



## **CONSTITUTION OF THE ASSOCIATION FOR CULTURAL ECONOMICS INTERNATIONAL**

### **ARTICLE I**

The name of the organization shall be The Association for Cultural Economics International (or ACEI)<sup>4</sup>.

### **ARTICLE II PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES**

1. The purpose of the Association is to promote scholarly investigation of issues involved in the economics of cultural activities and to provide opportunities for sharing the results of this research among members of the academic community, the community of arts and heritage organizations, the community of arts practitioners, the community of the artists, and other interested parties.
2. The objectives of the organization include the sponsorship of regular events including international conferences, workshops and seminars of scholars, administrators, and practitioners for the purpose of sharing needs, discoveries, and information of mutual benefit; to promote the regular publication of on-going research; to encourage individual research involving students at all levels; to recognize outstanding achievements in any of the fields of investigation included in the Association; and to engage in such other activities that promote world-wide interest and activity to research on the various aspects of cultural economics<sup>4</sup>.
3. For purposes of the constitution, the definition of cultural economics is based upon that used by the Journal of Cultural Economics. The Executive Board may review the definition of cultural economic and adjust this accordingly from time to time as the topics and areas within the field of cultural economics develops over time. <sup>4</sup>
4. The definition of cultural economics as at April 2022 is as follows: *Cultural economics is the application of economic analysis to all of the creative and performing arts, the heritage and cultural industries, whether publicly or privately owned. It is concerned with the economic organization of the cultural sector and with the behavior of producers, consumers and governments in that sector. The subject includes a range of theoretical and empirical approaches on the economics of the arts and creative industries as well as interdisciplinary approaches related to public policy, institutional economics, economic history, art history and other social sciences.* <sup>4</sup>

**ARTICLE III  
ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE**

1. Membership and Affiliation

1.1 Membership<sup>4</sup>

- 1.1.1 Regular membership is available to anyone who indicates an interest in the purposes and objectives of the Association expressed by joining the Association through the payment of membership dues. Regular membership is available at either full or reduced rate for a various time periods defined by the Executive Board and revised from time to time as appropriate. Upon expiration regular membership will ceases unless renewed by the member. If regular membership lapses it may be renewed by payment of membership fees.
- 1.1.2 Life membership will be granted to Officers of the Association (Past President and Executive Secretary / Treasurer) upon the expiration of their term in office. Life membership grants membership to the ACEI including all membership benefits except for access to the Journal of Cultural Economics in print or via e-access. Past officers wishing to have individual access to the Journal will need to pay for this at cost.
- 1.1.3 Institutional memberships are available to organizations and institutions under terms to be defined by the Executive Board and revised from time to time as appropriate.
- 1.1.4 Honorary Fellowships (formerly known as Distinguished Fellows) may be awarded to individuals who will qualify by reason of their outstanding accomplishments in the fields of cultural economics and/or by reason of the unusual contribution to the work of the Association. The Executive Board shall have the authority to designate Honorary Fellows. Any member of the Association may propose to the Executive Board the name of the prospective Honorary Fellow. Any new Honorary Fellow(s) will be announced during the General Assembly of the biennial conference. Honorary Fellows will be entitled to Honorary membership that includes ongoing complimentary full regular membership privileges and a fee exemption on registration to participate in any ACEI sponsored events such as the biennale conference or any regional workshops.

1.2 Sections and Affiliation<sup>4</sup>

- 1.2.1 Country and/or regional sections may be formed and affiliated with the Association upon petition to the Executive Board by members of the Association residing or employed in a particular country or region that seek the formation of a new country or regional section. Any country or regional sections will bear the name, Association for Cultural Economics (identification of the country or region) expressed in the language appropriate to that country or region. The Executive Board shall have authority to grant or deny any petition make to establish a country/regional section.
- 1.2.2 Such petition should include a cover letter communicating the reasons for organizing the section and a constitution which must be approved by the Executive Board for its consistency with the purpose and objectives of the Association for Cultural Economics International. A majority of the votes from the Executive Board will be sufficient to ratify a petition.
- 1.2.3 An organization already constituted with purposes and objectives consistent with those of the Association may propose an affiliation with the Association in the same manner as current members may propose the organization of a section (as

provided in 1.2.1 and 1.2.2). Such affiliate organizations will be designated by a section identifier name that includes "The Association for Cultural Economics" within its name and which is expressed in the language that is appropriate to the organization.

