

THE JOSIAH ROYCE SOCIETY  
Constitution and Bylaws  
(Revised July 2014)

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS FOR THE JOSIAH ROYCE SOCIETY

ARTICLE I Purpose

The purpose of the Josiah Royce Society shall be to encourage study of the life and work of Josiah Royce (1855-1916), both for his original contributions to the development of the ethical, metaphysical, epistemological and political expressions of American philosophy; and for his professional associations and philosophical friendships with such leading figures of the “Golden Age” of American philosophy as C. S. Peirce, W. James, G. Santayana, J. Dewey, W. E. Hocking, and C. I. Lewis.

ARTICLE II Members and Supporters

Any person agreeing to the purpose of the Society will be admitted to membership and shall continue as a member while current dues are paid. Each member shall have one vote in all business meetings and mail ballots of the Society at large.

Institutions may subscribe to the publications of the Society or support its mission in other ways; however, they are not considered to be members.

Members will pay annual dues at a rate set by the Executive Committee. Membership runs on the calendar year, January through December. Payments are considered retroactive to January of the current year unless otherwise specified by the member or institutional subscriber.

Any person who has served a term of office as President of the Society, and is also a current member, is a Fellow of the Josiah Royce Society. The Executive Committee may also appoint other individuals as Fellows of the Society. Fellows may serve in advisory capacities, or otherwise assist current officers of the Society in ways that may be established by the Executive Committee, the current President, or the Society at large.

ARTICLE III Officers

The officers shall be a President, Vice President-President Elect, Secretary, and Treasurer. These offices are elected positions and are voted on by the membership as detailed in Article VII. All officers serve two year terms. At the completion of the President’s two year term, the Vice-President will immediately become President. Whoever is elected Vice-President will serve four years—two as Vice-President and two as President. Any person who previously served as President for two years may serve as President once again after two years.

There is no limit on the number of terms that the Secretary or Treasurer may serve. Terms of office begin at the conclusion of the annual meeting following the election.

The President shall be the senior officer and chief administrator and overseer of the Society's

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affairs. The President shall assume final responsibility for the activities of the other officers. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Executive Committee and act as parliamentarian. The President shall be responsible for articulating and directing implementation of short- and long-term goals for the Society. The President shall initiate and direct any fund raising efforts. After the term of office, the immediate past President becomes a Fellow of the Society and serves in an advisory role as a non-voting ex officio member of the Executive Committee for one year. Once the immediate past President has served as a non-voting ex officio member, the Fellow's role shall be as described in Article II.

The Vice President-President Elect (Vice President) shall assume the duties of the President if the latter is incapacitated or unable to attend a Society function. The Vice President shall advise the President on short- and long-term goals for the Society. The Vice President shall keep track of the terms of officers and shall initiate the election process when appropriate. The Vice President shall be in charge of recruiting members to organize American Philosophical Association and Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy sessions for the Society and shall take appropriate actions to ensure the success of those sessions. The Vice President shall reserve an appropriate time and place for the Society's annual business meeting and shall develop a preliminary agenda for that meeting.

The Secretary shall be the officer in charge of internal and external relations, including publications and communications. The Communications Director shall report to the Secretary. The Secretary shall keep a current list of members of the Society for purposes of officially establishing membership status when required for any reason. The Secretary shall take the minutes of all business meetings and publish them to the Society's members. The Secretary shall prepare and distribute ballots and shall certify and publish election results. The Secretary shall assume final responsibility for the production of an annual newsletter. All newsletters must include a note reminding members to pay their annual dues. The Secretary will arrange all meetings, other than the annual meeting, of the Society and will require an announcement of their time and place to be conveyed to all members, with the assistance of the Communications Director as needed, well in advance of Society meetings.

The Treasurer will be responsible for receiving and depositing all funds incoming to the Society, including all membership dues, subscription fees, or other monies paid the Society for any purpose whatsoever. The Society's treasury shall be maintained in a "non-profit" bank account in the name of the Society. The Treasurer will also execute all payments and disbursements from the treasury when such are authorized by the Executive Committee. The Treasurer will keep a written record of all financial activities pertinent to the treasury of the Society and will give a financial report at the Society's annual business meeting. These reports will be promptly recorded in the Society's minutes, and published to the Society's members.

