

The Grand Constitution of The Benevolent Society for the Propagation of Assorted Tomfoolery and Other Sorts of Peculiar and Otherwise Absurd and Baffling Nonsense.

The Great Preamble

The principal Intent of our most paramount Constitution is to serve as an outline for the procedures and regulations governing The Benevolent Society for the Propagation of Assorted Tomfoolery and Other Sorts of Peculiar and Otherwise Absurd and Baffling Nonsense.

Article Numero Uno **Our Name**

Having recognized the Ponderous and somewhat Dubious Nature of our Society's Name, the Official Title of Our Benevolent Society shall be shortened into the most Premier Acronym, "THE TULANE JUGGLING CLUB." This Acronym, conveniently fitting of Our Noble Purpose, shall serve as a recognizable Acronym for the Persons of the World, and shall henceforth be the Primary Means of referring to Our Benevolent Society in Spoken Word.

Section 2. Concerning Constables of the Law

Should Our Benevolent Society be gathered in official meeting, and concurrently in respect to this time, should a Good Constable of the Law suddenly alight upon Our Presence and inquire into Our Practices, a high-standing Member of the Society shall be called upon to attempt to converse with this Fellow, preparing to use Reason and Science should the Good Constable of the Law become Malevolent. The first part of Reason would propound that all conversations among Unacquainted Persons should begin, naturally, with an Introduction. However, though under normal circumstances one would recall the first section of Article One wherein is stated that Our Acronym should be used when referring to Our Benevolent Society in Spoken Word, due to the Official Status of the Constable and the possibly Serious (and thus possibly Absurd and Laughable!) Nature of the situation at hand, the Member should use our Full Official Name in His/Her/It's introduction, to be accompanied always by a welcoming gesture, such as, "Gadabout, ye need seeketh no further! Come, join in our merrymaking!"

Article II

Our Noble Purpose

The Late Sir Kenneth Kesey, Non-Navigator of the Merry Pranksters, Gentleman, and Lord of the Dance, may very well have put it best:

“The answer is never the answer. What's really interesting is the mystery. If you seek the mystery instead of the answer, you'll always be seeking. I've never seen anybody really find the answer -- they think they have, so they stop thinking. But the job is to seek mystery, evoke mystery, plant a garden in which strange plants grow and mysteries bloom. The need for mystery is greater than the need for an answer.”

Article IV

In Which Matters Concerning Membership are Discussed

Section 1. Eligibility

All Persons of the World having at least hands and/or feet should be well suited for membership in The Benevolent Society for the Propagation of Assorted Tomfoolery and Other Sorts of Peculiar and Otherwise Absurd and Baffling Nonsense. If a Person of the World shall be found to have neither hands nor feet who is yet still desirous of membership, then he shall be eligible to stand before the Benevolent Panel of Dunces on any given Tuesday or Sunday afternoon in order that he or she might state his or her case regarding why he or she should also be well suited for membership. The Benevolent Panel of Dunces shall debate the matter thoroughly and seriously for a fortnight, and finally, in their Grand Benevolence, shall accept the applicant. Persons of the World seeking membership who are not only found to lack hand and feet, but all other Human Components as well, such as inanimate objects, rocks and assorted Fish and Birds, may also undergo the same process of trial.

Section 2. Concerning Active Membership

Any Person of the World who actively carries out our Society's Noble Purpose by Propagating Oddity in General in the Grand Tradition of T.H.E. T.U.L.A.N.E. J.U.G.G.L.I.N.G. C.L.U.B., by somewhat regularly being either a Teacher or Student of Foolery at our Official Assemblies, shall be affectionately considered an Active Member and a Voting Member.

Article IV

Meetings

Section 1. Regular Meetings

The Executive Board of Dunces shall call meetings regularly at specified times and places throughout the year. The Board, in their Grand Benevolence, shall attempt to maketh known the specified time and place of Assembly to the Persons of the World a full fortnight in advance.

Section Numero Dos. Quorum

Quorum shall be defined as FIFTY PERCENT (50%) PLUS ONE (Uno) of the Total Active Membership in attendance.

The Section following Section Numero Dos. Assembly Procedures

The backwards Reading of the Passage of the Book shall be followedeth by the Grand Bickering. This having been done according to the rules of our Fair Governing Text shall be followedeth by the impeachment of Phil, which shall then be followedeth promptly by the time during which matters are actually discussed. What this sentence and all of the proceeding sentences actually mean shall be bickered upon during the Grand Bickering, though a conclusion, as it were, is strictly forbidden.

