

CONSTITUTION OF THE SOCIETY FOR SLOVENE STUDIES

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.

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. I: 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 conterminous 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. I: 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 Council shall be duly reported to the membership. A petition by at least ten members may challenge any decision of 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 of the Society shall be disposed of exclusively for the purpose of the Society to such organization(s) organized and operated exclusively for scientific or educational purposes.