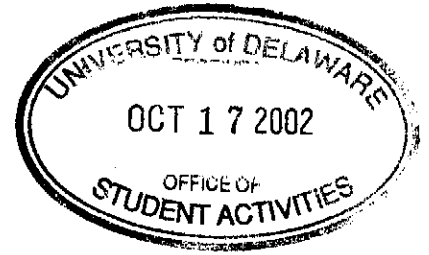


CONSTITUTION  
of  
Delaware Israel Public Affairs Committee

29 September 2002



**Preamble**

We, the students of the University of Delaware, do hereby form the non-partisan organization known as Delaware Israel Public Affairs Committee (DIPAC). Our purpose shall be to increase positive relations between the USA and Israel, increase campus understanding of issues relevant to this relationship, and to engage in proactive political activism on campus.

ARTICLE I

**Object of DIPAC**

The purpose of DIPAC shall be to increase knowledge and support of Israel on campus and to provide a means for students to express their political views concerning Israel. This shall be carried out through educating the student body on matters relating to US-Israel relations. Specifically, the objectives are as follows:

1. To bring together a sizeable number of students interested in foreign policy, current events, and diplomatic relations between the US and countries in the middle east.
2. To work with a variety of student organizations on campus, raising the potential for a greater caliber of political and educational activities through more efficient, combined planning

ARTICLE II

**Affiliation with National Organization**

DIPAC is affiliated with the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC).

ARTICLE III

**Membership**

Full time, matriculated undergraduate students at the University of Delaware who demonstrate a commitment to the purpose of our organization, by attending our meetings and activities and paying any necessary dues, shall be considered members of DIPAC.

ARTICLE IV

**Non-Voting Membership**

Pursuant to its goal of fostering a greater understanding of and interest in political issues, DIPAC encourages graduate students, faculty members, and UD alumni to become non-voting members, that they may further enlighten themselves of various political issues, and contribute to our group their knowledge and experience.

ARTICLE V

**Duties and Privileges of Membership**

Voting members of DIPAC shall agree to attend at least two general meeting per semester, or two events, or be designated as a member by someone on the executive board. Members shall make every effort to attend meetings and events and participate in outreach campaigns. Members shall have the privilege of attending events, meetings, the possibility of going to lobbying sessions with congressional representatives, national conferences, and most importantly, voting privileges.

## ARTICLE VI

### **Non-Discrimination Clause**

SECTION I. DIPAC agrees to adhere to all policies and procedures of the University and all local, state, and federal laws. Members will become acquainted with policies and procedures in the Official student handbook and other policies and procedures provided by the University. DIPAC is a viable, functioning organization, composed of at least six full time undergraduate students and we shall not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, gender, age, religion, national origin, veteran, handicap status, or sexual orientation. DIPAC reserves the right to politely ask disruptive attendees of meetings or events to leave the room. This will be done (when warranted) by declaring an event or meeting to be "members only." We also reserve the right to strip someone of membership status by a vote of  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the executive board.

## ARTICLE VII

### **Absence Policy**

Should a member be consistently absent from regular meetings and/or activities held by DIPAC, the Executive Committee may choose to revoke his/her membership by a majority vote (the President having two votes, and the other officers having one).

## ARTICLE VIII

### **Disciplinary Policy**

Should a member prove him/herself unable to carry out the purpose of our organization, or infract upon this Constitution, the Executive Committee may revoke his/her membership by a majority vote (again, the President having two votes, and the other officers having one).

## ARTICLE IX

### **Executive Committee**

SECTION 1. The DIPAC Executive Committee shall be the decision-making organ of DIPAC and shall consist of its officers.

### **Election and Qualifications of Officers**

SECTION 2. The officers of DIPAC shall be elected annually by members via a secret ballot carried out by the Executive Committee and supervised by the Advisor in late April. Voting members may nominate other voting members as candidates. After being nominated, the candidate with the highest number of votes for a particular office is elected to that office. A single candidate may not be nominated for more than two offices, nor may a candidate hold more than one office simultaneously. In the event of a tie, the current Executive Committee shall review each tied candidate, and vote on the one who it deems most qualified for office. Elected candidates shall become officers as of August 1<sup>st</sup>, after an Executive Committee transition period during May. Nominees must have attended either 6 meetings or have the approval of  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the executive committee. They must also meet the qualifications outlined below

SECTION 3. The qualifications to hold office in the DIPAC shall be as follows:

1. Be an outstanding, voting member of DIPAC;
2. Be a full-time matriculated undergraduate student during the following spring and fall semesters;
3. Be able to commit a minimum of five hours per week to DIPAC business;
4. Be able to attend executive committee meetings.

