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I. **Article I. Name**

The official name of this organization is the University of Connecticut Public Interest Research Group, also known as UConnPIRG.

II. **Article II. Purpose**

The purpose of UConnPIRG is to advance a public interest agenda and give students the skills and opportunities to practice effective citizenship. On campus and in the community, on local, state, national and international issues, we investigate social problems, come up with practical solutions, convince the media and public to pay attention, and get decision-makers to act.

UConnPIRG maintains an active relationship with ConnPIRG, the independent, statewide student directed student advocacy organization.

III. **Article III. Membership and Voting Rights**

1. Any student of the University of Connecticut attending Storrs campus that pays the UConnPIRG Storrs fee is a member of the organization.
2. The Board of Directors shall be composed of all voting members of UConnPIRG.
3. The Board of Directors shall be known as CORE.
4. The requirements for participation in voting at CORE meetings are the following:
   i. Person must be a member of UConnPIRG.
   ii. Person must exhibit general participation in the organization.
   iii. Person must have attended at least one other CORE meeting within the past three academic months to be eligible to vote.

Exceptions

   i. Any member of UConnPIRG elected to and currently holding an officer position shall be considered a voting member.
   ii. Any member of UConnPIRG that currently holds the position of campaign coordinator shall be considered a voting member.
   iii. Any member of UConnPIRG that currently maintains an internship as defined by the By-Laws shall be considered a voting member.

IV. **Article IV. Quorum**

Quorum for weekly CORE meetings shall be established by at least five voting members being present, at least two of whom must be campus officers.

V. **Article V. Officers**

1. The following positions shall be elected to chair the CORE and maintain its responsibilities as the governing body of the organization:
   a. Chair
   b. Vice Chair
2. Eligibility
   a. In order to be considered eligible for these positions, a person must be a voting member of CORE, and fulfill all requirements therein.
3. Officers may not hold more than one position at any time.
4. Officer positions are held for one academic year, pending resignation or impeachment.

VI. Article VI. Officer Roles and Responsibilities

1. The Chair shall:
   a. Conduct CORE meetings in an efficient and productive manner.
   b. Prepare the agenda for CORE meetings.
   c. Be responsible for supervising the UConnPIRG Chapter Coordinator.
   d. Serve as primary contact for the organization.
   e. Serve as liaison to both university administration and ConnPIRG.
   f. Maintain the principle of leading by example.
2. The Vice-Chair shall:
   a. Hold the powers of the chair in the absence of the chair.
   b. Be responsible for supervising all campaigns and campaign coordinators.
   c. Be responsible for maintaining all official documents.
   d. Maintain the principle of leading by example.
3. The Secretary shall:
   a. Be responsible for recording the minutes of CORE meetings.
   b. Be responsible for sending these minutes to all CORE attendees within one week of the CORE meeting.
   c. Update the official organization calendar.
   d. Maintain the volunteer, intern, and CORE contact lists.
   e. Maintain the organization’s UConntact page.
   f. Be responsible for the organization’s social media presence.
   g. Be responsible for coordinating and supervising media outreach and communication for campaigns.
   h. Maintain the principle of leading by example.
4. The Treasurer shall:
   a. Be responsible for preparing UConnPIRG’s budget and presenting it to the CORE for approval.
   b. Be responsible for the explanation of expenses and other costs contained in the budget.
   c. Be responsible for informing the CORE about the financial status of the organization prior to any decisions to approve expenditures.
   d. Be responsible for maintaining a copy of UConnPIRG’s books.
   e. Conduct weekly meetings with a business office liaison.
   f. Submit bills in a timely manner.
   g. Maintain the principle of leading by example.
5. All officers are responsible for leading by example and setting a high standard for involvement, action, and responsibility.

VII. Article VII. ConnPIRG Board Representation
1. CORE will elect ConnPIRG board representatives in accordance with the ConnPIRG By-Laws
2. Any CORE member may be a board representative, including officers.
3. Board terms are for one year.

VIII. Article VIII. ConnPIRG Board Representative Responsibilities
1. Be the most active students in the chapter.
2. Attend board meetings and other statewide events.
3. Recruiting students from the chapter to attend statewide meetings and events.
4. Facilitate discussions in the chapter on important board decisions, including approving the budget and choosing campaigns.
5. Update their chapter on decisions made by the board.

