

# THE CONSTITUTION OF THE ECONOMICS SOCIETY

## PREFACE

We have immense gratitude for the Executive Council members, Haider Ghani Jafri, Rida Fatima, Zarnab Athar and Muhammad zain Bin Asad for their contribution in the running the society and reviewing this document. We would also like to thank past Presidents and executive council members and society alumni who have always stood by TES and helped the society in the capacity of Patrons and in helping us with affiliations. We would like to thank the current Patron of the Society, Dr. Adeel Tariq for his ever- present affection and guidance for the society.

TES is a society that has the potential to achieve so much more than our collective imagination. And we hope that with this constitution and your commitment to the society, you, the reader, bearer and safe-keeper of this constitution and the Society, will enable and empower TES to the best of your ability to achieve its true potential.

Executive Council | The Economics Society 2020 – 21

## THE CONSTITUTION OF THE ECONOMICS SOCIETY

[15 September,  
2019] PREAMBLE

Hereupon the Economics Society (hereafter “TES”) Society shall serve as the sole society for economic related activities in the Lahore University of Management Sciences (hereafter “LUMS”);

Whereas TES operates under the ambit of the LUMS Extra-Curricular Activities Office (hereafter “ECA”), in conjunction with the Office of Student Affairs (hereafter “OSA”) and under the guidance of the LUMS Student Handbook;

Whereas TES is supervised and led by a Patron exclusive to TES;

Whereas TES will operate in a manner respectful of the traditions and culture of LUMS and in a way to positively represent, uphold and further the name and associated prestige of LUMS;

Whereas TES will be a meritocratic society and will not discriminate against anyone on the basis of caste, colour, creed, race, ethnicity, sect, religion, gender, nationality, financial situation, disability, age, sexual orientation, marital status or political affiliation;

Whereas TES will operate as a non-profit society in an apolitical manner;

Whereas this Constitution is drafted by the President, in consultation with the Executive Council; We, the members of the TES Society;

Conscious of our role and responsibility in and our duties towards the TES Society;

Cognizant of the mission statement, code of conduct and rules and regulations of LUMS and the TES Society;

Dedicated to a spirit of collective responsibility, inter-faith and inter-nation harmony and the propagation of the;

Do hereby agree to abide by and uphold this Constitution.

## **PART I: THE SOCIETY**

### **CHAPTER 1 – INTRODUCTORY**

1. The TES Society is a non-governmental, not-for-profit, apolitical, student run organization which aims to:

- a. Spread knowledge and awareness about seminal economic works and big economic ideas;
- b. Spread awareness about International Financial Institutions (IFIs) like the World Bank and International Monetary Fund;
- c. Promote a culture of social responsibility;
- d. Inculcate a sense and spirit of leadership and entrepreneurship in the youth of Pakistan;
- e. Inculcate a culture of knowledge dispersal, especially between academics, professionals and ambassadors, professors and the youth;
- f. Develop a sense of academic scholarship amongst the student body;
- g. Help create a more equitable world where resources are more evenly distributed;
- h. Encourage the use of evidence-based policy design and statistical tools while making decisions.

2. The TES Society shall operate with the following vision:

*‘Salus populi suprema lex’*

3. Any and all principles, duties, powers and restrictions laid out in the Preamble shall be considered a substantive part of this constitution.

### **CHAPTER 2 – FRAMEWORK**

4. The TES Society shall operate as an extra-curricular society at LUMS, under the guidance of the ECA, OSA and other related LUMS administrative offices, in conjunction with the LUMS Student Handbook.

5. The TES Society shall operate under the following structure, in hierarchical order:

- a. The Patron;
- b. The Executive Council;
- c. The Core Team;
- d. The (remaining) TES General Body.

6. All posts in the TES Society, shall be open only for the members of the TES General Body.

### **CHAPTER 3 – MEMBERSHIP**

7. Members for the TES Society will be inducted at the start of each academic year (hereafter “year”).

8. Members may be inducted through inviting applications, holding walk-in interviews or any other such measure; the decision for the selection of the procedure for induction for any particular year rests with the Executive Council and the Director Human Resources for that year.

