

# **THE CONSTITUTION OF THE ROMOPHOS HONOR SOCIETY**

## **ARTICLE I**

This organization of outstanding students of the Ohio State University shall be known as Romophos Honor Society, herein referred to as Romophos.

## **ARTICLE II**

Romophos shall have as its objective the betterment of its members, and of the entire campus community.

## **ARTICLE III**

There shall be three classes of membership: Active, Alumni, and Honorary.

**SECTION I** Active Membership shall consist of bona fide Ohio State University students who are of sophomore standing and/or in their second year of undergraduate university studies by Autumn Term following initiation and who have paid their membership dues. This group shall, with the counsel of advisory members, carry on the work of the organization. Active membership shall conclude upon the election of new officers.

**SECTION II** Alumni Membership shall consist of those who at some time have been active members of Romophos

**SECTION III** Honorary membership may be conferred upon certain members of the University administration, faculty, or the other departments for special recognition of merit.

**SECTION IV** Membership shall consist of:

- a. Students of outstanding character, scholarship, and personality who have made a valuable contribution to the University in their first year on campus.
- b. Students who have completed at least 12 hours of academic credit, with no less than a 3.00 GPA.
- c. Students who have demonstrated involvement in activities at the University, as determined by the members of Romophos.

**SECTION V** Romophos does not discriminate on the basis of age, ancestry, color, disability, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, genetic information, HIV/AIDS status, military status, national origin, race, religion, sex, protected veteran status, or any other basis under the law, in its activities, programs, admission, and employment.

## **ARTICLE IV**

The officers of Romophos shall be: President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. They shall constitute the executive board of Romophos.

## **ARTICLE V**

Meetings shall be on the call of the President or by petition of six members, with all members given at least two days prior notice. There shall be a minimum of five meetings per term.

## **ARTICLE VI**

Romophos shall not participate in any way in the political candidacy of any student, and political candidates shall not be permitted to appear before the society to discuss partisan questions. Nothing herein contained shall be construed to restrict Romophos from giving expression by appropriate means to its attitude on measures affecting the student body.

## **ARTICLE VII**

It shall be the attitude of Romophos that no initiation or activity which would endanger the physical, mental, or moral welfare of the candidates or members shall be tolerated.

## **ARTICLE VIII**

The by-laws of Romophos shall be written to cover necessary situations, but must, at all times be in absolute keeping with the letter and spirit of this constitution.

## **ARTICLE IX**

A quorum shall consist of a majority of the active membership.

## **ARTICLE X**

Amendments to this constitution may be made only upon the positive vote of minimum of three quarters of the members present, provided a quorum is present.

# **BY-LAWS OF THE ROMOPHOS HONOR SOCIETY**

## **ARTICLE I** Duties of Officers

**SECTION I** It shall be the duty of the president to preside at all meetings of Romophos and perform all the duties pertaining to the office.

**SECTION II** In the absence of the president, the vice-president shall assume the duties of the president. The vice-president shall be designated as a representative of Romophos to other organizations, as necessary. The vice-president shall also be in charge of maintaining historical records of Romophos.

**SECTION III** The secretary shall record and hold the minutes of all proceedings. The secretary shall give notice of all meetings and perform other duties that the office may require.

**SECTION IV** The treasurer shall receive and safely keep all funds of the organization and pay out the same on the order of the executive board. The treasurer shall make a report of all receipts and disbursements at each meeting. In the absence of both the president and the vice-president, the treasurer shall assume the duties of the president.

## **ARTICLE II** Election of Officers

**SECTION I** A meeting of the new members shall be held between initiation and the end of Spring Term. At most, the best 3 candidates for each role will be pre-selected by the current officers through a separate application. During the election meeting, the 3 candidates for each role will give a speech. The new members will then elect officers for the succeeding year by secret ballot.

**SECTION II** Should an officer resign or be expelled from Romophos during the year, the president shall appoint some other member of Romophos to assume the said duties temporarily, and order the secretary to send a notice of a special election at the next regular meeting when the vacancy can be filled.

## **ARTICLE III** Methods for Removing Members and Executive Officers

**SECTION I** If a member of ROMOPHOS is behaving in a way deemed harmful to the organization's purpose, the suggestion for removal can be made to the president and advisor. The member in question will be allowed an opportunity to appeal in a private meeting with the president, vice-president, and treasurer. The officers will then vote among themselves on the issue of removal. A majority is required for passing.

**SECTION II** 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 officers in consultation with the organization's advisor.

**SECTION III** Any elected officer of the chapter may be removed from their position for cause. Cause for removal includes, but is not limited to: violation of the constitution or 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 Executive Committee may act for removal upon a two-thirds affirmative vote of the executive board in consultation with the organization's advisor.

