

Caltech Sovereignty Club Constitution v19.09

Preamble

We the people of the Sovereignty Club, in order to form a more perfect club, establish legitimacy, ensure fun discussions, provide for refreshments, promote a general good time, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, did ordain and successfully navigate the Caltech Westphallian interclub system in obtaining recognition amongst our peers and establishing the Caltech Sovereignty Club. Join us at <http://caltechsovereignty.club>.

Article 1. Name and Webpage

The name of the Organization shall be the Caltech Sovereignty Club.

The webpage shall be <http://caltechsovereignty.club/>.

The Sovereignty Forums shall be at <http://forum.caltechsovereignty.club/>.

We aspire to one day get sovereignty.club.

Article 2. Mission and Philosophy

The mission of the Caltech Sovereignty Club is to promote the understanding of how sovereignty and governance work in the context of global politics. The Sovereignty Club aims to do so by facilitating discussions, talks and activities that will imbue it's members with a better grasp of how nations work.

Article 3. Membership

Those eligible for membership in the Caltech Sovereignty Club are the students, faculty, and staff of Caltech. Only students can be real members™. Please note that faculty and staff are only eligible to be affiliate/fake/unreal/surreal/non-real/imaginary members of clubs according to the Student Club Handbook. Undergraduate student members of the Club shall be in good standing with the Undergraduate Academic Standards and Honors Committee.

Article 4. Officers and Duties

Officers of the Club shall consist of the Sovereign President, the Treasurer, and the Secretary (of State) and shall be students of Caltech. Other positions and titles may be arbitrarily created or dismissed by mutual agreement in a manner that is constitutionally ill defined, but yielding only soft power.

Sovereign President

The President shall preside over meetings of the Club and ensure collaboration among the Officers. Shall work with the secretary to organize meeting agendas. Shall be responsible for recruitment and ~~the long-term success of the Club~~ winning.

Treasurer

The Treasurer shall manage the funds of the Club by running the Bursar's account of the Club. The Treasurer shall help organize the Club budget for future years registration.

Secretary (of State)

The Secretary (of State) shall preside over meetings in the president's absence, but also in his presence, as fancied.

Article 5. Quorum and Meetings

Unless an exception is thrown, meetings are expected to occur every Wednesday at 6pm on Sovereignty Lounge, BBB B101, and are open to all members of the Caltech community and external individuals interested in attending. The purposes of the meetings include:

- Discussing readings and other materials
- Sharing ideas, techniques, projects and practices
- Finding people with similar interests
- Discussing upcoming events; ideas, planning, and preparation
- Throwing puffy squeaky vegetables at other attendees.

Quorum shall consist of $\lfloor 40\% \rfloor$ of active members and $\lfloor 60\% \rfloor$ of Club officers present. Meetings started at 6pm are “supposed” to “end” at 7pm, in the same sense that countries are “supposed” to “respect” each others borders and international law.

Article 6. Mascots, deities, patron saints, idols & other ritualistic important symbols et. al.

At Sovereignty Club we recognize and pride ourselves in bringing together members with diverse opinions, world views, ideologies, religions, tastes and etiquette. As Aldous Huxley explains in *Brave New World*, in order to attain a modicum of stability and stave off the unavoidable descent into chaos, social conditioning becomes necessary to bring individuals together. At Sovereignty Club, social conditioning takes the form of tropes, catchphrases, practices and obnoxious obsessions with particular countries, cultures, ethnicities, government systems, historical periods, figures, empires and policies. On occasion such idiosyncrasies descend from the platonic world of political rants into the physical world, and we take upon ourselves the duty of enshrining such materializations on occasion. For the sake of social stability.

Club Mascot

Mr. Raffles, the 100% authentic Chinese-Singaporean blue-pink bear.

Officially endorsed practices during meetings

Squeaking squeaky puffy vegetables, with a suggested maximum of two (2) to be thrown at the speaker or other members during meetings. Honorifically commencing meetings by striking a 3D printed mallet on inquiring some variation of “*What is new with the world?*”

Bullshit

Everything after 6pm but before the beginning of the “real” discussion is referred to as *bullshit*.

