

By-Laws: Section on Race, Gender, and Class

Approved 1996, Amended 2011

The purpose of the Section *Race, Gender, and Class* is bifold: first, to promote research that examines the interactive effects of race, gender, and class phenomena; second to promote a curriculum which underscores the centrality of race, gender and class phenomena. By comparing the similarities and differences in how inequalities of race and ethnicity, gender, class and stratification are created and maintained, sociologists can develop a more powerful explanation of the nature of social inequality in general.

Officers of the Section: Only voting members of the American Sociological Association shall be eligible to hold office. The officers of the Section will include a Chair, a Chair-Elect, a Past-Chair, and a Secretary-Treasurer. The Chair-Elect shall serve for one year and will automatically become Chair for one year following his or her office as Chair-Elect. The Chair will automatically become Past Chair for one year following his or her office as Chair. The Secretary-Treasurer shall be elected for a period of three years.

There shall be a Council consisting of six regular members, who will each serve for three years. There shall be one graduate student member serving for two years. Officers shall not succeed themselves. The Chair, Chair-Elect, Secretary-Treasurer, and Past Chair shall also serve as members of the Council, so that the Council is composed of eleven members; the Chair of the Section will serve as Chair of the Council. It is the responsibility of all Council members to attend the Council and Business Meetings of the Section at the Annual Meetings of the American Sociological Association.

Powers of the Officers: The Council is vested in principle with the power to carry out all necessary operations for the section, acting as the representative of the membership of the Section. Any action of the Section, including changes of the By-Laws, may be brought to the vote of the Section by the Council, by a petition of 10 percent of the members of the Section, or by 25 members of the Section, whichever is less. The functions of the Council include cooperating with the Program Committee of the American Sociological Association in planning the presentation of its field of interest in the Annual Meeting of the Association.

The Chair of the Section shall preside at all meetings of the Section membership and of the Section Council at which s/he is present. The Chair will also be responsible for planning and submitting the section's program for the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, in cooperation with the Program Committee of the American Sociological Association, and with advice of Council. S/he shall also plan programs for such special conferences as may be decided by the Council. The Past Chair shall submit an Annual Report of the Section's activities to the Executive Office of the Association in accordance with the ASA Manual on Sections. The Chair will also approve disbursements on behalf of the section, with the consent of Council. The Chair-Elect of the Section shall work with the Chair of the Section, to ensure a smooth transition between Chairs. The Chair-Elect of the Section will also serve as chair of the Nominations Committee.

The Secretary-Treasurer of the Section shall record or cause to be recorded all votes and minutes of all proceedings of the Section Council and of any meeting of the membership, and submit these minutes for publication in the section newsletter. S/he shall perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the Chair or Section Council. S/he shall keep full and accurate accounts of the receipts and disbursements of the Section. S/he shall disburse or cause to be disbursed Section funds, making proper vouchers for such disbursements, and will render to Section Council, upon request, an accounting of all of her/his transactions as Secretary-Treasurer and the financial condition of the Section. The Secretary-Treasurer shall also prepare an annual Section budget for approval by the Section Council at the Annual Meetings of the American Sociological Association. The Secretary-Treasurer shall also serve as Chair of the Publications Committee.

Elections and Voting: The elections of the Section shall be carried out in cooperation with the annual election of American Sociological Association and coordinated to their schedule. The Nominating Committee shall present at least two candidates in good standing for each office to be voted on by the voting members of the Section, by ballot. Current officers are not eligible for nomination to the next term of the same office. The Executive Officer of the Association shall be responsible for the conduct of the election and the tabulation of ballots. The candidate receiving the highest number of votes for each office shall be elected. In the case of tie votes, a lot conducted by the Chair of the Section with two witnesses shall decide the winner.

Committees: There shall be a Committee on Nominations, chaired by the Chairperson-Elect of the section, and comprised of four members. Two Council members will also serve on the committee. One additional members will be elected each year by those members of the Section present at an open Business Meeting to take place at the Annual Meeting of the Association. No member may serve on the Nominating Committee for two consecutive years.

There shall also be three Award Committees, each comprised of at least three members, whose members will be appointed by the Chair with the advice of the Section Council. These committees are the Distinguished Contribution to Scholarship Book Award, the Distinguished Contribution to Scholarship Article Award, and the Graduate Student Paper Award. One Council member will chair the Book Award committee; another Council member will chair the Article Award committee; and another Council member will chair the Graduate Student Paper Award. In the event that one of these people is unable to serve, the Section Chair will appoint a chair. The duties of the Award Committees will be to solicit and review submissions and select the winner of the Section's Annual Awards for scholarship on the intersections of Race, Gender and Class, maintaining the timelines given by the American Sociological Association.

There shall be a Committee on Publications. Two Council members will serve on this committee, which will be chaired by the Secretary-Treasurer of the Section. The section Newsletter Editor and section Webmaster will also serve on this committee. The purpose of this committee shall be

to recommend to the Council candidates for Section Newsletter Editor and Webmaster, to serve as consultants to the Editor and Webmaster, and to keep the Editor, Webmaster, and the Council apprised of needs in the areas of dissemination and publication. The Newsletter Editor and Webmaster shall each be appointed by the Chair for a two-year term, renewable by the Chair for one additional term, and will receive a small remuneration for their work for the section.

Other Appointed Positions: Section Council may appoint members to other ad-hoc committees as needed.

Meetings: There shall be an annual business meeting of the members of the Section to be held in conjunction with the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association. Notice of the time and place of the annual meeting shall be set forth in the Program for the ASA Annual Meeting and, if feasible, in the last issue of the Section's newsletter prior to the annual meeting. The affirmative vote of fifty-one percent of the members present and voting in person shall be necessary and sufficient for the making of decisions at a meeting of the members.

Amendment of Bylaws: These bylaws can be amended by ballot of the Section membership. A majority vote will be required for any amendment.

Membership: The membership of the Section shall be drawn from the members of the American Sociological Association who have expressed or demonstrated a major commitment to the sociological study of the intersection of race, gender, and class.

Dues: Dues shall be set by the Council to cover the operation of the Section in accord with the requirements of the American Sociological Association.

Newsletter Editor: The Newsletter editor shall be appointed by the Chair for a two year term, renewable by the Chair for one additional term.