

CONSTITUTION (rev. Fall 1997)

We, the people of the Leonard Carmichael Society, in order to form a more perfect world, establish justice, insure domestic tranquillity, provide for the common service need, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to the Tufts community and the surrounding area, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the Leonard Carmichael Society.

Article I: Mission Statement

The mission of the Leonard Carmichael Society, heretofore known as LCS, is to work toward creating a more socially sensitive and responsible world. LCS does this by encouraging Tufts students, faculty, and staff to get involved in community action through service, education, and advocacy.

We believe that voluntary service is fundamental to achieving our goals because only with personal experience and cooperation can we be sensitive to the worth, dignity, and true needs of the population with which we work. Additionally, we must be linked with a means of involvement that is informed by direct personal experience with the community.

LCS believes that exposure to such experiential learning is an integral part of an individual's lifetime education. LCS has a two-fold mission of aiding the community through direct service and expanding the perspectives of its volunteers.

Article II: Structure

Section 1. LCS hereby defines itself as an umbrella organization consisting of distinct programs dealing with a variety of community service issues such as: Hunger & Homelessness, Domestic Violence, Children's Welfare, Literacy & Education, and Health Care. LCS shall consist of 3 branches: Directional Staff (D-Staff), Programming Staff (P-Staff) and all volunteers.

Section 2. The LCS Programming Staff shall consist of all members who coordinate a program under the umbrella of LCS. Each member of P-Staff takes responsibility for the coordination of his/her program and all relevant activities. They shall also be granted a budget determined by the LCS and Tufts Community Union (TCU) Treasuries. Each coordinator is also responsible for holding at least two office hours per week, attending bimonthly P-Staff meetings, maintaining contact with volunteers and community agencies, operating within the constraints of their budget, and coordinating with the spirit of the Leonard Carmichael Society and its mission. Coordinators shall be selected by the previous coordinator(s) in conjunction with the Directional Staff.

Section 3. The Directional Staff shall consist of no less than a President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer and Faculty/Staff Liaison. The purpose of D-Staff is to oversee all activities under the umbrella of LCS and determine the direction of the organization. D-Staff members will attend bimonthly meetings in addition to P-Staff meetings. The President, Vice-President, and Treasurer of LCS shall be selected in the form of a proposed slate by the D-Staff, ratified by a margin of two-thirds of P-Staff. All other D-Staff positions shall be selected by their predecessors.

Section 4. Volunteer membership shall be open to any member of the Tufts Community who so desires to better his/her world through the mobilizing action of community service.

Article III: Meetings

Meetings will be held bimonthly, on alternating weeks during the academic year, for both Directional and Programming Staff. Although LCS remains operational during the summer months, no formal meetings shall be outlined in this document. At the onset of each semester, LCS shall hold an orientation program for all of its staff members, as well as a General Interest Meeting for all interested volunteers.

Article IV: Admission of New Programs

In order to be admitted into LCS as a new program, a group must first submit a proposal consisting of a proposed budget and a stated purpose to the Directional Staff. D-Staff will then vote, and upon approval, bring the said proposal to the TCU Senate for Buffer Funding. After one successful semester, the group can receive its own budget under the umbrella of LCS.

Article V: Treasury Procedures

Financial records of the organization shall be kept in both the LCS Treasury and the TCU Senate Treasury. Records shall be kept updated at all times by both treasuries. A copy of the budget shall be issued to each program coordinator, who is then responsible for keeping it updated. All transactions must go through the LCS Treasury and must be approved by one of the 4 LCS authorized signatories (President, VP, Treasurer, or Assistant Treasurer).

Article VI: Amendment Procedures

Any member of the Leonard Carmichael Society Staff can submit proposed amendments for change of Constitution pending closed-ballot vote of Directional and Programming Staff. Any amendment must be approved by two-thirds of those present at the time of voting. All amendments must then be approved by the Tufts Community Union Judiciary (TCUJ).

Amendment I

LCS acknowledges that in order to support its mission, it may take a stance on campus, political, or other issues. In such cases that an LCS stance is requested, the Directional Staff will decide, by majority vote, whether or not the entire staff should vote on the particular issue. If the Directional Staff decides that a vote should be taken, then the entire staff must vote and a two-thirds majority of those present at the time of voting is required to ratify the particular stance.

Amendment II

LCS acknowledges that impeachment of a Directional Staff member may at times be necessary to preserve the quality of the organization. In such a case, a grievance shall be presented in writing at a D-Staff meeting and read aloud in the presence of D-Staff and the accused person. The next meeting of D-Staff would allow an open forum for discussion of the issues at hand, giving the accused a chance to defend him/herself. After the discussion, a vote would be taken by D-Staff about whether or not the impeachment will take place. A two-thirds majority of those present is required to impeach a member of D-Staff. Immediately following the impeachment of an officer, an emergency election will occur in order to seek a replacement officer. This election will follow the standard election procedures outlined in Article II, Section 3 of this Constitution.