9. The Executive Council may set a cap upon the number of members to be inducted in that year.

10. A member, once inducted, will remain a member of the TES Society, until the end of his/her tenure at LUMS. However, he/she may have to renew or reconfirm his/her membership, as per the policy created by the Executive Council for that year.

11. All members are expected to uphold and exhibit the highest standards of integrity, honesty, discipline and professionalism in their dealings amongst themselves, regardless of their position within the society, and with students, societies, bodies or organizations outside of TES, both within and outside of LUMS.

12. All members:

a. Reserve the right to be apprised of

i. The TES Constitution and any amendments thereof, if made;

ii. TES Society events, once they have been approved and finalized by the Executive Council and the CCA;

b. Are expected to actively participate in all society events.

13. A member may resign from the TES Society through a formal application to this effect, addressed to and approved by the General Secretary, on advice of the President, who may file this with the Patron.

14. Any member of the Executive Council reserves the right, on the approval of the President and the Patron, to terminate either a student’s membership, post or both if he/she:

a. Undermines or seeks to undermine this constitution or the TES Society;

b. Fails to remain active within the TES Society;

c. Fails to uphold the qualities expected of him/her as provided under Article 12;

d. Fails to discharge his/her duties in a professional, timely and proper manner;

### **CHAPTER 4 – THE PATRON**

15. The TES Society shall operate under the direct guidance of a Patron, such that the Patron:

a. Shall be a member of the LUMS faculty;

b. Shall solely be the patron of the TES Society and no other society;

c. May, in consultation with the relevant panel, appoint the Executive Council for the successive academic year;

- d. May direct the activities of the TES Society as he/she deems fit and necessary;
- e. Shall reserve the final say on any matter, including arbitrating on any matter of conflict that may arise amongst the Executive Council, vetoing any decision made by the Executive Council or hearing any appeal made against any decision of the Executive Council;
- f. May remove any member from any position if he/she deems it necessary.

16. The Patron may appoint any member of the faculty to serve as Acting Patron for any duration of time that the Patron may not be present, either on account of ill health, travel or a leave for sabbatical; this shall be communicated to the Executive Council and the relevant LUMS administrative offices.

17. The Patron may, in consultation with the Executive Council, nominate a faculty member for the position of Co-Patron, if he/she feels that he/she is unable to discharge the duties required of him/her on his/her own.

## **PART 2: THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

### **CHAPTER 1 – COMPOSITION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

18. The Executive Council for the TES Society will contain the following four posts:

- a. The President;
- b. The General Secretary;
- c. The Vice President;
- e. The Treasurer.

19. No Executive Council member may hold the same office for more than one year and the President may not re-apply for the Council in the successive year.

20. The tenure of the Executive Council will commence from the announcement of its appointment and will last until the end of the interviews of the following year's Executive Council.

21. No member of the Executive Council may be affiliated with any other institution

22. A member of the Executive Council may be removed by either the Patron or a vote of no-confidence unanimously passed by the other three members of the Executive Council, if that member partakes in any of the following:

- a. Undermining the internal working of the TES Society;
- b. Undermining this constitution;
- c. Consistently failing to discharge his/her duties;
- d. Consistently failing to attend Executive Council meetings;

e. Failing to follow the core values of TES including, but not limited to, honesty, integrity, professionalism, discipline, meritocracy, justice and equality;

## **CHAPTER 2 – SELECTION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

23. Notwithstanding anything contained in this constitution, members of the Executive Council must fulfill and meet the CCA and OSA's criteria for office bearers of any such society. This may include academic qualifications, restrictions based on disciplinary records and other such criteria as communicated by the CCA and the OSA.

24. Only second year and third year students, who will achieve the status of third year and fourth year students, respectively, at the start of the following Fall Semester, may apply for the Executive Council.

25. The Executive Council shall be appointed by a panel comprising:

a. The Previous Executive Council;

b. At least one former President and at most two former Presidents of the TES Society, nominated by the out-going President; provided that if no former President may be available, the out-going President may, upon his/her better judgment appoint any former alumni to the panel, with a preference to those who have served as part of their respective Executive Councils.

26. The Patron shall be informed of the interviews by the out-going President and the Patron may be present during the interviews upon his/her prerogative.

27. Interviews for the selection of the Executive Council shall be held no later than fourteen days prior to and no sooner than thirty days prior to the end of the academic year.

