St. Thomas More Society

Amended Constitution

Amended March 21, 2023

***Article I - Name, Purpose, and Non-Discrimination Policy of the Organization.***

**Section A. Name:** Saint Thomas More Society (“STMS”).

**Section B. “Purpose”:** Spiritual Growth and Moral Leadership. STMS will host faith formation, service, fellowship, and topical Catholic speaking events for the Moritz College of Law and greater Ohio State University communities. STMS will adhere to and promote the beliefs and values of the Catholic Church expressed in the *Catechism of the Catholic Church,* 1983 *Code of Canon Law,* and United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB)-approved translations of the Holy Bible.

**Section C. Non-Discrimination Policy:**

1. As a student organization of The Ohio State University, STMS does not discriminate on the basis of age, ancestry, color, disability, gender identity or expression, genetic information, HIV/AIDS status, military status, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, protected veteran status, or any other bases under the law, in its activities, programs, admission, and employment.
2. Notwithstanding the foregoing paragraph, STMS requires pursuant to Ohio Rev. Code Section 3345.023 that its leaders and members adhere to the sincerely held religious beliefs and standards of conduct of the Catholic Church as expressed in the *Catechism of the Catholic Church,* 1983 *Code of Canon Law,* and USCCB-approved translations of the Holy Bible.

***Article II - Membership: Qualifications and categories of membership.***

**Section A.** As required by the Guidelines for Student Organizations, 90% of the membership of a student organization must include current Ohio State University students. Active members and Board are able to make decisions regarding the membership of community and other non-student members of an organization. Community or other non-student members may be suspended with a majority vote of the Executive Committee.

**Section B.** Except as stated in Section A of this Article, membership is open to anyone interested in STMS and willing to promote its Purpose.

***Article III - Methods for Removing Members and Executive Officers.***

**Section A.** If a member engages in behavior that is detrimental to advancing the Purpose of this organization, violates the organization’s Constitution or By-Laws, or violates the Code of Student Conduct, university policy, or federal, state or local law, the member may be removed through a majority vote of the Board in consultation with the organization’s advisor.

**Section B.** Any elected officer of the chapter may be removed from their position for cause. Cause for removal includes: violation of this Constitution or the By-Laws, failure to perform duties, or any behavior that is detrimental to advancing the Purpose of this organization, including violations of the Student Code of Conduct, university policy, or federal, state, or local laws. The Board may act for removal upon a two-thirds affirmative vote of the Board in consultation with the organization’s advisor.

**Section C.** In the event that the reason for member removal is protected by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) or cannot otherwise be shared with members (e.g., while an investigation is pending), the Board, in consultation with the organization’s advisor, may vote to temporarily suspend a member or executive officer.

***Article IV - Organization Leadership: Titles, Terms of Office, Qualification for Office, and Duties of the Leaders.***

**Section A. Officer Titles:** The Executive Board (“Board”) shall consist of the President, Vice President, Treasurer, and such other positions as the Board shall determine by majority vote. All new positions shall be listed in the By-Laws.

**Section B. Terms of Office:** STMS shall hold elections for all Board positions. Each officer position shall be for a term of one year. An officer may serve more than one term but must run for re-election.

**Section C. Qualification for Office:** Candidates for the Board must adhere to the sincerely held religious beliefs and standards of conduct of the Catholic Church as expressed in the *Catechism of the Catholic Church,* 1983 *Code of Canon Law,* and USCCB-approved translations of the Holy Bible.

**Section D. Duties of Leaders:** The members of the Board shall work to facilitate STMS’s Purpose. The Treasurer shall have the special responsibility of managing STMS’s budget. Both the President and Treasurer will have the additional responsibilities of completing training per OSU Union rules. Any additional duties shall be described in the By-Laws.

***Article V - Election / Selection of Organization Leadership.***

**Section A.** Elections for Board members will be held every spring semester. Elections shall be open to all STMS members. The method of the election shall be determined by the Board in a manner fair and reasonably convenient to all STMS members.

**Section B.** The first election of the Board during reactivation shall occur in-person at a time and place publicly posted within Drinko Hall at least 24 hours prior to the election. Electors must conform to all STMS membership requirements other than mandatory membership for the previous year.

***Article VI – Advisor.***

**Section A.** Prof. Matt Cooper shall be the STMS advisor.

***Article VII – Method of Amending Constitution: Proposals, Notice, and Voting Requirements.***

**Section A.** Any proposed amendments should be presented to the organization in writing and should not be acted upon when initially introduced. Upon initial introduction, the proposed amendments shall be posted to all members for 30 days, then read again at a specified number of subsequent general meetings and the general meeting in which the voting occurs shall require a two-third majority vote.

***Article VIII – Method of Dissolution of Organization.***

**Section A.** STMS may be dissolved by a unanimous vote of the Board or by a 3/4 vote of all members. Should any organization assets and debts exist, all debts will be paid within 30 days and any remaining assets will be donated to a Columbus food bank of the President’s choosing. Upon the official dissolution of the organization, Student Activities staff will be contacted to remove organization information from the website.