**SECTION IV** 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), {00312468-1} the executive board, in consultation with the organization's advisor, may vote to temporarily suspend a member or executive officer

### **ARTICLE III Fees and Duties**

**SECTION I** The membership fee of Romophos shall not be more than forty (40) dollars and must be paid by the time specified by the active executive board.

**SECTION II** The amount of other dues and assessments necessary to carry on the work of Romophos shall be determined by a three-fourths vote of the members provided a quorum is present.

### **ARTICLE IV Payment of Debts and Assessments**

**SECTION I** Any member who does not pay debts or assessments contracted through Romophos shall lose the right to vote in meetings until such debts or assessments are paid.

**SECTION II** Continued delinquency may lead to punishment of the delinquent members according to ARTICLE VIII SECTION IV of these by-laws.

### **ARTICLE V Selection of New Candidates**

**SECTION I** Applications will be due before spring break freshman year. Applications will consist of a variety of questions, along with considering the 3.3 GPA requirement.

**SECTION III** Accepted candidates for the initiation into Romophos shall be notified not earlier than 8 a.m. and no later than 12 midnight and shall in no way interfere with the school work of the candidates or the members.

**SECTION IV** The number of members selected shall consist of a minimum of thirty (30) and a maximum of thirty-six (36) students. The minimum requirements may be waived by a two-thirds vote of those present, if sufficient applications of high caliber are unavailable, provided a quorum is present.

**SECTION V** Selection and initiation of new members shall be in accordance with the guidelines specified by the Association of the Ohio State Class Honoraries (AOSCH). If no guidelines are made by AOSCH, then selections and initiation of new members shall take place no later than the first Thursday of May each year.

### **ARTICLE VI Committees**

**SECTION I** The president shall be empowered to appoint such special committees as deemed necessary at any time with the approval of the executive board.

### **ARTICLE VII Parliamentary Authority**

**SECTION I** Roberts Rules of Order shall be the parliamentary authority on all matters not covered by the Constitution and by-laws of Romophos.

#### **ARTICLE VIII** Membership Rules

**SECTION I** Membership and the right to wear the insignia of Romophos shall be for life unless forfeited as desired under the rules prescribed in the by-laws.

**SECTION II** Any active member who fails to do the duties assigned by Romophos, or who brings dishonor to Romophos and the University, shall be expelled by a two-thirds vote of the active member of Romophos.

**SECTION III** Any member who is expelled from the University automatically forfeits membership and the right to wear the insignia for all times. However, if reinstated by the University, the students may, by a two-thirds vote of the active members of Romophos, be reinstated to full membership with all the rights and privileges thereof.

**SECTION IV** Any member failing to pay dues after the prescribed time shall be notified in writing by the secretary, and if said dues are not paid on or before ten (10) days of said notification, said membership and the right to wear insignia of Romophos shall be forfeited.

**SECTION V** No member shall resign or be expelled without forfeiting the right to wear the insignia of Romophos, and membership therein.

**SECTION VI** Any member who severs affiliation with Romophos, through resignation, expulsion, or otherwise, shall forfeit all interests or rights in any funds or other property belonging to Romophos.

#### **ARTICLE IX** Membership Requirements

**SECTION I** Current Romophos members will be required to be involved in every event Romophos puts on. Involvement can include planning, facilitation, clean-up, or any other component as approved by the general body. Involvement must be recorded and logged.

**SECTION II** Current Romophos members are required to attend 80% of the meetings held every term. Extenuating circumstances are explained in Section III.

**SECTION III** For a meeting absence to be considered excused, the member must notify the secretary or President 12 hours before the meeting time. If an emergency arises, the member must notify the Secretary within one week of the meeting and explain their reason for absence.

**SECTION IV** Meeting dates and times are to be determined by the Executive Board. In the beginning of the term, meetings will be biweekly. Towards the end of the term, meetings will likely be less frequent due to less planning being required.

**SECTION V** If a member cannot attend any meetings due to a conflict that interferes with the majority approved meeting time (class, other events/meetings if approved by Executive Board), the Secretary must be notified within 48 hours of the first meeting of the current term. The member does not need to resend notification of absence to the Secretary before every meeting.

**SECTION VI** If any member fails to uphold these requirements (Section I, II, and III), a meeting will be set up between the member(s) in question, the Executive Board, and Romophos Advisor. The meeting will include a discussion on why the member did not fulfill the membership requirements and if continuing in Romophos is the best plan of action for the group. The Executive Board, upon consultation with the advisor, will determine by secret ballot whether to retain or expel the member(s) in question.

#### **ARTICLE IX** Amendments

**SECTION I** These by-laws may be amended at any meeting by a two-thirds vote, provided a quorum is present.

#### **ARTICLE X** Suspension on by-laws

**SECTION I** These by-laws may be suspended in cases of emergency by a unanimous vote of all those attending a meeting at which a quorum is present.

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REVISED March 1992  
REVISED October 2006  
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