### **President**

SECTION 4. The President is the official representative of the DIPAC. He or she has the duties of calling and running meetings and handling day-to-day affairs. The President shall be responsible for the registration of the Registered Student Organization and all required paperwork for the continuation of the organization, including the Annual Report, Summer Contact Information, Annual Survey, and RSO Questionnaire. The President will receive all information from the Activities and Programs Office from an undisclosed email database to be used to help DIPAC function. The President will help to appoint all standing and special committees. The President shall serve as the liaison between DIPAC and AIPAC.

### **Vice President**

SECTION 5. The Vice President shall serve the role of President if the President is absent, unable to serve the duties of President, or if the President resigns. The Vice President should also be responsible for checking the organization's mailbox and for disseminating information about other activities offered by the other Registered Student Organizations and business promotions. The Vice President will receive information from other Registered Student Organizations and the Activities and Programs Office through the [Student-Leaders@udel.edu](mailto:Student-Leaders@udel.edu) email database.

### **Treasurer**

SECTION 6. The Treasurer shall be responsible for all group expenditures and revenues. Only the Treasurer shall sign checks written by the organization and will maintain all group ledgers. The Treasurer should also be responsible for requesting funds from the Activities and Programs Allocations Board. The Treasurer will have checks co-signed by the appropriate administrator.

### **Secretary**

SECTION 7. The Secretary shall record the events of all meetings of the organization and shall maintain minutes of those meetings. The Secretary shall take attendance of those present at group meetings as necessary. The Secretary shall also maintain the membership list, email database, and other DIPAC records and files.

### **Other Officers**

SECTION 8. The Executive Committee may create officer positions other than those delineated above on an ad hoc basis as deemed necessary. Also, should the organization be unable to fill the positions of Vice President or Secretary, the organization may operate with the President and Treasurer alone constituting the Executive Committee.

### **Executive Committee Meetings**

SECTION 9. Bi-monthly meetings of the DIPAC Executive Committee (or as warranted) shall be held at a time deemed appropriate by the President. All officers are expected to be in attendance.

### **Voting**

SECTION 10. Questions arising requiring a vote by the Executive Committee will be treated as follows: the Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer shall have one vote, and the President shall have two votes. No vote shall be taken unless a quorum of at least three-quarters of the Executive Committee is present.

### **Resignation and Dismissal of Officers**

SECTION 11. Officers who feel they are unable to fulfill their responsibilities may resign by letter to the President of DIPAC, or in the case of a President's resignation, to the Advisor.

SECTION 12. Officers who fail to adequately carry out the requirements of their office may be dismissed from their responsibilities by an Executive Committee vote of no confidence, with at least three-quarters of the votes being for dismissal. Dismissal shall be by written notice.

## ARTICLE X

### **Meetings**

SECTION 1. Meetings will be held at least once per month. The Executive Committee shall reserve the right to establish which meetings shall be open to participation by the general university community and which shall be for members only. The Executive Committee may also hold additional meetings, as it deems necessary. Meetings will take place on campus, in a locale accessible and convenient to members, as determined by the Executive Committee.

### **Dues**

SECTION 2. The Executive Committee shall reserve the right to collect dues, should it find financial need for them. All voting members shall be responsible for paying dues. Policies involving the collection of dues shall be subject to the control of the majority of due-paying members, overseen by the Executive Committee.

### **By-Laws**

SECTION 3. Should DIPAC establish by-laws to carry out the policies set forth in this constitution. A vote by two thirds of the voting members shall be required to approve by-laws or changes in existing by-laws.

### **Procedures for decision-making**

SECTION 4. Decisions affecting DIPAC will be suggested by the executive Committee (after a committee vote of more than 50% in favor) and then the members will vote.

### **Selection of an Adviser**

SECTION 5. The newly elected DIPAC Executive Committee shall convene each spring to assemble a pool of potential advisors. Emphasis shall be placed on maintaining the same Advisor from year to year for continuity purposes. The Executive Committee shall vote to select the Advisor. Any ties or uncertainties as to the vote for the Advisor shall rest on the sole discretion of the President.

**Disbursal of Organizational Assets Should the Organization Become Defunct**

SECTION 6. The University of Delaware shall inherit the assets of DIPAC should it become defunct.

**Quorum**

SECTION 7. DIPAC shall define the minimum number of members who have to be present at a meeting in order for business to be conducted legally to be at least 8 people or thirty percent of its current members.

**Ratification of this Constitution**

SECTION 8. Ratification of this Constitution of DIPAC shall take place by a two-thirds vote of the organization and with the approval of the Activities and Programs Office.

**Amendment**

SECTION 9. This Constitution may be amended by a three-fourths vote of the Executive Committee or by a two-thirds vote of the members. All proposed amendments must be advertised on-campus for at least one week, and all current members must be notified of such changes.

**Signatures**

SECTION 10. The DIPAC President and Adviser as well as the Program Coordinator for Leadership Development shall sign below, certifying the legitimacy of this constitution of Students in the Public Interest.

President..... \_\_\_\_\_ Date

Adviser..... \_\_\_\_\_ Date

Program Coordinator for Leadership Development..... \_\_\_\_\_ Date