

# Historical Society for Twentieth-Century China

## By-Laws

### Article I: Name

The name of the organization is the Historical Society for Twentieth-Century China (HSTCC), herein called the "Society."

### Article II: Mission

As a non-profit professional organization, the Society aims to promote the study of the history of twentieth-century China. In the pursuit of this mission, the Society,

- 1) serves as a bridge for communication among scholars around the world;
- 2) promotes opportunities for scholarly presentations by Society members, through organizing a regular (biennial) conference, sponsoring panels at the meetings of major professional organizations (primarily the Association for Asian Studies and the American Historical Association), and holding other events; and
- 3) encourages publication of scholarship related to the history of twentieth-century China, primarily but not limited to the publication of the journal *Twentieth-Century China*, which is affiliated with the Society.

### Article III: Powers

- 1) The ultimate authority of the Society is vested in its membership. This authority shall be expressed in voting at either the annual membership meeting or through email polls or ballots conducted by the Officers and Board of Directors of the Society.
- 2) The executive authority of the Society rests with its elected Officers and Board of Directors.

### Article IV: Membership

- 1) Membership is open to any person with an interest in the history of twentieth-century China.
- 2) Membership is based the payment of dues, at rates proposed by the Board of Directors and approved by the membership.
- 3) Payment of dues entitles the member to a free subscription to *Twentieth-Century China*.

### Article V: Organization

- 1) Board of Directors
  - a) The Board of Directors shall consist of seven members: The Officers of the Society (President, Vice President, and Secretary-Treasurer), the Editor of *Twentieth-Century China*, the former President, and two at-large members (one of whom will serve as Conference Coordinator).

- b) The former President serves on the Board for two years following the end of her/his term.
  - c) The two at-large members will be elected by the membership to serve two-year terms, and may be reelected for additional terms.
  - d) All board decisions must be approved by at least four members.
  - e) Board members serve without compensation.
- 2) Officers
- a) The Officers of the Society consist of the President, the Vice President, and the Secretary-Treasurer.
  - b) The Vice President shall be elected by the membership for a two-year term. Following this term, the Vice President succeeds as the President of the Society.
  - c) The Secretary-Treasurer shall be elected by the membership for a two-year term, and may be reelected to serve additional terms. The Secretary-Treasurer maintains membership lists, manages the Society's finances, and organizes biennial elections.
  - d) Officers serve without compensation.
- 3) Elections
- a) Elections for the positions of Vice President, Secretary-Treasurer, and at-large Board members will be held biennially by email balloting in February.
  - b) The Secretary-Treasurer shall issue an email call for nominations for these positions in January, at least one month before the date of the February election. Nominations will be accepted from any member of the Society in good standing. Members in good standing may also self-nominate.
  - c) The deadline for the return of ballots shall be two weeks after the issue of the ballots.
  - d) Election results shall be decided by simple majorities.
- 4) Vacancies
- a) If a President is unable to fulfill her/his term of office, the Vice President shall assume the President's office, completing that term as well as his/her own subsequent two-year term as President.
  - b) If the Secretary-Treasurer is unable to fulfill her/his term of office, a special email election shall be held to fill the position. In the interim, the Vice President will take over the duties of the Secretary-Treasurer (including the management of the special election).
  - c) If an at-large Board member is unable to fulfill her/his term of office, the remainder of the Board shall nominate and appoint an acting replacement from the membership until the next regular biennial election.
  - d) If a former President is unable to fulfill her/his post-President term of office as a Board member, the Board should treat this as a vacancy for an at-large member and appoint an additional at-large member to fill out the term.
  - e) If the Vice President is unable to fulfill her/his term of office, a special email election shall be held to fill the position.
- 5) Committees and other positions

- a) The Board of Directors may establish ongoing or ad hoc committees as they deem appropriate. These committees should report to the membership at its annual meeting.
- b) The Conference Coordinator shall be selected by the board from the two at-large board members for a two-year term, and may be reelected to serve additional terms. The Conference Coordinator manages submission of proposals for Society-sponsored panels (for the American Historical Association Annual Meeting and the Association for Asian Studies Annual Meeting) and participates in the organization of the Society's biennial conference.
- c) The Board of Directors may also create and fill other positions (e.g. website coordinator, newsletter coordinator, conference planner, etc.) from among the membership to assist in their work. Such positions may be filled by at-large Board members.

#### Article VI: Meetings

- 1) The annual meeting of the Board of Directors shall be held in conjunction with the Annual Meeting of the Association of Asian Studies. Four members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum for this meeting.
- 2) The Board of Directors will hold periodic business meetings via email as needed. Any member of the board can propose agenda items for email meetings. Email meetings will be called and chaired by the President. Email meetings should include participation by all standing members of the Board.
- 3) The annual membership meeting of the Society shall also be held in conjunction with the Annual Meeting of the Association of Asian Studies. Notification of the time and place of this meeting should be announced to the membership in advance.
  - a) The annual membership meeting shall be chaired by the President of the Society (or the Vice President in case of the absence of the President).
  - b) The annual membership meeting should include a report of the President on the general state of the Society and plans for the Society's biennial conference, a report by the editor of *Twentieth-Century China*, and a report by the Secretary-Treasurer on membership and finances. The Society's board will set the rest of the agenda for the annual membership meeting.
  - c) Changes in the Society's dues structure must be approved at the annual membership meeting.
  - d) Members may propose other business to be addressed at the annual membership meeting through a standing member of the board at least one day prior to the meeting.
  - e) A quorum for the annual membership meeting shall consist of ten members in good standing.
- 4) A business meeting of all attending Society members will also be held at the biennial conference.
  - a) During the business meeting at the biennial conference, the new members of the board, including the officers, will assume their positions. The Society's board will set the rest of the agenda for the business meeting.
  - b) Members may propose other matters to be addressed at the business meeting through a standing member of the board at least one day prior to the meeting.
  - c) A quorum for the business meeting shall consist of ten members in good standing.

## Article VII: Amendments to the Bylaws

The bylaws may be amended at the annual membership meeting of the Society by a two-thirds vote of the present and voting members, as long as a quorum has been achieved.