The order of seniority among the Society's elected officers shall be: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer. Between annual meetings of the Society, a vacancy occurring in the Presidency shall be automatically filled by the Vice President. Such a vacancy in any other elected office shall be filled by a member appointed by the President and confirmed by a

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majority vote of the Executive Committee. Such interim Presidential appointees may be eligible to be elected to office at the next annual meeting of the Society.

ARTICLE IV *Executive Committee*

The Executive Committee shall be composed of the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, four at-large Representatives, and the Immediate Past President (one year as *ex officio*). No person can serve in more than one capacity on the Executive Committee.

Each at-large Representative will serve a two year term, which begins at the conclusion of the annual meeting following the election. Two Representatives shall be chosen each year by a vote of the membership. No person can serve more than two consecutive terms as an at-large Representative.

The Executive Committee shall meet at such times and places as it may determine, or at special meetings called by the President or by a majority of the members of the Executive Committee. In the interim period between annual meetings of the Society, the Executive Committee shall conduct all matters normally required to administer the affairs of the Society, except for constitutional amendments and elections of officers. The Executive Committee may conduct its business by phone, e-mail, regular mail, or other electronic means of communication. The Executive Committee will supervise the treasury and will not permit expenditures in excess of funds available.

ARTICLE V *Other Committees*

The President shall appoint a nominating committee, composed of two members of the Society (not currently serving on the Executive Committee) and one currently serving on the Executive Committee (besides the President him or herself), to present nominees in accordance with election procedures given in Article VII. The term of office of this committee will expire at the conclusion of the election in question.

The President or a majority of the Executive Committee may appoint such ad hoc committees as may be required to conduct the affairs of the Society.

Status as a committee member may be discontinued by a majority (four or more members) vote of the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE VI *Meetings*

At least one month prior to the annual meeting, the Secretary shall send each member an agenda for the business meeting.

Program meetings may be called by the Executive Committee as desired. A program meeting

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may be held in conjunction with the annual business meeting. The Vice President will serve as the Executive Committee liaison for these program meetings.

A ballot on any issue coming before the Society will be initiated upon written request by five or more members present; the ballot shall be distributed either by mail or e-mail according to a vote of the members present at the meeting.

ARTICLE VII Elections

Election of members of the Society's Executive Committee shall normally be conducted in the following manner.

The President shall appoint a nominating committee that shall produce nominees, when appropriate, for President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and at-large Representatives. The chair of the nominating committee shall issue a call for nominations, including self-nominations, with specific job descriptions included. After the election, the chair of the nominating committee shall follow up with newly elected officers to ensure they are aware of and understand their responsibilities. In addition, any member of the Society may nominate additional persons for any elected office, by submitting such nominations to the President. Persons not members of the Society may not be nominated or hold office.

The Secretary will supervise the balloting, which will be conducted by mail, e-mail, or other appropriate means, to the whole membership in advance of the annual meeting. The election of officers and at-large Representatives will be settled by a plurality—i.e., the largest number of votes for any one candidate—of those voting. The Secretary incumbent at the start of the election will certify the results of the election and cause them to be published to the Society's membership at the annual meeting.

ARTICLE VIII Conferences

In order to promote the purpose of the Josiah Royce Society as stated in Article I, the Society shall endeavor to sponsor paper sessions at regional meetings of the American Philosophical Association, at national and regional meetings of the Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy, or at other locations as is deemed appropriate. The Vice President with the assistance of the Executive Committee is charged with recruiting and hosting these sessions. The Vice President can convey this authority to individual Delegates to specific conferences, or to a Program Committee (whose members, duties, and terms will be established by the Executive Committee).

