



# The Joint Senate Statutory Code of the Dialectic and Philanthropic Societies of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

October 15, 2017

## I. Joint Senate Rules

- a. The Joint Senate Rules shall be under the jurisdiction of the Constitutional Committee.
- b. Bills and Resolutions
  - i. New statutes shall be considered by bill. All proposed bills shall be presented to the Clerk, who shall read them before the Societies at a regular meeting. The bill shall then be referred by the chair to the appropriate committee for consideration. The committee shall return the bill with its report at the next regular meeting. This report and the proposed bill shall be read to the Societies and the floor opened up for discussion. A majority vote at two consecutive meetings shall be necessary for adoption of the bill, except bills amending Article I of the Joint Senate Code, which must pass with a 2/3 majority vote at two consecutive meetings.
    1. A bill may be discharged from committee for immediate consideration of the Joint Senate by 2/3 majority vote of all active senators.
    2. All bills and resolutions approved by the Societies and filed with the appropriate officials shall observe the following form: Bills or resolutions reported or discharged from committee shall, under the heading "Reported", indicate the committee's report (i.e., "Favorable", "Unfavorable", or "Without Prejudice"), and the committee's vote, if any. Bills or resolutions reported from the floor without committee consideration shall be indicated "For Debate".
    3. The Clerk shall assign a number to each bill or resolution proposed: the first part of this number being the number of the session of the Societies (1 for fall, 2 for spring), the second part of which indicating the year since the foundation of the Societies, and the third part indicating the order in the session

in which the bill or resolution was reported to the Clerk. Bills and resolutions shall be numbered in separate sequences. The Clerk shall complete each number by prefixing " B" for bills or " R" for resolutions.

4. Constitutional Amendments shall be recorded as bills, but will follow the procedure for adoption enumerated by the Constitution.
- ii. Resolutions may be passed by the Joint Senate by simple majority. They may be introduced in meetings, discussed, and immediately voted on without being referred to committee and without being placed on the business agenda, at the discretion of the chair. They may not be incorporated into the Constitution or Di Phi Code.
    1. Resolutions may not conflict with the Constitution and may only temporarily modify, negate, or supplement provisions of the Di Phi Code for a specified time period.
    2. Resolutions may not in any way address the Joint Senate Rules.
    3. Resolutions must have a specified duration of effectiveness, not to exceed one session. Resolutions may be reauthorized.
- c. Notice for Meetings
    - i. Notification of all non-regular meetings of the Joint Senate of the Dialectic and Philanthropic Societies and any constituent committees shall provide Senators with at least twenty-four hours' notice of intention to conduct business prior to the beginning of the meeting.
    - ii. Only vocal or written notification to each Senator by the convenor shall satisfy the provision for proper notice.
    - iii. Recourse and Review for Improper Notice
      1. Senators who feel that they have not received adequate notice of a meeting shall appeal to the President of the Joint Senate, their Society President, or to a meeting of the Executive Committee.
      2. If notice to all members comprising the committee or committee of the whole is not properly given in accordance with the provisions of this statute, the meeting and all business conducted by it shall be disqualified by the dual declaration of the President and President Pro Tempore of the Joint Senate or by a majority vote of the Executive Committee.
      3. A three- quarters vote of the active membership of the Joint Senate may declare the meeting valid at their next regular meeting.
- d. Voting
    - i. All voting shall be as directed in the Constitution and Rules. Any active member may call for division after a voice vote. All votes on the

admission, expulsion, or censure of members, or the impeachment of officers, shall not be recorded.

