

**COUNCIL OF LEARNED SOCIETIES IN EDUCATION
PROPOSED CONSTITUTION**

Fall 1993

Preamble

1 In February of 1980 at a session during the annual convention of the American
2 Association of Colleges for Teacher Education the previously informal Coordinating
3 Council for Learned Societies in Education established itself as the Council of Learned
4 Societies in Education. The Council began with seven member societies--American
5 Educational Studies Association, Comparative and International Education Society,
6 History of Education Society, John Dewey Society, Philosophy of Education Society,
7 Society for Educational Reconstruction, and Society of Professors of Education. During
8 the ensuing years, membership expanded to include additional international, national,
9 regional, and state organizations.

10 The original Coordinating Council and the eventual CLSE evolved from desires
11 among leaders of the seven founding societies to create a united voice on behalf of the
12 social foundations of education in support of the "Standards for Academic and
13 Professional Instruction in the Foundations of Education, Educational Studies, and
14 Educational Policy Studies" adopted by the American Educational Studies Association in
15 1978. CLSE serves as a formal federation of international, national, regional, and state
16 organizations interested in supporting and promoting the role of social foundations of
17 education in professional and general education at all levels in the United States. To
18 those ends, CLSE is affiliated with the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher
19 Education and the National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education and
20 Certification, and works in liaison with many other national and state educational,
21 governmental, and private sector entities.

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24 **Article One -- Name and Purpose**

25 Section 1. The name of the organization shall be the Council of Learned
26 Societies in Education.

27 Section 2. The purpose of the Council shall be to provide a forum among learned
28 societies and individual scholars in the humanistic and social foundations

29 of education for developing, discussing, approving, and implementing
30 policies regarding matters of mutual interest among members. Such
31 matters may include, but are not limited to, standards related to the
32 preparation and licensure of educators and accreditation of education
33 programs or units.
34

35 **Article Two -- Membership**

36 Section 1.

37 There shall be three categories of membership: (a) associate membership,
38 (b) regular membership, and (c) sustaining membership.

- 39 a. Any regional or state learned society whose purposes include
40 support for the humanistic and social foundations of education
41 shall be eligible for associate membership. Each associate member
42 society shall be entitled to one voting delegate to the Council.
- 43 b. Any national learned society whose purposes include support for
44 the humanistic and social foundations of education shall be
45 eligible for regular membership. Each regular member society
46 shall be entitled to two voting delegates to the Council.
- 47 c. Any individual who belongs to one of the member learned
48 societies shall be eligible for sustaining membership. Sustaining
49 members may attend all meetings of the Council and may speak
50 freely but shall not vote unless serving as an official delegate of
51 a member society.
- 52 d. The Council may establish other categories of membership.
- 53 e. Voting members of the Council shall establish membership dues
54 for each membership category.
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57 **Article Three -- Officers**

58 The chief executive officer of the Council shall be the President, who
59 shall succeed to that position for a three-year term from the office of the
60 Vice President/President Elect. The President shall preside at meetings
61 of the council and shall be the Council's representative to NCATE.

62 **Section 2.** The following officers shall be elected by voting delegates of the Council:

63 a. The Vice President/President Elect shall be elected for a three-year
64 term, after which he or she will become President for a three-year
65 term. The Vice President/President Elect shall preside at meetings
66 of the Council in the absence of the President and shall assume
67 the office of President whenever there is a vacancy in that position.
68 Completion of another President's term shall not affect the Vice
69 President/President Elect's right to serve as President for a normal
70 term. If succession occurs early because a President leaves office
71 before the term ends, the voting delegates of the Council shall
72 choose a new Vice President/President Elect at its next scheduled
73 meeting.

74 b. The Secretary/Treasurer shall be elected by the voting members of
75 the Council for a three-year term. This official shall keep the
76 minutes and other records of the Council; shall prepare and
77 distribute notices of meetings; shall keep the funds and financial
78 records of the Council; shall pay the bills and prepare and
79 distribute financial statements and budget proposals; shall send
80 dues notices to member societies and shall perform other duties
81 as directed by the Council.

82 **Section 3.** Elections of officers shall take place at the scheduled fall meeting
83 every third year. Terms of office shall begin immediately

84 following these elections. In the event of a resignation or death,
85 offices will be filled at the first scheduled meeting thereafter.
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87 **Article Four -- Voting Delegates of the Council**

88 Section 1. Quorum. At least one-third of the total voting delegates must be
89 present. A Quorum may be composed of proxies as well as regularly
90 elected delegates. Each member society may certify to the Secretary/
91 Treasurer who its delegates are or who is authorized to cast proxy
92 votes. Decisions of the Council shall be by majority vote of those
93 present and voting.

