

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF
THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CRIMINOLOGY

PREAMBLE

The Term criminology as used hereinafter refers to all scholarly, scientific and professional knowledge concerning the etiology, prevention, control, and treatment of crime and delinquency, including the measurement and detection of crime, legislation, and the practice of criminal law, the law enforcement, judicial, and correctional systems.

I. Name of the Organization

The name of the society shall be THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CRIMINOLOGY.

II. Purpose and Objectives

- A. To bring together in one multidisciplinary society persons actively engaged in research, teaching, and/or practice in the field of criminology;
- B. To foster criminological scholarship, research, education, and training within academic institutions and within the divisions of the criminal justice system, including public and private agencies concerned with crime, justice, and corrections;
- C. To encourage scholarly, scientific and practical exchange and cooperation among those engaged in criminology;
- D. To serve as a forum for the dissemination of criminological knowledge.

III. The Executive Board

- A. The Executive Board shall administer the affairs of the organization. It shall consist of the following officers as voting members:
 1. The elected officers
 - a. President
 - b. President-Elect
 - c. Immediate Past President
 - d. Vice President
 - e. Vice President-Elect
 2. The appointed officers
 - a. Executive Secretary
 - b. Treasurer
 - c. Editor of CRIMINOLOGY: AN INTERDISCIPLINARY JOURNAL
 3. Executive Counselors, not to exceed nine (9)
 - a. The President, subject to the ratification of the elected officers of the Executive Board, may appoint three (3) Counselors-at-large, each to serve for a one-year term. Counselors-at-large shall serve through the Annual Meeting following their appointment.
 - b. There shall be six elected Executive Counselors.
- B. Committee Chairpersons
Chairpersons of Society committees who are not members of the Executive Board may attend its meetings without having voting rights. Such other persons as the President and Board deems appropriate may also attend upon invitation, without voting rights.
- C. The Executive Board shall:
 1. Form the policies of the Society;
 2. Determine the date and place of the Annual Meeting and outline the program for this meeting;

3. Instruct the Treasurer on criteria for acceptance of all applications for membership in the Society;
4. Ratify the budget for the Society;
5. Audit the accounts and disbursements of the Society;
6. Ratify the appointment of the various Editors of the Society's journal, CRIMINOLOGY: AN INTERDISCIPLINARY JOURNAL, Publications Committee and any other committees of the Society;
7. Fill vacancies on the Board by a majority vote of the Board;

D. The actions of the Executive Board shall be adopted by a majority vote of the Board.

E. A quorum of the Executive Board shall consist of half plus one of the total number of members.

IV. Officers

A. The President

1. Shall be the Chief Executive of the Society, shall represent the Society at formal gatherings, shall preside over the meetings of the Executive Board, shall preside over the Annual Meeting, and shall appoint such committees as deemed necessary.
2. Shall appoint the Executive Editor of CRIMINOLOGY: AN INTERDISCIPLINARY JOURNAL to a three-year term subject to ratification by the Executive Board.
3. Shall appoint the Program Chairperson for the following annual meeting subject to ratification by the Executive Board.

B. Vice President

1. The Vice President shall preside over the meeting of the Society in the absence of the President and shall be empowered to conduct all necessary business of the Society in the event that a vacancy exists in the office of the President, or upon the disability of the President.

C. President-Elect and Vice President-Elect

1. The President-Elect shall become the President at the end of the predecessor's Presidential term of office.
2. The Vice President-Elect shall become the Vice-President concurrent with the President-Elect assuming office.

D. The Executive Secretary

1. The Executive Secretary shall be appointed by the Executive Board for a term of two years.
2. The Executive Secretary shall keep the Archives, records and minutes of the Society.
3. The Executive Secretary shall, following each meeting of the Society or the Executive Board, compile accurate minutes and proceedings of those meetings and forward a copy thereof to each member of the Executive Board.
4. And, shall serve as the recording Secretary of the Society and of the Executive Board at its meetings.

E. The Treasurer

1. The Treasurer shall be appointed by the Executive Board for a term of two years.
2. Shall keep an accurate set of membership rolls, indicating whether each member has paid his membership dues.
3. Shall invoice, receive, and keep all monies due the Society and be prepared at all times to render an account of its income and disbursements, upon request of the President or the Executive Board.
4. Shall draw all warrants of the Society and sign them for payment of the Society's expenses.

F. Qualification of Officers

Any active member of the Society in good standing shall be eligible to hold office after membership of at least one year's duration.

- G. Any officer of the Society may be removed during his/her term by a membership referendum initiated either by three-quarters (3/4) vote of the Executive Board or by a petition of one hundred (100) of the members. Fifty-one percent of the membership shall be required to vote affirmatively for removal to occur.

V. Elections

- A. The President with the approval of the Executive Board shall appoint a Nominating Committee of not less than five (5) individuals to develop a slate comprised of at least two nominees for each office. The Committee shall designate its chair.
- B. The election shall be by mail ballot distributed at least twelve weeks prior to the Annual Meeting of the Society with return due date to be specified by the Election Committee. Candidates for President-Elect and Vice President-Elect each receiving the larger plurality of 40% or more of all votes cast shall be elected. In the event no person receives this plurality, a run-off election by mail will be held between the two candidates who received the most votes. For Counselors, the two candidates who receive the most votes shall be elected. Should resignation, removal or death require that more than two Counselors be elected, the candidate(s) with the next highest number of votes shall be elected.
- C. The announcement of results of the election of officers shall take place during the Annual Meeting of the Society each year.
- D. Newly elected persons shall take office at the close of the Annual Meeting following their election.

