



**POLITICS, PHILOSOPHY, AND ECONOMICS
SOCIETY @ CAROLINA**

Constitution and Bylaws



- I. Chapter Name and Affiliations
 - a. The UNC – Chapel Hill Student Life has registered the name of the organization as the Politics, Philosophy, and Economics Society @ Carolina. This organization is an affiliated local chapter of the international Politics, Philosophy, and Economics Society.
 - i. Unofficial Secondary Names
 1. PPE Society@Carolina, PPE Society@UNC, PPES@Carolina, PPES@UNC, PPES@C
 - ii. Affiliated International Organization Website
 1. <http://ppesociety.web.unc.edu/>
- II. Purpose
 - a. The focused nature of the modern academic world has led to the neglect of a comprehensive perspective of three fundamental social sciences. Students concentrating in the well-defined spheres of philosophy, politics, and economics commonly lack the opportunity to consider their views from a perspective outside their primary discipline. Such a perspective is vitally important to the validity, reception, and application of ideas. The Politics, Philosophy, and Economics Society @ Carolina is dedicated to providing a non-ideological forum in which students are able to participate in discussions, debates, lectures, and other events designed to critically explore the intersection of these three foundational social sciences.
- III. Procedures for Annual Registration of the Club
 - a. Prior to the registration deadline of every year, the newly elected President of Administration and Treasurer must attend UNC – CH required club training, and fill out any and all required Heel Life club paperwork for re-registration with the school.
 - b. The faculty advisor must fill out all required Heel Life advisor paperwork for re-registration with the school. The advisor must notify the newly elected board 3 full calendar months prior to the registration deadline if they have no intention of serving as faculty advisor for the following calendar year.
- IV. Financing
 - a. Members of the Executive Board, primarily through the Office of the Treasurer, will work diligently to solicit, apply for, and raise funds for various club events and activities as needed. This may include, but is not limited to, funding for promotional materials, event catering, speaker fees, etc.
 - b. The Executive Board, at the discretion of the Faculty Advisor, retains the right to accept funds from other departments and clubs if offered so long as the use of the funds is in keeping with the allowed uses for club-affiliated revenues, and is in compliance with any and all UNC – Chapel Hill club policies existing at the time of usage and/or allocation.

- c. The Executive Board, at the discretion of the Faculty Advisor, retains the right to allocate funds as needed during any co-sponsored events with any academic department or affiliated club, so long as the use of the funds is in keeping with the allowed uses for club-affiliated revenues, and is in compliance with any and all UNC – Chapel Hill club policies existing at the time of usage and/or allocation.
- d. The Executive Board, primarily through the Office of the Treasurer, may apply for funds through the Politics, Philosophy, and Economics Department in an amount less than or equal to the expected contribution of student club affiliated economic resources during the course of the academic calendar year. Any use or application of allocated funding can be increased or decreased at the discretion of (1) the Politics, Philosophy, and Economics Department, and/or (2) the Executive Board of the Politics, Philosophy, and Economics Society @ Carolina. These funds are at the discretionary use of the above referenced parties, so long as the use of the funds is in keeping with the allowed uses for club-affiliated revenues, and is in compliance with any and all UNC – Chapel Hill club policies existing at the time of usage and/or allocation.
- e. Any collection of revenue from members or events throughout the year must be reported and subsequently used in keeping with any and all relevant UNC – Chapel Hill club policies existing at the time of usage and/or allocation.
 - i. Revenue must be kept with and/or stored by the Office of the Treasurer or other Executive Board members, including the faculty advisor, as required by the UNC – Chapel Hill club funding guidelines in effect at the time of usage and/or allocation.
 - ii. Membership dues are non-refundable.
 - iii. Please see Article V. Subsection (d.) for voting procedures related to the mishandling of club and/or university funds.

