

# Constitution of the Carnegie Mellon Libertarian Club

Version of  
November 30, 2003

## Statement of Purpose

This club exists to energize and organize the efforts and mutual education of libertarian-minded members of the Carnegie Mellon community. The club is not formally connected with the national, state, or county Libertarian Party organizations. We explicitly welcome LP members, minarchists, anarcho-capitalists, Objectivists, and others who advocate personal freedom, personal responsibility and voluntary cooperation without coercion.

Consistent with our membership in the CMU community, one of our main goals is educational—we seek to increase awareness of what it means to be a libertarian and to grow the base of people who self-identify as libertarians.

## Article I - Name

The name of this organization is the Carnegie Mellon Libertarian Club.

## Article II - Membership

Membership in this club shall be open to the students, staff, faculty and alumni of Carnegie Mellon University. This club is therefore bound by any statements of non-discrimination which the University shall from time to time adopt.

The requirements for membership shall be:

1. Satisfactory academic standing, as determined by the University, for currently enrolled students
2. Interest in the principles and practicalities of libertarianism
3. Participation in one club meeting and one club event.

4. Approval by one-fifth of the membership.

Members are not required to subscribe to any particular statement of belief or loyalty; open-minded doubters are welcome.

## **Article III - General Assembly**

1. The General Assembly shall consist of all members present at a regularly scheduled meeting.
2. Meetings of the General Assembly may be called by the Executive Board or by two-fifths of the Membership.
3. Action of the General Assembly shall be made by simple majority. Any powers not specifically delegated to the Executive Board are vested in the General Assembly.

## **Article IV - Officers**

The officers of the club shall be two Co-presidents and the Secretary-Treasurer.

The officers shall be elected at the first meeting of the fall and spring semesters. Each term of office begins immediately after the election is complete and lasts until the next election has completed.

Candidates for the various offices shall specify, in writing, one or more principles which they believe define and embody, to them, the meaning of libertarianism. The Membership shall consider these declarations when voting, and each successful candidate shall swear, affirm, or otherwise formally represent that he or she will carry out the term of office in accordance with his or her stated principles and with this Constitution.

Vacancies shall be filled by special election at the first regularly scheduled meeting following a resignation or removal. Officers may be removed from office by a three-fourths vote of the Membership.

Any officer who ceases to feel bound by his or her stated principles of office shall resign and may choose, without prejudice, to stand for re-election based on different principles during the resultant special election.

## Article V - Offices

**Secretary-Treasurer** The Secretary-Treasurer shall have been a member for at least one semester.

The duties of the Secretary-Treasurer shall be:

1. Maintain a record of the proceedings of all club meetings.
2. Maintain a roll of the Membership.
3. Carry on the general correspondence of the club.
4. Report all actions of the Executive Board to the Faculty Advisor.
5. Provide notice of meetings to all members as specified by the By-laws.
6. Handle all monies, funds, bills, and accounts of the club.
7. Present membership and financial reports at each meeting.

The Secretary-Treasurer may choose to delegate the sending of meeting invitations and the keeping of meeting minutes to willing club members.

**Co-presidents** The Co-presidents shall have been members for at least one semester.

The duties of the Co-presidents shall be:

1. One or another Co-president, chosen by lot from among those present, shall preside over each meeting of the General Assembly.
2. The Co-presidents shall represent the club in relations with the Student Body and the Administration of Carnegie Mellon University.

## Article VI - Executive Board

The Executive Board shall consist of the officers of the club. The Executive Board shall have the power to:

1. Authorize all club projects.
2. Enforce this Constitution and any Bylaws.

3. Authorize expenditures, not to exceed a limit to be defined in the bylaws, between any two meetings of the General Assembly.
4. Appoint committees to handle special duties. The bylaws may specify committees that must be appointed.

Meetings of the Executive Board may be called by any two members of the Executive Board or or by any three members of the club. To transact business, at least two officers must be present. All action shall be taken by a simple majority.

Members may be removed from the club by the Executive Board for failure to comply with the Constitution or Bylaws. In this case, the Executive Board must notify the membership of this action and the reasons for it as soon as is practical, and in any case no later than the next meeting of the General Assembly.

## **Article VII - Meetings**

Meetings shall be held at least monthly during the regular school year. The time, place, and manner of notification shall be set by the General Assembly and included in the Bylaws.

## **Article VIII - Amendments**

A vote of at least three-fourths of the General Assembly is necessary to amend this Constitution.

A vote of at least two-thirds of the General Assembly is necessary to amend the Bylaws.

Neither this Constitution nor the Bylaws may be amended without each member in good standing being mailed or given written notice of intent to amend at least two weeks prior to such amendment.

## **Bylaws**

1. The Secretary-Treasurer (or delegate) shall notify the Membership via electronic mail three days prior to all meetings.

2. The Secretary-Treasurer and any other officer may jointly authorize any expenditure which has been published in the club budget.
3. The spending limit of the executive board between two club meetings on items not previously budgeted for shall be \$50.