1.2.4 Membership with a country/regional section is independent of membership with the Association for Cultural Economics International.

1.2.5 The ACEI Executive Board shall have authority to set policy around the ongoing rules and management applicable to affiliated country/regional chapters of the Association which may change as determined by the ACEI Executive.

## 2. The Executive Board<sup>4</sup>

2.1 The Executive Board will consist of the elected officers of the Association, the President, the President elect, the immediate Past-President', the Executive Secretary/Treasurer, and nine (9) additional members elected by ballot of the membership. No more than four (4) of these nine elected members of the Executive Board may represent the same country. The members of the Executive Board must be current members of the Association in good standing. While no quotas apply diverse representation on the ACEI Executive Board is strongly encouraged. The Board should strive for a broad representation of the membership base in terms of gender, age and geography.

2.2 The duties and responsibilities of the members of the Executive Board have been defined in the various sections of this constitution.

2.3 Each elected member of the Executive Board will hold office for a period of six years. The initial composition will include one-third elected for a two-year term, one-third elected for a four-year term, and one-third elected for a six-year term. The terms of each initial member will be determined by lot.

2.4 In the event that more nominees are approved to run for office than vacancies on the Board an election will be held to determine who shall hold office. The election of members to the Executive Board will be accomplished by ballot distributed to members no later than one month after the adjournment of the ACEI's General Meeting at that year's biennial conference. A plurality of the ballots returned in favor of the election of any nominee will be sufficient to elect a member to the Executive Board. The election will be coordinated by the Executive Secretary / Treasurer. Preferential voting will be used to determine the election outcome. Results of the election will also be audited and checked by the Chair of the Nominating Committee (who must be independent from the Executive Board) ahead of the election result being formalised and announced.

2.5 Nominees for membership on the Executive Board will be designated by a committee of three (3) members, including a Chair of the Nominating Committee, who do not serve on the Executive Board but who are appointed to form the Nominating Committee by the Officers of the Association. Nominees seeking election will be invited to express interest and will also require endorsement by at least 2 current members of the Association. The name of a nominee will also be placed on the ballot provided the nomination request eligible and received within two weeks of the adjournment of the ACEI's General Meeting at that year's biennial conference. Any nominee to the Executive Board must be a current member of the Association and have been a member for at least one of the previous two years prior to nomination.<sup>2a,b</sup>

2.6 A vacancy on the Executive Board occurs when an elected Board members term ends, or when an elected Board member resigns, or when an elected Board member assumes one of the Officers of the Association roles (e.g. President-elect). When a vacancy arises out of cycle with the main conference, members of the Executive Board may by majority vote determine who will temporarily fill the vacancy until the next election is held.

### 3. Officers of the Association

3.1 The Association has two elected officers, the President and President-Elect. The President-Elect is elected by ballot administered in accordance with the procedures for the Executive Board (Article III, paras. 2.4 and 2.5). Candidates for President-elect must currently be members of the Association and have been members for three of the last four years, and should be endorsed by at least two members of the Association.

#### 3.2 The President

3.2.1 The President of the Association will preside over all general sessions of the Association and over each meeting of the Executive Board.

3.2.2 The President of the Association will serve for a period of two (2) years and will assume office at the end of the biennial conference.

3.2.3 It is the intent of the Association that the presidency should rotate regularly among nationals of different countries.

#### 3.3 The President-Elect

3.3.1 The President-Elect will serve in the place of a vice-president and will replace the President in the event that office is vacated before the regular term expires.

3.3.2 The President-Elect of the Association will serve for a period of two (2) years that will begin following announcement of the election result. Following the General Assembly of the Biennale conference the President-Elect will assume the Presidency.

3.3.3 The President-Elect is responsible for the scientific program of the upcoming conference before they assume Presidency. <sup>4</sup>

#### 3.4 The Executive Secretary/Treasurer

3.4.1 The Executive Secretary/Treasurer will be recruited by the Executive Board from a list of nominees. The list of nominees may include names of persons which have been submitted by individual members of the Association or which nominees, themselves, have proposed.

3.4.2 The Executive Board will select the Executive Secretary/Treasurer based on the qualifications of the nominee and the character and extent of support guaranteed by the institution with which the nominee is affiliated.