- ii. All voting in the Societies not provided for in the Constitution or Code shall be by voice vote, unless directed otherwise at the discretion of the chair or of the Societies.
  - iii. Proxy Voting
    - 1. Proxy votes may be accepted as valid provided that the proxy for an active member empowering another active member to vote shall be presented in writing to the chair, and that a valid excuse of absence has been presented and accepted by the chair. Proxies are not valid during the election or impeachment of officers or in votes to admit or expel members.
    - 2. Proxies may be of a general nature or may specify exactly to what issue the vote pertains and/or the nature of the vote.
    - 3. Proxies shall be counted as members present and voting. In the case of specific proxies, they shall be so for the particular issue(s) for which the proxy was issued.
  - iv. No member shall vote in elections or on Constitutional amendments who has not attended as a member at least four of the regularly scheduled meetings in a regular session of the Senate, inclusive of the night the member was inducted and the night of the vote.
  - v. No member shall vote on the acceptance of a petitioner who has not attended at least one executive session on a petitioner. A petition that occurred the night the member was inducted cannot count for this session unless the member began the executive session as a member.
  - vi. Members who arrive after the start of discussion on a resolution, motion, or other item of business shall not be eligible to vote on that item, but shall be eligible to vote on all succeeding items.
  - vii. It shall be in order for officers and committee chairmen to move the adoption of items of business contained in their reports, and for debate and voting to follow as usual, during the reports of officers and committees. Only those items of business reported out of a committee, or introduced by an officer in his official capacity, shall be considered, all other items being taken up during old or new business.
  - viii. Items on the order of business may be considered out of sequence or dispensed with upon a two-thirds majority vote of members present.
  - ix. In all voting other than elections in which secret ballots might be used, the chair may appoint one teller from each Society to assist.
  - x. When the Joint Senate is voting on the resolution for the debate of a given meeting's program, all abstentions shall count as non-votes for the purpose of resolving in favor of a given side.
- e. Conduct of Business

- i. At least 24 hours before each meeting, the President shall send out an email detailing all the business to be discussed at the meeting.
- ii. All business in a meeting must be in the President's business agenda email to be considered.
- iii. Business must go through consideration in the appropriate committee of jurisdiction as determined by the chair before consideration on the floor of the Joint Senate.
- iv. The Business Agenda shall consist of three parts.
  1. Information items. These shall be reports of officers and committees that need no votes or motions, but are to inform the Joint Senate of actions by officers and committees.
  2. Consent items. These motions and votes consist of items not requiring discussion and may be collectively approved by single motion and without objection of the Joint Senate following a reading by the Clerk. Any senator may request a consent item be moved as an action item.
  3. Action items. Motions that need to be considered individually, may be potentially contentious, are not likely to get approved without objection, or require floor discussion or executive session.

f. Elections

- i. The procedure of elections within the Joint Senate shall be as follows:
  1. Respective Societies shall make their selections for nominees to Joint Senate offices. At this time, the Joint Senate shall convene for elections, which will take place in declining order of succession. The Society presidents shall announce the nominees of their Societies, and after appropriate debate on the nominees' merits, the election shall take place. If no member nominated by a Society receives a majority of the votes cast, nominations from the floor will be accepted, to be considered alongside the Societies' nominees. The voting procedure shall then be repeated. If a majority is still not reached, a runoff election between the two highest vote-getters will be conducted. Consideration will then proceed to the next office until all offices are filled.
- ii. In all elections within the Societies, the society presidents shall distribute and collect the secret ballots. The chair and the two society presidents shall serve as tellers, and shall count the ballots before the Societies immediately after they have been cast.
- iii. If the Presidency should fall vacant, the President Pro Tempore will serve as President until the next regular meeting, at which a special election to fill the office shall be held. If any other office shall fall vacant, the President may appoint a successor pro tempore until the

next regular meeting, at which an election to fill the office will be held as above. All such special elections shall be conducted as an item of unfinished business.

g. Decorum

- i. All members shall attend regular and special meetings of the Societies in dress consonant with the respect due the Societies and their traditions. Suggested dress shall be business casual or business professional. At the discretion of the chair of the Societies, members dressed improperly will be subject to fine, not to exceed two dollars. Consideration should be taken in the enforcement of this section to account for extenuating circumstances.
- ii. All members in their addresses and remarks shall avoid obscene comments. They shall address other members as "Senator". No member shall allege misconduct by another member unless such remarks are prefixed by a motion of censure, impeachment, or expulsion. Members shall attempt to avoid the introduction of such motions when guests are present.
- iii. The President may call the Societies into executive session for the conduct of business at his or her discretion.
- iv. No member shall leave or cross the chamber while the Societies are in session without requesting permission from the chair.
- v. No alumnus member shall be admitted into executive session without having first been granted active status by the Societies.

h. Rules not covered in this Code and Suspension of Rules

- i. When the Constitution and Code are silent on Joint Senate parliamentary procedure, members shall observe the rules of protocol and decorum set forth in Robert's Rules of Order.
- ii. Any provision of this Article, except for this provision and the Constitution, may be suspended for a period not to exceed the duration of the current meeting by a two-thirds majority vote. The provisions of this Article may not be suspended in any way.

