

SECTION ON THE SOCIOLOGY OF SEX AND GENDER BY-LAWS

Amended 1989, 1999, 2000, 2012, 2014, 2019, 2025

ARTICLE I: NAME AND PURPOSE

SECTION 1. Name

The Section shall be known as the Section on the Sociology of Sex and Gender.

SECTION 2. Purpose

The Section on the Sociology of Sex and Gender is established to encourage research, theory and curriculum development on the organized patterns of gendered social relations and sexuality, not only in face-to-face interaction, but in the major institutions of society such as the occupational structure, the political processes, high culture and mass media, the medical, judicial, and educational systems, and the intersections with race and social class.

ARTICLE II: OFFICERS

SECTION 1. The officers of the Section shall be a Chair, a Chair-Elect, a Past Chair, a Secretary-Treasurer, two elected Student Representatives and nine (9) elected representatives to Section Council. 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 be elected for a period of three years. The two graduate-student members on Council will serve staggered two-year terms. Officers shall not be re-elected or appointed to the same office for consecutive terms. All regular members of the Section are eligible for election as Officers.

SECTION 2. Section Council shall consist of those fifteen (15) positions named in Article II, Section 1. Each Council member shall have one (1) vote. The Chair shall preside at Council meetings. Council shall meet annually at the ASA meeting. Council members must maintain yearly ASA and Section memberships throughout their tenure in office. If either membership lapses, the Council member must vacate office and the Chair will nominate a person to fill the unexpired term.

SECTION 3. All section officers are expected to attend Section Council and Business Meetings; strive to improve services to Section members, promote the interests of the Section; and participate actively in Section business. Officer duties are enumerated in the Section's Policies and Procedures manual. The Section Chair, Past Chair, and Chair-Elect shall ensure that the Policies and Procedures manual is up to date and secure Council approval for any emendations.

SECTION 4. Newly-elected officers shall assume office on September 1.

SECTION 5. 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 Bylaws, 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 Section Council shall, by majority vote of all fifteen (15) members: a. Authorize Section budgets; b. Authorize Section policies, awards, grants and bylaws revisions; c. Approve members

for Section standing and ad hoc committees; d. Select Section Newsletter Editor(s) and Web Coordinator(s); e. Elect candidates to fill unexpired terms; and f. Approve recipients of Section awards and grants.

ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP

Any member of the American Sociological Association, without regard to the classification of membership, may become a member of the Section.

ARTICLE IV: DUES

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

ARTICLE V: ELECTIONS AND VOTING

The elections of the Section shall be carried out in cooperation with the American Sociological Association and coordinated to their schedule. Members of the Section may be nominated for any office by a petition of ten percent of the members of the Section or 25 members of the Section, whichever is less.

ARTICLE VI. SECTION COMMITTEES

SECTION 1. The Section shall have the following standing committees: Nominations, Membership and Mentorship, Student Concerns, Program, Communications, and Awards, with subcommittees for the Sally Hacker Graduate Student Paper Award, the Distinguished Book Award, the Distinguished Article Award, and the Feminist Scholar-Activist Award. Other committees shall be created by the Chair with the approval of the Council or by the Council on an ad hoc basis. The Council may change the name of any committee.

SECTION 2. There shall be a Committee on Nominations with at least six members, two members of which shall be the outgoing Council members; four others will be selected each year by the Chair, with the advice of the Section Council. The Section Chair and Council will attempt to ensure racial and ethnic, institutional, and geographic diversity. The Past Chair of the Section shall chair this committee. No member shall serve on the Committee on Nominations for two consecutive years. The Committee on Nominations shall present two people for each office to be voted on by the voting members of the Section.

SECTION 3. Awards Committee and Subcommittees

There shall be an Awards Committee chaired by the Chair-Elect and comprised of the chairs of the awards subcommittees. This committee shall oversee the awards process and propose revisions to it as deemed necessary.

There shall be a Sally Hacker Graduate Student Paper Award Committee for the best paper written or published over the past two years. Third-year- of-term Council members will chair the committee. In the event that one of these people is unable to serve, the Section Chair will appoint a chair. Other members of the committees will be appointed by the Section Chair and Chair-Elect and with the advice of Section Council.

The duties of the Sally Hacker Graduate Student Paper Award Committee will be to review submissions and select the winner of the Section's Sally Hacker Graduate Student Paper Award, subject to approval by Council.

