZATIONS MUST HAVE AN AFFILIATION WITH THE UNIVERSITY)

SECTION 4 - UNIVERSITY ADVISOR

4(1) The University Advisor shall consult with the Student Organization and ensure that the activities of the Student Organization are consistent with the stated purposes of the organization

4(2) The University Advisor is required to attend an Advisor Training sponsored by the Office of Student Activities and Leadership Development every two years.

4(3) The University Advisor has an obligation to know the rules and regulations governing the handling of all funds and to assist and advise the treasurer in all financial matters and to co-sign checks.

SECTION 5 - SPECIAL COMMITTEES

5(1) Special Committees may be established by the Executive Board and shall perform such duties as defined in their establishment.

5(2) The Executive Board shall appoint, and may remove, committee members and a Chairperson for each committee.

SECTION 6 - MEETINGS

6(1) Meetings shall be held AT SUCH PLACES AS DETERMINED BY THE EXECUTIVE BOARD.

6(2) The meetings of the Student Organization shall be given AT LEAST TWO (2) WEEKS NOTICE OF THE PLACE OF THE MEETINGS.

6(3) At all meetings, a quorum shall be ONE-HALF (1/2) OF THE VOTING MEMBERS OF THE STUDENT ORGANIZATION. A quorum is necessary for the organization to conduct official business. IN STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS THE BYLAWS SHOULD PROVIDE FOR A QUORUM AS LARGE AS CAN BE DEPENDED UPON FOR BEING PRESENT AT ALL MEETINGS IN ORDER TO CONDUCT THE ORGANIZATION'S BUSINESS.

6(4) All matters coming before the Student Organization which require the approval of the membership, and the election of officers, shall be carried by the majority vote of the voting members present, providing that a quorum is present, except for business specified in the constitution or bylaws which require a specific number, i.e., ratification, etc.

SECTION 7 – REVENUE

THIS SECTION SHOULD DEFINE ANY COLLECTION OF MONIES SUCH AS DUES, FUND-RAISERS, ETC., AND SHOULD DEFINE HOW THE MONIES ARE TO BE DISBURSED AND WHO SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ACCOUNTABILITY OF THE ORGANIZATION'S MONIES.

7(1) A membership fee of \$

This amount is **\$0 and** shall be paid to Treasurer of the Student Organization upon application for membership.

****Membership fees for Student groups who desire to receive funding from the University Funding Board (UFB) should equal \$.00 amount. The only exception are those groups that have a national affiliation; i.e. PRSSA, NAACP. Members of the organizations can elect to affiliate with the chapter locally and not nationally. To receive funding from UFB students cannot be required to pay dues.***

7(2) the annual dues shall be \$0 AS DETERMINED by the Undergraduate English Society payable in 0 installments, on the first of October, January, April, and May.

7 (3) Registered student organizations can generate revenue from sources (fundraisers, bake sales) other than those defined in this section as determined by the student organization's Advisor, Executive Board and approved by the general body of the student organization. The funds generated through fundraising must be used to further

the student group's mission, programmatic efforts, or their support of philanthropic efforts (i.e., Relay for Life).

7(4) The disbursement of said revenue shall be determined by the Executive Board with the approval of the Student Organization and in accordance with university policies.

7(5) The Treasurer shall be responsible for the accountability of the Student Organization's monies, and shall report to the Executive Board and the Student Organization.

7(6) In case of dissolution of the Chapter and liquidation of its affairs, any money or other assets remaining after the payment of all obligations shall be distributed in accordance with the provisions of disbursement statement of these By-Laws.

