

SECTION ON DRUGS AND SOCIETY

The purpose of the section on Drugs and Society is to encourage and enhance research, teaching, and other professional concerns in the study of alcohol, drugs, and tobacco. The section seeks to promote communication, collaboration, and consultation among scholars in the field of alcohol, drugs, and tobacco studies.

I. OFFICERS OF THE SECTION:

The officers of the Section shall be a Chairperson, a Chairperson-Elect and a Secretary-Treasurer. The Chairperson-Elect shall be Program Chair for the following meeting and shall become Chairperson after one year of office. The Chairperson shall be a member of the Nominations Committee for the following election. The Secretary-Treasurer shall be elected for a period of two years. Officers shall not succeed themselves.

There shall be a Council consisting of a total of seven members. The Chairperson, who shall preside at Council meetings, the outgoing Chairperson, the Chairperson-elect, the Secretary-Treasurer, two elected Council members at large, and the student representative shall serve as members of the Council. The two elected Council members at large will each serve for two years, with one council seat being vacated each year. The student representative will serve a one year term.

No member may hold two elective offices simultaneously. 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 completed, the Chairperson shall appoint a person to fill the remainder of the term, although this appointment shall be subject to confirmation by the Council at its next meeting. If the Chair is vacated it shall be filled by the Chairperson-elect. Officers must be voting members of the American Sociological Association and members of the Section on Drugs and Society.

II. 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 membership of the Section. The Council shall make decisions by majority rule of its attending members. Any action to be made on behalf of the Section will be brought to the Section for a vote if requested by two or more council members. In addition, an action to be made on behalf of the section may be brought to the section for a

vote by a petition signed by 10 percent of the members of the Section or by 25 members, whichever is less.

III. 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 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.

IV. COMMITTEES:

There shall be a Nominations Committee of at least three members appointed each year by the Council. One member 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.

There shall be a Program Committee consisting of at least three members to be appointed for a one-year term. The Chair-elect of the Section shall serve as Chair of the Program Committee. Other members of the committee shall be appointed by the program 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.

There shall be a Publications Committee consisting of at least three members to be appointed for a one-year term. The Chair of the Publications Committee shall serve as Editor of the Section newsletter. Other members of this committee shall be appointed by the Publications Committee Chair with the concurrence of the Chair of the Section, and shall serve as Contributing Editors of the newsletter. The purpose of the Publications Committee shall be to prepare a Section newsletter to be distributed to all Section members through the American Sociological Association. This committee shall also compile periodic reports as requested by the Council of the Section or the Committee on Publications of the Association.

There shall be a 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 drugs and society issues. The Committee may investigate the possibilities for joint activities that are consistent with the purpose of the Section.

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

V. MEMBERSHIP:

The membership of 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.

VI. 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.

VII. BY-LAWS CHANGES:

Proposed changes in these by-laws must first be discussed at an annual business meeting of the Section. Next, the changes must be approved by a majority of the Council through a mailed ballot. Finally, the changes must be submitted to vote of the Section members (through a mailed ballot that may be distributed with the Section newsletter) in which the proposed changes must be approved by a majority of those submitting valid ballots.