

SECTION ON SCIENCE, KNOWLEDGE, AND TECHNOLOGY

February 1988, Amended 2019

Preamble

The Purpose of the Section on Science, Knowledge, and Technology is to promote scholarly research and professional activity in relation to the sociology of science, knowledge, and technology. To this end, the Section will sponsor meetings and conferences, newsletters and publications, and other means of communication deemed appropriate by the Council of the Section.

ARTICLE 1 - ELECTED OFFICERS

I. 1 Officers of the Section: The officers of the Section shall be a Chair, a Chair-elect, the immediate Past Chair, a Secretary-Treasurer, and at least six additional Council Members. The Chair shall serve one year. The Chair-elect shall serve for one year, after which he or she will assume the Chair. The Past Chair shall serve one year. The Secretary-Treasurer shall serve for two years. Non-student members of the Council shall serve for two years, with at least two Council seats being vacated each year. At least one Council seat shall be reserved for a graduate student, and graduate students shall serve one-year terms. No member can hold two elective offices simultaneously. Officers must be voting members of the American Sociological Association and members of the Section on Science, Knowledge, and Technology.

I. 2 Powers of the Officers: The Council is vested in principle with the power to carry out all necessary operations of the Section, acting as the representative of the Section. The Council shall make decisions by majority rule of its attending members. Any action of the Section may be brought to a 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.

Between meetings of the Council, decisions requiring immediate attention shall be made by the Chair, in consultation by mail, telephone, or electronic media with members of the Council.

I. 3 Elections and Voting: The elections of the Section shall be carried out in cooperation with the American Sociological Association and coordinated with its schedule. Newly elected officers shall assume office on the day following the annual business meeting of the Section at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association. Newly elected officers may attend meetings of the Council prior to assuming office as nonvoting participants.

I. 4. Vacant Officers: If an elected officer resigns or is elected to another office, his or her office shall be declared vacant. If an elected office is vacated before the

term is completed, it shall be filled through appointment by the Chair for the unexpired term, subject to confirmation by the Council at its next meeting.

1. 5 Changing the Number of Council Members: The number of Council Members may be increased by a majority vote of the Council. The number of Council Members may be decreased by a majority vote by the Council. following a resignation or the expiration of a Council Member's term of office, providing that the total number of Council Members does not become less than nine. This provision may be used in conjunction with Article I.4 to make appointed Committee Chairpersons voting members of the Council during their term of service.

ARTICLE 2 - APPOINTED COMMITTEES

2. 1 Nominations Committee: There shall be a Nominations Committee of at least three members appointed each year by the Council. One members of the Nominations Committee shall be designated by the Council as Chair of that Committee, and the Chair each year shall be a member (but not the Chair) of the Nominations Committee in the following year. At least two candidates will be presented for each office by the Nominations Committee.

2. 2 Program Committee: There shall be a Program Committee consisting of at least three members to be appointed for two-year terms. The Chair-elect of the Section shall serve as Chair of the Program Committee. Other members of the committee shall be appointed by the Committee Chair in concurrence with the Chair of the Section. The purpose of the Program Committee shall be to 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.

2. 3 Communications Committee: There shall be a Communications Committee consisting of at least three members to be appointed for two-year terms. The Chair of the Communications Committee shall serve as Editor of the Section newsletter. Other members of this committee shall be appointed by the Committee Chair with the concurrence of the Chair of the Section and shall serve as Contributing Editors of the newsletter. The purpose of the Communications Committee shall be to prepare a Section newsletter to be distributed to all Section members four times per year through the American Sociological Association. This committee shall also compile periodic reports as requested by the Council of the Section or the Committee on Publication of the American Sociological Association.

2. 4 Liaison Committee: There shall be Liaison Committee, appointed by the Chair of the Section as required to perform liaison functions. The purpose of the Liaison Committee shall be to maintain liaison with other groups concerned with the sociology of science, knowledge, and technology. The Committee may investigate the possibilities for joint activities that are consistent with the purpose of the Section.

2. 5 Other Committees: Other committees may be appointed by the Chair of the Section on an ad hoc basis, subject to approval by the Council.

ARTICLE 3 - ACTIVITIES

3. 1 Annual Meetings: There shall be a Section business meeting and at least one substantive session sponsored by the Section at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association.

3. 2 Other Activities: Other activities shall be undertaken by the Council and the membership as seems appropriate to the purposes of the Section and of the Association.

ARTICLE 4 - MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the Section is open to any member of the American Sociological Association without regard to the classification of membership. Members who do not pay their Section dues shall be dropped from the rolls.

ARTICLE 5 - DUES

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

ARTICLE 6 - BYLAW CHANGES

Proposed changes in these bylaws must first be discussed at an annual business meeting of the Section, then approved by a majority of the Council, and, finally, approved by a majority of the Section members who vote through a mailed ballot that may be distributed with the Section newsletter.