

# Constitution of Democracy Matters

September 2005

## **Article I- Name**

The name of this organization shall be Democracy Matters (DM).

## **Article II- Purpose**

The purpose of DM is to:

- 1) Inform and engage college students and communities in efforts to strengthen our democracy. We focus on the issue of money in politics in America- and on the promise and passage of campaign finance reform.
- 2) Give students a voice the movement to remove private wealth from politics and initiate lifelong civic involvement.
- 3) Bring students energy, ideas, and enthusiasm to the national discussion on money in politics- and to the movement for campaign finance reform.

## **Article III- Membership**

All fully matriculated members of St. Lawrence undergraduate student body may become members of DM.

## **Article IV- Officers**

**Section I:** There shall be one students Coordinator (or two Co-Coordinators) for the organization who shall be selected by the students and the Democracy Matters organization each year.

Paragraph A The Coordinator, or Co-Coordinators, shall oversee the general state of DM's finances, publicity, and overall activities.

Paragraph B The Coordinator, or Co-Coordinators, shall preside over DM meetings and shall have the power to call special meetings at his or her discretion upon due notice and consent to a majority of the members. The DM members shall have a regular meeting time and interval decided by the active members.

Paragraph C The Coordinator, or Co-Coordinators, shall be students of any graduating class. The Coordinator, or Co-Coordinators, shall be selected from within the Organization, having been a member who has shown active participation and involvement in the organization.

Paragraph D Democracy Matters shall have two additional officers, one secretary, and one treasurer. Both will be elected by the group members, with the approval of the Coordinator or Co-Coordinators.

Paragraph E Officers may be dismissed by a majority vote of no-confidence by the executive board. A group member who has shown outstanding participation will be appointed by the Coordinator or Co-Coordinators if a vacancy occurs.

Paragraph F The position of treasurer shall be a full-year position. It shall be the responsibility of the treasurer to complete a budget for DM, attend all necessary treasury hearings and meetings, and handle all other finance related activities. It is also the responsibility of the treasurer to inform the Coordinator or Co-Coordinator of all budgetary activities.

Paragraph G The position of secretary shall be a full-year position. It shall be the responsibility of the secretary to handle membership lists, take minutes, send listserv notices, and handle all other organization-related paperwork.

#### **Article V- Advisement**

**Section 1:** Democracy Matters shall have one faculty/staff advisor.

Paragraph A The Advisor shall be mainly responsible for offering insight and direction to the Coordinator or Co-Coordinators and organization when necessary.

#### **Article VI- Amendments**

Amendments to this constitution shall be made by a two-thirds vote of the members of the organization.

#### **Article VII- Hazing**

Democracy Matters fully agrees with and supports the University's policy on hazing.

#### **Article VIII- Supremacy**

The St. Lawrence Thelomathesian Society Constitution supercedes all articles of this constitution.