V. Faculty Advisor

- a. The Faculty Advisor (disambiguation: University Advisor) must be an adult over the age of 22 who is employed as a full-time faculty or staff member on the UNC – Chapel Hill campus for the entirety of their post.
 - i. It is recommended, but not required, that the faculty advisor(s) for the Politics, Philosophy, and Economics Society @ Carolina be an individual professionally associated with the Politics, Philosophy, and Economics Department or curriculum at UNC – Chapel Hill.
- b. This individual(s) will be the adult who is recognized by UNC – Chapel Hill’s Heel Life annual application as the faculty advisor(s) for the following term of registration.
- c. This individual will serve as the primary point of contact between the Politics, Philosophy, and Economics Society @ Carolina and the Politics, Philosophy, and Economics Department.

- d. General duties include, but are not limited to, assistance in the organization of events with the Offices of the Presidents of Organization and Administration, as well as the Executive Board more broadly as needed. The Faculty Advisor is also required to act as an Executive voting member during Constitutional and Bylaw Amendment procedures, as well as during the removal of an Executive Board member from Office. Each year the faculty advisor will formalize their commitment to the following term by filling out the Faculty Advisor paperwork required by UNC – Chapel Hill’s Heel Life annual club registration.
- e. For voting procedures, please see Article V subsection (d.)

VI. Executive Officers

a. Executive Board Composition

- i. The Executive Board will at all times be comprised of a minimum of 2 students (President and Treasurer), as required by UNC – Chapel Hill.
- ii. Though the general body is open to students seeking any form of degree from UNC – CH, the executive board may only be comprised of full-time, undergraduate students and/or non-traditional students seeking a bachelor’s or associate’s degree through UNC – CH.
- iii. The Executive Board will not be comprised of more than 5 members at any given time, unless this document is formally amended to increase the size of the Executive Board.
- iv. No more than two individuals may fill roles of equal authority at any given time.
 - 1. In re ‘Two individuals of equal authority.’ This amendment is designed to limit the number of executive members at each level of authority to two. E.g. the club currently has two Presidential Offices, and therefore may not elect a third individual under the title of President. This requirement includes the future election of any Vice-Presidents and Secretaries. No individual may occupy 2 executive offices at the same time.
 - 2. In the event that a formal Executive Board vote results in a tie, the Faculty Advisor will serve as a tie-breaker.
 - 3. NOTE: There are some instances in which the Faculty Advisor must approve a motion in addition to a vote by the Executive Board in order for the motion to pass.
 - 4. For voting procedures, please see Article V, subsection (d.)
- v. The current composition of the Executive Board is comprised of the Office of the President of Organization, the Office of the President of Administration, and the Office of the Treasurer.
 - 1. It is recommended that this composition be amended only when needed by the demands of the club, in consultation with the

Faculty Advisor. These positions may expand to include the Offices of Vice President and Secretary.

- vi. The Executive Board may, at their discretion, expand the authority of hierarchy to include standing committees and subsequently appointed ‘Committee Heads’ as needed by the demands of the club, and as approved by the then-currently elected Executive Board.
 - 1. Any existing Committee Heads do not have any voting rights on the Executive Board.
 - 2. Committees can be dissolved at any time during the academic year by a simple majority vote of the Executive Board, and are to be automatically reviewed at the beginning of each Fall semester, and immediately following the election of a new Board, as necessary.
 - 3. Committee Heads may be present at Executive Meetings as deemed necessary and appropriate by the Executive Board.
- b. General Requirements of Executive Office
 - i. The term of executive office is one (1) full calendar year, from January 1, 20XX to December 31, 20XX.
 - ii. Officers are limited to two (2) terms in any one office on the Executive Board, and are limited to three (3) total terms on the Executive Board in any office.
- c. Powers and Duties
 - i. Office of the President of Organization
 - 1. This office is primarily responsible for running and organizing any and all events, meetings, and elections for the Politics, Philosophy, and Economics Society @ Carolina.
 - a. This may include, but is not limited to, the coordination of speakers, catering, advertising, debate prep, volunteer shifts, etc. as needed for any particular event or club meeting.
 - b. This office is also responsible for coordinating club efforts for annual PPE Society gatherings, held at UNC in alternating years, beginning in the Spring of 2020, to the extent allowed by the Politics, Philosophy, and Economics Department.
 - ii. Office of the President of Administration
 - 1. This office is primarily responsible for coordinating club events and annual registration with Heel Life through UNC – CH, heading alumni outreach, and managing the club list serve for the Politics, Philosophy, and Economics Society @ Carolina.
 - a. this Office serves as the primary point of contact between UNC – Chapel Hill and the club, as well as between the

Executive Board and general body members, both past and present.