VI. Membership

- A. Active members shall be:
 - 1. Those engaged in the discipline of criminology, as defined in the Preamble.
 - 2. Membership shall be achieved upon review of application by the Treasurer.
- B. Student members shall be:
Those studying full time in appropriate disciplines in colleges and universities or in approved training programs of criminal justice agencies.
- C. Honorary members shall be:
Those persons who make exceptional contributions to criminology and are so approved by the Executive Board.
- D. Emeritus members shall be:
Those retired persons who have been active members for not less than ten (10) years and upon whom the Executive Board bestows the title.
- E. Life memberships shall be available to those who have been active members for at least five years and have been approved for such membership by the Executive Board. A certificate acknowledging this status shall be awarded upon receipt of the sum equivalent to ten years dues.
- F. Fellows
The title of Fellow is available to members in good standing who have made significant contributions to the field of criminology and have complied with such standards as are determined by the Executive Board. Fellow awards shall be made each year at the Annual

Meeting and the candidates will be acknowledged by the Society with the awarding of a Certificate at the Annual Meeting. No more than twelve (12) Fellows shall be designated annually. Fellow status shall be achieved only by a majority vote of the Executive Board.

G. Institutional

Institutional membership shall be available to any accredited institution of higher education offering a bona fide degree in the discipline of criminology (as defined in the Preamble, and regardless of the actual designation of the degree's field), or other organizations. Membership will be achieved upon review of the application by the Treasurer and majority vote on the application by the Executive Board.

H. Only active, life members, Fellows, and emeriti shall have Society voting privileges.

VII. Procedure

Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the procedure of the Society during all general and committee meetings, unless otherwise designated.

VIII. Amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws

A. Due notice of proposed amendment to the Constitution having been given, any section of this Constitution may be amended by two-thirds vote of those members who cast a ballot and such ballots shall be by mail.

B. Procedure for Amending the Constitution

1. Proposed amendments must be presented to the Executive Board which shall vote upon the amendment, and then present the amendment to the Executive Secretary.
2. When presented to the Executive Secretary, the proposed amendment must bear the signatures of a majority of the members of the Executive Board, or alternatively, the proposed amendment must bear the signatures of one hundred and fifty members of the Society.
3. The Executive Secretary shall notify the membership of the pending vote and shall arrange for the ballot.

C. Any By-Laws shall become effective when approved by a majority of the voting membership following the same requirements as outlined in regard to the constitutional amendments.

BY-LAWS

Article 1. Executive Board Meetings

Section 1. Executive Board meetings shall be called at the discretion of the President with two weeks written notice, provided to all members by the Executive Secretary.

Section 2. There shall be at least one (1) Board meeting between Annual Meetings.

Section 3. Upon petition by at least 5 members of the Executive Board to the Executive Secretary a special meeting of the Executive Board shall be scheduled within four (4) weeks time.

Section 4. Any member of the Executive Board who will not be able to attend an Executive Board Meeting shall be able to vote by written proxy given either to the President or any other member of the Board.

Section 5. Not less than ten days prior to scheduled Board Meetings, any documents to be viewed at the forthcoming meeting and the agenda shall be mailed to all Board members by the

Executive Secretary.

Section 6. Board Vacancy. In the case of any death or resignation, the President shall appoint an additional Counselor, to complete the term, subject to Executive Board ratification.

Article 2. Membership Dues

- Section 1. The annual dues for active members shall be determined by the Executive Board.
- Section 2. The annual dues for student members shall be determined by the Executive Board.
- Section 3. Life membership shall be a multiple of 10 times the annual dues.
- Section 4. Membership dues shall be paid on or before March 1 of each calendar year.
- Section 5. The annual dues for institutional memberships shall be determined by the Executive Board.

Article 3. Annual Meetings

Section 1. A registration fee may be assessed for participants at the Annual Meeting and other Conferences of the Society. The fee shall be set by the Executive Board and the membership shall be notified by the Executive Secretary or conference director.

Article 4. Publications

Section 1. Journal Publication

The Society shall publish a journal entitled CRIMINOLOGY: AN INTERDISCIPLINARY JOURNAL, which shall be distributed to all members and member institutions in good standing. Additional subscriptions to the journal shall be sold at a rate designated to underwrite at least the actual cost thereof and approved by the Board.

- A. Composition. The Editor shall appoint and be assisted by Associate, Assistant, departmental and other editors, upon ratification by the Executive Board.
- B. Powers. The Editor will supervise selection of materials for the Journal in consultation with other editors. Referee panels for manuscript evaluation and selection will be used.
- C. Term. The Editor is appointed for a three-year term by the President and ratified by the Executive Board. All Assistant, Associate, and department editors shall serve at the pleasure of the Editor.

Section 2. Publications Committee

- A. Composition. A Publications Committee will be appointed by the President with ratification by the Executive Board. It will consist of members of the Executive Board as well as other members of the Society.
- B. Powers. The Publications Committee shall develop editorial and administrative policies for all publications of the Society for approval by the Board.

Section 3. Voting Procedures

- A. Nominations. The Nominations Committee shall oversee development of a slate of officers. The membership shall be notified by mail, inviting nominations two months prior to closing of nominations. Any member receiving thirty-five nominations from fellow members shall be entered on the slate for the office designated. The Nominations Committee, subject to the approval of the Executive Board, may place additional names on the ballot. At least two nominees for each office to be filled must be listed. Also, a place will be provided on the ballot for write-in candidates.

- B. Voting. All members and member institutions in good standing on the first day of the month preceding the mailing of the ballot shall be entitled to vote. Election will be by a majority of all those casting ballots. Voting shall be in such a manner as to protect privacy of choice.
- C. Counselors. Six Counselors shall be elected in the first election held under this constitution. Two shall be elected for three years, two shall be elected for two years, and two shall be elected for one year, according to number of votes received. Thereafter, two Counselors shall be elected annually to serve for three year terms.

Rev. (5/30/81)