

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE
SLAVIC COGNITIVE LINGUISTICS ASSOCIATION

As adopted at the SCLC-2014 Business Meeting, February 15, 2014

CONSTITUTION

Article I. Name and Purpose

1. Name — This organization shall be called the “Slavic Cognitive Linguistics Association”, henceforth “the Association”, and shall be abbreviated as “SCLA”.
2. Purpose — The Association pursues a fourfold mission:
 - 1) To promote Cognitive Linguistics, and particularly to encourage graduate students and junior faculty to pursue research on the Slavic languages in the framework of Cognitive Linguistics;
 - 2) To encourage and support training in research methodologies, including experimental methods, data collection, corpus methods, and statistical analysis;
 - 3) To encourage practical application of Cognitive Linguistics, particularly in the development of pedagogical materials for the teaching of Slavic languages;
 - 4) To encourage interdisciplinary applications of Cognitive Linguistics, particularly in the area of literary analysis.

Article II. Membership

1. Qualifications for Membership — Anyone expressing an interest in research on the Slavic Languages within the framework of Cognitive Linguistics is eligible to become a member of the Association.
2. Membership Privileges — The following membership privileges are restricted to members alone: voting and holding office in the Association; presenting papers at Conferences of the Association; participating in Association Committees.

Article III. Officers and Committees

1. Officers — The elective officers of the Association shall be a President, Vice-President/President-Elect, and a Past-President.
2. Executive Council
 - a. The Executive Council shall consist of the President, the Vice-President/President-Elect, and the Past-President. The President shall be the Chair of the Executive Council. The President may invite other individuals to participate in meetings or discussions of the Executive Council as appropriate.
 - b. The Executive Council shall administer the affairs of the Association. Actions of the Executive Council shall be subject to review by all the members of the Association present at the annual Business Meeting. The Executive Council shall meet in conjunction with each conference, and the Officers shall ensure that minutes of that meeting are taken, circulated, approved, and archived.

3. Term of Office — All officers are eligible to serve a term of at least three years. Terms shall normally commence upon approval by a vote of Association Members present at the Business Meeting of the annual Conference. The Term of Office shall normally conclude three years later at the Business meeting of the annual Conference for that year. After the initial three year term, the Term of Office may be extended as agreed to by a vote of Members present at the annual Business Meeting of the Association. If the Term of Office is thus extended, it shall remain in effect no longer than until the next Business Meeting of the Association, during which a further extension must be approved by a vote of Members present at the Business Meeting or a new three-year Term of Office must begin following the election of new officers.
4. Succession to Office — After serving the Term of Office, the President becomes Past-President and the Vice-President/President-Elect becomes President for a new Term of Office. A new Vice-President/President-Elect shall be elected from among the members of the Association by a vote of Members present at the annual Business Meeting of the Association and will commence the Term of Office with the other Officers of the Association.
5. Vacancy in Office — If at any time an office becomes vacant before the occasion of the Business Meeting at the annual Conference, then the remaining members of the Executive Council may initiate the Nomination and Election of a new Officer to fill the vacancy.
6. Nomination and Election of Officers and Normal Operating Procedures
 - a. Nomination for Office — The Executive Committee may nominate candidates for any vacant office and shall ask for nominations for any vacant offices from among the members of the Association. Nominations may be made in advance of the annual Conference and Business Meeting.
 - b. Elections — Elections shall normally consist of a vote by Association Members to be held during the Business Meeting of Association Conferences. The President may arrange for a vote by other means in the event that an office becomes vacant and is in need of replacement in between regular meetings of the Association.
 - c. Voting — Voting may take place by written secret ballot, a voice vote of Association members, or by collection of votes by electronic mail or other means as deemed appropriate by the President.
 - d. Important Decisions — All decisions of substantial importance, as determined by the Executive Council, shall be submitted for a vote at the annual Business Meeting or through other means as necessary.
 - e. Quorum — A quorum of fifteen members in good standing is required to conduct substantive business.
7. Standing Committees and Other Committees
 - a. Website Committee — The Executive Council shall discuss and the President shall appoint an Association member to maintain the Association's presence on the Internet through an Association website. The Website Committee chair may be held by a member of the Executive Council or appointed from among the

Association's members. The Website Committee Chair shall maintain content for the Association as directed by the President.

