

# Michigan Political Leadership Program

## *Bylaws*

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### ARTICLE I

#### Name and Location

The name of this organization shall be the Michigan Political Leadership Program at Michigan State University (MPLP).

### ARTICLE II

#### Organization

MPLP is an outreach education program of Michigan State University. Ultimate authority and responsibility for the program rests with the Institute for Public Policy and Social Research (IPPSR), and the College of Social Science.

### ARTICLE III

#### Objectives

MPLP's primary goal is to identify men and women with leadership potential and bring them together in an educational program designed to give each person a solid foundation in practical politics, public policy analysis and development and governance. The program prepares these emerging leaders for entry into public life as candidates for office, government officials and citizen activists in the affairs of their communities and the State of Michigan. MPLP's ultimate aim is to help create good public policy for the state of Michigan. MPLP is nondiscriminatory, nonpartisan and does not participate in campaigns on behalf of issues, causes or candidates for office. It is solely concerned with practical political education and research.

These purposes shall be achieved through the following activities:

- (1) provision of Fellowships;
- (2) discussion groups, forums, panels, lectures; and
- (3) other instruction, research and training deemed appropriate.

### ARTICLE IV

#### Advisory Board

Section 1. In the spirit of MPLP's mission of bringing diverse groups into the political process, the advisory board shall be a diverse group of individuals committed to excellence in political leadership and public policy decision making. The membership of the board shall be limited to no less than ten (10) and no more than twenty (20) members and shall include the chair of the MPLP Association of Fellows. The exact number to be fixed from time to time by resolution of the advisory board. The following representatives of Michigan State University shall be members of the advisory board.

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The Director of IPPSR or his/her designee;

The Program Director (s) of MPLP.

Section 2. Any resident of the State of Michigan shall be eligible for membership on the advisory board. All efforts should be made, however, to assure geographical, political, ideological, racial and gender diversity on the advisory board.

Section 3. Members of the advisory board shall be appointed for three-year terms. Reappointment is possible.

Section 4. Any member desiring to resign from the advisory board shall submit his/her resignation in writing to the advisory board chair.

Section 5. In the case of vacancies, the committee shall nominate a person to fill the term of each member who has resigned.

Appointments to the advisory board are made by the Director of IPPSR and are based on advice given by the full advisory board.

### ARTICLE V Officers

Section 1. The officers of the advisory board shall be a chair and chair-elect. The advisory board may appoint other officers as it deems appropriate.

Section 2. The chair of the advisory board shall preside at all meetings. In the absence of the chair, the chair-elect shall preside. They shall have such other authority and perform such other duties as the advisory board may designate.

Section 3. The officers shall be elected to serve for two years. The officers may serve for more than three years.

### ARTICLE VI Staff

MSU shall appoint staff for the program with advice from the advisory board.

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### ARTICLE VII

#### Meetings

Section 1. Meetings of the Board shall be held at the call of the chairs and the advisory board will have at least two meetings during each calendar year. At the Winter meeting members will be appointed and officers will be elected.

Section 2. Written notice of all meetings of the advisory board or committees of the advisory board shall be given in advance. One third of the advisory board or any of its committees shall constitute a quorum.

### ARTICLE VIII

#### Committees

Section 1. The advisory board may appoint committees as it deems fit.

### ARTICLE IX

#### Parliamentary Authority

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the advisory board in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws and any special rules of order the advisory board may adopt.

### ARTICLE X

#### Amendments to bylaws

Changes to these bylaws may be proposed at any time by a majority of advisory board members. The authority to revise the bylaws rests with the Director of IPPSR, and the College of Social Science and they must provide written notification to the advisory board prior to making changes in the bylaws.

### **Duties & Responsibilities of the Michigan Political Leadership Program Advisory Board**

#### **I. Attendance at Board Meetings and Committee Meetings**

The advisory board meets at least twice a year. Members are expected to attend all board and committee meetings or provide notice of their absence.

#### **II. Interviewing of the Applicants for MPLP Fellowships**

All advisory board members are asked to assist in the recruitment process for applicants to MPLP.

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### III. Assistance with Fundraising

Each board member is also responsible for fundraising. This will usually mean reviewing a list of possible foundation, corporate, association or individual contributors to see whom they may know. There is no formal quota system but each advisory board member is asked to try to raise at least the cost of one fellowship each year (approx. \$12,000.)

### IV. General responsibilities.

Each board member is asked to make a personal contribution toward the work of MPLP.