

Constitution of the MacGregor House Committee

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

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ARTICLE I – NAME

The name of this organization shall be the MacGregor House Committee, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, hereinafter referred to as the House Committee, or HouseComm.

ARTICLE II – AUTHORITY

The House Committee shall have full student authority to act for the MacGregor House and its residents. It shall regulate the use of the name “MacGregor House.”

ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1. GENERAL

All students of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology who are residents of MacGregor House paying the house tax shall be members of the House Committee, entitled to attend all meetings, make motions,

raise parliamentary questions, participate in discussion, and request roll call votes therein. The President and the Vice-President are the House officers. Only the Vice-President, Low-Rise-Member-At-Large, entry chairs, and the President, when entitled by parliamentary law, shall vote, each casting one vote. These people shall be the voting members of the House Committee. No person shall hold more than one voting position.

SECTION 2. THE PRESIDENT

The House President shall call and preside at meetings of the House Committee, be responsible for its proper functioning, and see that its decisions are carried out. The President shall be one of the representatives to the Dormitory Council; shall be an ex-officio member of all subcommittees; and shall appoint the chairs and members of ad hoc subcommittees and certain standing subcommittees. The President shall be the chair of the Executive Committee. The President shall also be responsible for insuring that the Vice-President and the subcommittee chairs present their reports as called for.

SECTION 3. THE VICE-PRESIDENT

The House Vice-President shall be the vice chair of the House Committee and shall perform the duties of the President in his or her absence. The Vice-President shall be one of the representatives of MacGregor House to the Dormitory Council; shall be an ex officio member of all subcommittees; and shall report regularly to the House Committee and work very closely with the President.

SECTION 4. TREASURER

The House Treasurer shall receive and pay all moneys of the House Committee as authorized by it; shall be responsible for all of the House Committee's financial transactions; and shall keep permanent financial records and submit written reports to the House Committee as directed. The financial records of the Treasurer shall be open for inspection to all residents of MacGregor House. The Treasurer shall prepare semi-annual House Committee budgets with the assistance of the President at the beginning of each term, covering the financial transactions of the preceding term; shall keep copies of all reports of a financial nature presented to the House Committee; and shall coordinate with the Student Activities Office in maintaining House Accounts. The Treasurer shall be elected by the voting members of the House Committee.

SECTION 5. SECRETARY

The House Secretary shall be responsible for all records of the House Committee except those specifically assigned to others; shall record the minutes of every meeting of the House Committee; shall publish and distribute copies of minutes to all voting members of the House Committee and to anyone who asks to receive them; shall include attendance proxies and financial reports as part of the minutes; shall ascertain that all voting members of the House Committee have correct copies of the Constitution and Bylaws; shall issue notice of special meetings and disseminate other information as directed by the House Committee; and shall preserve written reports from all subcommittees as they are presented. The records of the Secretary shall be open for inspection to all residents of MacGregor House. The Secretary shall be elected by the voting members of the House Committee.

SECTION 6. ROOMING ASSIGNMENT CHAIR

The Rooming Assignment Chair (or two Co-Chairs) is responsible for the fall and spring room assignment process for all residents. It shall make sure that the Housing office has up to date room charts, and it shall act as a clearinghouse for all changes made throughout the school year. No room changes may be made without the approval of the Rooming Assignment Chair. If the Rooming Assignment Chair is filled by two Co-Chairs, they must reside in different entries.

SECTION 7. ENTRY CHAIRS

The Entry Chairs shall represent their entries to the House Committee. It shall be the Entry Chairs' responsibility to actively insure that the residents of their entries shall have ample opportunity to be well informed, active participants in all House activities. The Entry Chairs shall have the authority to enforce all applicable regulations of the House Committee and the Dormitory Council; shall assist both judicial and legislative branches of the House government; and shall keep, for inspection by the residents of their entries, correct copies of the Constitution and Bylaws.

SECTION 8. LOW-RISE-MEMBER-AT-LARGE

The Low-Rise-Member-At-Large (LRMAL) represents the Low Rise to the House Committee. The low rise consists of the F, G, H, and J entries of MacGregor House. It shall be in part the LRMAL's responsibility to actively insure that the residents of the low rise have ample opportunity to be well informed, active participants in all House activities. The LRMAL shall assist both judicial and legislative branches of House government, and shall keep, for inspection by residents of the low rise, correct copies of the Constitution and Bylaws.

SECTION 9. TERMS OF OFFICE

The President, Vice-President, members the Judicial Committee, the Treasurer, the Secretary, Entry Chairs, LRMAL, and the Chairs of the standing subcommittees shall take office at the conclusion of the meeting designated as the Organizational Meeting, and shall serve until the following Organizational Meeting. In the event of the resignation or ineligibility of a member of the House Committee, their seat shall be declared vacant until the election or appointment of a successor, as the case may be, except that in the event of a vacancy in the office of the President, an acting succession for the position of acting President shall be: Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary. *In the case of a change of Entry Chair between Organizational Meetings, the term of office of the new member will end at the following Organizational Meeting.* Entry Chairs shall be declared ineligible upon termination of residence in the entries which they represented. The Low-Rise-Member-At-Large shall be declared ineligible upon termination of residence in the low rise. For all other members of the House Committee, ineligibility shall result in the event of termination of residence in MacGregor House.

