

CONSTITUTION of the
Society for Philosophy and Technology

ARTICLE I. NAME AND OBJECTIVES

SECTION 1: The Society for Philosophy and Technology ("the Society", her-after) shall be an international professional society open to all qualified individuals.

SECTION 2: The objective of the Society shall be to facilitate, support, and encourage literary and educational projects that have as their purpose to advance philosophical understanding of technology. To this end, the Society shall engage in activities such as: publishing newsletters, periodicals, essays, and monographs in this field; sponsoring conventions and meetings; awarding prizes for distinguished work in the field.

SECTION 3: The Society may maintain affiliation with other societies if the Board of Directors ("the Board", hereafter) determines that such affiliation would further the purposes of the Society.

SECTION 4: The Society is organized exclusively for literary, educational, and scientific purposes, including, for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 or the corresponding provision of any future United States revenue law.

SECTION 5: No part of the earnings of the Society shall inure to the benefit of or be distributed to its members or other persons, except that the Society shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in Sections 1 and 2 hereof. No substantial part of the activities of the Society shall be the carrying on of propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the Society shall not participate in or intervene in any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office.

ARTICLE II. MEMBERSHIP AND DUES

SECTION 1: Membership shall be open to qualified scholars, other professional persons and students who are in sympathy with the objectives of the Society. Prima facie evidence of qualification shall be constituted by an advanced degree or its equivalent in any academically recognized discipline and/or enrollment in an educational program related to technology studies.

SECTION 2: Only members shall be eligible to hold office in the Society and to vote upon matters pertaining to the Society.

SECTION 3: Annual membership dues shall be set by the Board upon recommendation from the Secretary. The Board shall be empowered to reduce or waive dues in extraordinary circumstances.

SECTION 4: A list of members in good standing shall be published at least every two years.

ARTICLE III. OFFICERS AND BOARD

SECTION 1: The Society shall elect a President. The individual elected shall first be designated the President-elect and serve as Vice-President of the Society for two years, and then shall serve a two year term as President of the Society. No individual shall serve more than one term as President. In the event that a President cannot serve out his or her full term, the President-elect shall serve as President for the remainder of the unexpired term. Terms shall begin at the international meeting which falls on odd numbered years.

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SECTION 2: There shall be a Board of Directors consisting of the President, the President-elect, the most recent Past President, the Secretary and Treasurer ex officio, any editor-in-chief of a continuing Society publication ex officio, and five other persons elected by the members of the Society. The terms of office of the elected members of the Board shall be four years each, so staggered that the terms of two of these members shall expire one year, and the remaining three two years hence. At the completion of the first term of office a member of the Board may be extended an invitation to accept renomination for a second term. There shall be no limit on the number of terms an individual may serve on the Board, but an individual may not serve more than two consecutive terms. Terms shall begin at the international meeting which falls on odd numbered years.

SECTION 3: The function of the Board shall be to formulate and give effect to the major policies of the Society. A proposal before the Board shall be considered adopted if approved by a majority of the Board present or voting by other reasonable means. A referendum of any action of the Board shall be held at the time of the next election if a demand for it is filed with the Secretary by fifteen members two months before the election. The Board shall be overruled only by an absolute majority of the members.

SECTION 4: The Board shall appoint a Secretary and Treasurer of the Society, to supervise the business affairs of the Society. The Secretary and Treasurer need not be different individuals. The Secretary and Treasurer shall make annual reports to the Board. The Secretary and Treasurer shall be appointed for four-year terms, but serve at the direction of the Board. There shall be no limit on the number of terms the Secretary and Treasurer may serve. The Secretary and Treasurer shall serve as voting members on the Board.

SECTION 5: Authority for the receipt and disbursement of funds shall rest in the Board. The Treasurer is authorized to receive and disburse funds under the direction of the Board.

SECTION 6: The Board may designate three of its members to constitute an executive committee which shall have and exercise whatever authority of the Board that the Board shall delegate by resolution in writing.

ARTICLE IV. ELECTIONS AND MEETINGS

SECTION 1: Elections and other business of the Society or of the Board may be conducted by mail.

SECTION 2: The Board shall be empowered to call business meetings of itself, or of the Society. There shall be one such meeting of the Society every two years. One-third of the voting members, present in person or by proxy, shall constitute a quorum for any meeting of the Board or of the Society. A proposal before the Society shall be considered adopted if it is approved by a majority of those casting ballots, either in person or by other reasonable means.

