

RHETORIC SOCIETY OF AMERICA

Summary of Proposed Constitutional Changes by Type of Change

These tables separate out three types of changes: changes bringing the Constitution into line with current practice, changes in practice, and reorganizations within the document. In addition, though not specifically highlighted, changes have been made to restate our current provisions into language that qualifies RSA for §501(c)(3) tax-exempt status according to the Internal Revenue Service. Correction of minor wording errors are not included. Within each table, items are listed by Article and Section.

Changes to bring the Constitution up to date by reflecting current practice

Art. II, Sec. 2(d)	Identifies the Institute as an ongoing activity of RSA.
Art. V, Sec. 4	Permits notices to be sent by electronic mail.
Art. VII, Sec. 2	Stipulates that candidates run in paired races for Board seats; recognizes two student Board members; states expectation that Board members attend all meetings.
Art. VII, Sec. 3	Deletes reference to a student caucus to nominate student Board members; they are chosen by Nominating Committee.
Art. VII, Sec. 4	States that Board normally meets twice per academic year.
Art. VI, Sec. 6	Permits notices to be sent by electronic mail.
Art. VIII, Sec. 2	Codifies membership of Nominating Committee and statement of its tasks.
Art. VIII, Sec. 5	Identifies the composition and charge of the Institute Steering Committee.
Art. VIII, Sec. 6	Identifies the Committee on Equity and Diversity as a standing committee and identifies its charge.
Art. IX, Sec. 2	Recognizes the Hauser Award and identifies the selection procedure.

Changes to propose new practices

Art. II, Sec. 2(c)	Updates site selection procedure to reflect larger size and use of professional meeting planner.
Art. II, Sec. 3(c)	Broadens the list of nondiscrimination categories.
Art. VI, Sec. 1	Editor and Membership Officer no longer identified as RSA officers (though they remain non-voting Board members as at present).
Art. VI, Sec. 7	Specifies conditions of appointment of Executive Director

Art. VI, Sec. 8	Allows Membership Officer to be appointed as a distinct office.
Art. VII, Sec. 11	Provides a procedure for filling vacancies on the Board.
Art. VIII, Sec. 1	Establishes a Steering Committee of the Board, consisting of the President, President-elect, Past President, and Executive Director.
Art. VIII, Sec. 7	Establishes the Committee on Interdisciplinary and Interorganizational Cooperation as a standing committee and identifies its charge.
Art. IX, Sec. 3	Removes requirement for $\frac{3}{4}$ Board approval for book and dissertation awards.
Art. IX, Sec. 4	Explicitly permits the creation of additional awards.

Changes that reorganize sections of the Constitution

Art. VII, Sec. 1	Statement that the Board is the major policy-making body is moved from former Sec. 2.
Art. VIII, Sec. 3	Moved from elsewhere within the same Article.
Art. VIII, Sec. 4	Name changed from Editorial Review Committee; moved from elsewhere in the same Article; broadened mission.
Art. VIII, Sec. 8	Moved from elsewhere in the same Article; language condensed.
Art. VIII, Sec. 9-12	Renumbered sections.
Art. IX, Sec. 3	Rearranges specific items within this Section.