

CONSTITUTION OF
THE SOCIETY FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF AMERICAN PHILOSOPHY

ARTICLE I - Name and Purpose

1. The name of this organization shall be the Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy.
2. The purpose of the Society shall be to promote interest and research in American philosophy and to encourage original, creative work in the spirit of that tradition.

ARTICLE II - Membership

Any individual who supports the objectives of the Society and is willing to contribute to the achievement of those objectives is qualified for membership.

ARTICLE III - Governance

- 1.1 The officers of the Society shall be a President and Secretary-Treasurer. Each officer shall be elected for a period of three (3) years. They shall be elected in successive years.
- 1.2 There shall be an Executive Committee consisting of the President, the Secretary-Treasurer and six (6) other members serving staggered terms of three (3) years.
- 1.3 There shall be an Advisory Council whose members are to be selected by the President in consultation with the Executive Committee.
- 2.1 It shall be the duty of the President to preside over the meetings and to take such measures as are necessary and prudent to safeguard the Society's primary goals and to promote its successful continuation and progressive expansion. In consultation with members of the Executive Committee, the President shall determine dates and places of meetings and shall appoint committees and chairmen of committees. He/she shall also chair the Executive Committee meetings.
- 2.2 It shall be the duty of the Secretary-Treasurer to conduct official correspondence involving the Society both internally in relation to its active members and externally in relation to public notices and correspondence. The Secretary shall also record the minutes of the meetings. He/she shall also receive and deposit in a special checking account the membership dues levied annually; prepare an annual report of the Society's financial standing; compile a list of members to be circulated among the members. He/she shall have the authority to sign checks on behalf of the Society for the disbursement of funds for the fully authorized purposes of the Society.
- 2.3 It shall be the duty of the Executive Committee:
 - (1) to establish policies for the conduct of the Society;
 - (2) to formulate policy concerning the affiliation of the Society with other learned societies;
 - (3) to advise the officers and committees of the Society;
 - (4) to advise the President on the appointment of committees.

ARTICLE IV - Meetings

1. The Society shall meet at least once a year under its own auspices, at a time and place to be selected by the Executive Committee.
2. The annual business meeting shall take place at this time.

ARTICLE V - Dues

Membership dues as set by the Executive Committee shall be collected by the Secretary-Treasurer each spring. There shall be no dues for retired persons, graduate students, or those involuntarily unemployed.

ARTICLE VI - Committees

1. The President of the Society shall be a member ex officio of all committees.
2. The President shall, at an appropriate time, appoint a program committee to consist of the Secretary-Treasurer and three additional members to arrange the program for the meeting. This committee shall have the power to invite members or non-members to participate in the programs and to accept or reject applications to present papers.
3. Other committees may be appointed for special purposes by the President with the consent of the Executive Committee.
4. All committees shall report to the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE VII - Elections

The President and the Secretary-Treasurer shall be elected by a simple majority of members in good standing present at the business meeting. A nominating committee shall present a slate of officers but the floor will be open for additional nominees from the membership. The six members of the Executive Committee shall serve three (3) year terms staggered in such a way that two members are elected each year. The Executive Committee shall be elected by the membership in the same manner as the President and the Secretary-Treasurer. No member may serve more than two consecutive terms.

ARTICLE VIII - Regional Divisions

The President may, upon approval of the Executive Committee, authorize the organization of regional divisions within the Society; and may appoint a member as temporary Secretary for a particular region, with power to arrange and preside at meetings of the members in that region. Regional division shall not collect dues over and above the national dues.

ARTICLE IX - Amendment

The constitution may be amended by a two-thirds majority of those members in good standing voting. The vote shall be by mail ballot.