SECTION 3: The Board shall be empowered to call professional meetings of the Society.

SECTION 4: Elections shall be held during November and December. Ballots shall be mailed to all full members on or before December 31 and to be counted must be returned to the Secretary on or before March 31. Those elected shall assume office at the international meeting which falls on odd numbered years.

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SECTION 5: The immediate past president the Secretary and at least two other Society members approved by the Board shall serve as a Nominating Committee.

SECTION 6: Nominations for President shall be made by the Nominating Committee. In addition, nominations may be made by any five members of the Society. All nominations must be filed with the Secretary on or before December 31.

SECTION 7: Nominations for Board members shall be made by the Nominating Committee. In addition, nominations may be made by any five members of the Society. All nominations must be filed with the Secretary on or before December 31.

SECTION 8: Election of the President and members of the Board shall be by plurality of votes cast.

ARTICLE V. PUBLICATIONS

SECTION 1: The Board is empowered to publish material relevant to the objectives of the Society. Subscription rates to and prices for such publications shall be determined by the Board upon recommendation of the individual or individuals responsible for said publication.

SECTION 2: The Board is empowered to enter into agreements with commercial publishers to publish material relevant to the objectives of the Society.

SECTION 3: The Board shall appoint an editor-in-chief for each of the publications of the Society. Editors-in-chief of all continuing publications shall be appointed for four years terms unless they stipulate a shorter term, but serve at the discretion of the Board. All editors-in-chief shall submit annual reports to the Secretary for transmittal to the Board. Each editor-in-chief of a continuing Society publication shall be ex officio a voting member of the Board.

SECTION 4: The Board shall establish policies and guidelines governing the operations of the Society publications. The Board shall determine whether an editorial board shall be appointed for each of the Society publications. Members of editorial boards shall be appointed by the Board upon nomination by the editor-in-chief of the relevant publication.

SECTION 5: When the editorship-in-chief of a Society publication is vacant, the President shall appoint a search and selection committee. When the term of office of the editor of a continuing Society publication is expiring and the editor-in-chief wishes to be considered for another term, the Board shall appoint a three-member review committee one member of which shall be a member of the Board. In both cases the committee shall report its findings to the Board before an editor-in-chief is appointed or reappointed.

ARTICLE VI. AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

SECTION 1: Amendments to this document may be proposed by the Board and shall appear on an election ballot with an indication that this is a Board proposed amendment. Amendments may also be proposed by a member. Any amendment proposed by a member must be accompanied by the signatures of five members and must be filed with the Secretary two months before an election. Any amendment proposed by a member shall be circulated to the members of the Board in order to ascertain whether the Board wishes to make a recommendation concerning its adoption.

SECTION 2: Proposed amendments shall be adopted if approved by two thirds of the members who actually vote during an election.

ARTICLE VII. DISSOLUTION OF THE SOCIETY

SECTION 1: Upon the dissolution of the Society, the Board shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all liabilities of the Society, dispose of all assets of the Society exclusively for the purposes of the Society in such manner, or to such organization or organizations established and operated exclusively for charitable, religious, educational, scientific, or literary purposes as shall at the time qualify as an exempt organization or organizations under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or corresponding provisions of any future United States Internal Revenue law), as the Board of Directors shall determine.

WHEREAS copies of this Constitution were distributed to all members of the Society prior to a meeting of the Society in the State of New York in September, 1983, and

WHEREAS its provisions were deliberated upon and amended in appropriate ways at that meeting by members of the Society present and voting and

WHEREAS it was unanimously approved at that meeting by members of the Society present and voting. We, the undersigned members of the Board of the Society, do acknowledge and attest that this Constitution constitutes the organizing instrument of the Society for Philosophy and Technology.

(Signed)

Albert Borgmann, Board Member, University of Montana

Edmund Byrne, Treasurer, Indiana University-Indianapolis

Stanley Carpenter, Secretary, Georgia Inst. of Technology

Paul T. Durbin, Editor, RPT, University of Delaware

Don Ihde, Board Member, SUNY, Stony Brook

Alex Michalos, President, University of Guelph

Carl Mitcham, Past President, Polytechnic Inst., New York

Joseph Pitt, Board Member, Virginia Polytechnic Inst.

Friedrich Rapp, Board Member, Technical Univ., Berlin

Kristin Shrader-Frechette, Vice President, Univ. of Cal., Santa Barbara

Langdon/Winner, Board Member, Univ. of Cal., Santa Cruz