BYLAWS
SOCIETY OF 1918

ARTICLE 1

Organization Name
Society of 1918

Organization Purpose
The Society of 1918 (the Society) is a giving society committed to growing women's engagement, leadership and philanthropy at William & Mary (W&M) and to celebrating and honoring W&M women commensurate with their representation in the alumni community. The Society serves in an advisory capacity to W&M Advancement staff.

ARTICLE 2
Society of 1918 Recognition

1. Annual recognition in the Society runs from July 1 through June 30, consistent with W&M's fiscal year. For those who become a recognized member in the last 6 months of the fiscal year, the 5-year recognition does not begin until the next fiscal year.

2. Those who earned Society of 1918 recognition on or before June 30, 2018, are recognized as Charter recognized members.

3. The Society of 1918 provides recognition for those who meet one of the following criteria:
    a. Women who have given a lifetime cumulative $500,000 or more in recognition credit (have received credit for funds already contributed to or irrevocable pledges) to any fund at W&M are afforded lifetime recognition.

    b. Women who commit $10,000 to W&M's Alumnae Initiatives Endowment, or such other fund or funds as the Steering Committee may designate, are afforded a five-year recognition that begins in the fiscal year in which the first $2,000 payment is received by W&M and ends on June 30 of the fourth following fiscal year.

c. Women undergraduates who graduated from W&M within the last 10 fiscal years or women post-undergraduates who graduated from W&M within the last five fiscal years (collectively referred to as the Young Guarde of the Society of 1918) who commit $5,000 to W&M's Alumnae Initiatives Endowment, or such other fund or funds as the Steering Committee may designate, are afforded a one-time five-year recognition that begins in the fiscal year in which the first $1,000 payment is received by W&M and ends on June 30 of the fourth following fiscal year.
d. Women faculty, staff (currently employed by or retired from W&M) and military (active or retired) who commit $5,000 to W&M's Alumnae Initiatives Endowment, or such other fund or funds as the Steering Committee may designate, are afforded a five-year recognition that begins in the fiscal year in which the first $1,000 payment is received by W&M and ends on June 30 of the fourth following fiscal year.
e. Women who graduated within the last year from W&M, either at the undergraduate or post-undergraduate level, who commit $1,000 to W&M's Alumnae Initiatives Endowment, or such other fund or funds as the Steering Committee may designate are afforded a five-year recognition that begins in the fiscal year in which the first $200 payment if received by W&M and ends on June 30 of the fourth following fiscal year.

ARTICLE 3
Structure and Responsibilities

1. The Society structure consists of the Steering Committee, the Executive Committee and five Working Committees.

2. The Steering Committee is responsible for establishing the goals, developing the operational guidelines, and executing the activities of the Society in order to achieve the Society's goals. In particular, the Steering Committee is responsible for expanding the Society's recognition, developing recognized members' philanthropy to W&M, providing activities to engage W&M alumnae and to develop their leadership roles at W&M, and providing input to the W&M Advancement staff regarding use of the Alumnae Initiatives Endowment. The Steering Committee consists of 40 members. All serve on at least one of the five Working Committees with the exception of the chair, vice chair and immediate past chair who serve on the Executive Committee.

3. The Executive Committee is responsible for providing strategic direction to the Steering Committee to ensure the Society's mission and vision are fulfilled. The Executive Committee consists of the following:
   a. Chair
   b. Vice Chair
   c. Chair of Recognition Committee
   d. Chair of Philanthropy Committee
   e. Chair of Engagement Committee
   f. Chair of Leadership Committee
   g. Chair of Marketing and Communications (MAC) Committee
   h. Immediate Past Chair

4. Each Working Committee, save the Marketing and Communications Committee, includes eight members of the Steering Committee. The MAC Committee includes 4 members plus the chair. The Working Committees consist of:
   a. Recognition Committee – The purpose of the Recognition Committee is to ensure the Steering Committee is fully staffed and includes a diverse mix of women who represent a wide-range of demographics and includes skillsets needed by the committee. The Recognition Committee is responsible for the entire Steering Committee application, nomination, slate recommendation, and notification process. The Recognition Committee also has the responsibility for ensuring processes and procedures are developed adhering to the by-laws. The Recognition Committee leads the process of updating the by-laws, with input and support from all Committees.

