

HONORS COUNCIL CONSTITUTION

THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE

ARTICLE I

NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Honors Council. The organization is a student organization of the University of Tennessee.

ARTICLE II

PURPOSE

The objectives of the Honors Council shall be to promote interest in Honors studies and the Honors community at the University of Tennessee, especially within the Chancellor's Honors Program. The Honors Council represents student needs in regard to Honors courses, Honors faculty, Honors privileges, Honors communities, and Honors facilities.

ARTICLE III

MEMBERSHIP

Any Honors Program student at the University of Tennessee may hold membership on the Honors Council.

Honors Program students may serve on the Honors Council committees; however, committee members are not direct members of the Council with the exception of the chairperson.

This organization shall not discriminate on the basis of age, color, ethnicity, gender, national origin, disability or handicap, race, religion or sexual orientation. This policy will include, but is not limited to recruiting, membership, organization activities or opportunities to hold office.

ARTICLE IV

OFFICERS

Section 1. Election of Officers

- A. The officers of this organization shall be president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer.
- B. Officers will be elected by current Council members, with each active member of the Honors Council eligible to cast one vote. A plurality of votes will constitute a victory.
- C. Officers of the Council will be elected by the first week of April each year.
- D. Any member of the Council may run for office.
- E. Officers serve one-year terms and may be re-elected for additional terms.
- F. Officers shall be in good academic standing, as monitored by the staff of the Chancellor's Honors Program.

Section 2. Vacancies of Office

Should the office of President of the Honors Council become vacant, the Vice-President shall succeed to the Presidency until the next election. The other officers shall assume the next highest office. The vacancy created for the treasurer shall be

filled by appointment of the Executive Committee. Should any office other than the Presidency become vacant, the same procedure shall be followed.

Section 3. Recall of Officers

- A. Officers are subject to recall for malfeasance in office.
- B. Recall procedures can be initiated by any active member and will proceed at the consent of 25% of the active members.
- C. A hearing will be conducted at a regular meeting for the presentation of evidence from all concerned parties.
- D. A majority vote of two-thirds of the active members at the meeting following the hearing shall constitute removal from office.
- E. Any recall shall be submitted in writing to the advisor(s) of the Honors Council.
- F. In the event of a dismissal, the student may appeal to the advisor for additional action(s).

ARTICLE V REPRESENTATIVES

Section 1.

- A. There will be three Council members for each class.
- B. Elections will be held after the election of officers.
- C. Class representatives serve one-year terms and may be re-elected for additional terms.
- D. Freshman shall be elected by the freshman class by popular vote.
- E. Sophomore, junior, and senior representatives shall be elected by Council members. Liaisons, committee chairs, and the representatives of the other classes serving on the existing Council shall vote for candidates, including both current representatives running for re-election and new candidates. Officers shall vote in each election, with the exception of the President, who will follow the procedure set forth in the by-laws.

Section 2. Vacant Positions

Should a representative position become vacant, the Executive Committee shall take recommendations and appoint a student to fill the position.

Section 3. Recall of Representatives

Recall of representatives will follow that set forth by ARTICLE IV, Section 3.

ARTICLE VI COMMITTEES AND LIAISONS

Section 1. Committees

- A. Any Honors or Chancellor's Honors Program student may serve on the Honors Council committees; however, committee members are not direct members of the Council with the exception of the chairperson.
- B. Selection for these committees is set forth by an application process. Members will be selected by the Chair of the committee in consultation with current members and the Executive Board.

- C. Committee chairs of an established Honors Council committee will be elected for the next year by members of that committee and approved by the Executive Committee by the third week of April.
- D. Committee chairs assume a voting position on the Council upon selection and report all business to the Executive Committee and Council.
- E. New committees may be formed as needed. The Chair will be appointed by the Executive Committee.
- F. Committees will call regular meetings.

Section 2. Executive Committee

- A. The membership of the Executive Committee of the Honors Council shall consist of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer
- B. The Executive Committee shall serve as the coordinating body of communication and cooperation among the various committees and representatives of the Council and Honors Programs.
- C. The Executive Committee shall:
 - 1. Make recommendations on activities undertaken by Honors Council committees and representatives.
 - 2. Propose and approve a budget for the Honors Council.
- B. The officers will meet regularly and call meetings as needed.

Section 3. Liaisons

- A. Liaisons will be appointed by the President.
- B. Liaisons will attend Honors Council meetings and shall report to the Executive Committee.
- C. Each liaison shall have one vote on the Council.
- D. Liaisons shall be appointed for the Learning Community and Graduate Advisor. Others shall be appointed as necessary.

ARTICLE VII

FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS

Section 1. The Council shall operate within the budget constraints provided by the Chancellor's Honors Program.

Section 2. Should this organization be dissolved, any remaining funds will go to the Chancellor's Honors Program.

Section 3. This is a not-for-profit organization. No dues will be collected from members of the Council.

ARTICLE VIII

STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE WITH CAMPUS REGULATIONS

Section 1. This organization will not conspire to engage or participate in hazing, or commit any act that causes or is likely to cause bodily danger, physical harm, or personal degradation or disgrace resulting in physical harm or mental harm to any fellow student.

Section 2. This organization shall comply with all University of Tennessee policies and regulations and with all local, state, and federal laws.

**ARTICLE IX
ADVISOR**

The Advisor shall be the Director of the Chancellor's Honors Program.

**ARTICLE X
CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS**

Section 1. This constitution and by-laws may be amended by a 2/3 vote of the membership.

Section 2. An open hearing at regular meeting will be conducted one week in advance.

Section 3. Any active member may propose an amendment to the constitution.

Section 4. Proposals to amend the constitution must be submitted in writing to the President or Council advisor.

BY-LAWS

OFFICER DUTIES

A. President

1. Coordinates all activities and members of this organization.
2. Acts as a liaison to the University of Tennessee.
3. Official representative of the organization.
4. Calls regular and special meetings.
5. Presides at meetings.
6. Prepares agenda for meetings.
7. Acts as a liaison with the Director and staff of the Chancellor's Honors Program.

B. Vice-President

1. Assumes duties of President, when necessary.
2. Assists President in coordinating activities.
3. Acts as a liaison with the directors of the Chancellor's Honors Program.

C. Secretary

1. Keeps minutes for each meeting and provides the members and advisor of the Council with a copy.
2. Maintains an active roll sheet.
3. Facilitates Council communication that includes, but is not limited to, e-mail reminders and providing minutes.

D. Treasurer

1. Assists President and Vice-President in coordinating organization activities.
2. Maintains accurate and current account of all organizational funds.
3. Liaison to Student Activities for the purposes of funding.
4. Responsible for dispensing of funds in accordance with goals and programs established by the organization.

E. Committee Chairs

1. Responsible for overseeing his or her respective committee.
2. Acts as a liaison between the committee and the Honors Council.

MEETINGS

- A. Meetings will be open to all Council members and executive officers.
- B. The meetings are to be organized and controlled by officers and active members.
- C. Meetings will be held weekly.
- D. Members must provide an excuse for a missed meeting prior to the meeting. Failure to do so or acquiring an excessive number of absences as determined by the Executive Committee shall result in a meeting will the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall decide what action is to be taken.

ROLE OF PRESIDENT IN VOTING

The President shall vote in elections only in the case of a tie and, furthermore, will use discretion in the discussion prior to voting.

AGENDA

Any old or new business, proposals, announcements, etc shall be submitted to the President no later than the Friday before Monday meeting in order to be included on the agenda.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Any concerns not covered by this Constitution shall be handled at the discretion of the Executive Committee.