



**Constitution of the Morrissey Manor Council**  
University of Notre Dame  
Notre Dame, IN

## **Preamble**

We, the Manorites of 2006, with our predecessors of the last eighty years, have found a unique spirit in Morrissey Manor. The friendships formed within these walls amongst seniors and freshmen, priests and students, roommates and teammates all come together and truly make Morrissey Manor a community of brotherhood.

United in this brotherhood, and bonded in the traditions of Morrissey Manor, we proclaim and propose this Constitution of the Morrissey Manor Council.

## **Article I: Name and Purpose**

The name of the organization enacted by and governing the students set forth by this Constitution shall be the "Morrissey Manor Council" and shall hereafter be referred to simply as the "Council" or "Manor Council." The purposes of the Council shall always include but not be limited to the following:

1. Enhance the residential experience within Morrissey Manor
  - Coordinate programs and events in the interest of the Manor's residents
  - Keep the residents informed of campus-wide activity
2. Serve as the chief campus-wide representative body of the residents of Morrissey Manor
  - Represent the interests and views of all the Manor's residents
3. Win the prestigious title of Dorm of the Year
  - Increase dorm and school spirit

## **Article II: Composition of the Manor Council**

The Manor Council shall consist of eight standings committees and two representative officers, led by an executive cabinet of four members: the President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Each standing committee shall be chaired by a full-time Morrissey Manor resident who serves as a project director for this committee. The eight standing committees shall be: academic/multicultural, athletic, facilities, fundraising, in-hall events, inter-hall events, pastoral life, and service.

Each executive cabinet member, representative officer, and committee chair shall be in charge of holding one position from April 1 through March 31 of the following year and is expected to make their duties as a Manor Council representative one of their top priorities outside of the classroom.

### *Subarticle 1: The Role of the Hall Staff*

The Morrissey Manor Hall Staff shall be involved in and aware of the operations of the Manor Council. The rector and assistant rectors shall attend meetings at least monthly, providing their guidance and representing the opinions of the Hall Staff to the Manor Council. The Manor President shall report directly to the rector. The assistant rectors shall be an intermediary for event-planning and in-hall programming funding received from the Office of Student Affairs.

The Resident Assistants, too, shall be involved in the Manor Council in several capacities. Their involvement and duties shall be directed by the rector at the beginning of each school year.

## **Article III: Offices and their Election**

### **1. Manor President and Vice-President**

The Manor President and Vice-President shall run for office on the last day of February of each year, on a two-person ticket. In the event that this coincides with Spring Break, the Elections shall be held on the Tuesday that follows the second Monday in March. If a majority is not achieved by any ticket during the first election, a runoff featuring the two tickets who received the greatest number of votes will take place on the Thursday immediately following the Election.

- a. The Rector, together with the Judicial Commissioner, should work to ensure compliance with this timeline.

In order for a ticket to appear on the Election ballot, the President and Vice-President must meet the following criteria. In very rare situations, the rector may elect to waive one, and only one, of these criteria in order for a ticket to appear on the ballot.

- a. Must obtain and file a petition with the Judicial Board Representative, containing at least 10% of the Manor residents' signatures one week prior to the election. This form is to be filed with the Rector and Judicial Commissioner.
- b. Must have served on the Manor Council for one year immediately prior to running for President.

- c. Must have Junior class standing by Fall semester (post-election) to serve as President.
  - d. Must have a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.00.
  - e. Must have no discipline record with the Office of Residence Life and Housing.
  - f. Must be committed to fulfilling the requirements and expectations of a leader within the dorm.
2. **Secretary and Treasurer**  
The Secretary and Treasurer, along with the Manor President and Vice-President, compose the Manor executive cabinet. The secretary and treasurer are appointed by the Manor President and Vice-President no later than March 30 after a dorm-wide application process. Prior to taking office, the secretary and treasurer appointments must be confirmed by the rector.  
In order to apply for office, the Secretary and Treasurer must meet the following criteria. In very rare situations, the rector may elect to waive one, and only one, of these criteria in order for a resident to apply for a position.
- a. Must have served on the Manor Council for one year immediately prior to running for President
  - b. Must have a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.80
  - c. Must have no discipline record with the Office of Residence Life and Housing
  - d. Must be committed to fulfilling the requirements and expectations of a leader within the dorm.
3. **Representative Officers**  
The Senator and Student Union Board (SUB) Representative shall serve as dorm-wide representatives of the Morrissey residents to the Student Union Senate and SUB, respectively. They shall inform Manor residents of the Student Union's relevant policy and programming events in addition to soliciting the opinions of Morrissey residents and representing the wishes of the Morrissey population to SUB and the Student Union Senate.  
Candidates for each position participate in the Dorm Elections each March and are subject to the election rules detailed in Section III.1., with the lone exception of running for office on a one-person ticket.
4. **Standing Committee Chairs**  
The ten standing committee chairs compose the remaining ten members of the fourteen-member Manor Council. The chairs oversee ten key aspect of dorm life within Morrissey Manor: academic/multicultural, athletic, facilities, fundraising, in-hall events, inter-hall events (Brother-Sister), liturgical, spirit, sustainability, and service.

Each chair is appointed by the Manor President and Vice-President no later than March 30 after a dorm-wide application process. Prior to taking office, each standing committee chair appointment must be confirmed by the Rector.

In order to apply for office, each standing committee chair must meet the following criteria. In very rare situations, the rector may elect to waive one, and only one, of these criteria in order for a resident to apply for a position.