ARTICLE IV – JUDICIAL SYSTEM

SECTION 1. JUDICIAL COMMITTEE CHAIR

The Judicial Committee Chair shall coordinate and be responsible for the proper functioning of the Judicial Committee, and ensuring that the Judicial Committee is compliant with the Uniform Judicial Code. The Judicial Committee Chair shall represent the interests of MacGregor House in all Judicial matters within the Institute, coordinating with the Office of Student Conflict Resolution and Discipline and the Dormitory Council as necessary.

SECTION 2. JUDICIAL COMMITTEE

The Judicial Committee shall be composed of the Judicial Committee Chair and three other members of the House Committee. It shall have the jurisdiction and authority to deal with all complaints brought to it by the House residents regarding all cases arising in and around MacGregor House involving breach of the House Constitution, Bylaws, or specific House rules such as the MacGregor Party Policy. The Judicial Committee shall attempt to determine the facts in each case, act as mediator among the parties involved, and make recommendations to the parties for settlement.

In cases of conflict or disagreement arising from the wording of the Constitution or Bylaws, the Judicial Committee shall rule on the meaning or intent therein. A request for clarification or interpretation of these documents may be moved at any time in any of the following three manners:

1. by Presidential request,

2. by request of 3 voting members of Housecomm or the Executive Committee, or
3. by a petition signed by 20 percent of the residents of the House.

These requests are to be presented to the Judicial Committee Chair, either in person or in writing. Upon receipt of the request, the Judicial Chair is to inform the House Committee, and all businesses related to the disputed passages are suspended until the Judicial Committee has returned a decision. The Judicial Committee shall conduct a hearing on the matter, following guidelines presented in the Uniform Judicial Code, Article III. The hearing should be held within 72 hours following the submission of the request for interpretation, but may be delayed for up to one business week to account for extenuating circumstances.

All members of this committee shall also have the responsibility and power to restore order in all disturbances, outbreaks of violence, and such other incidents as require immediate authoritative intervention, in response to the complaints brought before them. The Chair and members shall be elected by the voting members of the House Committee. Neither voting members of Housecomm, nor any member of the Executive Committee may serve on the Judicial Committee. In addition, no two members of the Judicial Committee may reside in the same entry.

ARTICLE V – EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The MacGregor House Executive Committee shall consist of the House President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Rooming Assignment Chair, and up to two other members appointed by the House President as necessary. The House Committee may, by majority vote, overrule any of these appointments at any time. They shall, as appropriate, represent MacGregor House. The Executive Committee shall act as an advisory group to the President of the House and the House Committee and shall act to insure the proper functioning of the various subcommittees, to assist the House officers with administrative details, to consider the basic goals of student government in MacGregor House, and to initiate new projects in keeping with these goals.

ARTICLE VI – SUBCOMMITTEES

SECTION 1. AD-HOC SUBCOMMITTEES

SubCommittees of the House Committee of a temporary nature may be formed from time to time by the House Committee and shall consist of a chair and other members as designated by the House Committee. If no persons or selections procedures are designated, the chair and members shall be appointed by the President. The House Committee may overrule, by majority vote, any person's appointment to an ad hoc subcommittee. These subcommittees shall transact business assigned to them and report to the House Committee, on request in writing, when their assignment has been completed.

SECTION 2. STANDING SUBCOMMITTEES: GENERAL

The chairs of standing subcommittees of the House Committee shall be responsible for the performance of their respective duties and functions. The chair may appoint additional members as necessary for proper functioning of the subcommittees, and request funds from the House Committee.

SECTION 3. SOCIAL COMMITTEE

The Social Committee shall be composed of the Social Chair and no more than three hundred additional members. The Social Committee shall plan, publicize, and execute, with such assistance from House Residents as it may require, all House social events. The Social Committee shall submit detailed financial reports at the meeting of the House Committee immediately following every social event. The Social Chair shall be elected by the voting members of the House Committee.

SECTION 4. ATHLETICS COMMITTEE

The Athletics Committee shall plan, publicize, and supervise all house athletic events. The Athletics Chair shall enter teams in all intramural sports for which there is sufficient interest in the House; shall sponsor and run intra-dormitory contests in all sports in which there is sufficient interest; and shall have jurisdiction over all house athletic equipment. The Athletics Chair shall present reports on events and interest regarding athletics within the house. The Athletics Chair shall be elected by the voting members of the House Committee.

