

# BYLAWS OF THE AAG POPULATION SPECIALTY GROUP

Last amended X, 2009

## Article I. Name and Purpose

1. The name of this organization shall be the Population Specialty Group (PSG) of the Association of American Geographers (AAG).
2. The purpose of this organization shall be to (a) promote research, teaching and service in the general field of population geography; (b) stimulate the exchange of information among members of PSG; (c) encourage the development of population geography as a science and a profession; (d) develop close relations and interchange with other sciences, especially those dealing with population; and (e) develop close relations and interchange with other AAG specialty groups.

## Article II. Membership

1. Membership. The PSG is open to regular members, student members, and associated members. Regular members are those who are AAG non-student members and who pay annual dues to the PSG, generally through AAG. Student members are those who have AAG student membership and pay PSG dues at the student rate. Associate members are those who are not AAG members, but who do pay dues to the PSG. Associate members are not eligible to vote or hold PSG office.
2. On all matters called for action by the membership [PSG] each member shall have one vote. Voting by proxy is disallowed.

## Article III. Officers of the Board of the PSG

1. The officers **of the Board** of the PSG shall be a President, Vice President, immediate Past President, Secretary-Treasurer, the Editor of the PSG Newsletter, **the Chair of the Student Paper Competition Committee**, and three other Members-at-large. ~~of the Board of Directors.~~
2. The term of office for the President shall be one year, preceded by one year as Vice President and followed by one year as Past President; for the Secretary-Treasurer, the **Editor of the PSG Newsletter, and the Chair of the Student Paper Competition Committee**, three years; and for ~~Board~~ Members-at-large, three years. The Secretary-Treasurer, ~~and~~ the Newsletter Editor **and the Chair of the Student Paper Competition Committee** may be re-elected to succeed themselves, but no other officers may succeed themselves in the same office without at least one year intervening between terms. The terms of ~~Board~~ Members-at-large shall be so maintained as to provide for staggered terms.

3. The President shall preside at all business meetings of the PSG, serve as chairperson of the Board, ~~to~~ exercise supervision over the affairs of the PSG, serve as an ex-officio member of all committees, and perform such other duties as may properly be required of the President by vote of the Board or of the membership.
4. The PSG Past President, for the year following his/her term of office as the President, shall serve on the Board and carry out such other duties as may be delegated by the President.
5. The PSG Vice President shall serve as a member of the Board, shall preside in the absence of the President, ~~and~~ shall carry out such other duties as may be delegated by the President, **and will normally organize the PSG Plenary.**
6. The Secretary-Treasurer shall serve on the Board, shall keep the records of all meetings of the PSG and the Board, shall have custody of all funds and property of the PSG, shall collect dues from Associate Members, shall collect any special dues that may be voted in accordance with Article VIII of these Bylaws, and shall make disbursements as authorized by the PSG Board ~~Executive Committee~~ or as legally required of the group.
7. The ~~Board~~ Members-at-large shall advise the President on current PSG issues and shall carry out such other assignments as may be properly imposed by the President or **PSG Board Executive Committee**. For example, the newest Member-at-large **will normally be responsible for** ~~may be asked to take a major role in~~ organizing PSG sessions at the AAG annual meeting.
8. In the case of the death, incapacity, or resignation of the President, the Vice President shall become President. The vacancy left by the Vice President shall not be filled until the next regular election. In the case of the death, incapacity, or resignation of any other officer (except in the case of the President-Elect becoming President), the ~~Executive Committee~~ board shall, by majority vote, elect a successor to serve until the next annual meeting of the PSG.
9. **Upon completion of a three-year term as Member-at-large, that person will ascend to the position of Vice President.**

#### **Article IV. Board of Directors**

- ~~1. There shall be a Board of Directors of the PSG, consisting of the President, Vice President, the [immediate] Past President, the Secretary-Treasurer, the four Members-at-large, and chairpersons of all standing and ad hoc committees.~~
- ~~2. Members at large shall serve terms of three years, except for those elected at the first election whose tenure may be fewer than three years in order to establish staggered terms. The other members of the Board shall serve for the duration of their terms of elected office or appointment.~~

- ~~3. The Board shall exercise general supervision over the affairs of the PSG, legislating such policies as may seem proper to the interests of the group. It shall use mail ballots whenever they are deemed appropriate in matters affecting specialty group policy. Actions of the Board are subject to reversal by a majority vote of the members present and voting at an annual meeting or voting by special mail ballot.~~

#### **Article IV. Nominations and Elections**

1. Elections for officers and Members-at-large of the Board of the PSG shall take place at the annual business meeting of the group and shall be determined by majority vote of members attending. Nominations and elections shall be conducted in general accordance with the rules and procedures of the AAG. If unusual circumstances require it, the Board may hold an election by mail **or electronic** ballot.
2. Nominations shall be solicited from the membership through regular channels of communication.
3. At its discretion, in order to broaden representation as to field of interest, geographic location, sex, institutional affiliation, age, etc. of the officers of the group, the Board may place one additional name on the ballot for each office for which election is being held.
4. Before a nominee is placed on the ballot, his/her willingness to be a candidate must be confirmed by the Board.
5. Officers and Members-at-large of the Board shall assume office on the first day following the close of the annual meeting at which their elections are announced, and shall hold office until their successors are elected and assume office ~~[in their stead]~~. If an officer or Member-at-large of the Board fails to accept his/her election, that place shall be filled by action of the Board under Article III, Section 8, of these Bylaws.

#### **Article VI. Meetings**

1. The annual business meeting of the PSG shall take place during the annual convention of the AAG and in the same locality. The group shall seek to coordinate its program with and participate in the program of the AAG, and shall transact such business and arrange for such activities as are proper to its aims.
2. Other meetings may be called, as are considered appropriate and feasible, by action of the Board.
3. A quorum shall consist of those members present and voting at the annual business meeting and at any other properly called and announced meeting.

#### **Article VII. Committees**

1. The committees of the PSG shall consist of such standing committees as may be specified in these Bylaws and such special committees as may be created by the President with the advice of the Board or established by vote of the voting membership.
2. Committees shall serve for terms designated by the President with the advice of the Board. Their membership shall be determined by appointment by the President, subject to the provisions of these Bylaws, with the approval of the Board.

#### **Article VIII. Dues and Assessments**

1. Annual dues for the PSG paid to the AAG by PSG members revert to the group as determined by AAG regulations. Dues and assessments for Associates shall be established by the PSG Board.
2. The PSG Secretary-Treasurer shall **audit the collection of dues by the AAG** ~~collect the dues and assessments~~ from all those to whom such dues and assessments apply, except those whose dues are remitted to the PSG by AAG.
3. Changes in assessments shall be recommended by the PSG ~~Executive Committee~~ **Board** and shall be decided by a majority vote of those Members voting at an annual meeting or by mail **or electronic** ballot of the members. Dues and assessments may be levied against all members.

#### **Article ~~IX~~XVIII. Amendments**

1. The PSG, by vote of two-thirds of the voting membership present at any annual meeting, or by a majority vote of the membership voting on a mail **or electronic** ballot, may adopt such amendments to these Bylaws as have been (a) read at the preceding annual meeting, or (b) mailed to the voting membership at least two months prior to the vote, or (c) published in an appropriate communication of the PSG, at least two months prior to the vote.

#### **Article IX. Enabling Action**

1. These Bylaws shall be in force when the AAG and the Board of its presently established Population Specialty Group have approved them.