- b. This office is required to attend UNC – CH Leadership training, and for ensuring continued compliance with regulations outlined by both the University and the Politics, Philosophy, and Economics Department at UNC – CH.

iii. Office of the Treasurer

1. This office is primarily responsible for obtaining and all funds and promotional materials for the Politics, Philosophy, and Economics Society @ Carolina.
 - a. This may include, but is not limited to, reporting, recording, raising, and authorizing expenditures of the club.
2. This office is required to attend UNC – CH Treasurer training, and for ensuring continued compliance with financial regulations outlined by both the University and the Politics, Philosophy, and Economics Department at UNC – CH.

iv. Other

1. The Executive Board, and each of its constituent members, is required to participate in any and all Executive Board votes from which they have not been recused/removed, either in person or by email.
2. The Executive Board is required to hold an Executive meeting at least once per month throughout the Fall and Spring semesters, excluding December and May.
 - a. Each Executive Board member is required to attend a 2/3 majority of all Executive Board meetings (EBM) and general body meetings (GBM) held in a given semester.
 - b. Prior notification to the Executive Board of 72 hours for an absence at either/or an EBM or GBM is required for all Executive Board Members.
3. For voting procedures, please see Article V, subsection (d.)

d. Voting Procedures

- i. All votes must take place during an Executive session of the Board or by email if absent from the meeting.
- ii. Funding
 1. General funding requests and approvals must pass a simple majority vote of the Executive Board, excluding the Faculty Advisor.
 2. Fund usage must be approved by a simple majority vote of the Executive Board.
- iii. Standing Committees and Committee Heads

1. Committee Heads may be appointed as needed by a unanimous vote of the Executive Board, excluding the Faculty Advisor, and a verbal statement of necessary commitment by the appointed individual.
 2. Appointment procedures may include multiple candidates, or a single candidate, as determined by the discretion of the Executive Board through a unanimous vote, excluding the Faculty Advisor.
- iv. Removal from Executive Office
1. Termination - defined as the immediate relinquishment of all rights and responsibilities of the Executive Office from which they are being relieved as a result of a unanimous vote of the Executive Board and the Faculty Advisor.
 - a. Termination from an Executive Office requires a unanimous vote by the Executive Board (excluding the individual being terminated), followed by official termination by the Faculty Advisor.
 - b. The Executive Board Member will be removed from the Executive Board immediately following a unanimous vote, but may resume office if not subsequently removed by the Faculty Advisor within 14 calendar days.
 - c. This individual may continue as a general body member of the club, but is no longer permitted to run for or be appointed to any Executive or Committee position in the club for 1 calendar year following their termination.
 - d. **Grounds for Termination and Required Procedures of Termination of an Executive Board Member are explicitly defined under Article IX, subsection (a) of the Constitution and Bylaws.**
 2. Resignation - defined as the voluntary relinquishment of all rights and responsibilities of the Executive Office from which they are resigning occurring a maximum of 14 calendar days after the individual's declared intent to resign is received by the Executive Board and Faculty Advisor.
 - a. The Executive Board may approve written resignations at any point after their submission. Approval by all Executive Board members is required for immediate resignation. If no action is taken by the Executive Board after written submission of the intent to resign for 14 calendar days, the individual's resignation is automatically approved.
 - b. Once a written resignation is approved by the Executive Board, this individual may not seek to be reinstated to

office or ‘un-resign.’ This individual may continue as a general body member of the club, but is no longer permitted to run for or be appointed to any Executive or Committee position in the club for 1 calendar year following their resignation.

c. For resignation procedures, see Article IX, subsection (d.)

