**French Program Student Association (FPSA)**

of the

Graduate Center of the City University of New York

**Constitution**

I. **Name**
This organization shall be called the “French Program Student Association” (hereafter “FPSA”) of the Graduate Center of the City University of New York.

II. **Purpose**
The purposes of the FPSA are:

1. To represent the needs of the French Program students to the faculty and administration of the French Program;
2. To coordinate any administrative functions that affect the interests of students in the French Program, including but not limited to:
   a. Election of student representatives to standing committees of the French Program;
   b. Selection of a topic and co-chairs for student conferences;
   c. Peer mentorship and collaboration program;
   d. Co-curricular activities including reading groups and exam prep groups;
3. To foster, promote and develop alumni relationships;
4. To undertake other initiatives as needed and as decided by the students to improve any aspect of the program which does not conflict with the program bylaws.

III. **Membership**
Students currently enrolled or on official leave in the Ph.D. Program in French shall constitute the membership of the FPSA.

IV. **Officers**
The Members of the Steering Committee of the FPSA are listed as follows:

1. **Chair**
The Chair of the FPSA shall be charged with administrative and fiscal responsibilities. The Chair will be chosen as part of the annual election of student representatives to be held in the spring of each academic year as stipulated in the program bylaws.

2. **Secretary**
The Secretary of the FPSA shall be charged with taking minutes, distributing the agenda and other communications functions as necessary. The Secretary will be
chosen as part of the annual election of student representatives to be held in the spring of each academic year.

3. **First-year Student Liaison**
The First-year Student Liaison shall be charged with representing and communicating the concerns of the first-year students in the French Program. The Liaison shall be a first-year student chosen by the first-year students at the beginning of each fall semester.

4. **DSC French Program Representative**
The DSC Program Representative shall act as primary liaison to the FPSA on all DSC-related matters, communicating DSC business to the student body at FPSA meetings. The Representative shall be chosen by students as part of the annual DSC election held each spring.

5. **Student Representatives to Program Standing Committees**
All student representatives to program standing committees shall be included in the steering committee, *ex officio*.

V. **Meetings**
Meetings shall be held at least three times per semester. The members present at a given meeting shall constitute a quorum for that meeting, provided there are a minimum of 3 members present.

VI. **Ratification**
This Charter will be distributed for review and comment via email. Proposed amendments to the constitution shall be submitted in writing to the Chair, distributed for review and comment via email, and discussed at the next meeting, where the charter shall be ratified by a simple majority of the members present, provided that the meeting has a quorum of at least three members.

VII. **Bylaws**
An initial set of bylaws shall be drafted by the Chair, distributed for review and comment via email, and discussed at the next meeting, where it will be ratified by a simple majority of the members present. Future changes to the bylaws will be decided by the same procedure.

VIII. **Amendments**
Proposed amendments to the constitution shall be submitted in writing to the Chair, distributed for review and comment via email, and debated at the next meeting, where they shall be approved by a simple majority of the members present, provided that the
meeting has a quorum of at least three members.