## II. Executive Policy and Procedure

a. Summary of Executive Committee Jurisdiction

- i. Any bills that are being considered for adoption into the Code but do not fit into any of the other standing committees shall be considered by the Executive Committee.
- ii. Should it be decided that a committee should oversee a part of the Code currently under the jurisdiction of the Executive Committee, the Code should be recodified to accordingly reflect that change.

b. Meetings

- i. The Societies shall meet in two sessions yearly, the first session being the fall semester, and the second session being the following spring semester. The summer session shall be designated a Special Summer Session, as described under Article II.
- ii. The Societies shall meet regularly every week in the collegiate year, the first meeting of each session convening not later than the third week of the semester.
- iii. The regular meetings of the Joint Senate of the Societies will convene in the Dialectic Society chamber at 7:30 P.M. on Monday evenings.
- iv. The order of business for a regular meeting shall be as follows:
  1. The call to order.
  2. The call of the roll.
  3. Announcements.
  4. The presentation of the scheduled program.
  5. Report of the Critic.
  6. Induction of new members.
  7. The reports of officers and committees.
  8. Reading of the minutes.
  9. Unfinished business and general orders of business.
  10. New business.
  11. Petitions, papers, memorials, and addresses.
  12. Consideration of applications for membership.
  13. Announcements.
  14. Adjournment.
- v. At least one meeting each session shall be devoted to a full debate between the two Societies, and when possible at least one meeting each semester shall be devoted to a debate before the Societies by two or more outside speakers.
- vi. The last regular meeting of each session shall be held on the last regular meeting night before the first day of semester examinations. This last meeting shall be a business meeting, and all members shall be required to attend on pain of fine and reprimand. At this meeting all unfinished business shall be finished, all committees and officers shall make final reports, and the inauguration of officers for the following session shall be held.
- vii. Attendance of visitors shall be regulated at the discretion of the President.
- viii. Special meetings of the Societies may be called by the President or by any three officers at any time, provided at least twenty- four hours' notice is given to all active members.
- ix. The Societies may hold additional business meetings for the consideration of lengthy or extraordinary items of business, to avoid extended debate during weekly regular meetings. Such business

meetings shall be considered regular meetings regardless of their time or location, and shall follow the same order of business as the weekly regular meetings except for the elimination of the program. Any active member failing to attend a business meeting is subject to fine or reprimand. Notice of such additional business meetings must be given to all active members at least one week prior to the meeting.

c. Special Summer Session

- i. At the final meeting of the spring session, the Societies may deliberate upon the possibility of conducting a summer session. Any motion to conduct such a session must carry a majority vote to become effective. If it is the will of the Societies to conduct a summer session, the next order of business shall be the election of officers for the summer session according to the regular terms of the Constitution and Code.
- ii. If it is the will of the Societies to conduct a summer session, the next order of business shall be the election of officers for the summer session according to the regular terms of the Constitution and Code.
- iii. The entire summer shall be considered one term. It shall be designated the Special Summer Session.
- iv. The Summer Session of the Societies shall not have the use of any funds of the Societies except such as they collect from fees and assignments during that session. Any funds remaining at the beginning of the fall session shall be added to the regular Societies' funds.
- v. The Summer Session of the Societies shall not have the authority to change or amend the Constitution or Code in any manner, and it shall not have the power to take anyone into full membership in the Societies. Participation in a Summer Session shall not be counted towards tenure for election to office, and absences from a Summer Session shall not be counted towards suspension for absences.

d. Officers at Meetings

- i. If any officer is not present at a meeting, the chair may designate any other active member to serve in that office for the duration of that meeting only.
- ii. The President, or any other presiding officer, may "call to the chair" the next highest officer in succession to preside for any specified length of time, provided that the member shall not preside for more than one meeting.

e. Attendance

- i. Members who are present for less than one (1) hour of a meeting shall be considered absent for that meeting.