Unofficially endorsed practices after meetings

[Playing Stick Fight](#), and optionally, [Arrow Shoot](#).

Patron Saint

St. Edward sysadmin Snowden, as physicalized by his statue holding a laptop logged in as root on the NSA servers on one hand and a stack of classified papers on the other. Sovereignty Club believes in equal opportunity theism. Additional saints and idols may be acclaimed at any point and included in the constitution by following the constitutional amendment process.

Patron Alumnus

[Internet Man of Mystery Virgil Griffith](#), who has left behind two sacred relics at Caltech, an ergo ergo chair in Millikan and a portrait of a cat. Notable contributions include service to the Tor project, and aiding Vitalik Buterin prior to the Ethereum ICO.

Article 7. Communications

Section

Announcements of upcoming meetings, discussions and special events shall be sent via email to all people signed up for the Caltech Sovereignty Club mailing list.

Section

All announcements must also be posted on the Sovereignty Forums at <http://forum.caltechsovereignty.club/>.

Section

At Sovereignty Club, we pride ourselves in knowing that Unicode exists. In order to flamboyantly advertise our pride and make emails stand out in receivers inboxes, all Sovereignty Club email communications are required to include in the email subject at least one emoji, as officially listed by Unicode: <https://unicode.org/emoji/charts/full-emoji-list.html>

Article 8. Elections

~~Something something blockchain.~~ At Sovereignty Club we would like to live in the cutting edge, but sometimes you just cut yourself. While we would really like to have voting happening on the blockchain, even we couldn't get that working. One day. In the meantime, we shall innovate with continuous voting on the Sovereignty Forums, and all the limitations entailed. The rules are:

- President, treasurer and secretary (of state) are permanent positions always up for voting.
- Voting is not anonymous. Anyone can vote, but only real members™ get their votes counted.
- On the [*Official Continuous Election Thread*](#) any real member may state their voting preferences at any time. If updating preferences, the post should be edited instead of making a new one.
- Stated preferences may be ranked so as to allow counting with an instant runoff.
- Voting never ends.
- Winning candidates assume office at the next Sovereignty Club meeting. If a candidate overtakes the incumbent during a meeting, they take office immediately. A good way to throw a coup is to declare the meeting over as soon as you take office.
- Abuse of technical vulnerabilities in the voting system is encouraged and resulting outcomes may be treated as legitimate.
- People may also vote for other positions, but no promises made.

Go wild.

Article 9. Monies

We will spend money on food, beverages, renewing our domain, cloud services for keeping forums up, and taking field trips. If we have extra money, we will buy more of the aforementioned goods and services until this is no longer the case.

The elected president, secretary or treasurer (as defined in the elections section) are responsible for spending the monies bequested to the club, and requesting reimbursement for the purchases made. In case of ~~coup~~ a new president/secretary/treasurer being elected, the previous officials shall have priority in requesting reimbursement for monies spent, with the oldest unreimbursed expenses having priority.

Article 10. Advisor

The Sovereignty Club advisor shall be anyone able and willing whom we can cajole into being our advisor.

Article 11. Amendments

Amendments to this Constitution may be proposed by any active member of the Club. Amendments require quorum and must be ratified by at least 60% of members present. Amendment votes shall take place after bullshitting is complete, and before 7 pm. Amendments go into effect upon the day of the next full moon at 14:44:44, Unix time.

Any amendment that will result in an increase in required majorities to pass a law, elect an official, or ratify an amendment, and any amendment that will result in an increase in members necessary to establish quorum, must be voted upon under their own more stringent rules.

Article 12. Official unofficial membership (like “Taiwan”)

Any such “member” will “receive” the “right” to “vote”, as well as “all” the other “rights” that belong to all the regular real members.

Signed,

Founding Parents

Eduardo Beltrame


Michael Zhang

Kellan

Sam

Valentine

Dylan Bannon

gokul 

Officially unofficially signed,

Jeff

Austin Liu