ARTICLE IX Communications Director

In order to promote the purpose of the Josiah Royce Society as stated in Article I, the Society shall seek venues for the publication of scholarship related to the work of Royce. For this

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purpose and to facilitate communications generally, a Communications Director will be appointed by the President with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee. The Communications Director shall be appointed for two-year terms, but may serve an unlimited number of terms. The Communications Director shall report to the Secretary. The Communications Director with the assistance of the Executive Committee will be responsible for encouraging the publication of research related to the work and legacy of Royce, especially by cultivating relationships with extant journals and presses that would be receptive to publishing work by and about Royce. The Communications Director will be in charge of managing the Society's website, Facebook group, e-mail listserv and other communications outlets. The Communications Director will actively seek appropriate content for the website. The Secretary may ask the Communications Director to assist in the development and/or distribution of an annual newsletter based on the Society's activities.

ARTICLE X *Affiliated Groups*

Organizations which agree with and support the goals of the Society as stated in ARTICLE I of this constitution shall be eligible to be an affiliated group of the Society. Formally, the prospective affiliated groups must:

1. Be a constituted organization with a constitution or bylaws, elected officers, with regular meetings and records of these meetings.
2. Actively support the goals of the Society.
3. State in its publications that it is an affiliated group of the Josiah Royce Society.
4. Each member pays an annual membership fee of at least \$15, which can be waived if the member is already a regular member of the Society.
5. Send a letter to the Society stating that it meets these minimum requirements and would like to be recognized as an affiliated group.

The Executive Committee will review the letter of application and decide on granting affiliated status.

Once affiliated status is granted, the organization may ask that brief announcements or event notices be placed on the Society website. Individuals within this affiliated group will be allowed to attend meetings of the Society, but will not be eligible to vote unless a regular member of the Society. The Society, through its Executive Committee, will act as a consultant for the affiliated group's Royce activities. Joint meetings are a possibility. Members of the Society may act as speakers at the events of the affiliated group.

ARTICLE XI *Tax-exempt Status and Activities Forbidden Thereby*

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The Josiah Royce Society is organized exclusively for charitable, educational, and/or scientific purposes under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

No part of the net earnings of the Josiah Royce Society shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to, its members, trustees, officers or other private persons, except that the organization shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in the purpose clause (Article I) hereof. Notwithstanding any other provision of this document, the organization shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by an organization exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or (b) by an organization, contributions to which are deductible under section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

Upon the dissolution of the organization, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose.

Article XII Distribution of JRS Resources

All money raised by JRS shall be distributed in such a way as to support new scholarship on Royce.

Article XIII Matching Grants

JRS invites proposals for matching grants to support new scholarship on Royce. JRS encourages proposals from all disciplines. All proposals will be given equal consideration, regardless of the discipline in which they are primarily situated.

The Treasurer of JRS must receive all grant proposals by January 15. The Executive Committee reserves the right to waive this deadline if a worthy proposal is submitted after January 15.

Normally, award decisions will be made by the Executive Committee of JRS by the date of its annual business meeting in March.

The annual maximum of support for grant proposals is \$1,000.

Proposals may be submitted for any amount, but the maximum JRS funding per proposal is \$500.

The minimum matching requirement is \$1 from a source other than JRS for \$2 from JRS. For example, for a \$750 proposal, \$500 from JRS requires a match of \$250 from another source.

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Matching funds must be in hard dollars. In-kind contributions are not considered matching funds. Evidence that hard dollar matching funds have been obtained must be presented to the Treasurer of JRS before a grant will be awarded.

The Treasurer of JRS will follow up with grant recipients to determine how JRS funds have been spent and the outcome of the project.

Grant recipients must acknowledge the support of JRS wherever such acknowledgement is appropriate. Grant proposals should be no more than a page in length and should include the following components:

1. A description of the plan or project for which a matching grant from JRS is sought.
2. An account of the way in which the project or plan contributes to the creation of new scholarship on Royce.
3. A statement of the total budget for the proposal, the amount of the matching grant sought from JRS, and the amount of the required match from a source other than JRS.

Normally, the Treasurer of JRS will announce awards by April 1.

ARTICLE XIV *Amending the Constitution and Bylaws*

Amendments to the Society's Constitution and Bylaws may be proposed by the Executive Committee, or by petition of any five members of the Society. Amendments shall be adopted by a majority (>50%) vote at the annual business meeting, unless a mail or e-mail ballot is requested. In case of a mail or e-mail ballot, a majority (>50%) of those members replying within one month of the ballot mailing shall decide the issue.