

Constitution of the Society for Global Nineteenth-Century Studies

Preamble. The Society for Global Nineteenth-Century Studies is a geographically and disciplinarily diverse network of scholars who share an interest in the world's connectedness between 1780 and 1914.

Article I. Name. The name of this organization shall be the Society for Global Nineteenth-Century Studies (hereafter "the Society").

Article II. Purpose. The purpose of the society shall be to promote polycentric approaches to the study of the period between 1780 and 1914.

Article III. Core Values. The core values of the society are honesty and fairness; mutual trust and respect; high standards of ethics and integrity; diversity and inclusiveness; interdisciplinarity and multidisciplinary; and freedom of inquiry and dissemination of findings.

Article IV. Aims and Objectives. The aims and objectives of the society include the promotion of excellence in teaching, research, and professional endeavors related to the global nineteenth century; the promotion of mentorship and transnational collaborative partnerships; the building of capacity, connections, and dialogue; the promotion of innovation and critical thinking; the promotion of SGNCS's relevance in bringing together the breadth and variety of scholarly activities related to the global nineteenth century; the promotion of SGNCS's growth and sustainability; and the recognition of outstanding work in the disciplines.

Article V. Membership. Membership shall be open to scholars, students, and other persons who study or teach the nineteenth century. Anyone who joins before 1 January 2022 shall forever be known as a Founding Member of the Society.

Article VI. Officers. The officers of the Society between 2021 and 2023 shall be a President/Treasurer, who shall provide periodic reports on the finances, and Vice-President/Secretary, who shall keep minutes of the meetings. Beginning in 2025, the officers of the Society shall be a President, Immediate Past President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Any unexpected vacancy among officers between World Congresses shall be filled from among the elected members of the Council.

The President shall convene and preside at meetings of the Executive Council as well as General Assemblies of the Society. The President shall serve as Chair of the World Congress Program Committee and oversee the execution of the Society's tasks. The Vice-President shall preside at meetings in the absence of the President and shall serve as Chair of the Nominating Committee.

The Secretary shall keep minutes of meetings and serve as Chair of the Membership Committee.

The Treasurer shall maintain the Society's finances and provide updates to the Council and the Membership.

Article VII. Ex-Officio Officers. The Public Engagement Officer shall serve on the Council in an ex-officio capacity and will be responsible for publicizing the work of the Society and maintaining its website and social media accounts. Whenever possible, the onsite organizer of an upcoming World Congress will also serve a two-year term in an ex-officio capacity.

Article VIII. Executive Council. The Executive Council is the governing body of the Society. The Council provides the Society with vision and direction through the formulation of policies and long-term objectives. Between 2021 and 2023 it shall consist of eight individuals who have volunteered to serve in this role. Beginning in 2023, the Executive Council shall consist of twelve individuals elected by the membership.

Article IX. Composition of the Council's membership. No more than two members from any one country may serve on the Council. The at-large membership of the Council must include at least two representatives from each of the following disciplines: literature, history, art history. Two seats shall be reserved for junior members of the profession: a postgraduate representative and an early career researcher who is within five years of obtaining a Ph.D.

Article X. Election of Officers and Council Members. All officers shall be elected for two-year terms, beginning in 2023, as provided in the By-Laws of the Society. All other members of the Council shall be elected for two-year terms, as provided in the By-Laws of the Society, beginning in 2025.

Article XI. Amendments. Beginning in 2025, amendments to the Constitution must be approved by a vote of two-thirds of the members present at a biennial General Assembly of the Society.

Article XII. Payments and Earnings. The Society shall draw from its funds to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to further the Society's aims, including the holding of a biennial congress as well as the publication of a book series and journal. No part of the net earnings of the Society shall be distributable to its Officers, Executive Council members, or to any private persons except in the furtherance of the Society's objectives.

Article XIII. Dissolution Statement. Upon dissolution, the Society's assets shall be distributed to other learned societies that promote the study of the nineteenth century.