f. The Advisor

- i. An advisor to the Societies shall be selected at the beginning of each spring semester by a majority vote. This person will advise and assist the Societies as needed.
  - ii. The advisor shall be treated in all respects as a faculty member of the Societies during his tenure, save that the advisor shall not be requested to pay any dues.
  - iii. Should the post of advisor fall vacant, the Societies shall elect a new advisor by majority vote with all deliberate speed.
- g. Records of Bills, Resolutions, Correspondence, and papers
  - i. All original copies of bills, resolutions, correspondence, and other papers of the Societies shall be maintained in the offices of the Societies, which shall be located in the Dialectic chambers; duplicate copies, when and where possible, shall be bound and deposited in the Societies' libraries. Original copies shall remain in the offices for three semesters and then shall be deposited by the Historian in the Societies' archives in the Southern Historical Collection. At least one copy of all bills and resolutions approved by the Societies shall be filed with the Clerk. At least one copy of all bills amending the Constitution or Code and all internal resolutions shall be filed with the President Pro Tempore as chairman of the Constitution Committee.
- h. The Societies Libraries
  - i. All books, periodicals, and bound paper belonging to the Societies shall be maintained in the Societies' libraries in the Philanthropic chambers.
  - ii. In order to remove a book or periodical from the Societies' libraries, a member must sign it out on a list administered by the Curator of the Societies. The Curator shall make a physical copy of this list available in the Philanthropic Chamber. Only active members may sign out materials, and they shall be responsible for their safekeeping; they must return all materials by the end of the session, or sooner at the request of the President or Curator. Members who lose or damage materials shall be liable for them at the cost of replacement or repair. The President, at the request of the Curator, may levy fines at her or his discretion for failure to return materials promptly.
- i. Access to New East and New West
  - i. The Joint Senate President, or a deputy he shall select for this task, shall be responsible for providing senators with access to the Societies Chambers.
  - ii. The Joint Senate President shall be responsible for collecting keys from senators leaving the Societies.
  - iii. Any senator expelled from the Societies, or choosing to resign, shall be required to surrender his key.

- iv. Any senator who graduates from the Societies and does not plan to stay active in the Societies shall be required to return his key to the Joint Senate President at or before the Graduation Meeting, in order to receive his diploma.
- v. Any graduating senator who can, in good faith, attest that he will continue, after graduation, to be an active senator of the Societies, may keep his key until such time as he decides to leave the Societies, at which time he shall be required to give back his key to the Joint Senate President.
- j. Officer Handbooks
  - i. The President, President Pro Tempore, Critic, Clerk, Treasurer, Sergeant- At- Arms, and Historian of the Joint Senate shall write and update a handbook containing all information necessary for the completion of the duties of their respective offices.
  - ii. Each handbook will begin with an introduction to the office in question, including all relevant passages in the Constitution and Di Phi Code and commentary on the nature of the mandated duties and responsibilities of the office.
  - iii. The next sections of the handbook will consist of information relating to the completion of the duties and responsibilities of the office, including but not limited to useful contact information, relevant university policies, important dates, copies of work by past officers, and advice from past officers.
  - iv. No materials in the handbook may be original records necessary for the operation of the Joint Senate. All included Joint Senate records must be duplicates.
  - v. The handbook will consist of both an archival print copy and an electronic copy, updated in tandem.
  - vi. Each of the aforementioned officers shall be responsible for updating the handbook for his or her office with all new information obtained since the beginning of his or her term. Each officer shall give the handbook of his or her office to his or her successor within a week of the successor's election.

### **III. Membership**

- a. Petitioning for Membership
  - i. Responsibilities of the Petitioner
    - 1. The petitioner will ask an active Senator of the Society that he or she wishes to join to sponsor his or her petition for membership.
    - 2. The petitioner shall read the most recent version of the unofficial "Guide to Petitioning the Dialectic and

Philanthropic Societies” unless otherwise instructed by the Joint Senate President.

3. The petitioner shall attend at least three (3) meetings, including his petitioning meeting and the meeting immediately prior to it, within the six (6) weeks prior to, and inclusive of, his petition. He shall be present for the entirety of at least one (1) of these meetings.
4. Any non-member petitioning for active membership must be sponsored by a non-lapsed member of the Societies, who must have agreed to sponsorship at least one regular meeting prior to the night of the petition. This requirement may be waived by a two-thirds majority vote; in such a case it is suggested that the Membership Committee investigate to determine why a proper sponsor was not secured and how this might be avoided in the future.
5. The petitioner shall speak on at least two occasions before, and not inclusive of, his petitioning speech. One of these occasions shall be in debate during the meeting’s program.
6. The petitioner shall meet with his sponsor at least three (3) days prior to his petition. At this meeting, he shall discuss the topic of his petitioning speech with his sponsor and provide his sponsor any required information. The petitioner shall present a well-stated and clear thesis, and an argument for this thesis, at his petition. The petitioner shall be knowledgeable on his topic and have done any necessary research.
7. A written copy of the petitioner’s speech must be delivered to the Clerk immediately following the petition. This requirement may be waived by a majority vote during consideration of the petition.

