

Sociology of Consumers and Consumption Bylaws

Article I. Name:

The Section shall be known as the Section on the Sociology of Consumers and Consumption.

Article II. Purpose:

The purpose of the Section is to promote research, dialog and teaching about the multi-faceted ways in which consumers, commodities, consumption and market logics have come to inform various aspects of social life and social interaction.

Article III. Council and Officers of the Section:

The Council of the Section shall consist of four elected at-large Members, two elected student Members, plus officers, which include a Chair, a Chair-Elect, a Past-Chair, a Secretary-Treasurer, a DEI (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion) Officer, and a Communications Coordinator, serving ex officio. All at-large and student Members shall serve a two-year term (except as noted belowⁱ) on a rotating basis with two at-large and one student Member seats vacated every year. The Chair-Elect shall serve in that position for one year, followed by one-year terms as Chair and Past-Chair. The Secretary-Treasurer shall serve a three-year term. The DEI Officer shall serve a two-year term. The Communications Coordinator shall serve a two-year term.

The Chair will act as Chair of the Council, oversee the annual conference program, and preside at the annual Business Meeting during the year in which she/he serves as Chair. The Secretary-Treasurer shall take and circulate minutes of meetings and keep and present the documents and financial records of the Section. The Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Officer shall chair a DEI committee. The Communications Coordinator shall chair the Communications Committee. The Chair and Past-Chair shall chair the Student Paper Award and Distinguished Scholarly Publication Award Committees, respectively.

No member can hold two elected offices simultaneously. Officers cannot succeed themselves. No member may hold Council positions for more than seven years of any ten-year period. All voting members of the Section are eligible for election as officers. If an elected office is vacated before the end of its term, it will be filled for the unexpired term by appointment of the Chair with the concurrence of Council. If the Chair's office is vacated, the Chair-Elect shall fill the functions of Chair. If a Past-Chair cannot serve on Council, no replacement shall be appointed.

Article IV. Powers of the Council:

The Council is vested with the power to carry out all necessary operations of the Section, acting as representatives of the members of the Section. To that end, it shall meet on the occasion of the American Sociological Association Annual Meeting and may meet at other times when more than half of the Council can be assembled, whether in person or through electronic means. The Council shall make decisions by majority rule of its assembled members. Unless otherwise provided in these bylaws, all appointments to Committees

shall be made by the Chair with the concurrence of the Council.

Article V. Referenda:

Questions to be brought before the Section membership for approval may originate with the Council itself (if requested by at least three Council members), by a petition of 10 percent of the Section membership, or by 25 members of the Section (whichever is less). Any resolution passed by the annual Business Meeting of the Section and not subsequently accepted by the Council shall automatically be submitted to a vote of the Section membership.

Article VI. Elections and Voting:

The elections of the Section shall be carried out in concurrence with the American Sociological Association and coordinated with its schedule. Newly elected officers and Council Members shall assume office on the day following the annual Business Meeting of the Section at the American Sociological Association's Annual Meeting.

In case of a tie vote, the Section Chair, in the presence of two impartial witnesses, shall throw dice for each tied candidate. The candidate whose thrown dice shows the highest number shall be declared the winner. Before undertaking this procedure, the Chair shall consult with all affected candidates and obtain their approval of the procedure and witnesses.

Article VII. Committees:

Unless otherwise stipulated in these by-laws, the Chair shall recruit committee members from attendees at the Section Business Meeting and by soliciting volunteers through the Section listserv or other Section communication platforms. The Chair will endeavor to get the broadest possible representation of Section membership on committees.

There shall be a standing **Nominating Committee** formed each year at the annual Council Meeting of the Section. The Nominating Committee shall consist of four members, including a Chair plus three other members. One Council Member shall be appointed by Council to serve as Chair of the Nominating Committee. One other Council member shall be appointed by Council as a Committee member. The remaining two Committee members shall come from at-large Section membership. No members shall serve on the Nominating Committee for two consecutive years. It will be the obligation of the Nominating Committee to see to it that the different theoretical and research perspectives of the Section membership are well represented by the candidates. Two candidates will be presented for each position by the Nominating Committee.

There shall be a **Program Committee** consisting of at least three members appointed for a one-year term by the Chair, with one serving as Chair. The Program Committee shall develop sessions of interest to the Section at each Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association in cooperation with the Program Committee of the Association. The Section Program Committee may also develop programs outside of the Association Meeting framework with the consent of Council.

There shall be a **Communications Committee** consisting of the Communications Coordinator, who shall serve as Chair, and at least three other members. The Communications Coordinator shall be appointed or reappointed by the Section Chair-Elect, with the concurrence of Council, and take office when the Chair-Elect becomes Chair. The Communications Coordinator shall edit the Section's media content and serve, ex-officio, as a member of Council. Other members of the Communications Committee shall serve as contributing Editors of the website and other media platforms. The purpose of the Communications Committee shall be to prepare Section news and other content to be made available to all Section members through the American Sociological Association. This Committee shall also compile periodic reports as requested by the Council of the Section or the Committee on Publications of the Association and deal with any other publications-related business of the Section.

There shall be an **Awards Committee** consisting of two sub-committees. The Student Paper Award Committee shall consist of three members for a one-year term: current Section Chair (as committee chair); one member from Council; and one from at-large Section membership. The Distinguished Scholarly Publication Committee shall consist of three members for a one-year term: past-Section Chair (as committee chair); one member from Council; and one from at-large Section membership. The Awards Committee will publicize the criteria for award eligibility, collect nominations, decide on recipients and report to the Council in a timely manner so that awards can be handed out at the annual Business Meeting.

There shall be a **Membership Committee** consisting of one member of Council and at least one other member, for a two-year term. The Committee will organize membership recruitment efforts, and work with the Communications Committee to publicize membership benefits.

Other committees may be established by the Chair of the Section on an ad hoc basis subject to approval by the Council.

Article VIII. Membership:

The membership of the Section is open to any member of the American Sociological Association without regard to the classification of membership.

Article IX. Dues:

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

Article X. Amendment of the Bylaws:

Amendment of the Section Bylaws requires, first, approval by a majority of the Council (including ex officio members); second, discussion of proposed changes at the annual Business Meeting of the Section; third, approval by the Committee on Sections and American Sociological Association Council; fourth, approval of a majority of those voting in a vote submitted to all Section members.

ⁱ In order to optimize participation, Council will have a three-seat turnover of elected Members every year. In order

to initiate this process at the inception of the Section, the first election cycle for Council will differ from following cycles. In the first year, one at-large Member will be elected for a three-year term, two at-large Members for a two-year term, and one at-large Member for a one-year term. In the first election cycle, one student Member will be elected for a two- year term, and one student Member will be elected for a one-year term.