

## **International Berkeley Society: By-Laws**

Revised and approved 1/21/06

**Preamble:** The International Berkeley Society, in accord with the general laws of the state of Rhode Island and the Providence Plantations, is a non-profit organization founded in 1975 to enable its members to share their interest in George Berkeley, Bishop of Cloyne and eminent philosopher and theologian, and to become more aware of his impact on the philosophy, theology, science and culture of western civilization, both past and present. The Society holds meetings, conferences, and symposia and publishes the results of scholarly research in all parts of the world. The Society also promotes and encourages scholarly meetings, conferences, and scholarship through sponsorship. It brings attention and information, both old and new, about George Berkeley and his works to an international audience.

### **Organization:**

#### **A. Officers**

- 1. President:** The two main duties of the President are (a) to provide stimulation, leadership, and coordination of the multiple activities of the IBS and (b) to preside, whenever possible, at annual meetings or executive meetings of the IBS.
  - a.** If during the term of the President a vacancy occurs in Executive Committee Membership, the President will, after consultation with the Executive Committee, designate a replacement for the remainder of the President's term. At the beginning of the next election cycle the vacated office will be filled by election of the members attending the annual meeting.
  - b.** If the President cannot fulfill his/her term, the Vice-President will automatically become President for the balance of the President's elected term.
- 2. Vice-President:** The chief role of the Vice-President is to provide the necessary leadership and activity to aid the functioning of the IBS.
- 3. Immediate Past President:** The Immediate Past President will provide information, advice, and consultation to the current President.
- 4. Secretary-Treasurer:** The Secretary-Treasurer will be responsible for keeping and reporting the finances of the IBS, maintaining primary records of the Society, and assisting the President in arranging meetings of the Society.
- 5. Membership Secretary:** The Membership Secretary will be responsible for increasing or sustaining membership and keeping records.
- 6. Recording Secretary:** The Recording Secretary will record minutes of meetings.
  - a.** In the event that the annual meeting or Executive Committee meeting is held in conjunction with a major conference and the Recording Secretary is not in attendance, the President may appoint an ad hoc Recording Secretary for that meeting.

7. **Corresponding Secretary:** The Corresponding Secretary will be responsible for correspondence with members of the Society.
  - a. The Corresponding Secretary will be appointed by the President.
8. **Archivist:** The Archivist is responsible for maintaining Society materials and making recommendations to the Executive Committee regarding the preservation of documents relating to the Society.
  - a. The Archivist will be appointed by the President.
9. **Moderator:** In the absence of the President or Vice-President, the Moderator will chair the annual meeting. Normally, the Moderator is not an elected position but is a President Emeritus of the Society appointed by the President.
10. **Coordinators:** The President, in consultation with members of the Executive Committee, may appoint state, national, or philosophical association site coordinators to plan, help plan, execute, or coordinate activities associated with the Society and to keep the Society informed of related activities. Two coordinators are standing appointments: Philosophy Associations Coordinator and Ireland Coordinator.
11. **National Ambassadors:** The President, in consultation with members of the Executive Committee, may name members in their countries to the honorary position of National Ambassador of the Society. Ambassadors, through their professional and scholarly activities act as good will liaisons in exchanging information about the Society and its benefits to individuals, organizations, and scholars.

## B. Committees

1. **Executive Committee:** The Committee shall be composed of the President, Vice President, Immediate Past President, other Past Presidents, Secretary-Treasurer, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Archivist, Moderator, and Philosophy Associations Coordinator.
2. **Ad hoc Committees:** Ad hoc committees may be established by the President in consultation with the Executive Committee to promote and encourage the activities and goals of the Society.

## C. Dues

Dues will be set annually (\$15 dollars as of this date) and may be changed by recommendation of the Executive Committee and approval of the membership at the annual meeting.

## D. Selection of Officers

1. The President, Vice-President, Secretary-Treasurer, Recording Secretary, and Membership Secretary will be elected for three year terms at the annual meeting or a

Society-sanctioned conference. Usually the annual meeting will be held concurrently with the January Arrival Dinner commemorating Berkeley's Arrival in Newport, but it may be held in conjunction with a major Berkeley conference.

2. The Immediate Past President holds the position *ex officio* until his/her successor ceases to be President.
- E. Berkeley Briefs:** The IBS will publish at intervals Berkeley Briefs, information about scholarly projects and other activities of the IBS and its members. All dues-paying members shall receive a copy.
- F. Berkeley Newsletter:** The IBS will assist in the financing and distribution of the Berkeley Newsletter.
- G. Web Site Coordinator(s):** The President shall appoint up to two Web Site Coordinators to maintain and update the society's web site. The web site shall include links to the Berkeley Briefs and the Berkeley Newsletter as part of the web site construction.
- H. Whitehall:** The IBS will assist in a variety of ways the National Society of the Colonial Dames of America, the Friends of Whitehall, and any other groups interested in the preservation and restoration of Berkeley's house in Middletown, Rhode Island.