IX. Article IX. Elections
1. Elections for officer and board representative positions are to be held at the weekly CORE meeting within the last six weeks of the academic school year.
2. Elections for officer and board representative positions are to be held once every academic year excluding special elections.
3. Election Procedure:
   a. Officer positions will be nominated, discussed, and voted on in the order of:
      i. Chair
      ii. Vice Chair
      iii. Treasurer
      iv. Secretary
   b. Elections will be done by the following process, and in accordance with the UConnPIRG By-Laws:
      i. Nominations
      ii. Speeches
      iii. Discussion
      iv. Voting
      v. Tally and announcement of winner

X. Article X. Resignations
1. All officers and board representatives may resign at any time during the academic year.
2. The resigning officer or board representative must present his or her name, position, and reason for resignation to CORE at a weekly CORE meeting. This may be done in writing or over electronic mail.
3. Resignations shall be in effect immediately upon the conclusion of the CORE meeting at which the resignation is announced.

XI. Article XI. Impeachment of officers

1. Grounds for Impeachment
   a. Failure of an officer or board representative to attend three consecutive or five total CORE meetings per semester.
   b. Failure of an officer or board representative to hold the interests of the CORE and the organization as a whole in the highest priority.
   c. Continual misuse or misrepresentation of the organization by an officer or board representative.
   d. Grounds for impeachment are not limited to the above-mentioned circumstances.

2. Impeachment Procedures
   a. An impeachment proposal may be submitted to CORE by any voting member.
   b. Impeachment proposals must be presented to CORE with an explanation and grounds.
   c. Time for discussion of the proposal must be allotted at the CORE meeting at which it was presented.
   d. The officer or board representative in question must be given time to respond to the impeachment proposal.
   e. A committee of three UConnPIRG voting members will be formed to investigate the submitted impeachment proposal.
      i. The first member of the committee shall be selected by the voting member bringing forward the impeachment proposal, other than him/herself.
      ii. The second member shall be selected by the officer or board member proposed for impeachment other than him/herself.
      iii. The third member shall be one non-biased party selected by the present voting members of CORE.
      iv. This committee shall investigate the impeachment proposal and submit their recommendation to the CORE within two weeks of the proposal.
      v. Recommendations must consist of a decision regarding impeachment or non-impeachment, followed by a detailed explanation of the committee’s findings.
   f. A 2/3 vote of voting members present must be reached to enact an impeachment.
   g. If an officer or board representative is impeached, he or she will be immediately removed from office.
   h. Candidates that have been impeached within one year of an election are not eligible to run for the same position.
   i. Candidates that have been impeached within six months of an election may not run for any other position on the board.
XII. Article XII. Vacancies

1. If a position becomes vacant either through resignation or impeachment, the remaining officers will decide whether or not to hold a special election immediately (which would occur at the following week’s CORE meeting), or to wait until the next regular election time.
2. Special elections will follow the same voting procedure as a regular election.

XIII. Article XIII. Advisor appointments

The organization shall maintain a university advisor, to be approved at the start of each year through a simple majority vote of voting members at a weekly CORE meeting within the first month of school.

XIV. Article XIV. Budget Procedure

1. The annual budget must be approved at least once a semester and must be distributed to all voting members attending the weekly CORE meeting.
2. The budget must be renovated and reapproved whenever the approved budget is exceeded.

XV. Article XV. Decision-Making Model

1. All votes require a simple majority for passage, unless otherwise noted by this constitution or the By-Laws.
2. Voting will be conducted in a public manner, unless otherwise directed by the constitution or By-Laws or by a 2/3 vote of CORE members to conduct a secret ballot.
3. Records of all CORE votes must be kept in the minutes.

XVI. Article XVI. Amendment Procedure

1. Any amendments must be introduced at the weekly CORE meeting one week before it may be voted on.
2. Copies of the amendment must be distributed to all members in attendance at CORE for review.
3. Time for discussion must be allotted before any motions to vote on the introduced amendment.
4. A two-thirds vote must be attained to pass the introduced amendment.

XVII. Article XVII. Enabling Cause

This Constitution shall go into effect on April 29th, 2014 upon approval of two-thirds vote in favor by all present voting members. This Constitution shall replace and render null any and all previous constitutions, procedures, practices and precedents for this organization.