94 Section 2. Officers shall be elected from the membership of learned societies that
95 hold associate or regular membership in CLSE by the voting delegates
96 or proxies of the Council.
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98 **Article Five -- Committees, Commissions, and Boards**

99 Section 1. The following committees are established to help the Council support
100 and coordinate the efforts of related committees of the member societies:

- 101 a. **Committee on Relations with Professional Organizations:**
102 responsible for strengthening cooperative relations of the member
103 societies with professional education associations, e.g., AACTE,
104 NEA, AFT.
- 105 b. **Committee on Academic Standards:** responsible for coordinating
106 the development and review of general and specialized standards
107 and for establishing a national network of individuals to promote
108 implementation of the standards.

109 c. Committee on Accreditation: responsible for establishing
110 effective relations with NCATE and other agencies that conduct
111 accreditation reviews of professional education programs.

112 Section 2. Voting Delegates of the Council or the CLSE President
113 may create standing or ad hoc committees, commissions, and
114 boards to further the purposes of the Council. Sustaining members
115 of the Council are eligible to serve on these bodies.

116 Section 3. Committee Chairs: Chairs shall be appointed by the CLSE President
117 and are responsible for providing leadership for their respective
118 committees, selecting individuals to serve on their committees,
119 and submitting reports at Council meetings. The terms of chairs and
120 committee members end when the appointing president's term ends.

121 Section 4. There shall be a nominating committee appointed by the President at
122 the meeting immediately preceding the meeting at which the election
123 is to occur. Individuals serving on the nominating committee must
124 be current paid members of a learned society that holds associate or
125 regular membership in the Council. Two-thirds of the nominating
126 committee will be members of national learned societies that hold
127 membership in the Council and the remainder will be members of
128 regional or state learned societies that hold membership in the Council.

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130 **Article Six -- Meetings**

131 Section 1. The Voting Delegates or proxies of the Council shall set the time and
132 place of the meetings of the Council.

133 Section 2. There shall be at least two meetings annually, one in the spring and one
134 in the fall, held in association with national educational meetings
135 attended by many of the Council delegates.

136 Section 3. Robert's Rules of Order, current edition, shall be used to conduct
137 meetings.

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139 **Article Seven -- Finances**

140 Section 1. Revenue of the Council shall be disbursed only by direction of the
141 voting delegates of the Council.

142 Section 2. Revenue accruing to the Council shall be used entirely for the work of
143 the Council. No part of the income of the Council shall be paid to any
144 member as wages or salary, but by prior approval of the Voting Delegates,
145 officers and others performing duties for the Council may be reimbursed
146 for expenses related to their duties.

147 Section 3. The Council's financial accounts shall be audited periodically according
148 to the procedures established by the Voting Delegates.

149 Section 4. Charitable Purposes:

150 The Council is organized exclusively for educational and charitable
151 purposes, including, for such purposes the making of distributions
152 and expertise to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations
153 under section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code or corresponding
154 section of any future federal tax code. No part of the net earnings of the
155 Council shall inure to the benefit of, or be deductible to its members,
156 trustees, officers, or other private persons, except that the Council shall be
157 authorized and empowered to pay reasonable expenses for services
158 rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the
159 purposes set forward in the goals clause hereof. No substantial part of the
160 activities of the Council shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or
161 otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the Council shall not
162 participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of

163 statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public
164 office. Notwithstanding any other provisions of this document, the
165 Council shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be
166 carried on (a) by an organization exempt from federal income tax
167 under section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code or corresponding
168 section of any future federal tax code, or (b) by an organization,
169 contributions to which are deductible under section 170 (c) (2) of the
170 Internal Revenue Code or corresponding section of any future federal tax
171 code.

172 Upon the dissolution of the Council, assets shall be distributed for
173 one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501 (c) (3)
174 of the Internal Revenue Code or corresponding section of any future
175 federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a
176 state or local government, for a public purpose. Any such assets not
177 disposed of shall be disposed of by the Court of Common Pleas of the
178 county in which the principal office of the Council is then located,
179 exclusively for such purposes or to such organizations as said court
180 shall determine which are organized and operated exclusively for such
181 purposes.

182 Article Eight -- Amendments

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184 Section 1. Amendments to this Constitution may be initiated by the Voting
185 Delegates of the Council.

186 Section 2. Proposed amendments shall be distributed by mail to the Chief Executive
187 Officer of each constituent learned society, together with an explanation
188 of the amendments. Ratification shall be by vote at the next regularly
189 scheduled meeting of the Council. At least sixty days shall elapse between

190 mailing the amendments and the meeting at which the vote is taken.
191 Amendments shall be adopted by two-thirds of the Delegates voting.
192 Section 3. The effective date of the amendments to this Constitution shall be
193 immediately upon notification to the President by the Secretary/Treasurer
194 of the result of the vote. The membership shall be notified of the adoption
195 of the amendment within a reasonable time.