Article V

Dues

We accept donations.

Article VI

The Benevolent Parliament of Dunces

(Officers)

Section 1. Number and Method of Elections

- A. He who can juggle the most objects for the longest period of time shall be Granted the esteemed Title of GRAND POOBA. The GRAND POOBA shall be considered an honorary member of the Benevolent Parliament of Dunces, yet shall hold absolutely no power or political sway whatsoever, unless it is also elected to a real office.
- B. Otherwise, The Benevolent Society for the Propagation of Assorted Tomfoolery and Other Sorts of Peculiar and Otherwise Absurd and Baffling Nonsense shall elect for themselves a PRESIDENT, VICE-PRESIDENT, MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, MINISTER OF TRANSPORTATION, MINISTER OF MINSTRELSY, MINISTER OF PROPAGANDA, and MINISTER OF SCIENCE.
- C. Elections are to be held by the first two weeks of March and no later.
- D. Members of Parliament shall be elected by means of nomination and a vote by show of hands. The GRAND POOBA shall facilitate all elections if it so wishes.

Section 2. Terms of Office

All Members of The Benevolent Parliament of Dunces are to be elected annually during the first two weeks of March, to assume office after a fortnight transition period, and shall serve one academic year.

Section 3. Executive Board of Dunces

The executive Power shall be vested in the PRESIDENT, VICE-PRESIDENT, MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, MINISTER OF TRANSPORTATION, MINISTER OF MINSTRELSY, MINISTER OF PROPAGANDA, AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE. Monarchical Power shall be vested in the GRAND POOBA.

Section 4. Duties of Office

A. The PRESIDENT:

1. Shall preside over all meetings of the T.U.L.A.N.E. J.U.G.G.L.I.N.G. C.L.U.B.
2. It shall from time to time address the Good People of the World concerning the State of the Union, and recommend to their Consideration such Measures as it shall judge, using science, to be necessary and expedient.

B. the VICE-PRESIDENT shall:

1. Fulfill the duties of the PRESIDENT in case of his/her absence.
2. Act as a personal Body Guard and Toady for the President.
3. Act as TREASURER and is therefore responsible for the preparation and updating of Our Budget as appropriate for the proper and timely expenditure of Our Budget.
4. Collect dues and fees at the appropriate times throughout the semester, making complex Notes of the Qualities of Lunar Matters and galactic events, as needed, taking place at the time having been deemed "appropriate." Collect dues

D. the MINISTER OF SCIENCE shall:

1. Serve as an authority on Scientific Matters which affect our General Proceedings as a Society for the Propagation of Assorted Tomfoolery.
2. Conduct Studies of Science in hopes of discovering new assortments of strange and peculiar Things which will be suitable for our Society to Propagate.
3. Make scientific recommendations to the Treasurer and to the Persons of the world concerning the allocation of funds.

E. the MINISTER OF TRANSPORTATION shall:

1. Serve as head mechanic and manager for the Benevolent Bicycle Shop.
2. Serve as Captain of the Bicycle Gang and Chief Coordinator of Rumpi.
3. Maintain the unicycles and bicycles of our Society.

F. the MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE shall:

1. Serve as the governor and Preserver of our Village Green.
2. Create and maintain the bylaws of the Farmitage
3. Use chicken coops, pumpkin patches, orchards, ethnobotanical gardens, butterfly meadows, urban ecology experiments, goats et cetera as needed in the continuous plotting for the expansion of the Benevolent Society's territory on Tulane Campus, and the eventual takeover of The University.

G. the MINISTER OF PROPAGANDA shall:

1. Communicate with the world as often and as mysteriously as possible.
2. Serve as a Lore Master and Protector of the Juggling Club Library.
3. Advertises the activities of our Good Society.

H. the MINISTER OF MINSTRELSY shall:

1. When it gets to the bottom, shall go back to the top of the slide, where it shall stop and turn and it shall go for a ride, till it gets to the bottom and it shall see you again.

Section 5. Concerning the Removal of Officers

- A. Any member of the Parliament of Dunces, having been found guilty of Egregious Shenanigans may be promptly removed from office.
- B. Removal charges must be given to the PRESIDENT DUNCE in writing. Written notification will then be given to the accused Dunce and he/she will have half a fortnight to prepare his/her Apologia. The President shall then call a meeting of the Benevolent Society for the Propagation of Assorted Tomfoolery and Other Sorts of Peculiar and Otherwise Absurd and Baffling Nonsense. At that time, the accused Dunce will present his/her Apologia and a vote shall be taken.
- C. Members of the Parliament of Dunces shall be eradicated by a TWO-THIRDS (2/3) VOTE of quorum, followed by relentless and unnecessary taunting and mockery.

