

CONSTITUTION
OF THE
OKLAHOMA COUNCIL FOR THE SOCIAL STUDIES
Revised February 4, 2006

ARTICLE I -Name, Purpose, and Affiliations

Section 1. Name

This association shall be known as the Oklahoma Council for the Social Studies. Social studies is considered by this Council to include anthropology, archaeology, civics, economics, geography, government, humanities history, law, philosophy, psychology, religion, and sociology.

Section 2. Purpose

The purpose of the Council shall be to improve the teaching of social studies in Oklahoma and to foster recognition of the social studies as central to education in a democratic society through developing and maintaining communication with university departments of education and the foundation disciplines of the social studies-and providing professional meetings.

Section 3. Affiliation

The Council shall be affiliated with the National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS). The Council will provide collaborative framework for the purpose of facilitating communication and cooperation among social studies organizations.

ARTICLE II -Membership, Dues, and Meetings

Section 1. Membership

Membership in the Council is open to all persons interested in the teaching and promotion of the social studies.

Section 2. Member Dues

Any change in the amount of annual dues shall be voted on by the membership.

Section 3. Annual Meeting

The Council shall conduct an annual meeting for the purpose of conducting business. The time and place of this meeting shall be determined by the Board. The president shall call additional Council meetings as needed, and the Council

may cooperate with other professional organizations in sponsoring joint meetings.

ARTICLE III – Governance

Section 1. Governance

The governance of the Council shall be vested in its membership. Policies and objectives shall be implemented by the Officers, Executive Committee and Board in compliance with the provisions of this Constitution.

Section 2. Executive Committee

The Executive Committee of the Council is composed of the following Officers: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and NCSS Delegate .

Section 3. Elections

The Officers shall take office on January 1 and serve until December 31. Members of OCSS may run for any office by submitting a filing form to the NCSS delegate. The Elections Committee shall disseminate candidate information, seek candidates for open positions, and conduct elections. Elections will be conducted by mail or electronic means. The entire Council membership will be involved in the elections. The Board is authorized to enact such policies and procedures to implement voting of the entire Council membership.

Section 4 – Terms of Office

- A. President, Secretary and Treasurer will be elected for a two year term.
- B. The Vice-President and the NCSS delegate will be elected for a one year term.
- C. No member may serve as an officer for more than five consecutive years.

Section 5. Duties of Officers

The duties of the Officers are as follows:

A. President

The President shall call and preside at all meetings of the Council, shall be responsible for all agendas at meetings of the Council; shall appoint standing and ad hoc committees and shall be ex officio member of all committees. All vacancies, except for the President, shall be filled by appointment of the

President with the approval of the Executive Committee. The President shall chair the Legislative Committee.

B. Vice-President

The Vice-President shall coordinate the Annual Conference and chair the conference planning committee. The Vice-President shall succeed to the presidency to complete an unexpired term in case of a vacancy.

C. Secretary

The Secretary shall keep minutes of all Council, Executive Committee and Board meetings and all other records of the Council. Minutes will be provided at the next meeting of the appropriate body. The Secretary shall be the chair of the annual Awards committee. The Secretary will be responsible for transferring Council records to the next elected/appointed Secretary.

D. Treasurer

Dues shall be paid to the Treasurer of the Council. The Treasurer shall keep all monies of the Council, expend money with the prior approval of the Executive Committee or the membership, have the financial records of the Council audited by an outside agent prior to the annual conference. The Treasurer shall make an annual financial report to the membership and shall make current reports at all meetings of the Board. All checks shall be signed by the Treasurer and/or a member of the Board. The treasurer shall be bonded at the expense of the Council. The treasurer shall maintain a current database of Council members and provide updated rosters as directed by the President.

E. NCSS Delegate

The NCSS delegate shall serve as Council representative in the NCSS House of Delegates. In addition, this person will oversee the parliamentary procedure and general order of council meetings, as well as oversee the annual elections.

F. Qualifications for Office

Officers and members of the Board shall be members in good standing of both OCSS and NCSS.

Section 6. Executive Committee Powers

The Executive Committee shall have the power to conduct all business of the Council between meetings of the Board, including the expenditure of money.

Section 7. Board Composition

The Board shall consist of the Executive Committee and the Members-at-Large. The President may also appoint as affiliate members of the Board representatives of other professional organizations with the approval of the Executive Committee. Voting rights on the Board shall also be exercised by any Council member in good standing at the time he or she attends his or her third Board meeting.

A. Open Meetings

Board meetings shall be open to any Council member who wishes to attend.

B. Board Meetings

Notice of Board meetings shall be posted on the Council's website and advertised in Council publications.

C. Quorum/Rules of Order

Fifty percent of elected officers are necessary to constitute a quorum for Board meetings. Roberts' Rules of Order (revised) will be used for conducting Council meetings.

Section 8. NCSS House of Delegates

The Council shall be represented in the NCSS House of Delegates by the NCSS Delegate. When the Council is eligible for additional representatives, the officers will serve in the following order: President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. The Secretary and Treasurer shall serve as alternate delegates. Should additional delegates or alternates be required, the President shall appoint same from the members of the Board. Any member who receives OCSS funds to attend a conference shall be expected to report to the Board and the membership, as well as give a presentation at the annual conference.

Section 9. Standing Committees

A. Committees

There shall be five standing committees, as necessary: Elections, Legislative, Finance, Communications, and Conference Planning. Each committee shall consist of a minimum of three members.

B. Responsibilities of Committee Chairs

The chairpersons of all Council standing and ad hoc committees shall make reports at the annual meeting.

ARTICLE IV – Amendment

This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds majority vote. Notice and copy of the proposed amendments shall be provided to the membership at least 30 days prior to the annual conference at which time an open hearing will be conducted. Proposed amendments to the Constitution may be submitted to the elections committee by any member. Proposed amendments will be submitted to the Council membership to be voted upon at the same time and means as the election of the officers. Amendments to the Constitution will become effective immediately upon passage by a 2/3 majority vote of the membership casting ballots.

ARTICLE V -- Distribution of Funds, Limitations of Activities, and Dissolution

Section 1. Distribution and Limitation of Funds

No part of the net funds of the Council shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its members, Officers, or other private persons except that the Council or the Board shall be authorized and empowered to make payments and distributions in the furtherance of the purposes set forth in Article I of this Constitution.

Section 2. Prohibitions for the Use of Funds

No substantial part of the activities of the Council shall be the carrying on of propaganda, and the Council shall not participate in or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Constitution, the Council shall not, to any substantial degree, engage in any activities or exercise any powers that are not in furtherance of the purposes of the Council.

Section 3. Dissolution of Council

Upon the dissolution of the Council, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a State or local government for a public purpose to be determined by the Executive Committee.