v. Constitution and Bylaw Ratification Process

1. As needed during the academic year, the Executive Board may seek to amend some, or all, or the Constitution and Bylaws of this club. Any proposed amendment requires unanimous consent of all Executive Board Members.

a. Note: Voting Regulations and Formal Procedures related to Termination, Suspension, and Constitutional/Bylaw Ratification may NOT be amended unless explicitly advised by the Faculty Advisor and UNC legal counsel.

vi. Other

1. Any votes not explicitly defined above may pass by a simple majority of the Executive Board.

VII. Elections

a. Any undergraduate club member may run for Executive Office during annual elections.

i. Membership is determined by Heel Life registration and minimum attendance of (1) meeting and (1) club-sponsored or hosted event in the fall prior to running for office, in conjunction with general membership requirements being maintained throughout the academic year, as outlined in Article VII.

b. Special Elections and Appointments

i. Non-Presidential Positions that are vacated prematurely may be filled by unanimous appointment of the remaining Executive Board members.

1. Appointees must be made from the list of individuals who ran for that position in the most recent election cycle.

2. If the open position is a Presidential Office, this position must be filled by appointment from within the existing Executive Board (besides the other Presidential Position) by the Faculty Advisor, with consultation of the other President. The subsequently vacated position can then be appointed from the list of individuals who ran for the position in the most recent election cycle. For example, if the President resigns, and the Treasurer is appointed the new President, then the Treasurer position may be filled from the list of candidates who ran in the most recent elections.

3. If the open position is for the Office of the Treasurer or the President, the appointed individual must complete University-required training prior to assuming full powers of the office, including voting rights.

c. The Transition Period

- i. Between October 31, when the new Board is elected, and December 31, when the term of the old Board expires, both the old and new board members will act as the executive board. The new board members will have no voting rights until January 1st.
- ii. The purpose of this overlap is to provide a transition period for incoming board members.
- iii. This transition period is not subject to any term limits outlined in Article V, subsection (iii).

VIII. General Membership Requirements

- a. In order to be considered a general member of the Politics, Philosophy, and Economics Society @ Carolina, an individual must:
 - i. Attend at least one (1) general body meeting (GBM), and one (1) officially co-sponsored or hosted PPES@ C event during the regular school year.
 - ii. Officially register as a PPES @ C member through the UNC – CH Heel Life portal.
 - iii. Executive members must be concurrent general body members during their tenure in office.
 - iv. There is no limit on the number of years one may be a general member of the PPES@ C club, so long as they are a part or full-time student of UNC – CH as an undergraduate, graduate, or Ph. D. student during their membership.
- b. General Body members may be suspended or terminated under the same guidelines and procedures followed for Executive Office holders.

IX. General Body Meeting Procedures

- a. Each General Body meeting will (at a minimum) consist of administrative announcements, followed by an informal discussion or debate about a relevant PPE topic, decided upon prior to the meeting. The meeting will include some sort of short informational presentation on the topic, followed by guided discussion questions. The Executive Board should also accept event suggestions during general body meetings.
- b. General Body meetings will be held (at a minimum) once per month in a time and place determined appropriate for the semester by the Executive Board. The Executive Board retains the right to reschedule, move, or cancel meetings due to unforeseen circumstances, weather events, University holidays, etc. These changes will be communicated as soon as possible to General Body members, and

every effort will be made to reschedule meetings in an efficient and conscientious manner.

