Bylaws of the Duke Initiative for Science & Society

Article 1. NAME AND AFFILIATION

1.1 Name. The name of this organization shall be the Duke Initiative for Science & Society ("Science & Society").

Article 2. MISSION AND GOALS

2.1 Mission: To maximize social benefit from scientific progress by making science more accessible, just, and better integrated into society.

2.2 Goals.
   - To embed an understanding of the ethical, legal, and social implications of science into education and scientific research, conduct, and communication.
   - To better integrate science into policy and legal decision-making.
   - To improve science communication in order to enhance public understanding of science.

Article 3. PARTICIPATION

3.1 Affiliates. Science & Society may designate as "Affiliates" of Science & Society appropriate individuals (including, in particular, members of the Duke University faculty) whom it expects to contribute to its Goal and Mission. Science & Society may also invite non-Duke affiliated persons, such as leading scholars, experts, policymakers, and officials of private and nongovernmental organizations, as well as the faculty of other educational institutions, to participate as Affiliates.

3.2 Associates. Science & Society may invite certain members of the Duke faculty to become "Associates" of Science & Society. The Associates are expected to be actively involved in the various educational, research and public engagement programs of Science & Society, including attending and presenting at public and internal events, teaching courses, mentoring and advising students in the MA in Bioethics and Science Policy, serving as thesis advisers, sponsoring independent study projects and sitting on MA final exam committees.

3.3 Faculty. As a Duke Initiative, Science & Society can appoint non-regular rank faculty directly into the Initiative. In the case of a joint faculty appointment between S&S and a school or department, the roles and responsibilities of S&S, the school or department, and the faculty member shall be formally defined in a Memorandum of Understanding.
3.4 Projects. Science & Society intends to incubate projects that pursue its mission, particularly those that span disciplinary boundaries and those that bring the scientific and non-scientific communities at Duke into closer collaboration.

3.5 Programs. To meet its mission, Science & Society may establish programs, which differ from projects in that they are more institutionally integrated into Science & Society and charged with executing more crosscutting (as opposed to project-specific) aspects of the mission. Programs may carry the title of “program,” “center,” or similar designations within Science & Society. Programs may be led by senior Science & Society staff and/or by faculty and are established, upon the recommendation of the Faculty Director and the Steering Committee, by the Science & Society Faculty Board. Committees to advise a program’s leadership may be created by the Faculty Director; the membership of such committees will be established based on nominations put forth by the members of the Faculty Board (including the Faculty Director).

3.6 Program Affiliations. Science & Society may grant affiliate status to UIC centers, school-based centers, programs, and networks within Duke that pursue the mission and goals of Science & Society. The grant of affiliate status shall specify the nature and term of the relationship, and the resources to be shared between the unit and Science & Society. Prior to the conclusion of the specified term, the unit and Science & Society shall confer and determine whether continued affiliation remains in their mutual interest. Both affiliated status and renewals are granted by the Director in consultation with the Faculty Governance Board.

Article 4. GOVERNANCE AND OPERATION

4.1 Reporting. Science & Society shall be a University-wide initiative, reporting to the Provost through the Vice Provost for Interdisciplinary Studies.

4.2 Administration. Science & Society is managed by a Faculty Director (or Co-Directors). The Faculty Director is responsible for the daily management, operation, and administration of Science & Society and its activities. The Faculty Director shall be appointed by the Provost in consultation with Science & Society Faculty Board, and in a manner consistent with the University Institute/Center Director appointment process.

The Faculty Director shall be an ex officio member of Science & Society Faculty Board and Science & Society Steering Committee, shall chair all meeting of these entities (or designate someone to do so in his/her absence) and shall be responsible for the substantive agenda and strategic and intellectual directions of Science & Society. Each Faculty Director typically serves an initial term of five years and will undergo a full review in the penultimate year of the term. The Provost shall have the
option of extending the Faculty Director’s appointment for additional terms, after consultation as described above.

4.3 Executive Oversight Committee. The Director shall appoint an Executive Oversight Committee, which shall have the responsibility for providing the Director with advice and counsel with respect to strategic direction, and the educational, engagement and research programs of Science & Society. The Committee shall consist of the Director of Science & Society (ex-officio), and faculty, directors and/or Deans of the Schools of Arts and Sciences, Law, Public Policy, Medicine, and Engineering, University departments, initiatives and institutes, and such other persons as the Provost or Vice Provost for Interdisciplinary Studies may deem appropriate. The Executive Oversight Committee shall meet at least once per semester.

4.4 Faculty Governance Committee. The activities of Science & Society shall be overseen by a Faculty Governance Committee of ten to fifteen members, who shall be appointed by the Director for 3-year terms, which appointments may be renewed up to three times and which may be staggered initially to facilitate rotations in future years. Members of the Committee shall be affiliated with Duke and may serve in either faculty or administrative positions. Science & Society's Faculty Governance Committee shall adopt the bylaws of Science & Society, approve its general policies, vote on issues of curriculum and faculty, and oversee its management. However, only the members of the Committee with faculty appointments may vote on issues relating to faculty hiring and promotion, and issues relating to Science & Society curriculum. The Director shall serve as chair of the Faculty Governance Committee. The Faculty Governance Committee shall meet twice per semester. One-half of the members of the Faculty Advisor Committee participating in person or remotely shall constitute a quorum. Special Meetings of the Faculty Governance Committee may be called upon the request of three members.

4.5 Steering Committee. The Director, in consultation with the Faculty Governance Committee, shall select a Steering Committee composed of the chair and two to four members for two-year terms. The functions of the Steering Committee shall be to advise the Director with respect to day-to-day operations, personnel, budget, programs and engagement. The Steering Committee shall meet monthly. The Director plus two members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum.

4.6 Subsidiary bodies. The Faculty Governance Committee shall have the power to create such subcommittees, advisory boards, working groups, and other subsidiary bodies as it deems to be needed to carry out the work of Science & Society.

4.7 Task Force. The Director, in consultation with the Provost and Faculty Governance Board, may appoint a Task Force of external advisors of 4 to 10 members, which will consist of individuals with or without a Duke affiliation, who are leading scholars, experts, policymakers, and officials of private and non-
governmental organizations, as well as the faculty of other educational institutions. The function of the Task Force shall be to provide advice and counsel regarding strategic direction, programming and resources, to serve as ambassadors and advocates for Science & Society both inside and outside the Duke community, to make introductions and help establish strategic partnerships for Science & Society, to help identify external resources to support Science & Society’s programs and to assist in determining whether a permanent Board of Advisors would assist in achieving the strategic mission and goals of Science & Society.

Article 5. AMENDMENT OF THE BYLAWS

5.1 Amendment of the Bylaws. These bylaws may be amended or repealed by vote of a 2/3 vote of the Faculty Governance Committee, acting at a meeting for which the agenda and the proposed amendment were circulated to the members at least one week in advance. Final decisions on these amendments rests with the Vice Provost for Interdisciplinary Studies.

5.2 Severability. If any provision of these bylaws is held to be illegal, unenforceable, or inconsistent with University rules, that provision shall be automatically severed and removed from these bylaws, the remainder of which shall remain in force.