

**Bylaws of the Anthropology of Consciousness**  
**A Section of the American Anthropological Association**

ARTICLE I. Name

1. The Section shall be known as the Anthropology of Consciousness (AC), a Section of the American Anthropological Association, hereinafter referred to as AC.

ARTICLE II. Purposes

1. The purpose of AC shall be to advance the study of consciousness in its social and cultural context and to encourage communication of the results of such study.

ARTICLE III. Powers

1. AC shall be autonomous in all matters within its field that are not reserved by the Bylaws of the American Anthropological Association, inimical to the American Anthropological Association's interests, or prohibited by law.

2. AC shall have an elected President, Secretary-Treasurer, Communications Chair, and other elected or appointed officers as set forth in these Bylaws.

3. AC is empowered to determine membership dues.

4. AC shall determine voting requirements on all AC matters.

5. AC may engage in publishing and program activities, appoint editors, committees and other agents, and set publication and program policies appropriate to its purposes.

6. AC shall adopt these Bylaws, consistent with American Anthropological Association Bylaws. AC shall file with the American Anthropological Association Secretary a copy of these Bylaws and Table of Organization.

ARTICLE IV. Membership

1. Membership in AC shall be open to any member in good standing of the American Anthropological Association who supports the above purposes subject to the payment of dues stipulated by the Executive Committee of the Society.

2. AC shall consist of Regular and Associate members. Unless otherwise specified, the term "Members" will refer to both categories of membership.

3. Regular Members shall be limited to those members of AC who annually pay the dues stipulated by the Executive Committee of AC and who are also voting Members of the American Anthropological Association. They are eligible for any elective or appointive office in the Executive Committee of AC and to participate in the scientific program.

4. Associate Members shall consist of non-anthropologists who annually pay the dues stipulated by the Executive Committee of AC and who are also non-voting Associate members of the American Anthropological Association.

5. Student Members of the American Anthropological Association who pay the dues stipulated by the Executive Committee of AC shall be considered as Regular Members.

6. All members in good standing shall receive the publications of AC, shall have one vote in electing officers and Members-at-Large of AC, and may participate and hold office in any number of the Standing or Ad Hoc Committees. All members in good standing shall be eligible to receive all publications of AC, to participate in the program of the annual conference, and to receive a Member discount at the annual conference.

Only Regular Members may participate in the scientific program and receive a discount to the American Anthropological Association meetings.

7. For just cause, a Member may be deprived of membership by a two-thirds vote of the Executive Committee of AC, subject to appeal to the Members at the Annual Meeting.

#### ARTICLE V. Dues

1. The Executive Committee of AC shall set the annual dues of Members and may establish rates for special categories.

2. Any Member in arrears in the payment of dues shall lose all membership privileges.

#### ARTICLE VI. Officers

1. The officers shall be a President, President-Elect or Past-President, Secretary-Treasurer, and Communications Chair.

2. The President shall be the presiding officer of AC, its Representative on the Section Assembly, and shall serve on the Executive Board of the American Anthropological Association in appropriate rotation.

3. The President-elect shall assume the duties of the President in the event of absence, death, resignation or incapacity of the President, and will serve as a member of the Executive Committee.

4. The office of President-Elect shall be filled in November of every third numbered year. He/she will assume the office of President the next year in November and shall serve as President for three years. Then he/she shall serve as Past-President for another one year.

5. The Secretary-Treasurer shall have charge of the records of AC and shall submit a draft budget for the approval of the Executive Committee of AC not less than sixty (60) days before the Annual Meeting.

6. The Secretary-Treasurer shall be elected for a three-year term starting in November of the year elected.

7. The Communications Chair shall be elected for a three-year term starting in November of the year elected.

8. The terms of the President, President-Elect, Secretary-Treasurer, and Communications Chair shall start at the conclusion of the Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association.

#### ARTICLE VII. Executive Committee

1. There shall be an Executive Committee consisting of the President, Secretary-Treasurer, Communications Chair, and either the Immediate Past-President or the President-Elect, and eight (8) Members-at-Large.

2. Subject to directives and limitations imposed by the members of AC, the Executive Committee shall have the authority to make all policy decisions for AC and to execute on behalf of AC all powers and functions defined in these Bylaws.

3. The Executive Committee shall meet at least twice annually, once at the Spring Conference and once at the American Anthropological Association meeting. It may meet additionally at the call of the President or a majority vote of the Executive Committee.

4. The Executive Committee shall make all non-elective appointments and may make interim appointments to fill vacancies in any elective office until the next regularly scheduled election.

5. The Members-at-Large will each serve a ~~two~~ three year term. Elections will be staggered annually so that at least half of the board remains consistent over time.

6. In each election there shall be an At-Large membership reserved for a student member.

7. In each election there shall be an two At-Large memberships reserved for non-anthropologists. The individuals who fill this position must, however, be regular Members of the Society.