Article VIII **Faculty Advisor**

The Good Faculty members of Tulane University may become Faculty Advisors by SIMPLE MAJORITY (50% PLUS 1) VOTE of QUORUM. Faculty Advisors shall assist in the planning, supervision, and direction of Our Society.

Article IX **Amendments**

Section 1. Procedure for Amendments

Proposed amendments must be delivered to the President in writing. The President, having received the proposed amendment, shall with all due haste schedule a meeting of the Society. At this time, making sure to have the Minister of Science present in order to provide Scientific Input in the matter, verily, the proposed amendment shall be read aloud, discussed, debated, and examined. With this done, a vote shall occur.

Section 2. Ratification

This Grand Constitution may be amended by a Three-Fourths (3/4) Vote of Quorum.

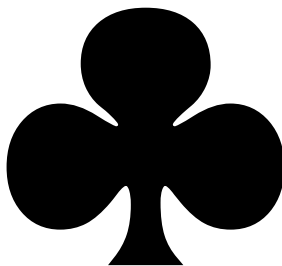
Article X
Review of Constitution

According to the late James Joyce, “universally that person's acumen is esteemed very little perceptive concerning whatsoever matters are being held as most profitable by mortals with sapience endowed to be studied who is ignorant of that which the most in doctrine erudite and certainly by reason of that in them high mind's ornament deserving of veneration constantly maintain when by general consent they affirm that other circumstances being equal by no exterior splendour is the prosperity of a nation more efficaciously asserted than by the measure of how far forward may have progressed the tribute of its solicitude for that proliferent continuance which of evils the original if it be absent when fortunately present constitutes the certain sign of omnipotent nature's incorrupted benefaction.”

For this reason, we hope, the SBAC reviews the constitution of all official student organizations every two years, but reserves the right to review constitutions at any time.

Article XI

Thank you for reading. Have a nice day.





**The Constitutional Amendments to the Epexegetical
Amendments to the Grand Constitution of the Benevolent
Society for the Propagation of Assorted Tomfoolery and Other Sorts of Peculiar and Otherwise**

Absurd and Baffling Nonsense.

The Constitution of the Ministry of Science

Phil Schapker, Nathan Doan, Trumpet et. Al, Luther Blissett.
Tulane University

Submitted: The Day Which Most Resembles Corduroy, 2009
Received: January 23, 2010

Abstract

In the face of the impending doom of ourselves and our entire planet earth, they say we must now begin to radically rethink our culture and restructure our cities. Well we say forget planting bushes and lobbying for compostable plastic containers—let's have some real fun. Our science seeks to snorkel upon the ocean of the Absurd, and we seek none other than the sea cucumber of Xibalba. Presently we goggle student organizations and the art of Constitution-making. Indeed, research on this very constitution and the Peculiarity it may hold is already underway. It remains a work in progress. Either that or they're making gadgetry and playing with bugs... we can't really ever be completely sure of anything in this world, can we?

Introduction

For 3 years the Ministry of Science has sat like a benign tumor in the bowels of the Benevolent Society... or so we thought.

Materials and Methods

Our Study Site – Tulane University is located in uptown New Orleans across from Audubon Park where the *Nycticorax* frolics. Subtropical climate, etc.

Methods –

The Principle Method is Practical Absurdism.

Practical Absurdism n. *A philosophy, science and worldview which aims not only to embrace the absurd, but to harness its powers towards practical ends. These ends, having been cleverly and elegantly achieved by the use of the absurd, may rightly be called absurd themselves, and are often used as a springboard from which to achieve further practical ends, which in turn are by their nature more absurd and more fit as a further practical springboard precisely because the very absurdity of such a continuance is equal to that level of absurdity having been thus achieved, etc.* (Trumpet et al. 2008)

Our Study System –

Within the confines of the university it is largely a wealthy and square existence. Currently the quads are made of short grass and not freely growing wildflowers. Nary a goat capers here, nor a wee chicken. Consider the following letter from one distinguished young professor in the Philosophy department:

October 30, 2009

Dear Mr. Blissett,

Thank you for soliciting my opinion on the current state of academic affairs at Tulane. While I cannot speak for the University as a whole, I can provide you with a description of the current situation in Philosophy. Unfortunately, the outlook is fairly bleak. The problems I identify in this letter are voiced openly and frequently by the faculty, but many of us believe that there is little we can do to remedy these problems. It is my hope in writing this letter that it will find the hands of someone who has the power and desire to make significant improvements to the academic climate of the University.

