

Constitution of the ACPA

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CONSTITUTION

Article I: NAME

The name of this organization shall be the American Catholic Philosophical Association.

Article II: OBJECTIVE

The objective of this organization is to promote the advancement of philosophy as an intellectual discipline consonant with Catholic tradition. Among the means used to achieve this objective, the organization shall strive to develop philosophical scholarship, to improve the teaching of philosophy, and to communicate with other individuals and groups with similar aims.

Article III: MEMBERSHIP

A. All are eligible for membership who accept the objective of the Association.

B. Individual membership shall be divided into the following classes:

Constituent, those whose chief professional work is described in Article II; members who retire after a minimum of five (5) years of constituent membership as Emeriti;

Associate, any person interested in the objectives of the Association;

Student, those whose interest in the objectives of Article II is rightly qualified as student interest;

Life, based on the manner in which the dues of the first two classes of membership is paid; and

Corresponding, a membership honoris causa offered by the Council to recognized scholars.

C. Institutional membership is for institutions of higher learning interested in the objectives of the Association.

D. Election to membership shall be made by the Council. Nomination to membership may be made to the Council by any member of the Association.

Article IV: OFFICERS AND GOVERNMENT

A. The officers of the Association shall be a President, a Vice- President who is also President-Elect, a Secretary, and a Treasurer.

B. There shall be a Council consisting of the four Officers named in section #A, the immediate past President, and fifteen (15) other members. Only Constituent members shall be eligible for the offices named in these two sections.

C. The Vice-President (President-Elect) and the members of the Council shall be elected by a plurality of signed postal ballots cast by Constituent members of the Association.

In no case shall an election be held to be valid, if votes are cast by fewer than fifty (50) members of the Association.

The President shall hold office for one year, and shall not be eligible for a succeeding term. The Vice-President (President-Elect) shall succeed the President at the close of the Annual Meeting.

D. Members of the Council shall hold membership for three (3) years, and are not eligible to succeed themselves. Five (5) Council members are to be elected annually.

E. The Council shall have, in general, supreme control over all the affairs of the Association according to its Constitution and Bylaws; and in particular it has the following functions:

to regulate the general policy of all publications originated or sponsored by the Association;

to organize the Annual Meeting and its program;

to control the affiliation of the Association with other learned societies;

to control any unusual allocations or disbursements of funds.

The Council shall meet as often as, and at such time and place as, the President after consultation with the other Officers deems advisable. In conducting its business, a simple majority shall constitute a quorum.

F. Vacancies which may occur in the list of Officers may be filled for the unexpired term by the President, or in his absence by the Vice-President, with the advice and consent of the Council. Such appointees shall be eligible for election.

Article V: MEETINGS

The Association shall meet annually at a time and place to be selected by the Council, unless by a majority vote the Council decides that conditions at the time of the proposed regular annual meeting are such that the meeting must be postponed. In that event, all Officers shall hold their offices until such time as a meeting may be held. The same shall apply to all appointments to committees made at the last regular meeting.

Article VI: AMENDMENTS

This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the Constituent members attending any regular meeting or represented therein by proxies, provided a draft of the proposed amendment be sent to each Constituent member at least thirty (30) days before the regular meeting.