

## **British Idealism Specialist Group Constitution**

### **1 Name**

The group shall be called The British Idealism Specialist Group

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### **2 Objectives**

The objectives of the group are:

- 1) To foster interdisciplinary and critical research into the concerns and philosophy of the British Idealists, and the wider intellectual context with which they engage.
  - 2) To facilitate contact between scholars, researchers, practitioners, and others engaged in exploring the broad connections between British Idealism and the issues and philosophers they addressed.
  - 3) To continue to build upon our international links consistent with the aims of the Political Studies Association of United Kingdom.
  - 4) To organize workshops, conferences, conference panels and such other events as may facilitate the achievement of objectives 1-3
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### **3 Membership**

Membership shall be open to all members of the UK Political Studies Association, the British International Studies Association, and any other interested party who is engaged in exploring the broad connections between British Idealism and related political and philosophical ideas, and who assist the group to meet its stated objectives.

### **4 Officers**

The group and its activities will normally be managed by three co-convenors and a treasurer, who will organise, arrange and administer all group business (e.g. workshop organization, budgets, e-mail distribution). The co-convenors of the specialist group shall be members of the PSA.

### **5 Annual Reports**

Annual Reports as submitted to PSA will be posted annually on the British Idealism Specialist Group website, along with details of past and future activities.

### **6 Government**

The group shall be governed and managed by the co-convenors and treasurer, with expertise, networks and administrative help sought from the members as and when required (e.g. when organizing a dedicated group workshop). All business, including calls for papers, conference panel organization, distribution of relevant documents and general communication will be undertaken primarily by e-mail.

### **7 Vacation of Office**

Convenors shall vacate their offices upon resignation or by resolution of a general annual meeting of the specialist group.

### **8 Vacancies**

New convenors will be elected from within the group at its annual meeting, by eligible members of the PSA. Convenors must be members of the Specialist Group. The period of office is three years.

## **9 Group Meetings**

As the general business of the group is facilitated through e-mail, any group meeting will be arranged in this fashion, and will be organized by the convenors (or person designated by them) as and when necessary. The meeting must have at least six permanent members present, including two of the convenors or one convenor and the treasurer, and will be held at the annual conference.

## **10 Finance**

The treasurer, in consultation with group members, will decide how current and expected income is to be spent during each financial year. Applications by the group to the PSA, BISA and other funders for grants of money shall be made by the convenors or treasurer in consultation with group members. The funds are managed through the convenor's university. A financial report shall be presented to PSA and executive each year along with the Annual Report and will be posted on the website. Priorities for financial expenditure of the group are: (a) offsetting travel, accommodation and registration costs so that postgraduate student members can participate in workshops, conferences and events organized by the group; (b) offsetting travel, accommodation and registration costs so that regular group members can participate in workshops, conferences and events organized by the group; (c) providing all organizational costs (e.g. venue, refreshments) for one-off dedicated group workshops; (d) providing additional travel and accommodation costs for speakers at one-off dedicated group workshops; and (e) contributing funds to smaller workshops and conferences with direct relevance to the objectives of the group – especially if the funds can be directed to increase the attendance and participation of postgraduate students in the first instance, and group members where funds allow.

## **11 PSA and BISA Constitutions**

The group shall be governed by the appropriate clauses of the Union Constitution (the PSA) with regard to any matter not covered by this Constitution.

## **12 Amendment of the Constitution**

This constitution may be amended or altered by consensus, or by a resolution supported by two-thirds of the members present and voting at a general meeting, provided that no alteration shall contravene any part of the PSA's Constitution.