   b. Philanthropy Committee – The Philanthropy Committee administers the Society of 1918's annual grants process and serves as advisory to the Advancement Office regarding the allocation of philanthropic resources in partnership with William & Mary Advancement. The committee ensures that grantmaking aligns with the Society's mission, endowment criteria, and commitment to increasing the number of women donors and the impact of their giving. In addition, the committee reviews and approves the Society's annual operating budget and collaborates with Advancement to advance women's philanthropy strategy across the university.

   c. Engagement Committee – The Engagement Committee works closely with W&M Advancement to create meaningful opportunities for W&M women to engage with each other and W&M.

   d. Leadership Committee – The Leadership Committee works to create a W&M community that recognizes and honors the capacity of women to lead. The Leadership Committee will help women realize their leadership potential through coaching and development opportunities. In addition, the Leadership Committee will identify available leadership opportunities on W&M boards and committees and assist W&M alumnae in seeking and filling such roles.

   e. Marketing and Communications Committee – The Marketing and Communications Committee develops strategies that strengthen awareness, engagement, and connection among recognized members and the William & Mary community. Through consistent messaging, compelling content, and thoughtful promotion across media platforms, the committee ensures the Society's initiatives, impact, and values are clearly communicated and widely celebrated.

5. At the discretion of the Executive Committee, those who are not current steering committee members may serve on a committee or task force to bring value to the work of the Steering Committee.

ARTICLE 4
Terms and Appointments

1. All terms run from July 1 to June 30 of each fiscal year. Each term is for three consecutive years and may be renewed once, for an additional three consecutive years. If a member is appointed to fill a vacancy after July 1, the period from the date of appointment through June 30 of the fiscal year will represent one year of the three-year term.

2. A member appointed to the Executive Committee or as Chair or Vice Chair while in the last two years of her second term may extend that term by one year. In the case of the chair role, they may extend by two years.

3. Dictated by the needs of the steering Committee, members may reapply for the steering committee after a 1-year hiatus from service and may serve no more than one additional term.

4. Annually, the Recognition Committee will seek nominations from the Society of recognized members interested in serving on the Steering Committee in the next, or a future, fiscal year. The Recognition Committee will maintain a list of all such interested recognized members for use in creating the annual slate of Society recognized members available to fill any vacancies.

5. Annually, the Recognition Committee will prepare a slate to fill vacancies from recognized members of the Society who have volunteered to serve and present such slate to the Executive Committee for use in the appointment process. This slate will include the Recognition Committee's recommended assignment of the prospective appointee to the steering and working Committee. Based on the slate proposed by the Recognition Committee, the Executive Committee will appoint recognized members of the Steering Committee.

6. If an unanticipated vacancy occurs while Steering Committee applications are open, the seat will be included in the upcoming slate. If the vacancy occurs before Steering Committee applications have opened, at the discretion of the chair of the committee, the vacancy may be temporarily filled through the end of the fiscal year with preference for those who have previously served on the committee. The individual temporarily filling the vacancy will have the option to apply for permanent placement if eligible. If the vacancy is a chair of a committee, a current member of the committee will be asked to step in as Chair for the remainder of their term.

7. To facilitate continuity, Steering Committee members who have concluded two terms are appointed as emeritus members of the Steering Committee. Emeriti Steering Committee Members, as long as they remain active Society members, shall be entitled to attend select social functions and meetings as invited but are not entitled to vote.

ARTICLE 5
Meetings

1. As a default, meetings will be conducted using Roberts Rules of Order.

2. In-person meetings for the Executive Committee and the Steering Committee will be held once per year with additional virtual meetings as scheduled. Meetings of the Working Committees, which are virtual by default, will be held as needed and determined by the applicable Working Committee Chair. Additional virtual meetings may be scheduled at the discretion of the Chair, Vice Chair or Working Committee Chairs.

ARTICLE 6
Bylaws

1. Adoption of the Society's Bylaws, and any subsequent amendment, requires an affirmative vote by two-thirds of the Steering Committee members.

2. Voting can be held in-person, by telephone or by any electronic means.

3. The Steering Committee adopted the bylaws on December 13, 2018, and approved Amendment 1 (incorporated in the above bylaws) on March 28, 2019. The Steering Committee approved Amendment 2 (incorporated in the above bylaws) on November 6, 2019. The steering committee approved Amendment 3 (incorporated in the above bylaws) on April 23, 2026.