First, let me provide you with some statistics. This spring, we will offer 29 undergraduate courses (300 level and below). 20 courses (69%) will be taught by non-permanent faculty members; 14 courses (48%) will be taught by individuals who are not earning enough from teaching to make a living (e.g., adjuncts teaching 2 classes per semester and making \$16,000 a year); 11 courses (38%) will be taught by individuals without a PhD—this includes 100, 200, and 300-level courses.

The result is that most of our undergraduates will take courses from instructors who are neither experts in the material they are teaching (either due to inexperience or the method of assigning courses based on who is "least less qualified" to teach them), or who can make undergraduate teaching their top priority. Graduate

students have their own coursework; adjuncts making a maximum of \$16,000/year must seek additional employment; visiting faculty members spend the year searching for a permanent position at another university.

It is very time consuming to be an effective instructor, especially in philosophy. Most students enter college with no knowledge of how to write an analytical paper. All students should graduate having acquired the ability to understand, evaluate, and construct their own arguments. For most students with no interest in pursuing a graduate degree in philosophy, acquiring these skills is what makes majoring in philosophy useful to them beyond college. Unfortunately, many of our students graduate without ever learning how to write an analytical paper because our instructors do not have the time to teach them this skill. Teaching students how to write is a labor intensive process. Instructors who must focus on their own coursework, have to work a second job, or must constantly search for a new job, do not have the time to work with students on developing this ability.

Additionally, the high turnover rate of undergraduate instructors in our department makes it almost impossible for undergraduates to form meaningful relationships with their professors that extend throughout their time at Tulane. These relationships are essential to promote the type of intellectual development expected of a top academic institution. Further, without forming these relationships, it is impossible for students to receive meaningful letters of recommendation needed to pursue a graduate degree or to secure a good job upon graduation. Given the teaching assignments and instructor turnover, very few of our students will have the same instructor for more than two courses, and most of these instructors will be graduate students or non-tenured faculty. Combined, these factors make it nearly impossible for our undergraduates to receive high-quality letters of recommendation, putting them at a significant disadvantage when considering their options after Tulane.

Things have gotten so bad that a number of our professors are discouraging first and second-year students from majoring in philosophy. Recently, a student approached me asking for a second opinion about becoming a philosophy major. She had spoken with a senior member of our department who discouraged her from becoming a philosophy major due to the reasons I have already outlined. Although I was able to highlight a number of positive aspects of our department and majoring in philosophy, I could not dispute any of the things she had been told. She decided not to become a major.

Given the exceedingly high undergraduate tuition at Tulane, offering this type of academic program is shameful. I congratulate you on everything you have done thus far and wish you the best of luck in continuing to improve the academic experience for undergraduates at Tulane.

Please let me know if I can be of further assistance.

Methods II – Conversation

On parking garage rooftops. Just as *Crematogaster mimos* love and protect their Whistling Thorn acacia trees, the Ministry of Science returns now and then to the Juggling Club's domain to lap up their overflowing bounty. Juggling is a reminder of the preposterous nature of human existence, a truth of which our researchers must be constantly aware. Thus our neuroscientists seek to learn the lighthearted ways of the jugglers, while at the same time attempting to elucidate the neurological reasons for the mechanics and causes of their art¹. Our behavioral ecologists might babble with them on visions of grandeur, as long as they agree to allow the scientists to use them to simulate flocking and foraging on the university lawn (cf. General Ecology Lab Manual). Our physicists and engineers may spend weeks in dungeons striving for eternal laws, and the jugglers entice us into the fresh air of their garden to build for them turbines and photovoltaic cells, just before we would have suffocated. And we, for our part, call them into our dungeons.

Among the Department Heads. This can be tricky business indeed, and we suspect they're all probably insane. Constantly lost in their studies, The Interdepartments must eventually be forcibly dragged to the table of practical absurdism to ask 'what next?' These we call "Interdepartmental Meetings," and the opening procedures necessitate a Game of Mafia. The purpose for the Game of Mafia, as well as its rules and procedures, shall be the subject of most fervent debate for no more than 15

¹ Draganski B, Gaser C, Busch V, Schuierer G, Bogdahn U, May A: Neuroplasticity: changes in grey matter induced by training. Nature 2004 , 427(6972):311-312.

minutes once the game is done. The winner(s) of the game shall be allowed to offer new rules as amendments to the Constitution, which shall be deemed 'Law' if the winner was a Mafioso and 'Theory' if the winner was a mere Person of the World. Rules are preferably prepared prior to the meeting and no more than 5 sentences in length.