3.4.3 The duties of the Executive Secretary/Treasurer will include at least the following:

3.4.3.1 Maintenance of all financial records;

3.4.3.2 Maintenance of all membership records;

3.4.3.2 Administration of all financial resources;

- 3.4.3.4 Conduct of any business not indicated above but essential to the day- to-day operations of the Association as determined by the Executive Board.
- 3.4.3.5 Maintain records of each meeting of the Association and each meeting of the Executive Board and distribute such minutes to members of the Association or members of the Board as appropriate.
- 3.4.4 The Executive Secretary/Treasurer will be compensated for the time spent in activities assigned by the Association. The amount of this compensation will be determined as needed by the Executive Board.
- 3.4.5 The Executive Secretary/Treasurer will serve for a period of two (2) years beginning at the time a vacancy occurs in this office. The person so selected may be reappointed by the Executive Board at its pleasure.
- 3.5 Intra-Term Vacancies
  - 3.5.1 Vacancies in any of these offices may be filled on an interim basis by majority vote of the Executive Board. Persons appointed in this way to fill an elected office in the Association will serve until the next regularly scheduled election is held for members of the Executive Board (Article III, paras. 2.4 and 2.5). An election by the Association's members will be held at that time for a permanent replacement to complete the remainder of the original term.
- 3.6 Removal of an Elected Officer<sup>1</sup>
  - 3.6.1 An elected officer of the Association can be removed from office under exceptional circumstances. The removal must be approved by at least two- thirds of the members of the Executive Board. The created vacancy will be filled in accordance with paragraph III.3.5.1 of this constitution.
- 3.7 Support and benefits for Office Bearers<sup>4</sup>
  - 3.7.1 Reasonable expenses associated with attendance at the biennale conference will be covered/reimbursed under terms to be defined by the Executive Board and revised from time to time as appropriate for the President-elect and the Executive Secretary / Treasurer. These expenditures will require Executive Board approval and will be determined on a case-by-case basis. In the case of such expenditures covered by the ACEI these shall be reported and declared against officers within ACEI financial reports.
  - 3.7.2 The President will have all reasonable travel and registration costs of attending the biennale conference covered by the conference host. The President is expected to give a Presidential Address as part of the official conference program.
  - 3.7.3 At the end of all serving officers terms', the officers are entitled to life membership of the Association (see Article III section 1.1.2)
  - 3.7.3 Past Officers of the Association are expected/encouraged to serve as ambassadors of the Association.
- 4. The Communications Board<sup>4</sup>
  - 4.1 The Executive Board may appoint an appropriate number of members of the Association (including members from the Executive) to serve on the ACEI Communications Board.
  - 4.2 The ACEI Communications Board will serve terms of office that are appropriate to the interest of the individual appointees and also agreed to by the Executive Board.

- 4.3 The ACEI Communications Board will be responsible for the communications of the Association. All communications issued on behalf of the Association must support the purpose and objectives of the Association.
- 4.4 The Commutations Board will be allocated budget (approved by the Executive Board) to be used to assist in achieving stated communications targets. At the end of each funding cycle (year) performance will be reviewed and also plans/targets for the upcoming period will be considered in determining the allocation of funding and to ensure communication objectives and targets are being achieved

#### **ARTICLE IV OPERATIONS**

- 1. Conferences <sup>4</sup>
  - 1.1 The Association will arrange for biennial conferences (or other such timing as the Executive Board will have authority to decide from time to time) in continuation of the series of International Conference on Cultural Economics which began in 1979.
  - 1.2 Each conference will be held in a country at the invitation of individual members, groups of individual members, organizations, or government agencies in the host country. The person or persons extending the invitation will constitute the site selection committee. This committee will be responsible for all local arrangements for the conference.
  - 1.3 Potential hosts for the conference will submit an Express of Interest with the host being formally announced no more than 18 months in advance of the intended/proposed date of the conference which traditionally is late June/early July.
  - 1.4 When multiple Expressions of Interest to host a conference are made the decision will be determined by vote of the ACEI Executive Board. In the event of a tied result the President will have authority to determine the host.
  - 1.5 Local organizers of the conference are responsible for the conference budget which must be well-balanced, without compromising the funds of the Association. In special circumstances the Association may provide financial assistance when deemed appropriate by the Executive Board (such as assisting with cost of hosting in a LDC or to sponsor a special session) <sup>4</sup>.
  - 1.6 The Association is also responsible for three (3) prizes awarded at the conference (including payment of prize money and determining prize winners). The prizes are: The Presidents' Prize, the Pommerehne Prize and the Víctor Fernández Blanco Prize.
  - 1.7 In the case of extraordinary earnings, these shall be shared equally between the host institution and the Association.
- 2. Country/Regional Workshops <sup>4</sup>
  - 2.1 Workshops on Cultural Economics may be arranged by local groups of members during the interim period between conferences for residents of the country or region in which the local workshop will be held.
  - 2.2 In order to use the name, ACEI, in promoting such local workshops, these workshops must be proposed to the Executive Board who will consider the appropriateness of the topics to be undertaken and the appropriateness of the format and local arrangements in terms of the purposes and objectives of the Association.
  - 2.3 The Association will extend its permission to the local group of members when the Executive Board has approved the proposal by majority vote.

