

## **Perkins Student Association By-Laws**

### **Article I. Name**

The name of this Organization shall be the Perkins Student Association

### **Article II. Purpose**

The purpose of the Perkins Student Association Constitution and By-Laws are to help the organization run according to the purpose of the organization mentioned in the Constitution (Const. Art. I, Sec A).

### **Article III. Membership**

#### **Section A: Requirements of Membership**

The members of the Perkins Student Association shall consist of all students officially enrolled in Perkins School of Theology of Southern Methodist University. All Ph.D. students in the Graduate Program in Religious Studies are to be included as authorized members of the Student Association.

#### **Section B: Leadership**

The leadership of the Student Association shall be the Perkins Student Association Council, which includes the following:

- a. Executive officers (refer to Const. Article III, Sec. A);
- b. Representatives of Organized Interest Groups or OIGs (refer to Const. Art. IX, Sec. C);
- c. First, Middle, and Graduating Year Representative officers elected from the respective members of each academic class as determined by academic hours (refer to Const. Article V, Sec. A.2);
- d. Student Senators as allocated by the SMU Student Senate who shall represent the Student Association on the Senate and report the activities of the SMU Student Senate to the Student Association;
- g.

~~One Hybrid Program Degree Student Representative will represent the concensor of is  
members to the PSA council.~~

#### **Section C: Term Length**

All terms expire on graduation of the spring semester. Newly elected or appointed positions take office that same day.

### **Article IV. Membership Meetings**

**Section A.** The business meetings of the membership will be held monthly during the academic year.

**Section B.** The President of the organization may call other meetings.

#### **Section C. Quorum**

- i. At all meetings of the organization, a quorum shall consist of the members present in regard to voting.

#### **Section D. Procedures of PSA Council in Exercising its Legislative and Judicial Functions**

- i. A quorum of the PSA Council shall be constituted by a majority of its members as listed in Article I, Section B. Unless otherwise provided by this Constitution, all legislative actions and judicial decisions of the PSA Council shall be decided by a majority of the PSA Council members listed in Article I, Section B present and voting. The Council shall determine at its first meeting each semester the dates and times of its meetings during months for which there are classes. The President when presiding or any other member presiding shall only vote in case of a tie. The agenda for any PSA Council meeting shall be set by the President and shall consist of at least any item submitted in writing to the President as well as any other item deemed appropriate by the President in consultation with the Executive Council. The agenda of a PSA Council meeting must be distributed by the Secretary no later than 24 hours prior to a PSA Council meeting.

## **Article V. Officers**

### **Section A. Titles:**

The Executive Officers of the PSA shall be: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Social Life Chair, Justice in Action Chair, and Chaplain.

### **Section B. Qualifications:**

1. All officers shall have been elected by the organization and serve for one school year
2. All officers must be current members of the organization.

### **Section C. Duties of Officers:**

#### **1. President**

- A. The President shall be the chief executive officer of the PSA and responsible for the day-to-day operations of the organization;
- B. The President shall preside over the Council as Chair and shall have the power to call meetings of the Council outside of its regularly scheduled meetings.
- C. The President shall participate in committees of Perkins School of Theology as so designated by the Dean and the Associate Dean of the school, and the Associate Dean of Student Life.
- D. The president shall oversee the creation of an ad-hoc Bylaw revision committee.

#### **2. Vice President**

- A. Shall fill the remaining term of President, should the Presidency become vacant for any reason;
- B. Shall be responsible for administering elections of the Association;
- C. Shall be responsible for issues relating to the sale and promotion of PSA merchandise.
- D. The Vice-President shall participate in committees of Perkins School of Theology as so designated by the Dean and the Associate Dean, and the Associate Dean of Student Life.

3. **Secretary**

- A. The Secretary shall be responsible for the maintenance of meeting minutes.
- B. Shall be responsible for the planning and distributing meeting agendas.
- C. Shall be responsible for the communication aspects of the organization including social media and/or technology representation of the organization.

1. **Treasurer**

- A. The Treasurer shall be the chief financial officer of the PSA and responsible for the presentation and maintenance of the budget, oversee the financial accounts of the organization and its transactions;

2. **Social Life Chair**

- A. The Social Life Chair shall preside over meetings of the Social Life Committee;
- B. The Chair shall report to the PSA Council regarding the activities of the Social Life committee;
- C. The Social Life Chair shall coordinate approximately one Social Life event a month during the school year for the SMU Perkins students, faculty,ea{1 (t)-2 (ude)4 ( t)-2 geo tt i to tt iT2 1 T (if)g (t)-2-2 ge4 (s)-1 (pe-

resign from office. The vacant Commissioner or the chairperson position shall be filled as soon as possible by the President with the confirmation of the PSA Council at its next meeting. If no meeting is scheduled before an election or called by the President, the President's interim appointment may serve as Commissioner and assist fully in the administration of an election. If the Vice President is required to relinquish their position as chair of the Commission, the President is required to call a meeting of the PSA Council to confirm the appointment of a new Chair of the

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elected. No run-off elections shall be held without an order of the PSA Council for positions held by multiple persons.

**6.** The

racism, sexism, heterosexism, and environmental responsibility;

2. Participate in established community programs or events that seek to bring about a more just society;
3. Seek to change unjust social and systemic structures locally, nationally, and globally;
4. Enable theological reflection on an experience such that students may make connections between personal

**Section A.** These bylaws may be amended by a vote of two-thirds of the members of the organization present at any regular meeting or at a special meeting called for that purpose. The membership shall be notified of adopted bylaw amendments by the most feasible means.

**Section B.** Each year a by-law revision committee of 2-4 members, which is appointed by the president, shall meet to discuss and update the bylaws in anyway necessary.

Revised May 2024