

SANA Bylaws

Bylaws of the Society for the Anthropology of North America

a Section of the American Anthropological Association

ARTICLE I. Name

The Section shall be known as the Society for the Anthropology of North America, here after referred to as the Section. The Section was created as a subentity of the American Anthropological Association (here after referred to as the Association) by the Board of Directors of the Association on _____, 1994.

ARTICLE II. Purposes

The purposes of the Section are

1. To provide an institutional framework to advance anthropological research and teaching on North America, recognizing that the United States, Canada, and Mexico comprise an "area" suitable for anthropological study.
2. To encourage and promote anthropological research on North America which spans the discipline and national boundaries.
3. To provide an open forum for the exchange of ideas and information among anthropologists studying North America from within or outside the academy and among anthropologists with different specialties.
4. To foster the systematic analysis of the area within overarching themes, such as ethnicity, race, class, gender, structural inequality, etc.
5. To foster dissemination of the results of North American anthropological research to decision makers and educators to assist in meeting social challenges throughout the area. The Section's "Statement of Rationale" is attached to and is part of these Bylaws.

ARTICLE III. Powers

1. The Section 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. The Section shall have an elected President, Secretary, Treasurer, two At-Large Board Members, and other elected or appointed officers as set forth in these Bylaws.
3. The Section is empowered to determine Section membership dues.
4. The Section shall determine voting requirements on all Section matters.

5. The Section may engage in publishing and program activities, appoint editors, committees and other agents, and set publication and program policies appropriate to its purposes, as approved by the Executive Board of the Association.

6. The Section shall adopt and maintain Bylaws or Rules or Procedures consistent with American Anthropological Association Bylaws, as approved by the Association's Executive Board. The Section shall file with the Association's office a copy of its current Bylaws, Rules or Procedures, and Table of Organization.

ARTICLE IV. Membership

1. Membership in the Section shall be open to any Member in good standing of the Association who supports the above purposes subject to the payment of dues stipulated by the Executive Committee of the Section.

2. A Member in good standing shall be eligible to hold elective or appointive office, participate in the scientific program, receive publications, Section benefits, and have one vote in nominating and electing officers and the transaction of other business of the Section.

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

ARTICLE V. Dues

1. The Executive Committee of the Section shall set the annual dues of Section 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, Past-President, Secretary, Treasurer and two three At-Large Executive Board Members.

2. The President shall be the presiding officer of the Section and shall qualify for service on the Executive Board of the Association.

3. In addition to the above, there shall be an appointed Program Chair, Publications Editor, AN Correspondent, and Membership Chair. There shall also be two appointed Graduate Student Representatives.

4. The Section shall endeavor to seek officers who reflect the diversity of the area.

5. The President-Elect shall assume the duties of the President in the event of absence, death, resignation or incapacity of the President, and shall succeed to the office of President at the expiration of the term as President-Elect.

6. The Secretary shall have charge of the records of the Section.

7. The Treasurer shall submit a draft budget for the approval of the Executive Committee of the Section not less than sixty (60) days before the Annual Meeting.

8. The terms of office of all elected officers shall be two years, with the exception of At-Large Executive Board members, whose terms of office shall be three years. All terms commence commencing at 9 o'clock p.m., on the third day of the Annual Meeting of the Association.

ARTICLE VII. Executive Committee

1. There shall be an Executive Committee consisting of the officers and two members elected at-large from the membership of the Society.

2. Subject to directives and limitations imposed by the Members of the Section, the Executive Committee shall have the authority to execute on behalf of the Section all powers and functions defined in these Bylaws.

3. The Executive Committee shall meet at least once annually, at the time of the Annual Meeting and may meet additionally on the call of the President or a majority vote of the Executive Committee.

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

ARTICLE VIII. Annual Report

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

ARTICLE IX. Meetings

1. The Section shall hold an Annual Business Meeting at the time of the Annual Meeting of the Association.

2. The place and date of the Section's Annual Business Meeting shall be disclosed to the Members no less than thirty (30) days in advance of the meeting.

3. The Executive Committee of the Section shall consult with the Program Chair who shall organize the scientific program of the Society, consistent with the policies of the Association.

4. Special meetings may be called by the Executive Committee of the Section upon written request of five (5) percent of the Members.

ARTICLE X. Quorum

1. Five (5) percent 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 the Section shall constitute a quorum for transacting business.

3. The business of the Section shall be transacted by majority vote of the quorum present unless otherwise provided in these Bylaws.

ARTICLE XI. Nominations and Elections

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

2. A Nominations Committee of three (3) Members shall be appointed annually by the Executive Committee of the Section. Members can suggest individuals to be nominated for office through the Nominations Committee.

3. The Nominations Committee shall nominate at least one person for Secretary and at least two (2) persons for each other vacant office. These nominations shall be made known to Members at least thirty (30) days before the deadline for returning ballots, as established by the 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 at least ninety (90) days before the deadline for the return of ballots, as established by the Association.

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

ARTICLE XII. Balloting

1. A Member in good standing in the Section shall be entitled to cast one ballot in any election or referendum.

2. Ballots shall be secret and enclosed in a signed envelope. The Executive Committee shall have the authority to examine the eligibility of any voter.

3. At least thirty (30) days shall be allowed for the return of ballots. Ballots must be received by the Secretary or designee not later than the stated return date to be counted.
4. A service agency may be engaged to tally the votes and certify the results of the election.
5. The candidate receiving the most votes for a contested office shall be elected; the Executive Committee of the Section shall hold a run-off election within ninety (90) days to resolve ties.

ARTICLE XIII. Referenda

1. A referendum may be conducted by mail ballot at any time upon initiation of the Executive Committee of the Section, or upon receipt by the Secretary of a petition signed by five (5) percent of Members in good standing. A majority of votes received shall constitute a favorable vote.

ARTICLE XIV. Finances

1. The fiscal year of the Section shall be that of the Association.
2. The Section shall submit an annual operating budget to the Association's Executive Board, which, when approved, shall govern Section activities.
3. The income from annual dues and from investments and other sources shall constitute a working fund, available for operating, publication, and current operating expenses consistent with the purposes of the Section.
4. No financial obligation may be assumed by the Section or any of its officers in the name of the Section or Association. No activity, the cost of which is in excess of funds available in the treasury, will be undertaken. Except that for the purpose of this paragraph, estimated receipts from annual dues and other accounts receivable for the current year may be considered as available funds. Such estimates must be included in the annual budget and submitted to the Association Executive Committee for approval.
5. The Section may establish special funds to be administered by the American Anthropological Association for purposes that the Society 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 the Section 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 and shall supersede and nullify all previous amendments and provisions.