X. Other Procedural Guidelines

a. Reasons for Termination

- i. Reported Violation of the University or the PPES @ C non-discrimination and/or harassment policies.
- ii. Conviction or Discovery of Conviction of any academic cheating, plagiarism, or other UNC Honor Code violation.
- iii. Conviction of any civil or criminal offense, misdemeanor or otherwise, at the local, state, and/or federal level.
- iv. Non-compliance with requirements of Executive Office or General Membership of the PPE Society @ UNC.
- v. Threatening behavior during public events, general body meetings, meetings with the Faculty Advisor, or towards guest speakers, lecturers, and UNC-CH professors.
- vi. Expression (verbal or physical) of suicidal or homicidal thoughts/behaviors directed towards any individual at any time.
- vii. Occurrence of physical or sexual harassment, assault, or intimidation of any individual during any PPES @ C affiliated meeting or event.
- viii. The theft or misuse of club funds as outlined by UNC – CH Heel Life policies;
- ix. Suspension or Expulsion from UNC – Chapel Hill broadly;
- x. Other behaviors as determined appropriate for suspension by the Executive Board in conjunction with the faculty advisor and legal counsel.
- xi. NOTE: Publicly expressing an unpopular political, religious, or otherwise personal belief or idea is NOT grounds for termination, unless:
 1. The statement is a direct threat against an individual or federally protected class;
 2. The statement includes any generally recognized racial, ethnic, gender-based, religious, or sexual orientation-based slurs;
 3. The statement advocates for generalized violence towards any individual present or not present as a result of their personally held beliefs.
- xii. Termination procedures resulting from statements made under subsection (viii.), listed above, are additionally subject to the following guidelines.
 1. A minimum of 2 persons must have witnessed the statement in question and separately corroborated both the actual statement made as well as their concerns about the statement prior to termination procedures beginning. These two persons may be any individuals who witnessed the statements, whether this be

executive members, general body members of the club, or other individuals present at the meeting/event.

2. The statement must have occurred during a PPES @ C general body meeting or event, or towards PPES @ C members during club-related duties. It is not within the powers of the Executive Board to suspend an individual from Executive Office for statements made outside of their club-related duties, unless there is an immediate concern for the physical safety of club members.

xiii. General Notes on Termination:

1. In several sections above, reasons for termination also coincide with actions that necessitate or may cause general concern for or about the individual involved, or else are considered criminal acts. The Executive Board of PPES @ C society is REQUIRED to report any and all concerning behavior to the Faculty Advisor as soon as possible after occurrence. It is only with direct permission and explicit requirement from the Faculty Advisor and University, legal, or law enforcement counsel that the Executive Board is empowered to proceed with any action other than suspending or impeaching a member of the PPES @ C club.

b. Procedures for Termination

- i. The Executive Board as well as the Faculty Advisor are required to follow all UNC – CH, local, state, and federal policies, ordinances, and laws, related to any civil or criminal investigation resulting from actions necessitating suspension and/or termination proceedings.
- ii. Termination of Executive Office automatically results in termination of General Membership of the Politics, Philosophy, and Economics Society @ Carolina for the entirety of their remaining time as a student at UNC – CH.
- iii. The terminated individual may not recoup any membership fees or event dues paid during their membership in the club.
- iv. All proceedings of this nature are confidential and at no time are the details to be shared outside of the Executive Board unless approved by the UNC legal department and with prior permission of the terminated individual.
 1. Any official statement made by the Executive Board must be reviewed by UNC – CH legal services and/or the Faculty Advisor prior to its publication/announcement, which will occur during a GBM. No statement of this kind may be sent over private email, text, web app, or the club's official list serve or email list. No alumna will be informed of this sort of statement.

2. Cooperation with News publications will be made solely by the Faculty Advisor as advised by legal counsel.
3. Any Executive Board Member who is found to have violated any termination procedures will also be subject to immediate termination procedures.

c. Procedures for Resignation

- i. The individual who wishes to resign must submit a written letter of resignation to both Presidents of the Executive Board, and the Treasurer a minimum of 14 calendar days prior to the intended date of resignation.
- ii. The individual may resign for any reason, and is not required to share this reason with any or all Executive Board members or the faculty advisor. If this individual chooses to publicly share information related to their resignation with members of the club, executive board, faculty, University or future employers of PPES @ C Executive Board or generally affiliated club members, that information can be used for any purpose by the PPES @ C club and/or its Executive Board.
- iii. The resigning individual is not permitted to disclose written materials from Executive Board members or the Faculty Advisor without express permission from the author(s).
- iv. While an individual who chooses to resign from the Executive Board is not automatically barred from general body membership, the Executive Board does retain the right to move for termination of the individual's General Body member status in the event that the reason for resignation also meets any reason for termination as outlined in Art. IX, subsection (a.).