

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS OF
THE HONORS COUNCIL OF THE ILLINOIS REGION,
A REGIONAL ASSOCIATION OF THE
NATIONAL COLLEGIATE HONORS COUNCIL

Honors Council of the Illinois Region
(amended September 24, 2010)

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE 1: NAME

This organization shall be known as the HONORS COUNCIL OF THE ILLINOIS REGION (HCIR), A Regional Association of the National Collegiate Honors Council

ARTICLE 2: PURPOSE

The Honors Council of the Illinois Region is organized exclusively for educational purposes within the meaning of section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

ARTICLE 3: OBJECTIVE

The objective of the Honors Council of the Illinois Region shall be the promotion and advancement of honors and similar programs in colleges and universities of the Illinois region of the United States.

ARTICLE 4: OPERATIONAL LIMITS

Notwithstanding any other provisions of these articles, HCIR shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by an Association exempt from Federal Income tax under section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law) or (b) by an Association, contributions to which are deductible under section 170(c) (2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law).

ARTICLE 4: MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the Honors Council of Illinois shall be open to all institutions of higher learning in the Illinois region who are interested in honors and similar programs. Each institutional member shall be entitled to one vote upon payment of annual dues.

ARTICLE 5: INUREMENT OF INCOME

No part of the net earnings of HCIR shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to, its members, trustees, officers or other private persons except that HCIR shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered.

ARTICLE 6: OFFICERS

SECTION 1. The officers of the Honors Council of Illinois Region shall be a President, a Vice-President, and an Executive Secretary-Treasurer. These officers along with the immediate past-President shall constitute the Executive Committee of the Council.

SECTION 2. The President shall be the immediate past Vice-President and shall take office at the conclusion of the Spring Conference. The President shall hold office for one year or until a successor is installed. The President, or in the President's absence, the Vice-President, shall preside at all meetings of the organization, shall appoint committees, and shall perform such duties as pertain to the office of President.

SECTION 3. The Vice-President elect shall be selected at the annual fall directors meeting and shall assume the office of Vice-President at the conclusion of the next spring conference. The Vice-President shall hold office for one year or until his successor is elected and installed. The Vice-President shall succeed automatically to the

office of President at the conclusion of the spring conference, or upon the death or incapacity of the President, or upon the installation of his successor as Vice-President.

SECTION 4. The Executive Secretary-Treasurer shall be elected at an annual fall directors meeting for a term of three years.

SECTION 5. The Margaret Messer Student Research Grants Officer shall be elected at the annual fall directors meeting for a term of three years.

SECTION 6. In the event of the death or the inability of any officer other than the President to continue in office, an interim officer shall be appointed by the President.

SECTION 7. New officers shall be installed at the conclusion of the annual spring conference.

ARTICLE 7: AMENDMENTS

Any proposal to alter or amend this constitution shall be referred to the Executive Committee of the Council for suitable wording, which clearly expresses the intent of the proposal and which is consistent with the other sections of the constitution. It shall be submitted in writing to the Executive Secretary-Treasurer at least 60 days prior to the annual fall directors meeting. A copy of such a proposed alteration or amendment shall be mailed by the Executive Secretary-Treasurer to each institutional and individual member in the HCIR at least 20 days prior to the said annual meeting. Such alternatives or amendments shall, upon receiving at an annual directors meeting a two-thirds majority of those present and voting, become a part of the constitution.

ARTICLE 8: DISSOLUTION CLAUSE

In the event of the dissolution of the Honors Council of the Illinois Region, after paying or making provisions for the payment of all the liabilities of the HCIR, the Executive Committee shall dispose of all the assets of HCIR exclusively for the purposes of the HCIR in such manner, or to such organization or organizations organized and operated exclusively for educational purposes as shall at the time qualify as an exempt organization or organizations under section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law). Any such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by the Court of Common Pleas of the county in which the principal office of HCIR is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said Court shall determine which are operated exclusively for such purposes.

ARTICLE 9: LEGISLATIVE AND POLITICAL ACTIVITIES

No substantial part of the activities of HCIR shall be the carrying of propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation and HCIR shall not participate in or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office.