ii. Responsibilities of the Sponsor

1. A Senator who wishes to become a sponsor will not approach a guest and ask to be his or her sponsor.
2. The sponsor shall read the most recent version of the unofficial “Guide to Petitioning the Dialectic and Philanthropic Societies” unless otherwise instructed by the Joint Senate President.
3. The sponsor shall have seen at least two (2) executive sessions during which the Societies shall have considered a petition before he shall agree to sponsor a petitioner.
4. The sponsor shall inform the body of his petitioner’s upcoming petition at least two (2) weeks in advance of the

meeting of the petition. This requirement may be waived by a two-thirds vote at the time of the petition.

5. The sponsor shall inform his petitioner of all the requirements, explicit or implicit, that the Societies place on petitioners. Failure on the part of the sponsor to do so shall not constitute grounds for automatic admission or rejection of a petitioner.
  6. The sponsor must be present during the petition, and shall speak first during consideration of the petition. This requirement may be waived by a simple majority vote; in such a case it is suggested that the sponsor be fined and/or reprimanded unless he should present a valid excuse.
  7. The sponsor shall present the following information regarding the petitioner during the executive session following the petition:
    - a. Local address
    - b. Hometown; High school(s); Year and major
    - c. High-school and college activities, especially those related to debate and literature; Hobbies
    - d. Previous speech or debate experience, if any; Why he is petitioning
    - e. What he can offer the Societies; And what he plans to gain from the Societies
    - f. How many Joint Senate meetings the petitioner has attended; Which debate(s) the petitioner has spoken in
    - g. Which PPMAs the petitioner has given, if any
    - h. And extent of the petitioner's social interactions with current Senators
- iii. Responsibilities of the Joint Senate
1. Only Senators shall question the petitioner; all questions will be posed in a dignified manner. All such questions shall be intended to ascertain a petitioner's argumentation skills, creativity, knowledge of the Societies and their history, motives for petitioning, or other characteristics that Senators deem appropriate for determining his qualifications. Senators shall not ask frivolous questions or questions intended only to cause the body to laugh.
  2. The Societies shall not entertain more than two petitions for membership in a single meeting.
- iv. Petitions for active membership shall be delivered orally, and shall be entertained under Papers, Petitions, Memorials, and Addresses. Persons petitioning for active membership shall supply their names, counties, and/or states of origin, and the Society to which they have petitioned to the Clerk.

- v. The outcome of the vote on a petition for new membership shall not be announced immediately. The Clerk shall send a letter of acceptance or denial to the petitioner the following week, and if accepted the petitioner shall be inducted at the next induction ceremony. These ceremonies will be held when necessary during the regular meetings of the Societies, at the fourth meeting of every session and at four-week intervals thereafter, and also at the first and last meetings of every session.
  - vi. No petitions shall be heard during the last two meetings of the regular session.
- b. Petitioning for Graduation and Diplomas
- i. Any non-lapsed member who is leaving the Societies, for whatever reason other than expulsion, shall have the right to petition the Joint Senate for a diploma of his or her Society.
  - ii. Upon receipt of the petition, the Joint Senate shall consider the petition and award the member a diploma by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote. The diploma is to be signed by the President and Clerk of the Joint Senate.