- b. Conference Committee — The Executive Council shall discuss and the President shall appoint a Conference Committee Chair who shall be responsible for organizing the annual Conference. The Conference Committee Chair may be held by a member of the Executive Council or by another Association member serving as the local host in the city where the Conference is being held. The Conference Committee Chair shall be responsible for conducting duties through the end of the annual Conference and until all business related to that Conference has been completed.
- c. Other Committees — The Executive Council shall discuss and the President shall have authority to establish other Standing or ad hoc committees as needed by the Association.
- d. Term of Office for Committee Chairs and Committee Members — Except as provided elsewhere, Chairs of Standing Committees shall normally be appointed by the President for a three-year term. The Chairs shall then appoint additional committee members as needed. Committees, Chairs and all Committee Members must be approved within one year by the Executive Council. Any vacancies in Standing or ad hoc committees shall be discussed by the Executive Council and filled by decision of the President.

Article IV. Meetings

1. Annual Conference — The Association shall meet at regular intervals at a time and place chosen by the Executive Council. Under normal circumstances, the Association shall hold a Conference during each calendar year. The Executive Council may decide to hold the annual Conference independently as sponsored by the Association or as part of a conference organized by or in conjunction with another organization.
2. Name of Annual Conference — The Association's Conference shall be called the "Slavic Cognitive Linguistics Conference" for that year and shall be abbreviated as "SCLC" plus an indication of the conference year, e.g., SCLC-2010.
3. Business Meeting — A Business Meeting shall be held at each Conference at which Association business and events shall be discussed. The President is responsible for conducting and preparing an agenda for the Business Meeting. Any member of the Association may propose to the Executive Council matters to be included in the agenda. Matters of new business may be proposed and discussed at the Business Meeting.
4. Other Meetings, Workshops, and Conferences affiliated or sponsored by the Association may be established and organized through the approval of the President after discussion by the Executive Council.
5. Content and Program for Meetings — The Executive Council shall be responsible for ensuring that the content and program of each Meeting sponsored by the Association are in accord with the purposes of the Association

Article V. Fiscal Policy

1. Fiscal Year — The fiscal year shall begin on July 1st each year.

2. Membership Dues — The Association does not charge any dues for membership in the Association. This policy may be amended as needed through the normal amendment process.
3. Fees for Conferences, Workshops, and other Meetings may be charged and collected as needed in order to finance those events. Fees shall be set by decision of the Executive Council in conjunction with the Committee Chair or other organizing representative for each such event.
4. Budgets — The Budget and Financing of all Association events and endeavors shall be discussed by the Executive Council and approved by the President.

Article VI. Amendments and Enabling Clause

1. Amendment Process — The members of the Executive Council, or any group of 10 members may petition that the Constitution be amended. When approved by at least two-thirds (2/3) of the Executive Council, the amendment shall be submitted for a vote of those members present during the annual Business Meeting. If submitted during the annual Business Meeting, a two-thirds majority of members present at that meeting will suffice to ratify the amendment.
2. Publication of the Constitution — A copy of the current Constitution, bearing the date ratified, shall be available at the Association's Website.
3. Enabling Clause — This Constitution shall be effective immediately after approval by a two-thirds majority of those voting upon it during the annual Business Meeting.

Amendments

- I. When deemed more appropriate for advancing the needs of the Association, the Executive Council may postpone the annual Conference such that at least two Conferences take place within three calendar years. (Proposed and accepted at SCLC-2012, Zagreb, Croatia; fully ratified and amended to the previous 2010 Constitution at SCLC-2014).