Witnessed this _____ day of _____, 2007:

Thomas Sawyer

President

Executive Secretary/Treasurer

Bonnie D. Irwin

BYLAWS

ARTICLE 1: DUES AND VOTING RIGHTS

SECTION 1. The annual dues for institutional membership shall be reviewed by the membership at the annual fall directors meeting. A majority vote of those institutional members present at the meeting shall be necessary for a change in the annual dues.

SECTION 2. Each institution represented at the annual fall directors meeting shall be entitled to one vote.

SECTION 3. Institutional members shall not be entitled to vote if their dues are not paid in full by the time of the annual meeting.

SECTION 4. Any member in arrears for three years shall be dropped from the rolls.

ARTICLE 2. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE COUNCIL

SECTION 1. The President, Vice-President, Executive Secretary-Treasurer, the Margaret Messer Student Research Grants Officer and the immediate Past-President shall constitute the Executive Committee of the Council which may make such interim decisions as may be necessary for the conduct of the business of the Honors Council of the Illinois Region, in accordance with the Constitution and Bylaws.

SECTION 2. The Executive Committee of the Council shall also have the responsibility of providing information and assistance to institutions of higher learning attempting to establish or improve honors programs on their campuses. Such information and assistance shall be provided through the office of the Executive Secretary-Treasurer.

ARTICLE 3: EXECUTIVE SECRETARY-TREASURER

SECTION 1. The Executive Secretary-Treasurer shall keep minutes of the meetings of the Honors Council of Illinois Region and any meetings of the Executive Committee of the Council and perform such other duties incidental to the conduct of the office as may be required.

SECTION 2. The Executive Secretary-Treasurer shall collect all fees and dues owed to the organization and shall be the custodian of the Honors Council of Illinois Region's funds, securities, etc. and shall cause to be deposited in the name of the Council all monies or other valuable effects in such banks, trust companies, or other depositories as shall be approved from time to time by the Executive Committee of the Council.

SECTION 3. The Executive Secretary-Treasurer shall make an annual report to the organization as secretary and, as treasurer, submit annually a complete and verified statement of the financial condition of the Honors Council of the Illinois Region.

SECTION 4. The Executive Secretary-Treasurer shall serve as the editor of the Honors Council of the Illinois Region's publication(s) or see to it that the editorial functions are properly discharged.

SECTION 5. The Executive Secretary-Treasurer shall serve as liaison with National Headquarters.

ARTICLE 4. HEADQUARTERS

The Headquarters of the Honors Council of Illinois Region shall be at the place of the business of the Executive Secretary-Treasurer.

ARTICLE 5. FISCAL YEAR

The fiscal year of the Honors Council of Illinois Regions shall be January 1 through December 31.

ARTICLE 6. POINTS OF ORDER

On all points of order not covered by these bylaws, the Honors Council of Illinois Region shall be governed by Robert's Rules of Order or by the established usages in assemblages governed by parliamentary rule. The presiding officer of each annual meeting shall appoint a parliamentarian for each meeting.

ARTICLE 7. STUDENT PROJECTS FUND

SECTION 1. Up to one half of the declining balance of the treasury of the Honors Councils of the Illinois Region for an academic year shall be available for individual Honors student's projects. The HCIR reserves the right to limit the amount of any student award.

SECTION 2. Student research proposals shall be submitted to the Margaret Messer Student Research Grant Officer by the Honors Director/Dean from the student's sponsoring institution using such materials and following such guidelines as approved by the membership of the Council.

SECTION 3. The Margaret Messer Student Research Grant Officer shall identify at least two persons from among the institutional members of the Council to review each student proposal for funding and shall communicate with the Executive Secretary-Treasurer regarding available funds before awarding the grants. Furthermore, the Grant Officer shall communicate with the student's Honors Director/Dean regarding the outcome of the review process.

ARTICLE 8. AMENDMENTS

The bylaws may be altered, added to, or amended at any annual fall directors meeting, provided that such alteration or addition be presented to the membership in writing at least 20 days in advance of the meeting, and that such alteration, addition, or amendment receive a majority vote of those present.

Witnessed this _____ day of _____ 2008:

Thomas Sawyer
President

Bonnie D. Irwin
Executive Secretary/Treasurer