The Conversationalist. Sometimes the nature of the subject at hand is too abstract to be discussed in words. For this purpose one book shall be kept called *The Conversationalist*. This book may or may not be passed around during Interdepartmental Meetings. 2 or 3 Scientists shall engage a blank page of the book, each sketching upon it in its own turn, for however long seems fit, and then passing the book to the next Scientist, who shall continue to sketch upon the same page. No one but the active converser may gaze upon the conversation, and no talking or discussioning is allowed on the conversation until it has been deemed to have reached completion. Squamous. The meaning of the conversation must never be told.

Results (The departments and their joint assembly procedures.)

The MINISTER OF STRABISMUS shall:

1. Serve as an Authority on all farcical Matters which affect our General Proceedings as a Society for the Inquisition of Peculiar and Baffling Nonsense.
2. Conduct Studies of Myrmecology in hopes of discovering new assortments of strange and peculiar Things which will be suitable for our Society to Inquisit.
3. Proffer the most facetious epigrammatical recommendations to the Vice Minister and to the Interdepartments concerning the allocation of funds.
4. Help out with the monotonous paperwork of The Ministry.

THE VICE MINISTER OF SCIENCE SHALL:

1. Preside over all Interdepartmental Meetings of the Ministry of Science.
2. From time to time address the Good People of the World, and recommend to their Consideration such Measures as It may judge, using Obfuscation, to be Necessary and Expedient.

The Departments

1. Funding for the departments shall be made available as requested from the Ministry of Science Budget provided to the Undergraduate Student Government of Tulane University. Departments are allowed and encouraged to grow robust enough to form their own student organizations so that they are able to maintain their own budget requests. Schools, Houses, or whatever you want to call them are not allowed to form autonomous organizations.
2. Review of Constitution. Should any given Department wish to submit a constitution to the Undergraduate Student Government, it must first submit it to the Minister and Vice Minister of Science for peer review. The Minister of Science of the Tulane Juggling Club shall then submit the revised Constitution to the Vice President of THE TULANE JUGGLING CLUB for review, who shall examine the contents and purposes of the proposed organization for Benevolence and Peculiarity. Should the Constitution be found adequate by the Vice President, the document shall then be submitted to the President of THE TULANE JUGGLING CLUB, who shall submit it to the Good People of the World for review. A vote shall be taken, and the Department shall be allowed to go before the Undergraduate Student Government for consideration as an autonomous student organization.

The House of Withered Vine

The Department of Indoctrination

1. THE DEPARTMENT CHAIR OF INDOCTRINATION shall show science movies from time to time on campus for the enjoyment and disconcertion of the People of the World.
2. Shall from time to time bring interesting articles to the roof of the parking garage during juggling club meetings.
3. Shall make inquiries as to the status of the educational atmosphere and efficacy of indoctrination in the various academic departments of Tulane University. Letters from reputable scholars should be catalogued and made known to the People of the World for consideration. Follow up studies should be conducted annually.
4. The Department of Indoctrination should oversee the Campus Lawn Defamation League.

The Department of Exponential Growth

1. The only true purpose is to make more departments of exponential growth. Someday when the government of every country has a Department of Exponential Growth, all of the departments will get together in some field and play a great game of freeze tag. Please email OperationMeadow@gmail.com as soon as your department is officially established so that we may track our progress and make sure we are still on exponential.
2. The Tulane Juggling Club has requested that a secondary priority of the department is to encourage the growth of such things as the Ministry of Science and the Noble Purpose of Benevolent Society at other collegiate juggling clubs, but our commitment to this proposal can only be promised as secondary to the Task at Hand.
3. Glue Gnomes to University Property for the Delight of its Persons.

The Department of Gadgetry

1. The DEPARTMENT HAMMOG OF GAGETRY shall make gadgetry.
2. Its scholars shall submit papers in physics and fnoord and gadget building proposals (such as designs for tree houses and amphibious bicycles) to the Journal of Withered Vine.

The School of Wilted Vine

The Department of Entomology

1. The DEPARTMENT CHAIR OF ENTOMOLOGY shall curate the Juggling Club Insect Collection, offer assistance to the Lusher High School Insect Collection, and organize bicycling insect collection ventures.
2. The Mymecophilous League shall be composed of ants. *Parapanara clavata* shall establish an ant farm of *Parapanara clavata* in Dinwiddie. *Solenopsis molesta* will work to establish an ant farm of *Solenopsis molesta* in the LBC. *Atta sexdens* will work to establish an ant farm of *Atta sexdens* in the Boggs Atrium. Etc.
3. The Department of Entomology should also oversee The Ornithological Society, our experts on the *Nycticorax* and other inhabitants of The Rookery.

