CONSTITUTION
Society of Christian Philosophers

Article I Name and Purpose

Section 1.   The name of the organization shall be the Society of Christian Philosophers.

Section 2.   The purpose of the organization shall be to promote fellowship between Christian philosophers and to provide occasions for intellectual interchange between Christian philosophers on issues that arise from their joint commitment.

Section 3.   This organization is organized and operated exclusively for purposes described in Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Adopted by amendment, 1983.

Article II Membership

Section 1.   Membership in the Society shall be open to all Christian philosophers. It is not restricted to any particular philosophical orientation or branch of Christianity.

    a.   It is solely up to the applicant for membership to determine whether he/she is a philosopher and whether he/she is a Christian.

    b.   The term 'philosopher' is not intended to be restricted to those who are employed in teaching philosophy, or to those who hold advanced degrees in philosophy. In particular, it is not intended to exclude graduate students in philosophy.

Section 2.   Any person who considers him/herself eligible for the Society can become a member by paying dues.

Article III Dues

Section 1.   Annual dues shall be set by the Executive Committee and are payable at the beginning of each academic year to the Treasurer.

Article IV Organization

Section 1.   The affairs of the Society shall be administered by a President and an Executive Director and a Treasurer with the assistance of an Executive Committee.

Section 2.   Terms of office.

    a.   The President shall be elected for a three-year term.

    b.   The Executive Director and Treasurer shall be elected for three-year terms.

    c.   The Executive Committee shall consist of twelve elected members, each serving a three-year term. Terms shall be arranged so that four members shall be elected each year. The President shall be ex officio a member of the Executive Committee; upon expiration of his or her term, the President becomes ex officio a member of the Executive Committee for two years. The Executive Director, Treasurer, Editor of the journal of the Society of Christian Philosophers, and the Ombudsperson shall be members of the Executive Committee ex officio.

    d.   'Year' is to refer to the calendar year.

    e.   All twelve elected members of the Executive Committee shall have the right to vote in Executive Committee meetings. No other member of the Executive Committee, including ex officio members, has the right to vote, except the president who has the right to vote in the case of a tie.

Section 3.   Election of officers.

    a.   A nominating committee, appointed by the President, shall with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee, present a slate of candidates for offices that will fall vacant at the end of that calendar year. This list shall include at least two nominations for each office, except that the nominating committee, at its discretion may present only a single nominee for

offices of Executive Director or Treasurer. In that case, the nominee for Executive Director or Treasurer is elected by acclamation.
  b.   This list of candidates standing for election shall be circulated to the membership, and any member can make additional nominations. It will require 15 nominations from the membership to place a candidate on the ballot.
  c.   Before the end of the calendar year, a ballot containing the names of all candidates will be circulated to the membership.
  d.   The person (or, in the case of the Executive Committee, the persons) receiving the greatest number of votes will be elected.

Article V   Administration

Section 1.   The Executive Committee shall meet at least once a year. The meeting shall be convened by the President at such time and place as seems most convenient.

Section 2.   All matters of basic policy shall be decided by the Executive Committee. If a policy matter needs to be decided between meetings, the President shall poll the Committee by any convenient method.

Article VI   Meetings

Section 1.   Meetings of the Society may be held in conjunction with the various divisions of the American Philosophical Association, the Canadian Philosophical Association, the American Catholic Philosophical Association, and such other organizations as may be designated by the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee may also arrange for meetings of other sorts, as it sees fit.

Section 2.   For each meeting of the Society, the President, with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee, shall be in charge of making all the arrangements for the meeting

Article VII   Amendments

Section 1.   Amendments may be proposed by the Executive Committee or by any five members.
Section 2.   Amendments will be submitted to the membership by ballot. A proposed amendment will be accepted if it is approved by two-thirds of those members voting.

2006 Change of Constitution

The Executive Committee approved a proposal to divide the existing office of Secretary-Treasurer into two offices: (1) an office of Executive Director, and (2) an office of Treasurer. Each of these positions would have a three-year term, the same as the term of office of Secretary-Treasurer as previously specified in the Constitution. The membership approved of the change.

2018 Change of Constitution

The Executive Committee approved a proposal to revise the constitution in a number of ways, including defining officer and committee member terms by calendar year rather than academic year, eliminating the timing of annual elections, stipulating that a single nomination for an office position is sufficient for election by acclamation, increasing the threshold for nominations to the Executive Committee from 3 to 15, waiving the requirement that physical mail be used for elections, clarifying that *ex officio* members of the Executive Committee lack the right to vote, and adding the Ombudsperson as *ex officio* member of the Executive Committee. The membership approved of these changes.