

**Biosociology and Evolutionary Sociology Section**  
**Section By-Laws**  
**2004. Amended 2010, 2020, 2023**

**Mission**

The Biosociology and Evolutionary Sociology Section seeks to advance sociology with tools and knowledge provided by biology and evolutionary theory. Improvement in understanding the implications of biology and evolution for society is crucial for the continued progress of sociology as a social science. The Biosociology and Evolutionary Sociology Section will facilitate this process. Of particular concern is the interplay between material and social environments with human biological states. The section is designed to create a community of scholars within sociology who can critique and develop new research in the area. To this end, the section may sponsor meetings and conferences, newsletters and publications, and other means of communication deemed appropriate by the council of this section.

**Officers of the Section**

The officers of the Section shall be a Chair, a Chair-Elect, a Past-Chair, and a Secretary-Treasurer. The Chair-elect shall serve for one year, after which he or she will assume the Chair. The Chair shall serve for one year, after which he or she will become Past-Chair. The Secretary-Treasurer shall serve for a period of three years.

There shall be a council, consisting of six members each serving for three years, with two council seats being vacated each year. Officers shall not succeed themselves. The Chair, Chair-elect, Past-Chair and the Secretary-Treasurer shall serve as voting members of the Council, with the Chair of the Section acting as Chair of the Council. All Section business will be handled by the Chair, including planning the program for the Annual Meeting of the Association. The duty of the Chair-elect will be to assist the Chair with Annual Meeting planning and to consult with the Chair on recruitment and publicity plans. No member can hold two offices simultaneously or serve more than two terms in any ten-year period as an officer or Council member. If an elected officer is elected to another office, the prior office shall be declared vacant. If an elected office is vacated before the term is complete, it shall be filled through appointment by the Chair for the unexpired term, subject to confirmation by majority vote of the Council. A Publicity Director, Newsletter Editor(s), and Webmaster shall be appointed by the Council and serve ex-officio on it. These three roles can be held by the same or different members during any single year. The person(s) serving as Publicity Director, Newsletter Editor, and Webmaster will be asked upon initial appointment to serve for three years, but this period of service can be extended or shortened by vote of the Council at its annual meeting. Between annual meetings, the Chair can fill any vacancy in these positions by appointment for the unexpired term, subject to confirmation by majority vote of the Council. Only voting members of the Association shall be eligible to hold any office or other official position.

**Powers of the Officers**

The Council shall make decisions by majority rule of its attending members, acting as the representative of the membership of the Section in order to carry out all necessary

operations. Any action of the Section, including changes in the By-Laws, may be brought to the vote of the Section by the Council, or by a petition of 10 percent or twenty-five of the members, whichever is less. Questions that are interpreted by the Council to be matters of new program development or policy shall be brought before the membership for discussion.

### **Elections and Voting**

The elections of the Section shall be carried out in cooperation with the American Sociological Association and coordinated to their schedule. Newly elected officers and Council members shall assume office on the day following the annual business meeting of the Section at the American Sociological Association's Annual Meeting. Newly elected officers and Council members are urged to attend meetings of the Council as non-voting members prior to assuming office.

### **Committees**

There shall be a Committee on Nominations, formed each year at the annual business meeting of the Section. The Nominating Committee shall consist of three members: the Past Chair, one member appointed by the Council, and one elected from the floor at the business meeting. No member shall serve on the Nominating Committee for more than two consecutive years. Two candidates will be presented for each office by the Committee on Nominations. Other Committees shall be appointed by the Chair with the approval of the Council on an ad hoc basis.

### **Membership and Dues**

The membership of the Section is open to any member of the American Sociological Association without regard to the classification of the membership. Members who do not pay their Section dues shall be suspended, and dropped from the rolls after two years.

Dues shall be in accord with minimum requirements as set by the American Sociological Association.