

## **Article I: Name**

This organization shall be known as The Civil Society at Indiana University

## **Article II: Mission Statement**

The purpose of this organization and its activities are:

- A. To facilitate civil debate and discussion of current social and political issues
- B. To educate members on current issues and the principles of civil discourse
- C. To organize public programming to build a better democratic society
- D. To engage in service activities to improve the campus and Bloomington community

## **Article III: Membership**

1. A person is considered a member if they:
  - a. Have been recorded in attendance at least three meetings in a semester
  - b. Have exhibited consistent civility and respect for fellow members
2. Privileges of membership include:
  - a. The right to participate in organization activities
  - b. The right to run for organization office
3. An individual who has not yet met the meeting requirement of membership may still participate in meeting debates and discussions
4. A member may be censured by a two-thirds vote of the officers for behavior such as:
  - a. Failure to respect fellow members in debate and discussion
  - b. Exhibiting threatening or malicious behavior toward other members
  - c. Violating the organization's policies against hazing, discrimination, or sexual harassment
5. A member who has been censured may not participate in organization debate or discussion at the next meeting.
6. Membership may be revoked by a two-thirds vote of the officers if a member has consistently violated organization policy. If a member is up for removal, they must be notified by the president prior to the officer vote and given a chance to appeal before the entire board.
7. Policies of member censure are for extreme circumstances and officers are strongly encouraged to resolve problems and disputes through discussion and negotiation without resorting to constitutional process.

## **Article IV: Officers**

### *Section A*

The officers of this organization and their duties shall consist of:

1. President
  - a. Chairs executive and general meetings
  - b. Serves as spokesperson of organization
  - c. Primary organizer of organization events, with assistance of other executive members in their particular capacities
  - d. Appoints officer to chair meetings when they cannot attend
2. Treasurer

- a. Plans fundraisers
  - b. Directs and approves organization spending with President
3. Secretary
  - a. Keeps minutes of executive and general meetings, recording major decisions, ideas suggested, topics discussed, individuals speaking, and final votes
  - b. Sends out weekly email to members containing meeting minutes, announcements, and news of upcoming events
  - c. Takes attendance at meetings
4. Debate Director
  - a. Plans debate or discussion at weekly meeting and selects speakers and moderator(s)
  - b. Regularly communicates with members for suggestions of future discussion topics
  - c. Collects research resources to make public for members (news outlets, magazines, think tank outlets, etc.)
5. Service Director
  - a. Plans and executes two organization service activities a semester
  - b. Coordinates with philanthropic organizations on campus and in Bloomington community
6. Communications Director
  - a. Oversees and regularly posts to chapter social media accounts
  - b. Designs and organizes distribution of flyers and media releases
  - c. Contacts campus media to notify of upcoming major organization events
  - d. Shape and promote organization's brand

### *Section B*

1. Any officer may be impeached by a two-thirds vote of the other officers.
2. An impeached officer may appeal their impeachment to the general membership, who may decide by a majority vote.
3. If the president is removed or resigns, the position may be filled by an immediate special election of the executive board members, with the new president being elected by a majority vote of the officers.
4. If an officer is removed, the position may be filled by special election conducted using the voting procedures in Article VI.
5. Impeachable offenses include:
  - a. Failure to perform organization duties
  - b. Persistent disrespect for members and other officers
  - c. Violations of the hazing, non-discrimination, and sexual harassment clauses of this constitution.

### **Article V: Meetings**

1. Meeting shall be scheduled by the chapter officers with dates, times, and locations made public to the members at least three days beforehand.
2. The organization shall hold at least eight meetings in a semester.
3. Meetings shall be chaired by the president or an appointed substitute (moderators running debates and discussions shall be considered appointed chairs for the duration of the activity.)
4. An individual may be asked to leave by the chair for disruptive, antagonistic, or malicious behavior.

#### **Article VI: Elections**

1. Anyone who has been a member of the organization for at least one semester may be nominated for any position
2. Elections are to be held in April of the spring semester with notice four meetings in advance.
3. Elections are to be done by secret ballot by all members present at the election
4. A candidate must win a majority of the votes submitted to be declared victor.
5. If no candidate receives a clear majority then the candidate with the least votes will be dropped from the ballot and the remaining candidates will be voted on; this process will continue until one candidate receives a clear majority.
6. The Vice President shall be in charge of all election proceedings except in the case of him/her being a candidate or unable to perform those duties; then they shall be performed by an appointee of the President
7. Ballots are to be counted by the President and Vice-President and the victor is to be declared at the same meeting at which they are submitted.
8. If a position is left vacant after elections, a nominee is to be put forth for the position by the President and voted on by the executive board

#### **Article VII: Non-Discrimination**

1. No student will be excluded from membership or participation on the basis of his or her race, color, religious status or historic religious affiliation, sex, national origin, age, political affiliation, employment status, veteran status, disability, citizenship status, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, or criminal record.

#### **Article VIII: Non-Hazing**

1. 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 IX: Sexual Harassment**

1. Sexual harassment is strictly prohibited. Sexual harassment shall be defined as unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature.

#### **Article X: University Compliance**

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

#### **Article XI: Programs Involving Children**

1. This organization, when working with children, will be aware of and abide by the University's Programs Involving Children (PIC) Policy.

#### **Article XII: Personal Gain**

1. 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 from for-profit companies if acting as a representative of a student organization.

#### **Article XIII: Finances and Budgets**

1. Finances shall be managed by the treasurer, who will write budgets for programming and direct spending outlays.
2. All spending must be approved by the president.
3. Organization finances shall be stored in an organization bank account, which the president and treasurer will have access to.

#### **Article XIV: Advisor Selection and Removal**

1. Faculty advisors shall be selected by majority vote among the organization officers.
2. An advisor may be removed for such actions as:
  - a. Creating a toxic discourse environment.
  - b. Disruption or obstruction of student officers' activities.
  - c. Direct violation of clauses in this constitution.
3. An advisor is to be removed by a two-thirds majority vote of the organization officers.

#### **Article XV: Amendments**

1. Amendments must be submitted in writing by a member in good standing and must be approved by a two-thirds vote of the organization officers. If approved, the amendment goes to a full vote among members, in which it may be approved and added to the constitution by a two-thirds vote of members in good standing present at the voting meeting.
2. Meetings at which an amendment is to be voted on must be announced two weeks in advance.