



South Carolina Sociological Association

CONSTITUTION

Article I. Name

Section 1. The Association will be known as the South Carolina Sociological Association.

Article II. Objectives

Section 1. The objectives of the Association shall be to stimulate and improve the researching, teaching, and discussion of sociological issues, to encourage cooperative relations among persons engaged in the scientific study of society and culture, and to publicize sociology as a viable tool for promoting the public good.

Article III. Membership

Section 1. Membership in the Association shall be open to any person meeting the conditions prescribed in the By-Laws.

Article IV. Officers

Section 1. The officers of the Association shall be a President, a President-Elect, a Past-President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer. The President-Elect shall be elected annually. The President serves one year, having been President-Elect during the previous year and serving as immediate Past-President for one year. The Secretary and Treasurer shall be elected in odd years and hold two-year terms. No member of the Association shall serve more than three consecutive terms in the same office without a majority vote of the Executive Committee.

Section 2. The President of the Association shall preside at all business meetings of the Association, shall be chairperson of the Executive Committee, and shall preside at its meetings. The President shall select the theme of the general program, but shall consult the Executive Committee in selecting time, place, and the conference program planning committee and chairperson of the general session, and shall perform all duties assigned by the Association and Executive Committee. In the event of the President's death, resignation or absence, except as

otherwise provided in this Constitution, these duties shall devolve, successively upon the President- Elect, the Secretary, and the Treasurer.

Section 3. The President- Elect shall be a member of the Executive Committee, shall be the editor of the newsletter, or appoint a newsletter editor to be published at least biannually, and shall be chairperson of the membership committee. The President-Elect may succeed to the duties of the President as provided in Section 2.

Section 4. The Secretary shall be a member of the Executive Committee and shall keep all records of the Association including minutes of the business sessions of the Association and all meetings of the Executive Committee. The Treasurer shall be a member of the Executive Committee and shall receive, have custody of, and disburse the funds of the Association, subject to the authorization of the Executive Committee. Both the Secretary and Treasurer may succeed to the duties of the President as provided in Section 2.

Section 5. In order to be eligible for an elective office, a prospective candidate must be a member of the Association.

Article V. Executive Committee

Section 1. The governing body of the Association, subject only to the membership of the Association, shall be an Executive Committee composed of the officers of the Association, the past President of the Association and three Members-at-large nominated by the Nominating Committee and elected by the Association to serve annual terms.

Section 2. The Executive Committee shall have charge of the general interests of the Association, shall call regular and special meetings of the Association and shall have power to fill all vacancies not other-wise provided for, such appointees to hold office until the next meeting of the Association.

Section 3. The President of the Association shall be Chairperson of the Executive Committee. The Secretary and Treasurer of the Association shall be ex officio members of the Executive Committee.

Article VI. Meetings

Section 1. The Association shall hold an annual late winter meeting determined by the President in consultation with the Executive Committee, for the transaction of business, the presentation of papers, and the general discussion of sociological topics. Notice of each meeting shall be sent to all members at least two months before such meetings. At such meetings, the officers shall make their reports. The program of all meetings shall become a part of the Secretary's minutes. Fifty percent (50%) of the membership shall constitute a quorum. If less than 50% are present at meetings at which votes are taken, a mail ballot will be used.

Article VII. Special Funds and Endowments

Section 1. With the approval of the Association, the Executive Committee may solicit, receive, invest and expend funds, and the income therefrom, for special purposes designed to further the interests of the Association.

Article VIII. Elections

Section 1. There shall be a Nominating Committee, consisting of three members, appointed by the President, and with one of the members selected as chairperson by the nominating committee. The Nominating Committee shall solicit suggestions for nominees from the members. It shall nominate two persons for each office. The Committee shall ascertain the eligibility and willingness of each candidate to serve. It shall submit a slate of nominees to the Secretary two weeks prior to the annual meeting.

Section 2. Election shall be conducted at the annual meeting. Members shall be allowed to write in candidates for any office. In the event that a candidate does not receive a majority vote, a run-off ballot shall be conducted. Voting shall be by secret ballot. Only paid-up members may vote. Officers shall assume responsibilities at the end of the annual meeting.

Section 3. Members who cannot attend the meeting may send an absentee ballot to the nominating committee chairperson before the day of the meeting.

Article IX. Amendments

Section 1. Amendments to this Constitution may be proposed at any Association meeting by the Executive Committee or by any member of the Association. Proposed amendments by members shall be referred to the Executive Committee for study and recommendation to the Association. Final action on amendments shall be deferred to the next Association meeting; a two-thirds vote of the quorum shall be necessary for adoption.

BY-LAWS

Article I. Membership and Dues

Section 1. The membership of the Association shall consist of four classes: Departmental/Institutional, Regular, Student, and Honorary. Dues for the various classes of membership shall be established by a majority vote of the Association. The Membership Year shall be from one annual meeting to the next.

Section 2. Regular membership shall be open to persons with an interest in sociology and who are not students.

Section 3. Student membership is open to all undergraduate and graduate students with an interest in sociology.

Section 4. Honorary membership may be conferred upon any person, for one year or for life, by the unanimous decision of the Executive Committee. Honorary membership shall be without dues.

Article II. Voting

Section 1. All members shall have voting privileges.

Article III. Committees

Section 1. Preceding the annual meeting, the President shall appoint a conference program planning committee and chairperson.

Section 2. Preceding the annual meeting, the President shall appoint a Nominating Committee, consisting of three members. The Nomination Committee shall conduct elections.

Section 3. The President-Elect shall be in charge of the Membership Committee and shall appoint a chairperson and other members to serve on the Committee.

Section 4. The President shall appoint special committees according to the needs of the Association.

Article IV. Eligibility for Nomination and Election

Section 1. To be eligible for nomination and election to any office of the Association, one must be a member of the Association.

Article VI. Amendments

Section 1. Amendments to these By-Laws may be proposed by the Executive Committee or by any member of the Association. Proposed amendments shall be referred to the Executive Committee for study and recommendation to the Association. Final action may be taken by a two-thirds vote of the quorum.