8. The Anthropology of Consciousness Quarterly Editor shall serve on the Executive Committee as a non-voting ex-officio member.

9. The Executive Committee may appoint other members to ex-officio membership from time to time.

## ARTICLE VIII. Annual Report

1. At the time of each Annual Meeting, the Executive Committee of AC shall report its activities to the Members and to the Executive Board of the American Anthropological Association. The report shall include the reports of the Secretary-Treasurer, editors of publications, committees, and other agents representing AC.

## ARTICLE IX. Meetings

1. AC shall hold an Annual Business Meeting at the time of the Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association.

2. The place and date of the Annual Meeting shall be disclosed to the Members not less than sixty (60) days in advance of the meeting.

3. The Executive Committee of AC shall appoint a Section Program Chair who shall organize the scientific program of AC.

4. Special meetings may be called by the Executive Committee of AC or upon written request of five (5) per cent of the Members.

## ARTICLE X. Quorum

1. Five (5) per cent of the Members in good standing shall constitute a quorum at the Annual Business Meeting.

2. A majority of the members of the Executive Committee of AC shall constitute a quorum for transacting business.

3. The business of AC shall be transacted by a majority vote unless otherwise provided in these By-Laws.

## ARTICLE XI. Nominations and Elections

1. Candidates for any elective office may be nominated by the Executive Committee of AC by a Nominations Committee, or by Members. All candidates shall be Members in good standing of AC.

2. A Nominations committee of three (3) Members shall be appointed annually by the Executive Committee of AC.

3. The Nominations Committee shall make every effort to nominate at least two (2) persons for the offices of President and Secretary-Treasurer, and at least five (5) persons for the open Members-at-Large positions. These nominations shall be made known to Members at least thirty days before the deadline for returning ballots as established by the American Anthropological Association.

4. Five (5) percent of the Members in good standing may nominate an additional candidate for any office, provided the nomination is received in writing by the Secretary-Treasurer at least sixty (60) days before the deadline for returning ballots as established by the American Anthropological Association.

5. The Secretary-Treasurer shall inform the prospective nominee of the probable extent of the burden of office. A nomination becomes effective only upon filing with the Secretary-Treasurer a statement of willingness and ability to devote such time to the affairs of AC as necessary to the effective execution of office.

#### ARTICLE XII. Balloting

1. A Member in good standing shall be entitled to cast one ballot in any election or referendum.
2. At least thirty (30) days shall be allowed for the return of ballots. Ballots must be received by the Secretary-Treasurer or the American Anthropological Association not later than the stated return date to be counted.
3. The American Anthropological Association office administers and receives election votes, and certifies the results to the Executive Committee of AC.
4. The candidate receiving the most votes for a contested office shall be elected; the Executive Committee of AC shall hold a run-off election within ninety (90) days to resolve allties.

#### ARTICLE XIII. Referenda

1. A referendum may be conducted by digital ballot (Google forms/ SurveyMonkey or equivalent) at any time upon initiation of the Executive Committee of AC, or upon receipt by the Secretary-Treasurer of a petition signed by five (5) percent of the Members in good standing. A majority of votes received shall constitute a favorable vote.

#### ARTICLE XIV. Finances

1. The fiscal year of AC shall be that of the American Anthropological Association.
2. AC shall submit an annual operating budget to the American Anthropological Association Executive Committee which, when approved, shall govern AC activities.
3. The income from the annual dues, Spring conference, investments and other sources shall constitute a working fund, available for operating, publication, conference, and current expenses consistent with the purposes of AC.
4. No financial obligation in excess of funds available in the treasury shall be assumed by the Executive Committee of the Society or any officer on behalf of AC except that for the purpose of this section, estimated receipts from annual dues and other accounts receivable for the current year may be considered as available funds.
5. AC may establish special funds to be administered by or accountable to the American Anthropological Association for purposes AC may designate.

#### ARTICLE XV. Amendment

1. These Bylaws may be amended by the Members by mail ballot, provided that a proposed amendment is approved by two-thirds (2/3) of the votes cast.
2. Amendments may be proposed by the Executive Committee of AC or by five (5) percent of the Members in good standing. The Executive Committee shall have the proposed amendment circulated to the Members and it shall allow thirty (30) days for the return of ballots.
3. The amendments and provisions of these Bylaws shall be effective immediately upon adoption or at a date specified in the proposed amendments and shall supersede and nullify all previous amendments and provisions.

#### ARTICLE XVI. Organizational Knowledge

1. All roles and responsibilities for Officers and Appointed Committee Chairs are detailed in the Anthropology of Consciousness Handbook, kept with other organizational documents under the care of the President and Secretary Treasurer. These files are made available to all Board members.