#### **IV. Finance**

- a. Dues for Active Membership
- i. Dues for active membership shall be \$40 per session, and shall be paid to the Joint Senate Treasurer. New members admitted after the beginning of the semesters shall pay their dues on a pro rata basis.
  - ii. The Clerk, in recognition of the large amount of work required of him or her outside the meetings of the societies, shall not be required to pay dues.
  - iii. Members who persist in the non-payment of dues beyond the roll call of the fourth meeting of the session shall lose the right to vote in meetings of the Joint Senate. They shall retain this right immediately upon paying the Treasurer the amount they owe in full.
  - iv. In the event that a member of the Societies is unable to pay his or her dues, he or she may petition the Societies to suspend their requirement to pay dues for that session for a definite or indefinite period of time, and the Societies may grant the petition by a majority vote. If the member wishes to present evidence in support of his petition in confidence, he may request an executive session to present his petition, or he may ask the Executive Committee to hear that evidence in closed session and report to the Societies on its merits.
  - v. Should a suspension be granted, that member will suffer no penalty, particularly the loss of his vote, or non-payment of dues the term of the suspension. However, that member shall still owe the full amount

of his dues and, in asking for a suspension, must solemnly pledge to pay them if and as funds become available to him. It is also expected that members will exhaust all reasonable alternatives before asking for waiver or suspension. While the principles of the Societies forbid them to deny members the ability to vote purely on the basis of financial need, they also forbid members to take improper advantage of that fact.

- b. Any expenditure of \$100.00 or greater is defined as a major expenditure and must be considered by the Finance Committee, as provided in the Constitution, before approval by the Societies.
- c. Any expenditure of \$25.00 or greater, but less than \$100.00, must be considered by committee or approved by two-thirds of the members present at regular meeting of the Societies.
- d. Any expenditure of less than \$25.00 requires the approval of a simple majority of the members present at a regular meeting of the Societies.
- e. Budget of the Joint Senate

- i. The Purpose of the Budget

- 1. The Finance Committee shall be charged with preparing a comprehensive Budget of the Joint Senate to be introduced to the general body no later than the fifth (5th) meeting of each session of the Societies.
    - 2. Every officer and committee chair anticipating costs of \$25 or greater shall submit a request to the Finance Committee for those funds by the third (3rd) meeting of that session in order to be considered for the Budget. Any later requests can be considered by the Finance Committee when they are presented, but will be subject to the conditions concerning special expenditures in I.(B)(4).
    - 3. The Budget of any session of the Joint Senate shall come into effect upon its passing by a simple majority of Senators present at one meeting of that session.
    - 4. All expenditures approved in the Budget may be reimbursed by the Treasurer of the Joint Senate with no further approval by the Societies.

- ii. Structure of the Budget

- 1. The Budget shall be required to contain the following four (4) elements:
        - a. Year, session, and meeting at which it passes, to be determined by the Clerk of the Joint Senate
        - b. Current balance of the bank account of the Societies, to be given by the Treasurer of the Joint Senate
        - c. List of normal expenditures of the Societies, subject to subsection I. (B)(3,4), including justification and totals.

2. Normal expenditures of the Societies shall be defined as the following: all expenditures which the Finance Committee finds suitable to be paid for with dues collected that session. Hence, the total of normal expenditures on the Budget shall not exceed the total dues expected at that time, to be calculated as the number of active Senators multiplied by the per Senator cost of dues for active membership.
  3. Special expenditures of the Societies shall be defined as the following: any expenditures which cannot be paid for with expected dues.
  4. The Finance Committee shall only include a special expenditure in the Budget if it can be proven to meet one or more of the following conditions:
    - a. An identifiable and calculable source of revenue besides dues will be appropriated for it
    - b. It will generate an amount of revenue exceeding its costs
    - c. It constitutes an emergency for the Societies
    - d. It is so important to the future of the Societies that it merits the use of savings.
  5. When voting on the budget, the Societies shall vote on the normal expenditures together, but vote on each special expenditure individually.
- f. Use of the Joint Senate Bank Account
- i. Use of the Account
    1. The President and the Treasurer of the Joint Senate shall both have full access to the account of the Societies at all times.
    2. The Treasurer shall be solely empowered to use debit cards assigned to this account for the Societies, in the same manner as expressed in section VI.(1) of the Joint Senate Constitution.
    3. At no time shall the Treasurer make a cash withdrawal from the account of the Societies.
    4. The Treasurer shall be given access to an official Venmo account, email address, and mobile phone in order to complete digital transactions. This shall make the collection of dues and reimbursements simpler for the Treasurer and other parties involved. This email address will be linked to the checking and savings account of the Societies as well as Venmo. It will be the Treasurer's responsibility to change the passwords for the email address and Venmo account every semester.
  - ii. Transferring the Account

1. Any Treasurer-elect and President-elect of the Joint Senate must meet with the Treasurer and President of the current session before the end of the session in order to transfer the account. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer-elect to organize the meeting.