- a. Must have a demonstrable record of involvement within the Manor Council
- b. Must have a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.60
- c. Must have no more than one discipline hearing with the Office of Residence Life and Housing
- d. Must be committed to fulfilling the requirements and expectations of a leader within the dorm

*Subarticle 1: Freshman Orientation Commissioners*

In the first week of February, two Freshman Orientation (Frosh-O) Commissioners are appointed by the Rector to oversee the upcoming Frosh-O that takes place in August. Additionally, the Rector will appoint a Campus-Wide Frosh-O Commissioner who shall coordinate the Manor's participation in DomerFest and process the Frosh-O Award applications. Finally, the Rector shall facilitate and approve the commissioners' selection of the remaining members of the Frosh-O Staff.

#### **Article IV: Responsibility, Participation, and Attendance**

The Manor Council shall meet weekly, on Tuesday nights after the Hall Presidents Council has met. Each of the twelve members of the Manor Council shall be allotted one unexcused absence per semester and three excused absences per semester.

Excessive absences, disciplinary trouble with the Office of Residence Life or any law-enforcing agency, or any conduct unbecoming of a leader of Morrissey Manor shall be grounds for immediate review and possible dismissal from the Manor Council. All reviews shall be conducted jointly by the Manor President, Vice-President, and Rector.

#### **Article V: Impeachment, Resignation, and Rules of Succession (2009 Amendment)**

*Impeachment:* The Rector has the sole power to impeach the Manor President. The Manor President shall be impeached if he fails to perform duties specified in the Manor Constitution or the Morrissey

Manor Hall Council Handbook. Additional grounds for impeachment include, but are not limited to, any of the following:

- a. Failure to attend Hall Presidents Council meetings, without Rector consent;
- b. Multiple cancellations of Hall Council meetings, without Rector consent;
- c. Failure to communicate Hall Council initiatives with the Rector;
- d. Failure to carry out scheduled events, without Rector consent;
- e. Failure to regularly meet with the Rector;
- f. Failure to submit Rockne applications;
- g. Failure to maintain cumulative grade point average of at least 3.00;
- h. Disciplinary trouble with the Office of Residence Life or any law-enforcing agency.

Once the Rector ascertains there is just cause for impeachment, the Rector must notify the Manor President in writing of this development. The Manor President must respond to these charges in a timely fashion. If the grounds for impeachment persist after the Manor President's response, or the Rector believes that the response is inadequate, the Rector can then exercise the power of impeachment, effective immediately.

If the Rector impeaches the President, the Rules of Succession govern the President's replacement.

*Resignation:* The Manor President may resign the office of the Presidency at any time during his term. Before resigning, the Manor President must notify the Rector of his plans for resignation and his reasons for doing so. The Rector retains the discretion to accept or reject the President's resignation.

If the Rector accepts the Manor President's resignation, the Rules of Succession govern the President's replacement.

*Rules of Succession:* If the Manor President is impeached or has submitted his resignation, or cannot fulfill his duties in the Constitution or handbook for whatever reason, an election shall take place with the candidates solely comprised of the current officers on the Hall Council. The election shall be conducted in a run-off fashion until two candidates remain, with only the voting members of Hall Council eligible to cast a vote. The winning candidate must achieve a majority of the voting members' votes.

Such an election is subject to the approval of the Rector. The Rector may veto the election results for any reason, including, but not limited to, any of the reasons listed in Article III, § 1.

## **Article VI: Amendment**

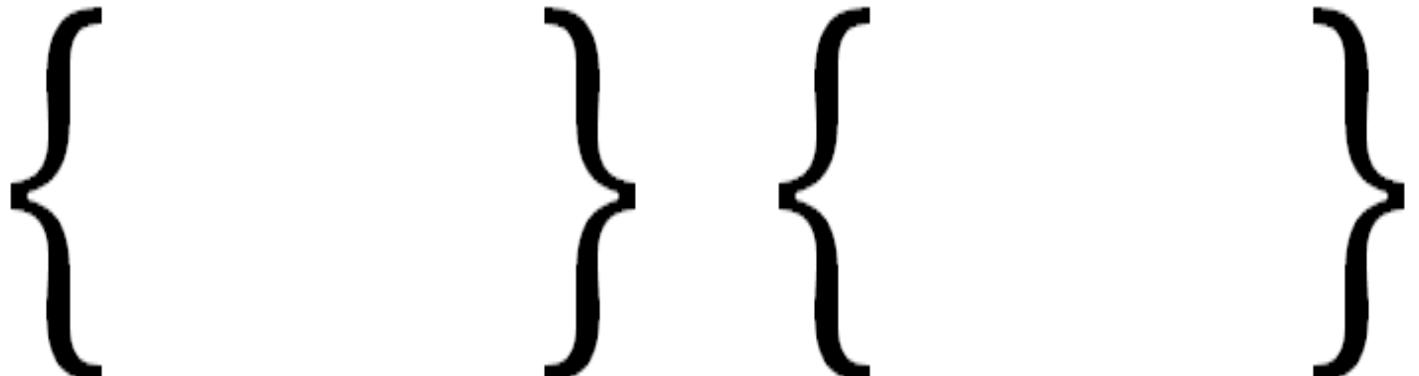
This Constitution shall be open to amendment by future Manor Councils. All potential amendments shall be proposed during weekly Manor Council meetings and voted upon by the executive cabinet

members and committee chairs of the Manor Council. Only these twelve elected and appointed members of the Manor Council shall vote and at least eight supporting votes shall be necessary for an amendment to pass in the Manor Council and to be considered for adoption. After an amendment is passed in the Manor Council, it must be confirmed by the Manor President and the Rector before it can take effect.

## **Article VII: Ratification**

By unanimous consent of the members of the Manor Council present the Twenty-Eighth Day of March Two-Thousand Six, we hereunto subscribe our names to witness the ratification and immediate establishment of this Constitution:

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Manor Council Presidents



Manor Council Members

Manor Council Members

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Rector, Morrissey Manor