- 2.4 The Association will only provide financial support to hosts organizing regional workshops when this is expressly requested and is deemed reasonable by both the Executive Secretary / Treasurer and President in advance of the workshop being held. It is also expected that workshop hosts will report outcomes from the workshop to the Board following the workshop <sup>4</sup>.
- 2.5 In addition to regional workshops other interim country/regional events the ACEI may support include: seminars, special sessions or streams at conferences and other events deemed suitable by the ACEI Executive Board <sup>4</sup>.
3. Communications <sup>4</sup>
  - 3.1 ACEI Communications will be overseen by the ACEI Communications Board. This Board will be Chaired by a member of the ACEI Executive and will include the President and Executive Secretary / Treasurer plus up to 5 members from the ACEI membership who will contribute to some agreed aspects of the Associations communications.
  - 3.2 The Chair and members of the Board will be appointed by invitation from the President on an annual basis and terms may be renewed.
  - 3.3 In addition to regular periodic meetings, the Chair of the Communications Board will report to the ACEI Executive at the annual Board meeting.
  - 3.4 Areas of communication include (but are not limited to): social media, seminars, website, newsletters, working papers and other ACEI publications and communications.
4. Journal <sup>4</sup>
  - 4.1 The *Journal of Cultural Economics* is the official journal of the Association.
  - 4.2 The operation of a journal or the nature of any special relationships between the journal and the Association shall be determined by the Executive Board.
  - 4.3 It is expected that one or both co-editors of the Journal will attend meetings of the ACEI Executive Board and provide an annual report on matters pertaining to the Journal.
5. Administration Operations
  - 5.1 Administration of the business of the Association will be assigned to the Executive Secretary/Treasurer of the Association. It will be the responsibility of that officer to maintain all records of the Association including its membership lists, its mailing lists, and its financial records.
  - 5.2 The administrative functions of the Association will be located at a site that is appropriate to the activities of the Executive Secretary/Treasurer.
  - 5.3 The location for the administrative functions will require certain kinds of institutional support that should be sought and formalized ahead of the Executive Secretary / Treasurer assuming office.
6. The Association for Cultural Economics International will cooperate with related professional organizations for mutual benefit. Possible relationships include, but are not limited to, joint sponsorship of conferences and cooperatively produced or edited publications.

## **ARTICLE V**

### **FINANCING**

1. Dues <sup>4</sup>
  - 1.1 Dues payable by members will be set by majority vote of the Executive Board after hearing budget proposals from the Executive Secretary/ Treasurer of the Association and will be reviewed periodically.
  
2. Other Funding <sup>4</sup>
  - 2.1 Other funding may be solicited from time to time as appropriate to the purpose and objectives of the Association.
  - 2.2 Such funding will be solicited only after the Executive Board has reviewed the source of funds, the granting agency, and the proposal for its/their consistency with the purpose and objectives of the Association.
  
3. The Association's treasury will be located in a financial institution chosen by the Executive Board and which is convenient to the Executive Secretary/Treasurer.

## **ARTICLE VI**

### **STANDING COMMITTEES**

1. The following standing committees may be formed at the discretion of the Executive Board based on the requirements for conducting the operations of the Association. The duties and responsibilities for each of these committees will be designed by the Executive Board as appropriate to the function of each committee. <sup>4</sup>
  - 1.1 The Conference Planning Committee
  - 1.2 The Nominating Committee
  
2. Other such committees as will facilitate the execution of programs and operations of the Association.

## **ARTICLE VII**

### **ADOPTION AND AMENDMENTS**

1. This constitution of the Association for Cultural Economics International will have been adopted when a majority of those individuals who participated in the organizing session held at Fort Worth, Texas, on October 25, 1992, have voted to approve this constitution.
2. Amendments to this constitution may be proposed by majority vote of the Executive Board or on petition by at least ten (10) percent of the enrolled membership of the Association.
3. A proposed amendment will be submitted to the entire membership of the Association from the Executive Board.
4. An amendment to this constitution will be accomplished following a vote by the membership whereby a majority of votes received support or accept the proposed changes. All current ACEI members will be invited to vote and a proposal will be ratified when at least one-half of the total votes received endorse



the proposal <sup>4</sup>.