The Department of Ethno-Dendrology

1. The DEPARTMENT STUMP OF ETHNO-DENDROLOGY serves as authority to The People of the World on fruit tree pruning, botany and anthropology.
2. Makes recommendations to the Village Green Preservation Society on trees and other plants which would be suitable for it to propagate.
3. Scouts and maps publicly accessible fruit trees and berries in New Orleans.
4. The Department Toothpick Box shall never let an avocado pit go to waste. Avocado saplings may be maintained in the Tulane Facility Services greenhouse, and every year the most robust saplings must be planted in the Tulane Campus Guacamole Forest... and by that we mean the entire campus. *Death to Quercus!!*

The Department of Auxiliary Studies

1. The Department Chair of Ethology shall produce material for the Journal of Wilted Vine in primate behavior collected in the Methods of Observing Behavior class offered by the Tulane Anthropology Dept.
2. The Department Armchair of Transhumanist Studies shall maintain a database of Potentiograms (constructed according the method described in the Epexegetical Amendments to the Grand Constitution of The Tulane Juggling Club: Amendment IV), and periodically publish its findings on these in the journal of Wilted Vine. The Architect shall be concerned chiefly with The University.
3. The Department Condom of Gender Studies shall serve as chief Orgy Mongerer, according to the method described in the Epexegetical Amendments to the Grand Constitution of The Tulane Juggling Club: Amendment II.
4. Maintains and promotes the H.G. Wells Collection.
5. Promotes Corduroy Appreciation and understanding in all its various forms.

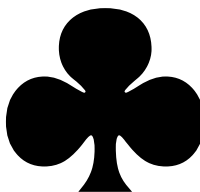
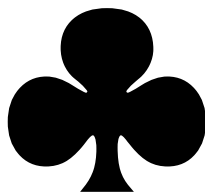
Epexegesis (amendments):

Amendment M: The Narrator may win the Mafia Game against the players by conducting a *hex* game during eyes closed time. Thus the Narrator will say, "everyone go to sleep," and having made its move, say "mafia wake up," whereupon one mafia will chose someone to murder while the other plays a move on the board, whereupon the narrator will say "mafia go to sleep," whereupon it shall make its move and call forth the policeman, who shall make his move and silently ask the narrator (by pointing) if so-and-so is the mafia and allow the narrator to silently shake its head in the affirmative or negative, whereupon that policeman (or woman) shall go to sleep allowing the narrator to make its move and call forth the nurse, etc. The people shall then not only vote on the mafia member but also on the hex move.

Amendment I: If a Player should accuse a member of an opposing house, or school or whatever you want to call them of a fallacious argument at any time, and the Minister of Strabismus verifies the accusation, then that accusing player's house, or school, shall be awarded a point.

Amendment N: The narrator shall role the dice at the beginning of the turn to let the Fool know who it shall see. A roll of 1 shall reveal a mafia member; 2, either nurse or policeman (to remain ambiguous); 3 – 5 shall reveal a townspeople; and 6 kills the Fool, whereupon the Fool may make any amendment It likes about anything whatsoever, to terminate at the time chosen by the winner of the game.

Works Cited: The Library of Alexandria and the methods of attaining its knowledge are known only to the Scholars of the two Houses, or Schools or whatever you want to call them.



Budget Request for the 2010-2011 Academic Year
Submitted to the Good People of the U.S.G. by

The Benevolent Society for the Propagation of Assorted Tomfoolery and Other Sorts of Peculiar and Otherwise Absurd and Baffling Nonsense (Otherwise known by our most Premier Acronym, THE TULANE JUGGLING CLUB)

Wednesday, February 10, 2010 C.E.

The Ministry of Agriculture

6211 – Operating Supplies. \$500

We will be continuously making improvements and additions to our community garden space, orchard, tobacco farm, and aviary (yes, aviary, stay tuned...). This money should also be generally available for tools or other unforeseen costs.

The Ministry of Transportation

7511 – Minor Equipment. \$500

For the purchase of new tools and equipment and general maintenance of our bike shop. (Phil is taking all of his tools back to Kansas City with him this year, most notably a \$200 wheel-truing stand).

