

Pseudonym Required

Illinois Wesleyan University

Constitution

Article I - Name

The name of this organization will be Pseudonym Required.

Article II – Mission

To provide writers attending Illinois Wesleyan with constructive feedback on their fictive and poetic projects, while providing them the opportunity to network with others in order to establish forums for developing their skills beyond coursework.

Article III – Conditions of Membership

Any current student, or staff member, of Illinois Wesleyan can be a contributor to Pseudonym Required. They will be allowed to submit works to the journal in order to get feedback on each piece and attempt to get them published in the online journal.

Students may also apply for positions within the organization. There are two entry-level positions: reader and editor. Applications will be accepted for both positions so long as there are places to fill. In order to be approved for either of those positions the applicant must meet with the lead-editor, and take a reading proficiency exam. Upon completing the exam, and meeting with the approval of the lead-editor, the applicant will then be able to sign a contract stating they understand the expectations of their involvement in Pseudonym Required and begin working for the journal.

Article IV – Types of Membership

Section 1: Lead-Editor

There will always be one lead-editor to oversee the general workings of Pseudonym Required. They will be in constant contact with the rest of the staff in order to keep everyone on task, and the website up-to-date. They will also be required to communicate with the English department, professors, and other student organizations as needed to ensure good relations with the university and generate publicity.

Section 2: Editor

There will always be six editor positions open to students. They will be required to edit five to seven pieces every two weeks and meet with the lead-editor to decide what will be published.

Section 3: Reader

There will always be ten reader positions open to students. They will be required to read between ten and twenty pieces every two weeks, making judgments on what pieces are worth editing. As an extra condition, they will meet with the lead-editor once every six weeks in order to make sure they are remaining as unbiased as possible.

Article V – Structure

The lead-editor will be in constant communication with the readers and editors in order to ensure they are doing their job. In order to keep the organization from stagnating strict policies will be enforced such that any person, lead-editor included, will be required to leave their position if they are not performing their duties. In order to keep this process as fair and honest as possible the lead-editor will oversee all dismissals, except in the case where they are to be dismissed. In such a case, the editorial board will be able to impeach them by a unanimous vote of no confidence.

Article VI – Changeover

Every year, at a meeting on the first Sunday in March, positions will be reevaluated by the entire staff. If the lead-editor is a graduating senior, or the editorial board passes a vote to call their performance into question, a new lead-editor will need to be elected. This will happen by a two-thirds majority vote and candidates can only be selected from within the editorial board. As a further restriction, the candidates must have served at least two months as editors before they are eligible to be elected.

Outside of the annual changeover meeting, an election will only take place if the lead-editor is impeached. There will then be an election within ten days of the impeachment where the same two-thirds majority will elect a new lead-editor.

Readers and Editors will be brought in as needed, based upon the amount of positions available at any given point.

Article VII – Submissions

Section 1:

You must be currently, or previously, affiliated with Illinois Wesleyan. This policy exists to ensure writers at the school receive the proper amount of attention from the editors.

Section 2:

You must provide your name, email, pseudonym (this alone should be in the header of the submission), and the title of your work when you submit it for review. The names and emails will go into a database where they will be matched with the pseudonym given at the time of submission. A staff member who is not involved in the process of editing will then assign pieces to certain readers and editors in order to ensure that those individuals are unaware of whose work they are examining.

Section 3:

No work, whether fiction or poetry, can be longer than 15 manuscript pages. This is done to ensure each receives equal attention from the editors. If you wish to submit a segment of a larger work you should feel free to do so, but remember to include a page summary of what the readers and editors would need to know in order to make sense of the story.

Section 4:

Submission deadlines will be at 12AM on Wednesday morning of every other week, and they will be time stamped, via the server, in order to ensure that anything submitted after the deadline is excluded from the pool of possible publications.

Article VIII – Amendments

Any member of the Pseudonym Required staff may propose an amendment at any meeting of the editorial board. If an amendment is proposed, then there will be a discussion of its relevance and immediate vote on whether or not it should be added to the constitution. If it passes, the lead-editor must contact the organizations faculty advisor to inform them of the change in order to make the inner workings of the organization as transparent as possible. There will also be a post in the journal to inform the community of the change as well.

Article IX – Legal Rights

Due to the nature of the publication process, it must be clarified that all rights to the works submitted to Pseudonym Required remain in the hands of the author. The only exception to this is that the author will allow Pseudonym Required to display the work in their online journal and, in the case of prizewinners, submit it to outside organizations for competitions or further editing.