5. Members will have up to 2 months to submit their vote to the Executive Secretary/Treasurer concerning proposed changes to the constitution. The deadline for receipt of such ballots will be established by the Executive Secretary/Treasurer and communicated to eligible members (voters) <sup>4</sup>.
6. The Executive Board will propose as quickly as is feasible a set of bylaws concerning necessary procedures and items not included in this constitution.

#### **ARTICLE VIII DISSOLUTION AND ASSET DISPOSITION**

1. In the event of the dissolution of the Association, all remaining assets will be dispersed to another organization whose purpose and objectives are as nearly related to those of this Association as possible.
2. The determination of the consistency of such an organization will be made by the Executive Board in conjunction with the decision to dissolve the Association for Cultural Economics International.
3. The actual disposition of the assets of this Association will be accomplished by the Executive Secretary/Treasurer of the Association as that person's last official act.

#### **ARTICLE IX TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS \***

1. Notwithstanding any other provisions of these articles, the organization is organized exclusively for one or more of the purposes as specified in Section 501 (c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and shall not carry on any activities not permitted to be carried on by an organization exempt from Federal income tax under IRC 501(c)(3) or corresponding provisions of any subsequent tax laws.
2. No part of the net earnings of the organization shall inure to the benefit of any member, trustee, director, officer of the organization, or any private individual (except that reasonable compensation may be paid services rendered to the organization), and no member, trustee, officer of the organization or any private individual shall be entitled to share in the distribution of any of the organization's assets on dissolution of the organization.
3. No substantial part of the activities of the organization shall be carrying on propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation (except as otherwise provided by IRC 501(h) or participating in, or intervening in (including the publication or distribution of statements), any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any candidates for public office.
4. In the event of dissolution, all the remaining assets and property of the organization shall after payment of necessary expenses thereof be distributed to such organizations as shall qualify under section (501(c)(3) of the internal revenue code of 1986, or corresponding provisions of any subsequent Federal tax laws, or to the federal government or State or local government for public purpose, subject to the approval of a Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of New York.
5. In any taxable year in which the organization is a private foundation as described in IRC 509(a), the organization shall distribute its income for said period at such time and manner as not to subject it to tax under IRC 4942, and the organization shall not (a) engage in any act of self-dealing as defined in IRC 4941 (d), (b) retain any excess business holdings as defined in IRC 4943 (c), (c) make any investments in such a manner as to subject the organization to tax under IRC 4944, or (d) make any taxable expenditures as defined in IRC 4945 (d) or corresponding provisions of any subsequent Federal tax law.
6. While items 1-5 in Article IX apply specifically to the case of the US, in the case that the Executive Secretary / Treasurer is located in another jurisdiction the appropriate legal provisions relevant to that

jurisdiction where ACEI finances are located will apply. As the role of Executive Secretary / Treasurer rotates it is expected that finances will be transferred also. The Executive Secretary /Treasurer will be expected to ensure that all relevant legal and financial accountabilities pertaining to the Associations status are adhered to and these shall be reported to the ACEI Executive Board <sup>4</sup>.

\*These amendments were adopted January 18, 1994.

(February 1996, revisions by amendment December 1994)

(May 2001, amended, December 2000)

1. Amended October 2003

2.a Amended April 2006

2b. Amended September 2006 to clarify April 2006 amendment

3. Amended September 2006

4. Proposed amendment added February 2022. Note deletions have also been processed as part of the amendments made in February 2022 with the following removed from the previous version of the constitution: Article III, 1.1.5 Charter memberships; Article III 4. The Publications Board has been replaced by the Communications Board; Article IV 3. Publications has been replaced by Communications; Article V standing committees no longer used (membership, finance, affiliation review, scholarship and awards, educational support) removed.

**Proposed amendments (4) to constitution accepted:**

Trine Bille  
President



\_\_\_\_\_  
(signature)

June 16, 2022

\_\_\_\_\_  
(date)

Luis Cesar Herrero  
President-elect



\_\_\_\_\_  
(signature)

16, June 2022

\_\_\_\_\_  
(date)