

Constitution of the Indiana University Hungarian Cultural Association

Preamble

In order to promote Hungarian language and culture and to create and/or support opportunities for social and professional exchanges among native Hungarian and non-Hungarian students interested in Hungarian language, Hungarian culture, and Hungarian studies in general, we, the students of the Indiana University Hungarian Cultural Association, do affirm this Constitution of our organization.

Article I. NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Hungarian Cultural Association.

Article II. MEMBERSHIP

All students, graduate and undergraduate, native Hungarian and non-Hungarian, pursuing a degree that incorporates Hungarian language and/or area studies, studying Hungarian language, or merely interested in Hungarian language and/or culture, and also non-students are eligible for membership by submission of a request to the HCA president. There are no membership dues. Participation in the Association is without regard to such characteristics as age, color, disability, ethnicity, gender, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status.

Article III. OFFICERS

The officers of the Association shall be a President, a Vice-President and a Treasurer. The offices of Secretary and/or Representative are possible, but not required. Officers must have a genuine interest in Hungary or Hungarian language.

Article IV. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Elections are held once a year. The officers shall be elected from among the full membership to serve one-year terms. One-semester appointments are permitted when necessary. No officer shall serve more than three consecutive years in the same capacity. Officers are nominated by the faculty sponsor and Association membership and voted in by majority vote of Association members.

Article V. FACULTY ADVISOR

The Association faculty advisor participates at Association meetings, helps with funding requests, and supports the executive members.

Article VI. AMENDMENTS

1. Proposals to amend the Constitution and by-laws shall be presented, with advance notice to the Association listserv, at the weekly Hungarian language coffee hours which also serve as Association meetings. Amendments will be circulated to the full membership by email and/or by posting to the Association website.
2. Proposed amendments shall be ratified at the next meeting by a two-thirds majority of those voting. Members away from campus shall be given due notice of proposed amendments and may return absentee votes, which must be received by the President by the time of the meeting in which the amendment is to be voted upon.

BY-LAWS

Article I. EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

1. The President

- a. The President shall plan and coordinate events, correspond with the faculty advisor and public, and complete university paperwork.
- b. The President shall liaison with the Department of Central Eurasian Studies.
- c. The President shall set the agenda for all meetings and direct all activities of the Association.
- d. The President shall issue notices of meetings and shall conduct the official correspondence of the Association, in consultation with the President.
- e. The President shall share the duties of Secretary and/or Representative with the Vice President if those positions are unfilled.

2. The Vice-President

- a. The Vice-President shall assist the President in implementing all aspects of the academic and social programs of the Association.
- b. The Vice-President shall preside at meetings in the absence of the President and shall have the powers of the President, should the President temporarily be unable to perform his offices.
- c. The Vice-President shall assist with gathering funding from financial supporters, specifically interactions with the IU Student Association.
- d. The Vice President shall share the duties of Secretary and/or Representative with the President if those positions are unfilled.

3. The Treasurer

- a. The Treasurer shall maintain the books of account of the Association.
- b. The Treasurer shall maintain the Association's student organization account at the Office of the Bursar in accordance with the Student Organization Accounts office policies and procedures.
- c. The Treasurer shall coordinate all fundraising activities for the Association, including securing grants and funding for events.
- d. The Treasurer shall communicate frequently with the faculty advisor concerning the financial situation of the Association.

e. The Treasurer shall receive all requests for the dispersal of the Association's funds and process them in a timely manner in accordance with the wishes of the Association officers and IU policies and procedures.

4. The Secretary

- a. The Secretary shall maintain the records of the activities of the Association.
- b. The Secretary shall otherwise coordinate the dispersal of all pertinent information concerning the Association and its activities including invitations and flyers.
- c. The Secretary shall assist with organizing all programs and events put on by the Association

5. The Representative

- a. The Representative shall attend weekly coffee hours to form a direct line of communication with members.
- b. The Representative will maintain the facebook page and website, updating as necessary with event announcements and photographs from recent events.

Article III. MEETINGS

1. Meetings of the Association are informal, held once weekly when classes are in session and advertised through the Association listserv and various calendars (IU official calendar, REEI calendar, CEUS calendar).
2. The time and place of the meetings shall be determined by the Association officers, the faculty advisor, and the Hungarian Chair.
3. The President and faculty advisor may call special executive meetings of the officers.

Article IV. NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS MEETINGS

1. Elections for the offices of the Association shall be conducted once a year.
2. All nominations must be received by the President prior to the conclusion of a meeting convened in the month that an election will be held. At the discretion of the Association officers, nominees may be permitted to make brief statements in support of their respective candidacies at this meeting.
3. Nominations and voting are permitted during the same meeting.
4. Elections shall be conducted by voice or paper vote or by e-mail.
 - a. All members of the Association are eligible to vote in any election.
 - b. The candidate receiving a plurality of the votes cast shall be declared the winner of an election.
 - d. In the event that an office is uncontested, members need not cast a ballot for that office.
5. The Association officers shall officially assume their respective offices on the last day of the semester.

Article V. EVENT SUPPORT

1. The Association shall arrange annual events to commemorate the Hungarian revolutions of 1848 and 1956 and weekly coffee hours for Hungarian language practice (when classes are in session).
2. The Association shall give whatever support it can to Hungarian events proposed by its membership. The Association reserves the right to accept or deny proposals for Hungarian events.

Article VI: UNIVERSITY COMPLIANCE

This organization shall comply with all Indiana University regulations, and local, state and federal laws.

Article VII: ANTI-HAZING

Hazing is strictly prohibited. Hazing shall be defined as any conduct which subjects another person, whether physically, mentally, emotionally, or psychologically, to anything that may endanger, abuse, degrade, or intimidate the person as a condition of association with a group or organization, regardless of the person's consent or lack of consent.

Article VIII: DISSOLUTION

Any money remaining in the Associations' Student Organization account will be returned to donors if the Association dissolves.

Article IX: PERSONAL GAIN CLAUSE

This organization, if raising funds, shall ethically raise and distribute profits from organizational functions to either the organization or to members who provide a service that directly benefits the organization. Individual members may not receive compensation directly from for profit companies if acting as a representative of a student organization.

Article X: STATEMENT OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

The HCA allows any interested student to participate in, become a member of, and seek leadership positions in the organization without regard to arbitrary consideration of such characteristics as age, color, disability, ethnicity, gender, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status.

Article XI.

This constitution was ratified by a meeting of members in BLOOMINGTON, INDIANA on 15 APRIL 2014.