SECTION 5. ATHLETICS FACILITIES COMMITTEE

The Athletic Facilities Committee shall be responsible for facilities including but not limited to the weight room and basketball court. The Athletic Facilities Chair shall submit financial reports at House Committee meetings to obtain permission for purchases regarding the updating and improving of athletic facilities. The Athletic Facilities Chair shall be elected by the voting members of the House Committee.

SECTION 6. DARKROOM COMMITTEE

The Darkroom Committee shall be responsible for the proper functioning and maintenance of the darkroom. It shall recommend to the House Committee such rules and regulations for the use of its facilities that it may deem necessary, and it may assess any resident of MacGregor House for the use of the facilities, subject to the approval of the House Committee. The Darkroom chair shall be elected by the voting members of the House Committee.

SECTION 7. R/O WEEK COMMITTEE

The R/O Committee shall be responsible for all House Rush and Orientation Week activities. The Chair shall submit a detailed report of all R/O Week expenditures to the Treasurer by the end of September. The Committee shall be appointed by the voting members of the House Committee.

SECTION 8. RECREATION ROOM COMMITTEE

The Recreation Room Committee shall be responsible for the care and maintenance of the equipment located in the Rec Room, and shall make expenditures for the upkeep thereof. The Rec Room Chair shall submit financial reports at House Committee meetings to obtain permission for purchases regarding the updating and improving of recreation facilities. The Committee shall be elected by the voting members of the House Committee.

SECTION 9. COMMUNITY SERVICE CHAIR

The Community Service Chair shall be responsible for all House community service activities. The Chair shall organize and publicize any public service activities and submit reports at House Committee meetings. The Chair shall be elected by the voting members of the House Committee.

SECTION 10. MUSIC ROOM CHAIR

The Music Room Chair shall be responsible for the care and maintenance of the music facilities and shall make routine expenditures for the upkeep, thereof. The Chair shall be elected by the voting members of the House Committee.

SECTION 11. RECYCLING CHAIR

The Recycling Chair shall be responsible for the organization of any and all House recycling activities. The Chair shall be elected by the voting members of the House Committee.

SECTION 12. UNDERGRADUATE ASSOCIATION SENATORS

Senators representing MacGregor House to the Undergraduate Association (UA) shall be elected by the residents through a process governed by the UA.

ARTICLE VII – HOUSE TAX

The House Committee may establish a house tax to be included in each semester's rent charge. The house tax shall not exceed \$75.00 per semester. If no different amount is determined for a given semester the house tax shall remain the same as in the previous semester.

ARTICLE VIII – ELECTIONS

SECTION 1. GENERAL

Elections shall be conducted according to procedures prescribed by the MacGregor Bylaws. All and only undergraduate students at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology who are residents of MacGregor House shall be eligible to vote in elections.

SECTION 2. ENTRY CHAIRS

One entry Chair shall be selected annually from among the residents of each entry in MacGregor House. Should the entry decide to elect two Co-Chairs to represent them, the Co-Chairs will together have one vote on HouseComm.

SECTION 3. BALLOTING

All house elections shall be conducted by secret ballot. The preferential system shall be used to tabulate ballots. Voters may request an absentee ballot from the Election Committee Chairperson. Such a request must precede the election by two days, and must include the voter's written request and MIT identification card in person, or by their representative designated in writing. The ballot must conform to the standards in the House Bylaws. The Election Committee Chairperson and the Election Committee shall be determined by the House Bylaws.

ARTICLE IX – REFERENDA

SECTION 1. GENERAL

Referenda may be called when it is desired to ascertain the House Committee is acting in accordance with the opinion of a majority of the residents of the House. A referendum shall be called upon presentation to the House President of a petition signed by 20 percent of the House residents.

SECTION 2. POWERS OF THE REFERENDUM

Any motion except one dealing with the allocation of funds, the removal of a House Officer or non-voting officers, and the election of a non-voting officer may be reconsidered by a referendum. The function of a referendum shall be to permit the reconsideration of a single motion which has been voted on by the House Committee, by the entire House. Until such time as the referendum has been held, the motion shall be considered suspended.

SECTION 3. THE REFERENDUM COMMITTEE

A referendum Committee composed of the House Secretary as non-voting Chair, two House residents in favor of the question to be considered, and two House residents opposed to the question shall plan, publicize and supervise each referendum. The House President shall appoint a Referendum committee within 48 hours after receipt of a requesting petition.

ARTICLE X – AMENDMENTS

Any amendment of this constitution may be moved at any meeting of the House Committee. It must be presented in writing and in the exact wording which it is to be incorporated at the preceding meeting. The secretary shall post the amendment 72 hours before it is to be voted on. The motion shall be postponed definitely to the following meetings. A three-quarters affirmative vote by roll call shall be required for passage.

ARTICLE XI – RATIFICATION

This constitution shall be ratified by a two-thirds vote of the MacGregor House Committee.