CONSTITUTION

DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY AND HUMANITIES

TEXAS A & M UNIVERSITY

ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of this organization shall be "the Department of Philosophy and Humanities," henceforth called "the Department." It is a constituent division of the College of Liberal Arts, Texas A&M University (College Station), and Texas A&M University System.

ARTICLE II - POLICY

The Department will assure that people are given equal opportunity without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, national/ethnic origin, age, handicap status, or status as a disabled veteran or veteran of the Vietnam era.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP

Section One - Full Members

A. All persons holding full-time tenured or tenure-track faculty appointment in the Texas A&M University System with an administrative location (AD LOC) in the Department are Full Members.

B. Full Members shall have all privileges and responsibilities of membership.

Section Two - Full Instructional Members

A. All Instructional Assistant/Associate/Full Professors holding full-time appointments in the Texas A&M University System with an administrative location (AD LOC) in the Department are Full Instructional Members.

B. Full Instructional Members have the same privileges and responsibilities as Full Members, except the right to vote on decisions directly concerning hiring, tenure and promotion of particular individuals.

Section Three - Associate Members

A. Emeritus faculty, retired faculty, and faculty with term appointments are Associate Members.

B. Associate members shall have responsibilities of membership appropriate to their association with the Department, and all privileges of membership except voting rights.

Section Four - Adjunct Members

A. Upon recommendation of the Department Head, the Department may designate persons as Adjunct members for a specified period of time.

B. Adjunct members may be given specific privileges within the Department and the University as designated on an individual basis.

Section Five - Honorary Members

A. Upon recommendation of the Department Head, the Department may select persons who have made extraordinary contributions to the program and/or reputation of the Department for the office of Honorary Member of the Department.

B. Honorary members have no specific duties or privileges. However, they may be given privileges and appropriate recognition at the discretion of the Department, except voting rights.
ARTICLE IV - OFFICERS

Section One - Head

The Head is the administrative and executive officer of the Department and its spokesperson to the University administration, the University community, and to external society.

Section Two - Associate Head

The Associate Head is appointed by the Head in consultation with the Steering Committee.

Section Three - Director of Graduate Studies

The Director of Graduate Studies is appointed by the Head in consultation with the Steering Committee.

Section Four - Undergraduate Advisor

The Undergraduate Advisor is appointed by the Head in consultation with the Steering Committee.

Section Five - Secretary

The Secretary shall be elected at the Annual Meeting.

Section Six - Parliamentarian

The Parliamentarian shall be appointed by the Head at the Annual meeting.

ARTICLE V - MEETINGS

Section One The Department will be considered to be a quasi-political organization with yearly official sessions beginning and ending at the Annual meeting

Section Two The Annual Meeting of the Department shall be held in or near to the first week of the Fall semester at a date selected by the Head in consultation with the Steering Committee.

Section Three Regular meetings will be held as often as necessary to conduct the business of the Department provided that they are held at least once each semester.

Section Four Meetings may be called by the Head, by a majority vote of the Steering Committee or by petition of at least 20% of the voting members. The petition will be presented to the Secretary.

Section Five The Head will notify all members of all annual, regular or called meetings at least seven days prior to the date of the meeting.

ARTICLE VI - QUORUM

Section One The quorum will be a majority of all full members of the Department excluding members who are on leaves of absence. However, if members who are on leave of absence attend a meeting, they do count toward the quorum

Section Two The Secretary shall record attendance at all meetings.

Section Three Proxy participation or voting is not permitted.

ARTICLE VII - COMMITTEES

Section One Standing Committees - The following standing committees shall be established:

A. Steering Committee

B. Graduate Program Advisory Committee

C. Undergraduate Program Advisory Committee
D. Colloquium and Public Events Committee
E. Faculty Annual Evaluation Advisory Committee
F. Computer and Equipment Committee
G. Curriculum Committee
H. Library Committee
I. Rules Committee
J. Climate and Inclusion Committee
K. Personnel Committees (Committees on Promotion and Tenure)
The Personnel Committee is established by and functions in accordance with the procedures and regulations concerning promotion and tenure of Texas A&M University, the College of Liberal Arts, and the Department's own “Guidelines for Personnel Procedures for the Department of Philosophy and Humanities,” which are hereby incorporated by reference.

ARTICLE VIII - PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The parliamentary authority for all meetings of this organization, including, annual, regular, called, special, committee and sub-committee meetings shall be Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, provided that RNR is not inconsistent with the laws and regulations of the State of Texas, The Texas A & M University System, Texas A & M University (College Station), The College of Liberal Arts, the Department Constitution, or the Department Bylaws.

ARTICLE IX - AMENDMENTS

Section One This Constitution may be amended at any regular or called meeting of this organization by two-thirds of the members present and voting, provided that the amendment has been presented at a previous meeting or has been distributed to the full membership thirty days prior to the meeting.

Section Two This Constitution may also be amended by a mail or electronic vote by a majority vote of all voting members of the organization.