There shall be a Distinguished Book Award Committee and a Distinguished Paper Award Committee for the two awards to be given annually for the best book and the best article on gender published in the past two years. Third-year-of-term Council members will chair the two committees. In the event that one of these people is unable to serve, the Section Chair will appoint a chair. Other members of the committees will be appointed by the Section Chair and Chair-Elect with the advice of Section Council. The duties of the Distinguished Book and Distinguished Article Awards Committees will be to review submissions and select the winner of the awards, subject to approval by Council.

There shall be a Feminist Scholar-Activist Award Committee. A third-year-of-term Council member shall chair the committee. In the event that one of these people is unable to serve, the Section Chair will appoint a chair. Other members of the committees will be appointed by the Section Chair and Chair-Elect with the advice of Section Council. The duties of the Feminist Scholar-Activist Award Committee will be to review submissions and select the winner of the award, subject to approval by Council.

SECTION 4. There shall be a Program Committee chaired by the Section Chair and with at least four other members, including the Chair-Elect. Committee members shall be appointed by the Section Chair for staggered two-year terms. The committee shall develop sessions for the annual meeting of the ASA, in cooperation with the ASA Program Committee, and initiate and promote other activities in line with the purposes of the Section, subject to the approval of Council.

SECTION 5. There shall be a Membership and Mentorship Committee chaired by a member of Council and with at least four other members. Committee members shall be appointed by the Section Chair for staggered two-year terms. This committee is responsible for recruiting new Section members and planning mentorship-focused events at the annual conference or throughout the year.

SECTION 6. There shall be a Communications Committee chaired by a member of Council. The Editor(s) of the Section Newsletter shall serve on this committee, along with at least three other members appointed by the Section Chair to serve staggered three year terms. This committee will oversee the production of the Section Newsletter and may initiate and produce other publications in line with the purposes of the Section, subject to the approval of Council.

SECTION 7. There shall be a Student Concerns Committee chaired by the Graduate Student Representatives and with at least three other members. Committee members shall be appointed by the Section Chair for staggered two-year terms. This committee is responsible for ensuring that Council and Section hear and address the concerns of student members of the section.

SECTION 8. All committee Chairs must submit to Section Council an annual report summarizing the past year's activities, plans for the future, and recommendations requiring Council approval. It is the obligation of all new committee chairs to obtain files and records from past chairpersons and, in turn, to pass these on to their successors. These files and records should contain information on such matters as important deadlines, key

contact persons with the Section and ASA, correspondence on any problems facing the Committee and ongoing projects and policies adopted by the committee to facilitate its work.

ARTICLE VII: AMENDMENTS OF BYLAWS

Amendment of the bylaws requires, first, discussion of proposed changes at an annual meeting of the Section; second, approval by a majority of the Council; third, approval by the Committee on Sections and ASA Council; fourth, approval of a majority of those voting in a vote submitted to all Section members.

Bylaws revisions that have occurred: Spring 1989 May 1992
June 1999

June 2000 June 2012 June 2014 Note:

revised Spring 1989 revised June 1999

- Voting members of the Association only shall be eligible to hold office.
- 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.

revised June 2000

Committee on Nominations to have at least 6 members and details on the composition.

revised June 2012

- The section voted to significantly changes the its bylaws. It enlarges the Section Council and details their responsibilities.
- Increases the number of elected Section Council Members at large from six to nine, and
- increases the whole size of the Council to fifteen.
- Formally creates the position of Past-Chair and places this person on the council as an Ex-officio member.
- Establishes a formal requirement that elected officials must maintain current section membership.
- Lists actions the Council can take on a majority vote
- Changes the nomination process for the Committee on Nominations
- Adds a clause awards committees that subject their choices to Section Council Approval
- Creates and assigns responsibilities for committees on Programs, Membership, Publications and Student concerns. All committees will be required to submit reports to the Section Chair.

revised November 2013

Discussion of section officers' duties revised to highlight commitments (to attend Section Council and Business Meetings, strive to improve services to Section members, promote the interests of the Section; and participate actively in Section business) and locate description of particular duties in Section's Policies and Procedures manual.

Members of Sally Hacker Graduate Student Paper Award Committee will be appointed, not elected, bringing Committee into line with other Section practices.

Chair-Elect duties enumerated: chair Awards Committee, help staff awards committees, and participate in updating of Policies and Procedures Manual.

Revised June 2019

"Publications Committee" renamed "Communications Committee"

Revised July 2025