## V. Programs, Speakers, and Interventions

- a. The duration of the program section of a meeting may not exceed one hour. There shall be an announcement given at forty- five minutes that the program must end in fifteen minutes, so that the speakers and/or the chairman of the Programs Committee may bring the program to a close. The one-hour limit shall be considered to begin at the time the program is introduced, and when it has expired the Societies shall move immediately to the next item in the order of business. This limit may be suspended for a particular meeting by a majority vote, either in advance or as the time limit expires.
- b. For regular debates, unless otherwise specified, the following time limits shall apply to individual speeches:
  - i. For primary speakers, seven (7) minutes with an additional two (2) minutes of queries.
  - ii. For secondary speakers, five (5) minutes with an additional two (2) minutes of queries.
  - iii. For speakers from the floor, four (4) minutes with an additional two (2) minutes of queries. Any or all of these limits may be extended for individual speeches, or for the entire program, by a majority vote. It is strongly suggested that all due courtesy be extended to guests in enforcing this provision.
- c. All speeches and other presentations during Papers, Petitions, Memorials, and Addresses, except for memorials, shall be limited to a duration of five minutes, unless the Societies waive the limit by a majority vote. It is strongly suggested that due courtesy be extended to guests and petitioners in enforcing this provision.
- d. The Critic shall be charged with the enforcement of these time limits and with keeping speakers well informed of the time left to them.
- e. All members shall rise from their seats to gain the floor, and shall remain standing either at their seats or at the rostrum while addressing the Societies. However, no member may rise while another member or a guest is speaking except to make a motion or point which may interrupt a speaker in parliamentary procedure. For remarks of more than three minutes' duration it is advisable that members speak from the rostrum. Members shall request permission from the chair to approach the rostrum and shall

retire from it immediately upon completing their remarks unless responding to questions.

- f. Members arriving late during a program may enter quietly by the door furthest from the rostrum. When members wish to address a speaker during time reserved for questioning, they are not allowed to engage in “conversation”, the practice of asking more questions than they were allotted when recognized or making statements that are not direct questions. Members may ask for “multi- part” questions, but even with this qualifier may ask no more than three at once.
- g. Centennial and Bicentennial Debates
  - i. Every Fall semester, the Societies shall engage in, as the program during a regular meeting, a Centennial Debate. Every Spring semester, the Societies shall engage in, as the program during a regular meeting, a Bicentennial Debate, as described in this Act.
  - ii. The resolution for the Centennial Debate shall be a resolution debated by either or both of the Societies during the year one century (100 years) prior to the current year. The resolution for the Bicentennial Debate shall be a resolution debated by either or both of the Societies during the year two centuries (200 years) prior to the current year.
  - iii. By the fifth (5th) meeting of each session, the Joint Senate Historian shall compile a list of suitable resolutions for the debate in question which shall be presented to the Societies at a regular meeting. At the time of his report, the Societies shall select one of the proposed resolutions by a majority vote.
  - iv. After the Societies have selected a topic for the Centennial or Bicentennial Debate, as appropriate, the individual societies shall each select a Primary and a Secondary speaker to speak in the debate. The presidents of the respective societies shall report their society's Primary and Secondary speakers to the Societies.
  - v. The Dialectic Society shall speak in the affirmative and the Philanthropic Society shall speak in the negative in the Centennial Debate resolution, reversing sides for the Bicentennial Debate.
  - vi. The format of the Centennial and Bicentennial Debates and the time limits for speakers shall be as follows, alternating between affirmative and negative:
    - 1. Primary speeches, seven (7) minutes each
    - 2. Secondary speeches, five (5) minutes each
    - 3. Rebuttal speeches, given by the primary speakers, three (3) minutes each
    - 4. Any or all of these time limits may be extended or shortened by a majority vote, but only before the program is underway.
    - 5. Queries and/or floor speeches are not allowed during Centennial or Bicentennial Debates.

- vii. At the conclusion of the Centennial or Bicentennial Debate, the Societies shall take two votes. These votes shall be by secret ballot.
  1. The first vote shall be with regard to accepting or rejecting the resolution.
  2. The second vote shall be with regard to which Society gave the better presentation of their arguments.
  3. The results of both votes shall be announced together.

**VI. Social**

**VII. Correspondence**