

The Charter of the Hampshire College Arcade – Draft 1

Preamble: This document is a charter for the Hampshire College Arcade group; written to elaborate group objectives, specify ways and means of carrying out objectives, and clarify community rules and guidelines.

I: Purpose and Mission Statement:

The Hampshire College Arcade seeks to fill crucial gaps between students of game development, designer, and production and the general campus community. Additionally, the Arcade strives to enrich the entire campus community through student-centric, multidisciplinary video game development and deployment. Students from all academic backgrounds - art, music, film, the written word, and even the sciences - can contribute to game projects and benefit from computer game technologies. The purpose of the Arcade Project is to promote games and gaming for the benefit of the Hampshire academic community, and to act as a gallery for our dynamic student-driven video game program.

II: Tasks and Charges:

1. The Hampshire College Arcade officers and signers pledge to deploy and maintain a physical presence on the Hampshire College Campus where everyone may enjoy student-created games. The Project is specifically directed to:

- a) obtain permission to use an existing community space for an Arcade machine
- b) provide an Arcade machine using a hardware and software stack with specifications and source code available to the community wherever practical, including resources and documentation
- c) collect any tips, donations, or charged currency from the machine on a regular basis
- d) periodically upgrade and repair the hardware and software, with an eye towards future expansion

2. The Hampshire College Arcade Project signers pledge to continue to look for opportunities to integrate games and game development into the Hampshire curriculum.

3. The signers and officers pledge to seek cooperation and partnerships throughout the College community and institution.

4. The signers and officers pledge to consider institutional, communal, and individual capabilities, needs, and desires in all affiliated projects.

5. The signers and officers pledge to consider moral and ethical issues connected to computer hardware and software, and to promote cooperative coding practices in the community.

6. The signers and officers recognize the importance of the freedom of thought and expression, and avoid censorship unless content meets any of the below criteria:

- a) incites hatred towards any person or group of persons on the basis of ethnicity, class, national, or sexual identity, background, or affiliation;
- b) willfully and persistently tarnishes the reputation or integrity of Hampshire College;
- c) contains direct, named attacks on Hampshire College community members.

7. The signers and officers will continually work with developers to make their games

production-ready and deployable on the arcade. The officers will not publish code that is dangerous to the arcade or community, and will require that games be of acceptable quality.

III: Governance and Succession:

1. This document, as well as all club rules and guidelines, may be amended. To amend the charter, a motion to amend must be passed by majority vote, followed by a motion to ratify the amendment. To be ratified, a vote must be universal (if membership is below quorum) or by 2/3 majority. No more than one amendment-related vote may be held per group meeting.

2. The Arcade will have quorum if the number of Silicon Frogs members exceeds the number of offices in the charter.

3. To establish the succession and continuation of the group, the signers and leadership of the group must not belong to the same entering class and must not have the same expected date of graduation. At least one officer in each group must be expected to graduate at a date later than others.

4. Group Offices:

- 1 The General Secretary of the group shall be responsible for assembling and scheduling regular meetings, mediating governance proceedings, and proposing agendas.
- 2 The Treasurer of the group shall be responsible for group finances, accounts, and expenditures, and may work with the General Secretary to propose budgeting. The treasurer may authorize officers to independently make small purchases, such as food, for group meetings; but any major expenditure which impacts the budget of the group must be reviewed and approved by the Treasurer. The Treasurer and GS will coordinate the regular emptying of arcade coffers.
- 3 The Communications Secretary of the group shall assist the GS and take the initiative on communication and coordination with other student groups and outside leaders, as well as press releases and other media announcements.
- 4 The Publishing Secretary will propose policy on game development and publication, including: licensing, compensation, deployment, outside groups, and internal development. The Publishing Secretary will oversee and manage the publication and development of proposed project
- 5 The Engineer will be responsible for the maintenance and administration of the hardware and software of the club, as well as any updates and upgrades. The Engineer will work the the PS to ensure that games are compatible with the hardware/software stack.
- 6 In the event that there are insufficient personnel to fulfill all roles, individuals may assume multiple titles and responsibilities. The positions that take precedence are Treasurer, Publisher, and Engineer.
- 7 The Signers will act legislatively to set policy for the group as a council via consensus or voting.

5. Policy and Rules Changes:

- 1 The Signers will act legislatively to set policy for the group as a council via consensus or voting.
- 2 Signers may serve as executive officers, but are discouraged from taking positions in lieu of interested non-signers.
- 3 In the event that a non-Signer secretary or officer needs Signer assistance or clearance to fulfill their duties, they are to be given that power by one of the existing Signers.
- 4 The Treasurer must evaluate proposals to and from the Signers that significantly impact the budget.
- 5 The Signers may propose votes to amend the group bylaws and charter.
- 6 New initiatives may be proposed by the Signers, and significant expansions or shifts in direction must be approved by them.
- 7 A primary responsibility of the Signers is encouraging continual succession: no three signers may have the same Semester of Entry unless there are no alternative candidates.

Signed:

Matthew Meneghini _____

Breton Handy _____

Other Signatories: