

CONSTITUTION OF THE SOCIETY FOR SLOVENE STUDIES

March 2, 2019

Article I: NAME. The name of the Society shall be the Society for Slovene Studies (hereinafter referred to as “the Society”; abbreviated as “SSS”).

Article II. PURPOSE. The Society is a scholarly, non-profit organization dedicated to fostering closer communication among scholars interested in Slovene studies; and to promoting the dissemination of scholarly information on Slovene studies through the organization of meetings and conferences, and through the preparation of scholarly works for publication. The Society is organized exclusively for charitable, educational, and scientific purposes, including, for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations described under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

Article III: MEMBERS. Membership in the Society shall be open to persons having an interest in any aspect of culture and scholarship dealing with Slovenia and Slovenes. Members engaged in scholarly work who have paid their annual dues are regular members and are eligible to vote. Sustaining members pay the same dues and have all the privileges of regular members except the right to vote and hold office. Student members shall be those who at the time of joining are involved in the active pursuit of either an undergraduate or graduate education. Student members are eligible to vote but pay lower dues; these membership dues are limited to the period of their student status.

Par. 1: ANNUAL DUES. The annual membership dues shall be such a sum as may be fixed by the Executive Council of the Society.

Article IV: MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES. Time and place of the Society’s meetings and conferences shall be chosen by the Executive Council upon the recommendation of members of the Society.

Article V: OFFICERS. The Officers of the Society shall be a President, elected by the members, and a Secretary-Treasurer elected by the Executive Council from among its members for a term the expiration of which is coterminous with that member’s term on the Executive Council. The editor of *Slovene Studies: Journal of the Society for Slovene Studies* is an *ex officio* member of the Executive Council.

Article VI: EXECUTIVE COUNCIL. The property of the Society shall be managed and its business conducted by the Executive Council consisting of four elected members and the President of the Society as an *ex officio* voting member of the Executive Council. Upon leaving office the President shall occupy for one year the seat on the Executive Council which becomes vacant for that year. (See Article VII.)

Par. 1: ACTIVITIES OF THE COUNCIL. The Society business shall be formally transacted by correspondence between the Executive Council and the members of the Society. The Secretary-Treasurer of the Society shall be responsible for communication with the membership. All actions taken by the Executive Committee shall be duly reported to the membership. A petition by at least ten members may challenge any decision by the Executive Council; such petition shall require the decision to be brought to a vote by the members.

Par. 2: ANNUAL BUDGET. The Secretary-Treasurer shall be required to present an annual budget for the approval of the Executive Council.

Article VII: ELECTION OF THE PRESIDENT AND OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL. Members elect the President and the Executive Council from among members who have contributed to Slovene studies through published research. The President shall be elected for a term of three years. The Executive Council members shall be elected for three years or for shorter (two- and one-year) terms to permit staggering so that always, where practical, the Executive Council shall include at least three members from the previous year. The election shall be by mail ballot.

Article VIII: AMENDMENTS. Subject to subsequent ratification by two-thirds of those members voting in a mail ballot, this constitution can be amended by a majority vote of the Executive Council. At least three-quarters of the members in good standing must respond to this ballot to insure its validity.

Article IX: DISSOLUTION. In the event of dissolution of the Society, any assets remaining after paying or making provision for the payment of all liabilities shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose. Any such assets not disposed of shall be disposed of by a court of competent jurisdiction in the county in which the principal office of the organization is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

Articles I and IX of the Constitution amended to comply with U.S. IRS regulations for non-profit organizations by a vote of the membership on March 2, 2019.

BYLAWS OF THE SOCIETY FOR SLOVENE STUDIES

Whereas the Society for Slovene Studies operates in accordance with its Constitution, adopted in December of 1973, the Bylaws of the organization are a set of operating procedures which regulate the Society's internal affairs.

The Constitution is the higher of the two bodies of regulations and supersedes the Bylaws. Bylaws may be established by a simple majority vote of the Executive Council and may not be contradictory to the Constitution. Further, any member of the Society may propose the addition of bylaws to the Executive Council, which is obliged to act upon such proposals within a reasonable length of time. Once passed by the Executive Council, new bylaws become operative immediately. In a like manner, bylaws may be nullified or amended by a simple majority vote of the Executive Council, and such proposals may emanate from the members of the Society as well as within the Executive Committee. Any addition or amendment to or deletion from the Bylaws must be announced in writing to the entire membership.

ARTICLE i

1. The SSS Printing Fund provides supplemental funds for printing of scholarly works in Slovene studies, prepared for publication by the Society.
2. The Fund is financed from tax deductible contributions to the Society and from the net proceeds from the sale of publications the printing of which is financed through the Fund.

3. The Printing Fund is administered by the Executive Council of the Society, which promotes contributions to the Fund through general or individual solicitation.
4. The Secretary-Treasurer of the Society shows receipts and disbursements applicable to the Fund as separate entries within the annual budget of the Society.
5. Contributions to the Printing Fund are acknowledged individually by letter and publicly in the Society's Newsletter. Acknowledgment in publications the printing of which is financed through the Fund is at the discretion of the Executive Council.

Passed and enacted June 1978.

ARTICLE II

1. Honorary membership in the Society is bestowed in recognition of significant scholarly contributions to Slovene studies and is conferred irregularly at national meetings of the Society on the basis of recommendations from members of the Society, and after such nominations have been approved by a majority vote of the members of the Executive Council.
2. Honorary members do not pay dues and have all the privileges of regular members except that they may not hold office.

Passed and enacted April 18, 1983.

ARTICLE III

1. Standing or Ad Hoc committees, their Chairs and membership, may be appointed by the Executive Council as deemed necessary.
 - a. Standing committees are: Program Planning and Financial

Adopted as of January 1, 1989

ARTICLE IV

1. The Society for Slovene Studies supports a center for research and documentation activities.
2. Its activities include: the processing of the Society's research initiatives; the preparation of public relations information (in English and in Slovene) on the activities and achievements of SSS members as well as of the Society itself; the preparation and maintenance of a register of scholars in Slovene studies in the world; and directing other research activities consistent with the aims of the Society.
3. The SSS Research and Documentation center is administered by the Executive Council of the Society and directed by a regular member, appointed from among members who have contributed to Slovene studies through published research.

Adopted as of January 1, 1989.