28. Interviews will be conducted on the basis of applications sent out to the TES General Body.

29. There will be no short-listing amongst the applications received.

30. Notwithstanding anything contained Article 28, an applicant may be disqualified if the information provided in his/her application is found to be falsified or incorrect, or if the applicant is, at the time of the application, enrolled in the first year of LUMS.

31. These applications will be released to the General Body within the week preceding the date of the interviews.

32. In the scenario that a member of the Executive Council resigns or is removed from his/her position, one of the following two scenarios may be followed depending on the position in contention:

a. If this member is the President, the initial selection Panel and the Patron shall be consulted by the remaining members of the Council; the Panel and the Patron will have complete autonomy to proceed in any manner befitting of the circumstances;

b. If this member is not the President, the President may, in consultation with the initial selection Panel, appoint a new member to this position, such that this member may not already be part of the Executive Council.

### **CHAPTER 3 – GENERAL POWERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

33. The Executive Council is the sole student authority enabled to make decisions for and on behalf of the society, provided that these decisions are made in good faith.

34. Any decision taken collectively by the Executive Council, that affects the society as a whole, requires a simple majority amongst its members.

35. Notwithstanding anything contained in Article 34, the President shall reserve the final say in all matters of the society, second to the Patron.

36. The Executive Council shall decide when to schedule interviews or any such selection process for any posts within the TES Society, including, but not limited to, posts for the intra-LUMS Conference(s).

37. The Executive Council shall, collectively and individually, ensure the upholding of this constitution.

38. If the constitution is silent on a matter, the Executive Council must respond to any given issue based on precedent.

39. All members of the Executive Council must conduct themselves as role models for the remaining members of the TES Society, and must present themselves in a manner representative of the values of the TES Society, including, but not limited to, the qualities of honesty, integrity, justice, discipline, professionalism and approachability.

40. Should any member of the Executive Council be absent for a period extending up to seven days on account of academic reasons, ill-health, family reasons (including, but not limited to a marriage or death in the family) or representing TES or LUMS on an international forum, he/she may appoint any other member in the Executive Council, in advance, to oversee his/her duties, for the period of absence.

### **CHAPTER 4 – DIVISION OF POWERS AND DUTIES WITHIN THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

41. The President, in addition to any other duties and powers mentioned in this constitution, shall:

- a. Provide an overall vision for the TES Society;
- b. Provide, in consultation with the Executive Council, an executable plan for this vision;
- c. Preside over the Executive Council sessions, with at least one review meeting per month;
- d. Liaison with the Patron and keep him apprised of developments in the TES Society;
- e. Supervise the overall functioning of the TES Society, including, but not limited to:
  - i. The Rest of the Executive Council
  - ii. TES's international participation;
  - iii. The Intra-LUMS Conference(s);
  - iv. The induction of new members;



- v. The National Affiliations;
  - vi. The International Affiliations, including, but not limited to,
  - vii. The financial situation of the society;
- f. Reserve the right to be updated, upon his/her request, regarding any society activity by the relevant office bearer;
- g. Serve as the central repository for all TES Documents;
- h. Reserve the right to call a meeting of the Executive Council as and when he/she may see fit;
- i. Reserve, under Article 35, the final say in all decision-making matters of the society, second only to the Patron;
- j. Be, under Article 25, part of the panel for the selection of the next Executive Council and shall, therefore, not be allowed to re-apply for the Executive Council;
- k. Will supervise the society journal with the editor of the journal reporting directly to the President;
- l. Will supervise the analytics department with the directors of the department reporting directly to the President.

42. The General Secretary, in addition to any other duties and powers mentioned in this constitution, shall

- a. Be responsible for managing the society page and other social media accounts;
- b. Be responsible for keeping minutes for Executive Council meetings;
- c. Oversee the working of the following departments:
  - i. Human Resources;
  - ii. Design
  - iii. Media
  - iv. Events

43. The Vice President, in addition to any other duties and powers mentioned in this constitution, shall:

- a. Act as the President in case the President cannot perform their duties
- b. Take the role of the interim President in case they are removed
- c. Oversee the working of the following departments:
  - i. Affiliations;
  - ii. Marketing.

