CONSTITUTION
OF THE
MINNESOTA CENTER FOR PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE

NATURE AND PURPOSE

The Minnesota Center for Philosophy of Science (hereafter called the Center) is an independent research unit of the College of Liberal Arts of the University of Minnesota. It has a Director, a Secretary, and a suite of offices with a library in Ford Hall on the Minneapolis campus. The Center was founded in 1953 by Herbert Feigl. A list of its past and present Members, Directors, and fellows is provided in Appendix I.

The purpose of the Center is to encourage and fund original research by its Members, Fellows, and collaborators: primarily in the philosophy, logic, and methodology of science, and to publish some of the results of such research in its series, *Minnesota Studies in the Philosophy of Science*. To this end, Members of the Center (1) edit *Minnesota Studies*, (2) conduct a research workshop open to interested faculty and students, (3) organize research institutes, conferences, and lectures, (4) maintain a reference library, (5) appoint research fellows, and (6) seek funds to support these programs.

PROGRAMS

*Minnesota Studies in the Philosophy of Science* (hereafter MSPS) is the official publication series of the Center: it contains research conducted and supported by the Center, and is edited by the Members for the University of Minnesota Press. It is administered by an Editorial Committee of the Members consisting of the Director and the editors of any volumes projected or in preparation. The Press contract for a particular volume is signed by the director and the editor(s) of the volume, and requires prior approval by the members. Royalties from sales of the series are the property of the Center, and are deposited in a separate Center fund which is used only to support the publication of additional items in the series.

The *Center Workshop* is a research seminar open to interested faculty, students, and guests, led by one or more Center Members, at which research in progress by members, collaborators, or invited visitors is presented for discussion and criticism. Normally the workshop is scheduled during one or two quarters of the academic year. Students may enroll in the workshop for credit by special arrangement with the Department of Philosophy, or other participating department.

Institutes, Conferences, and Lectures are organized and funded by the Center at its convenience, and as funding permits, to further and complement its research programs. Center institutes and conferences are designed in major part to generate research for publication in MSPS, and any volumes thus generated will be submitted for publication in MSPS.
The Reference Library of the Center is a circulating library of classical and essential books primarily in philosophy of science, secondarily in history of science, owned by the Center and staffed by its Secretary. The Library is maintained through the regular Center budget and bequests.

Fellows are appointed to the Center at its convenience, and as funding permits to complement and further its research programs. Visiting fellows are in residence at the Center for periods of one year or less, and may be appointed with or without salary.

Funding for fellowships, institutes, conferences, and lectures is obtained through grants from both public and private institutions. Applications for funds are made by the Director and at least one other member in the name of and on behalf of the Center. Funds thus acquired are used exclusively for Center programs administered by the Members.

Implementation of the Programs of the Center require approval of the Members.

MEMBERSHIP

There are five categories of persons attached to the Center: Members, Residential Fellows, Visiting Fellows, Student Fellows, and Affiliates.

Members govern the Center and operate its programs. They are entitled and expected to attend and vote in business meetings, to serve on committees, and to participate in Center activities. Members are on the faculty of the University. Upon retirement, members retain their membership in the Center for as long as they desire.

Residential Fellows participate in the activities of the Center by contributing to workshops, institutes, and conferences, and in other ways by invitation. Residential fellows are appointed for a (renewable) period of one year.

Visiting Fellows are appointed to the Center for resident terms of one year or less (renewable) to conduct research in philosophy of science, history of science, or closely allied fields.

Student Fellows are appointed for a (renewable) period of one year. They are expected to participate in activities of the Center by attending workshops, institutes, and conferences.

Affiliates participate in the activities of the Center by attending workshops, institutes, and conferences. Affiliates are appointed for a (renewable) period of one year.

ADMINISTRATION

Director. The Director is the chief administrative and budget officer, whose duty it is to insure that the Center carries out its Programs in a manner consistent with its purpose. To this end
the Director schedules and chairs monthly business meetings, appoints committees, supervises the Center office and Secretary, disburses funds, and solicits funds.

**Business Meetings.** All Center business - including policies, plans, procedures, appointments, elections, activities, programs, and solicitation and use of funds - is conducted in business meetings scheduled and announced with agenda at least one week in advance of the meeting. Regular business meetings are held once each quarter, and at other times if necessary. Changes in the Constitution, elections, and appointments require a two-thirds majority of the Members; all other actions require a simple majority of the members. Absent members are polled if necessary to obtain a majority. Written minutes of each meeting are kept and distributed. Proposed amendments to the Constitution must be circulated at least one month prior to the meeting in which they are to be considered.

**Committees.** Committees are composed of Members and Affiliates, and are designed to facilitate the administration of the Programs of the Center. They are appointed by the Director with the advice and consent of the Members, and are responsible to the Members. The Director is an ex officio member of all Standing Committees.

**Standing Committees.** (1) The Editorial Committee plans and edits volumes of MSPS, and includes the editors of any volumes projected or in preparation. (2) The Committee on Conferences plans, seeks funds for, and supervises institutes, conferences, and lectures. (3) The Workshop Committee plans and supervises workshops for the coming year, and includes members who will lead the workshops. (4) the Research Committee supervises the library, and provides information and suggestions concerning research in philosophy and history of science.

Ad hoc committees are appointed as necessary.

**ELECTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS**

All elections and appointments require a two-thirds majority.

**Director.** Procedure: In January of the Director's last year, a meeting is held to elect a new Director. Eligibility: Nominees are required to be members. Term: three years. The Director may be reappointed for one or more additional terms. If the Director is temporarily disabled or goes on leave, an Acting Director is elected to serve during the period of absence.

**Members.** Procedure: Nominations from any source are considered, but are normally made by the Members. For each eligible nominee a dossier consisting of a curriculum vitae and publications, is made available to the Members at least one month in advance of the meeting at which the nominee is to be considered. Criteria: Nominees are evaluated on grounds of (i) their competence to conduct an original research in the philosophy of science, and (ii) the strength of the contribution they can be expected to make to the Programs of the Center. Term: indefinite.
Residential Fellows. Procedure: The same as that for Members. Criteria: Nominees are evaluated on grounds of the strength of the contribution they can be expected to make to the Programs of the Center. Term: one year. Residential Fellows may be reappointed according to the criteria by a vote of the Members.

Visiting Fellows. Procedure: The same as that for Members supplemented (if a salaried appointment) by University regulations governing salaried appointments. Eligibility: Nominees must possess the PhD in philosophy of science, history of science, other allied discipline, or must be advanced candidates for one of these degrees. Criteria: Nominees are evaluated on grounds of the strength of the contribution they can be expected to make to the Programs of the Center. Term: one year. Fellows may be reappointed according to the criteria by a vote of the Members.

Student Fellows. Procedure: Nominations from any source are considered, but are normally made by the Members. Criteria: Nominees are evaluated on grounds of the strength of their participation in Center activities. Eligibility: Advanced candidate for Ph.D. in philosophy, history of science and technology, or allied discipline. Term: one year. Student fellows may be reappointed under the Procedure and Criteria for appointment.

Affiliates. Procedure: Nominations from any source are considered, but are normally made by the Members. Criteria: Nominees are evaluated on grounds of the strength of the contribution they can be expected to make to the Programs of the Center. Term: one year. Affiliates may be reappointed under the Procedure and Criteria for appointment.