The Ministry of Science

“If we knew what we were doing, it wouldn’t be called research!” – Albert Einstein

7511 – Minor Equipment. \$1000

The Ministry of Science shall make do with no less than one thousand dollars. This money shall be allocated most remuneratively towards such basic operating supplies as microscopes, dissecting kits, astrolabes, alidades, quadrants, beakers, assorted chemicals, funnels, conical reaction vials, tubes of various sizes, hydraulic presses, bacteriological incubators, pyrometers, hygrometers, electron paramagnetic resonance instruments, field hats, telescopes and harmonicas.

An important project currently being undertaken by the Ministry’s Myrmecophilous Chairperson is the nurturing of the newly founded **Benevolent Society/ Lusher High School Insect Collection**. For the past year, our Department of Entomology has been giving free lessons in amateur insect collecting and insect science at Lusher High School, incorporating its work into the Center for Public Service by establishing a format for future Tulane biology students wishing to undertake their public service requirement at in a high school biology classroom. As our entomologists continue to spread the joy and wonder of their trade to our community, this budget allocation will assist them in obtaining and maintaining insect kill jars, ethyl acetate, pins, mounting pads, nets, goggles, portable bicycle pumps (used in safaris in remote regions of New Orleans), tools, bribes, software, collection display boxes, and so forth and so on.

The Department of Gadgetry has recently articulated its methods in the design and production of bicycle trailers. These trailers, which cost about \$100 to produce, have recently assisted the Ministry of Agriculture in hauling over 600 pounds of horse manure to its community garden, as well as a whole couch to a room in Phelps. The continued manufacture of these items is of pivotal importance to the gaining momentum of the urban sustainability movement. These trailers will be built locally and from recycled/salvaged materials for the purpose of selling at low cost to local non-profit organizations, urban farming projects, homeless shelters and other groups for whom the hauling of loads without a car is either desirable or necessary. Our goal for 2011 is to build and distribute no less than ten trailers.

Phytoremediation is the removal of heavy metals and other hazardous chemicals from soil with the use of plants. While the success of such procedures is well known, ongoing research seeks to evaluate and compare the effects of many different species of plants on soil chemistry. The Vice Minister of Science, Nathan Doan (sophomore), is currently gathering data and making initial assessments and hypotheses for a **Sunflower Phytoremediation Project** to be carried out next year on the Benevolent Society's lot on Willow St. He and the Ministry plan to work in collaboration with Dr. Darwin of Tulane's ecology department and Dr. Lovell Agwarambo of Dillard University, an authority on phytoremediation who has already conducted a few experimental projects in New Orleans in the past several years.

6224 – Books and Subscriptions. \$404

The Ministry of Science has requested that our Library include the following valuable tomes:

1. Borror and Delong's Introduction to the Study of Insects (7th Edition) \$150.0
2. Gullan and Cranston's The Insects: An Outline of Entomology (3rd Ed.) \$50.00
3. The Ants by Bert Hölldobler and Edward O. Wilson \$94.00
4. Phytoremediation: Methods and Reviews (Methods in Biotechnology)
by Neil Willey \$110.00

The Ministry of Siege Warfare

6211 – Operating Supplies. \$300

While the Tulane Chess Club is currently recognized as a provisional organization and unable to request a budget from the Union for Servile Goons, we have temporarily adopted their constitution into our own, and hereby recognize them as the most Official and Badass of all Student Organizations. They must be able to purchase chess, backgammon, go and aarima boards and clocks immediately. When they become their own official organization, we will kick them out and form our own chess club whose sole purpose is to crush their souls. Competition, as they say, leads to innovation.

The Ministry of Minstrelsy

7511 – Minor Equipment. \$500

Besides the substantial portion of our budget that was used towards the Bike Help Desk, part of the \$850 allocated to us last year was used to buy 21 juggling balls, 3 juggling clubs, and 3 fiery orbs. Our local membership has more than doubled however, and we still find ourselves lacking props to manipulate, or with props in disrepair. Unicycles and banjoes must be bought and maintained, as well as many other things under the sun that we wish to throw into the air and catch again, or stand upon, or pluck.

6231 - Printing—Reports, Brochures, Journals. \$200

As part of our *commitment to action* in the Clinton Global Initiative, we not only pledged to fight global warming by performing free bicycle repair and establishing community gardens, but we vowed to reach out to our fellow collegiate jugglers of America, in order to call them to arms, as it were. Already we have established Benevolent Societies at three other universities which are currently creating juggling club gardens and bike shops, as well as engaging in many other epijuggling activities. We have “extension agents” at fifteen additional universities and the successes reported to us by these agents have convinced us that it is time to call forth an international summit of collegiate jugglers to be held at our university on April 1st, 2011. If we truly wish to uphold our noble purpose as a society for the propagation of baffling nonsense, we must send forth our messages to these neverthrivings. Not to mention the annual academic journal put out by the Ministry of Science.

