

Dear Peucinian,

This week, as I hope most of you are aware, is an important week in the life of the Peucinian Society. The council of eight will be turned over to new hands. Election procedures and a description of each position will be provided below. But first:

This happens to be the week of the final disputation of the year. Ms. Eliot and I will be delivering our respective sides of the following statement:

Resolved: 'Tis Better to Give than to Receive

Affirmative: Mary Anne Evans (George Eliot) [Caitlin O'Keefe]

Negative: Heraclitus of Ephesus (Moi) [L'etat]

I cannot in good conscience write out a fair description of the landscape of this question, taking as I do a strong side on the matter. I leave it up to you all to ponder its ins and its outs. Consider what it takes to do each properly. Do try to think beyond birthday parties and sexual congress. This disputation shall be brief, having elections as we do-- but its implications for all sorts of interactions make it more than worthwhile.

As for Elections:

Firstly, I encourage all eligible members to run for positions on the council.

Secondly, here:

ARTICLE II: OFFICERS AND ELECTIONS

Section I. Officer Eligibility. All Associate Fellows, Fellows, and Guardians in good standing who are full-time students at Bowdoin College may hold office and vote for officers. There shall be no absentee ballots. Candidates for officer positions who are participating in a study abroad program may write a letter to the Master of Sessions declaring their candidacy. Only rising Seniors present at Bowdoin for the duration of their final year are eligible for the positions of President, Provost, and Master of Sessions. In the event that there are fewer than six eligible candidates who announce their candidacy for President, Provost, and Master of Sessions, rising Peucinian Fellows who will be at Bowdoin College for the duration of the following academic year shall become eligible for these positions.

Section II. The Council of Eight. The Officers of the Society form the Council of Eight, which consists of a President, a Provost, a Master of Sessions, a Treasurer, a Chronicler, a Herald, an Impresario, and a Poet Laureate. No member may hold more than one of these Offices at one time.

A. President. The President shall preside over all the meetings of the Council of Eight and moderate all Assemblies. He or she shall preserve order and care for the Book of Assemblies and for the Society gavel. He or she shall construe and enforce the Constitution and Bylaws of the Society, appoint the Committees of the Society (with the exception of the Declamation Committee) and all other Officers *pro tempore*, and perform all the other duties pertaining to his or her office. The President shall also maintain intercollegiate relations and shall be wholly devoted to the preservation of cordial relations with the Faculty and to the endurance of the Society. The President shall oversee all Peucinian

publications and shall compose invitations for Assemblies. In the event that the General Society is formed, the President shall serve on the Common Declamation Committee.

B. Provost. The Provost shall preserve decorum. In the absence of the President, the Provost shall preside over the Council of Eight and moderate Assemblies. The Provost shall call Declamation Committees for prospective members. The Provost shall reserve space for Committee meetings and Assemblies. The Provost shall coordinate the Banquet and other functions. In the event that the General Society is formed, the Provost shall serve on the Common Declamation Committee and shall also select one other Member to serve on this Committee.

C. Master of Sessions. The Master of Sessions shall plan and organize Society Disputations. He or she shall introduce the orators and shall prepare supplemental readings when necessary. The Master of Sessions shall ensure that the orators confront each other and shall prepare Disputations at least two weeks in advance. The Master of Sessions shall convene Treatise Assemblies and shall be responsible for devising and executing election procedures. In the event that the General Society is formed, the Master of Sessions shall serve on the Common Declamation Committee.

D. Treasurer. The Treasurer shall collect and take charge of all funds of the Society. He or she shall make no disbursement unless directly authorized by the Council of Eight. The Treasurer shall keep a careful and minute account of all receipts collected and disbursements made by him or her on behalf of the Society. The Treasurer's records shall be open to the inspection of the Council at all times. The Treasurer shall represent the Society at meetings of the Student Activities Funding Committee when necessary or when requested by the Council.

E. Chronicler. The Chronicler shall carefully record the proceedings of the Society, including a catalogue of attendance and any changes to this Constitution and the Bylaws of the Society. The Chronicler shall preserve the Society's archives and shall determine any additions to these Archives. The Chronicler shall also be responsible for connecting the Society to its past by unearthing and presenting selections from the archive.

F. Herald. The Herald shall promote Peucinian events, circulate Peucinian publications, and prepare newsletters to alumni and aluminae. The Herald shall maintain cordial relations with past Peucinian Members and connect them with the Society. The Herald shall also maintain the Society's website.

G. Impresario. The Impresario shall arrange all Society Lectures and shall introduce all Lecturers to the Society. He or she shall also maintain cordial relations between the Society and affiliated Faculty.

H. Poet Laureate. The Poet Laureate shall recite a poem of his or her choosing at the beginning of each Assembly. He or she shall be editor of The Whispering Pines Journal of Poetry, and assign readings and writings for the summer period, and coordinate all special readings. He or she shall also organize the Homer-a-thon and decide upon the appropriate gifts for all Peucinian awards.

Thirdly:

For the top three positions--Provost, President, and Master of Sessions--each candidate will make a speech describing his/her applicability for each position. Secret ballots will be cast after all of the candidates have been heard, and the winner of the simple majority will be announced. The aforementioned order is the order of election.

The other five positions--Treasurer, Chronicler, Herald, Impresario, and Poet Laureate--will be elected as follows:

Candidates will run for all five positions generally. Candidates will indicate their preferences between the five positions on a separate ballot. Each member of the society will vote for five unranked candidates, and the five that accrue the most votes will be granted a position based upon their preferences.

If you plan to run for a position on the council, please write a speech explaining why your leadership would be a boon to the society. Speeches should be roughly two minutes in length.

Again, I hope that all of those eligible choose to run.

In any case, we expect to see everyone at the summit of Massachusetts Hall. 7:30. Dressed to impress.

With the sincerity that abuts finality,

John Tanner Horst
Peucinian President