44. The Treasurer, in addition to any other duties and powers mentioned in this constitution, shall:
- a. Make a budget of the society by keeping a record of revenue and expenses;
  - b. Shall, alongside the President, have the final say on financial matters of the society;
  - c. Oversee the working of the following departments:
    - i. Logistics;
    - ii. Finance.

### **PART 3: THE CORE TEAM**

45. The Core Team shall comprise the Co-Directors, headed by the Executive Council.

46. The Core Team shall be selected through an interview process scheduled, intimated and conducted by the Executive Council, based on applications for all relevant positions which include the following:

- a. Core;
  - i. Human Resources;
  - ii. Design;
  - iii. Marketing;
  - iv. Logistics;
  - v. Finance;
- b. Academic Departments;
  - i. Events;
  - ii. Affiliations;
  - iii. Analytics;
  - iv. Journal (Editor)

### **PART 4: COMPLAINT MECHANISM**

47. The TES Society shall have a formal mechanism for the filing of complaints against any office bearer in the society, to ensure transparency, a check and balance and accountability in the society.

48. A complaint may be against actions including gross misconduct, exploitation of the powers associated with a particular post, failure to discharge duties reasonably or professionally, violation of

the core values of honesty, integrity, discipline or professionalism, misrepresentation of the member's post in the society, or any other such offense.

49. All complaints formally filed shall be investigated in a timely manner, provided the complaint is not in bad faith and is supported by documented evidence.

50. Any grievance against any member in the society, provided that this member is not a member of the Executive Council, may be filed, via e-mail, with the Executive Council.

51. Any grievance against a member of the Executive Council, such that this member is not the President, may be filed, via e-mail, with the President.

52. Any grievance against the President of the Society may be filed, either in writing or via e-mail or both, to the Patron of the Society.

#### **4.1 Sexual Harassment Policy:**

53. The Economics Society (LUMS) believes in creating an inclusive environment for students and therefore has a zero-tolerance policy for instances of sexual harassment, bullying or any form of intimidation and coercion.

54. Having stated that, The Economics Society shall operate parallel to the guidelines provided by CCA when addressing instance of sexual harassment.

55. The Economics Society shall uphold and provided complete transparency in adhering to the following guidelines:

- a. Endorse a positive environment in which people are treated fairly and with respect;
- b. Make it clear that harassment of any kind is unacceptable and that the entire LUMS community have a role to play in making an environment free from harassment;
- c. Provide a mechanism of support for those who feel they have been subject to harassment; and
- d. Provide a framework by which complaints can be registered and addressed in a timely way.

56. The Economics Society and its Patron are expected to familiarise themselves with the Policy and Procedure on appointment. The Head of Department has a duty to execute this policy and to make every attempt to make sure that harassment and victimisation do not take place and, that if they do occur; any concerns are forwarded to relevant department and authorities to investigate promptly and effectively.

57. All members have a personal obligation for complying with this Policy and Procedure and must comply with and express active commitment to this policy by:

- a. Treating others with dignity and respect.
- b. Discouraging any form of harassment by making it clear that such behaviour is unacceptable.

58.. However, no Society Executive, Member, Patron, or Partner Company can take any action by themselves but file formal or informal complaint against any conduct or harassment.

## **PART 5: AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION**

59. The constitution shall be considered the primary reference regarding any procedural or administrative matter that may arise in the working of the TES Society.
60. Where the constitution is silent on a matter, a member, regardless of post, shall be expected to follow established precedent.
61. No amendment shall be passed to this constitution unless the passing of such amendment shall greatly improve the relevance and scope of this constitution.
62. The power to amend the constitution shall lie with the Executive Council.
63. A member of the Executive Council may, after consultation with a member of any previous Executive Council, introduce an amendment to this constitution in a meeting of the Executive Council where all members shall be present, such that:
- a. The General Secretary shall be informed in advance regarding this intention;
  - b. The proposed amendment shall be circulated amongst all the members present at the meeting;
  - c. The General Secretary shall call the Executive Council to vote on the amendment.
64. A proposed amendment shall require a three-fourths majority in the Executive Council to pass; therefore, for an Executive Council of four members, three votes shall be needed in favour for the amendment to become part of the Constitution.