The Ministry of Pie Baking

6211 – Operating Supplies. \$300



Reserve Request for Lusher High School Entomology Project

Re-Submitted (with requisite 10 copies) by **The Department of Entomology**
(A Department of the Ministry of Science, Benevolent Society)

April 19, 2010

The Project

For the past three years the Benevolent Society has been amassing a quite sizeable insect collection. Insects are quite bafflingly small creatures and insect collecting is a practice which our Fair Constitution officially recognizes as furthering our most Noble Purpose, the evocation of mystery. Recently our entomologists have begun to work with AP biology students at Lusher High School (on Freret St. near Tulane), occasionally giving special classroom lectures and leading urban entomology expeditions. AP biology teacher Amy Wanner has enthusiastically invited our juggling club to continue using her classroom to hold our club meetings and make use of her microscopes, which we shall do.

A long-term symbiosis, however, will require adequate supplies. The major items on this list are the Insect Collection Cabinet and drawers (the least expensive available), and the 5 Borror and Delong's Introduction to the Study of Insects. This is the standard dichotomous key, and 5 would be adequate for a small group of after-school students. These are critical supplies in the project. The rest of the items consist of most of all the little pins, pens, labeling paper, glue and so on, which are required in the pinning and preservation process.

The Insect Shelf shall surely never leave campus, and is to be kept permanently in Jered Bocage's office, as per the noble requests of the Undergraduate Student Government.

**Reserve Request for Lusher High School Entomology Project
Page 2**

Also re-submitted with requisite ten copies by **The Department of Entomology** (A Department of the Ministry of Science, Benevolent Society) on the good day of April 19th, 2010.

Supplies Requested:

BioQuippe.com

Qty	Catalog No.	Description	Price	Ext. Price
1	7112NA	STUDENT INSECT NET 18" HANDLE, 12" RING	\$12.05	\$12.05
30	1208B1	BIOQUIP INSECT PINS #1 BLACK, 100/PACK	\$4.00	\$120.00
1	1031	VERSABOARD, 5 GROOVES 11" LONG X 17" WIDE	\$4.50	\$4.50
12	1144	PINNING BLOCK THREE STEP	\$1.75	\$21.00
1	1157	REPAIR ADHESIVE, 4 DR.VIAL, APPLICATOR	\$3.95	\$3.95
6	1012APF	CORNELL DRAWER, POPLAR	\$52.00	\$312.00
1	1223PB	LABEL PAPER PACK OF 100 SHEETS	\$22.50	\$22.50
1	2106KD	CORNELL CABINET 6 DRAWER, UNASS.	\$162.00	\$162.00
12	1154E	PIGMA MICRON PEN, BLACK, .20MM, #005	\$2.40	\$28.80

Check here if the order is to be shipped to California, USA

Merchandise Total:	\$686.80
Estimated SalesTax	\$0.00
Shipping & Handling:	\$80
 Bio Equippe Order Total:	 \$766.80

Amazon.com:

- 1. Borror and Delong's Introduction to the Study of Insects (7th Edition) 5 @ \$150.00 = \$750
- 2. Gullan and Cranston's The Insects: An Outline of Entomology (3rd Ed.) \$50.00
- 3. The Ants by Bert Hölldobler and Edward O. Wilson \$94.00

Amazon Total: \$894.00

Total requested: \$1660.80²

² Note: By the great wisdom of the Undergraduate Student Government Finance Committee, and despite my protests, we were ultimately only approved for one of Borror and Delong's dichotomous keys. It was ruled that it would be simpler and more cost effective for us to simply make copies of this 1000 page book as needed in our tutoring of the Lusher students. Unfortunately this ruling reflects the gross incompetence of the typical student leader with regards to the use of such keys, and to science in general. To date (summer 2011), I am told, no one in the current benevolent society has taken proper action to re-resubmit our textbook request to the Finance Committee. We leave this record then as a reminder of unfinished business for the present regime, and as a warning for future students who plan to deal with student bureaucrats in any capacity. It should also be noted that it took a full 2 and a half years from the approval of this request for the collecting supplies to be actually ordered and land in Lusher's science classroom. I still have my doubts about the rest of the books as well.