

## **BYLAWS**

### **SECTION ON LABOR AND LABOR MOVMENTS**

#### **NAME AND PURPOSE**

The Section shall be known as the Section on Labor and Labor Movements. The purpose of the Section shall be to provide a forum for the full range of work on labor and labor movements (including, but not limited to unions as social movements, work and family, international labor movements, immigration and work/unions, politics and unions, workers' culture, and comparative/historical work), to create networks and graduate mentoring opportunities that will stimulate interaction and increase the rigor and creativity of future work, to bring researchers and applied sociologists together for discussion and debate, to recognize and reward the best work now being done and thereby to encourage future research, and to heighten awareness among section members and the A.S.A. more generally about the research already being conducted in the field. We also have a commitment to provide intellectual support and to maintain an active exchange of ideas and research findings with the labor movement.

All activities of the Section shall be consistent with the policies and procedures for the governance of sections as adopted from time to time by the Council of the American Sociological Association.

#### **MEMBERSHIP**

Membership in the Section is open to any member of the American Sociological Association in good standing, without regard to the classification of membership.

#### **DUES**

Base dues for membership in the Section shall be determined from time to time by the ASA Council. Additional dues may be recommended by the Section Council and shall take effect if approved by written ballot of the members of the Section.

#### **SECTION OFFICERS AND COUNCIL**

The officers of the Section shall consist of a Chair, a Secretary-Treasurer, Chair Elect, and Past Chair. Each officer shall be a member in good standing of the Section and shall be a voting member of the Association.

The affairs of the Section shall be governed by the Section Council, which shall consist of each

of the elected officers of the Section and three at-large members and one student member. The Section Chair shall serve as Chair of the Council. A member of the Section Council shall be a member in good standing of the Section and a voting member of the Association.

### **Election of Officers and Council Members**

Each Section officer and at-large members of the Section Council shall be elected by a written ballot of all voting members of the Section held in conjunction with the annual election of the American Sociological Association. The Executive Officer of the Association shall be responsible for the conduct of the election and the tabulation of ballots. The Nominating Committee shall nominate at least two members in good standing for each office. Current officers are not eligible for nomination to the next term of the same office. 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.

### **Terms of Office**

Section officers shall serve for a term of three years to begin at the conclusion of the ASA Annual Meeting following their election. The Chair Elect shall serve in that position for one-year before automatically succeeding to a one-year term as Chair, followed by a one-year term as Past Chair (making a combined three year term). Each at-large member of the Council shall be elected for a term of three years, to begin with the first annual meeting of the Section Council next following the election. The student member will be elected for a two-year term.

In the first-year election of the Council following establishment of the Section within the ASA, the Chair shall be elected for a two-term year (Chair and Past-Chair). One Council seat shall be identified for a one-year term, one for a two-year term, and one for a three-year term. This will establish staggered terms for the duration.

### **Duties**

**Chair.** 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, shall be responsible for planning the Section's program at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, shall serve as chair of the Program Committee, and shall perform such other duties as may be required of him or her by the Section Council. The Section 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. In the absence of the Secretary-Treasurer, the Section Chair may approve disbursements on behalf of the Section.

**Chair Elect.** The Chair Elect of the Section shall assist the Chair in planning the Section's program at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, shall serve as ex-

officio member of the Program Committee, shall perform such duties as may be required of him or her by the Chair or Section Council, and assume the duties of the Chair in his or her absence.

Past Chair. The Past Chair of the Section shall serve as chair of the Nominations Committee and as chair of the Membership Committee, and shall perform such other duties as may be required of him or her by the Chair or Section Council

Secretary-Treasurer. 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. He or she shall give or cause to be given notice of all meetings, where required, and 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 shall render to the Section Council, upon request, an accounting of all his or her transactions as Secretary-Treasurer and of the financial condition of the Section. The Secretary-Treasurer shall also prepare an annual Section budget for approval by the Section Council. The Secretary-Treasurer shall serve as ex-officio member of the Membership Committee.

Council. 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. The Council shall make decisions by majority rule of its attending members. Questions that are interpreted by the Council to be matters of new program development or policy shall be brought before the membership for discussion. A petition signed by 25 members shall bring any action of the Council, including changes of the Bylaws, to either a ballot vote of all members or a vote of the Section at the business meeting.

Meetings of Council. The Section Council shall hold an annual meeting in conjunction with the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association for the purpose of adopting a budget and such other purposes as the Council shall determine, and it may hold additional meetings as it sees fit. Notice of the time and place of the annual meeting of the Section Council shall be provided to all members of the Section.

A majority of the entire membership of the Section Council shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of any business. The affirmative vote of a majority of the members present at a meeting of the Section Council at which a quorum is present shall be necessary and sufficient to the making of decisions by the Council. Any action required or permitted to be taken at a meeting of the Section Council may be taken without a meeting, provided that three-quarters of all members consent in writing (including e-mail) and set forth in the same writing (or e-mail) the action or decision taken or made. Consent in writing shall have the same force and effect as a majority vote.

Vacancies. Any vacancy among the officers and at-large members of the Section Council shall

be filled by the Section Council until the next election.

## **SECTION COMMITTEES**

Nominations Committee. At the annual meeting of the Section Council, the Council shall appoint a Nominations Committee consisting of three members of the Section membership and the Past Chair who shall serve as chair of the Nominations Committee. The Nominations Committee shall provide an opportunity for members of the Section to suggest persons for these positions. The Nominations Committee shall be responsible for naming two candidates who are section members in good standing for each office to be filled. The names of these candidates shall not be announced until they have consented to run. The Nominations Committee shall also submit to Council the names of members to be considered for appointments.

Program Committee. There shall be a Program Committee of at least four members chaired by the Section Chair and with the Chair Elect as ex-officio member, the remaining members of which are appointed each year by the Section Council. All members of this committee shall be Section members. This committee is charged with arranging and implementing the various events and activities of the Section as authorized by the Section Council, in particular the Section events and activities during the Annual Meeting of the ASA.

Membership Committee. There shall be a Membership Committee of four members chaired by the Past Chair and with the Secretary-Treasurer as ex-officio, the remaining members of which are appointed each year by the Section Council. All members of this committee shall be Section members. This committee is charged with recruitment of new members and communication with standing members.

Awards Committee. There shall be an Awards Committee of four members, two assigned to the selection of the graduate paper award, and two assigned to the selection of the best book or article award. The winners from the previous year will be asked to serve on their respective committees, and Council will appoint the others.

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. Twenty-five members present in person at any meeting of the Section shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. 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 (with the exception of amending these Bylaws—see below).

## **PUBLICATIONS**

There shall be a Section Newsletter issued under the title *In Critical Solidarity* at intervals recommended by Council. The Section Council shall appoint a Section member to serve as Editor of the Section Newsletter. The Editor shall serve for a term of three years.

Section Council shall appoint a Section Webmaster to maintain the Section website. The Webmaster shall serve for a term of three years.

## **AMENDMENTS**

These Bylaws may be altered or amended, or new Bylaws adopted, only by a two-thirds favorable majority vote of those voting at a Section Business Meeting, provided this action is subsequently confirmed by a favorable two-thirds majority vote of those voting in a mail ballot of the Section membership.