SECTION 8 - DISCIPLINE

8(1) Any member being two months in arrears in the payment of dues shall stand suspended and shall be notified immediately, in writing, by the Secretary. Such member, upon payment, and upon making application for reinstatement to the Executive Board within thirty (30) days of such notice may be reinstated by two-thirds (2/3) vote of the entire Executive Board. In the event such member is not reinstated he/she shall be dropped from membership and shall be notified, in writing by the Secretary

8 (2) Any member charged with conduct not in accord with the purposes of the Student Organization and against who such charges are sustained after due and proper hearing before the Executive Board, may be expelled from membership by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the entire Executive Board

8(3) Any student whose membership in the Student Organization has been terminated in any manner shall forfeit all interest in any funds or other property belonging to the Student Organization and may not use the organization's name in connection with any further activities.

8(4) Appeal process: Any member whose membership in the Student Organization has been terminated by action of the Executive Board of the organization may appeal his/her expulsion, in writing, and within two weeks of the Executive Board's action to the Student Organization's respective governing board If the expulsion is upheld by the governing board, the student may appeal to the Student Organizations and Activities Office in writing, and within two weeks of the governing board's action

SECTION 9 – IMPEACHMENT

ANY MEMBER MAY INITIATE OFFICERS REMOVAL BY THE FOLLOWING PROCEDURE.

9(1) Petition Executive Board with signatures of 1/3 of all voting members petition should state reason for removal.

9(2) Executive Board shall then notify officers and call for removal vote within fourteen days of the filing of the petition.

9(3) Memberships shall be notified at least one week prior to removal vote meeting.

9(4) At the meeting for removal, the petition's stated grievances shall be made public and the officer charged shall be allowed to respond to the charges of the petition.

9(5) Removal from office shall require a vote of 2/3 of all voting members.

SECTION 10 - VACANCY OF OFFICE

10(1) In case of resignation or removal of any officer, an interim acting officer shall be appointed by the Executive Board.

10(2) The President shall call for an election within fourteen days after vacancy of any office.

10(3) Election shall be conducted as stated in the bylaws.

10(4) Should the office of President become vacant, the Vice-President should complete the President's unexpired term and call for an election for Vice-President consistent with the provisions of Section 10(2).

SECTION 11 - RULES OF ORDER

"Robert's Rules of Order, Revised" shall be the parliamentary authority for all matters of procedure not specifically covered by these by-laws.

SECTION 12 - AMENDMENTS OF BYLAWS

12 (1) Amendments to these Bylaws may be proposed by any member and shall be voted upon at the next meeting of the Student Organization following notice of such proposed amendment to the voting members, SUCH NOTICE SHALL BE GIVEN WITHIN ONE WEEK OF THE TIME ANY SUCH AMENDMENT IS PROPOSED.

12 (2) Amendments to these Bylaws shall be by the affirmative vote of one-half (1/2) of all voting members and with the approval of the appropriate governing board.

Section 13-DISSOLUTION

13(1) Upon the dissolution of (student organization) for any reason, all work, funds, and property controlled by the organization will be transferred to the University of Cincinnati or to an organization that models the organization's purpose.

13 (2) The Advisor and executive officers of the student organization will oversee the dissolution process.

Section 14-NON-HAZING CLAUSE

14 (1) The laws of the state of Ohio and the University of Cincinnati policies concerning hazing shall be observed.

14 (2) Hazing shall be defined as participating in or allowing any act or coercing another, including the victim, to do any act that creates a substantial risk of causing mental or physical harm to any person. A forced or coerced activity shall also be considered hazing when the initiation or administration into, or continued affiliation with, a university organization is directly or indirectly conditional upon performing the activity. In no event shall the willingness of an individual to participate in such an activity serve as defense in cases of hazing.

14 (3) Actions and activities, which are explicitly prohibited, include, but shall not be limited to the following:

- a. Any activity that creates a substantial risk of physical or mental harm.
- b. Paddling, beating, or hitting individuals.
- c. Wearing anything designed to be degrading or to cause discomfort.
- d. Depriving individuals of the opportunity to obtain a minimum of six hours of sleep per day, proper and adequate means, or access to means, of maintaining body cleanliness.
- e. Activities that interfere with an individual's academic efforts by causing exhaustion or loss of reasonable study time.