

# **SOCIETY FOR RESEARCH IN CHILD DEVELOPMENT CONSTITUTION**

## **ARTICLE I Names and Purposes**

Section 1. The Society shall be known as the Society for Research in Child Development. The purposes of the Society shall be to stimulate and support research, to encourage cooperation among individuals engaged in the scientific study of child development, to encourage applications of research findings, and to do anything reasonably in furtherance of, or incidental to, the foregoing.

## **ARTICLE II Membership**

Section 1. Any individuals who have contributed or furthered research in child development shall be eligible for membership. The forms and conditions of membership are set forth in the By-Laws, Article I.

## **ARTICLE III Officers and Council**

Section 1. The elected officers of the Society shall be a President, a Past President, a President-Elect, and a Secretary. The President-Elect and the Secretary shall be elected directly by the electorate of the Society. The President-Elect shall serve for two years and shall then automatically become President. The Secretary shall serve for a six-year term not to coincide with the term of the Executive Officer. The Past President shall serve for two years immediately following the conclusion of a term as President.

Section 2. The Council shall be the governing body of the Society, subject only to delegation of functions to other individuals or to committees, as provided in the Constitution and By-Laws.

Section 3. The Council shall consist of thirteen voting members: four *ex officio*, nine members-at-large; and one nonvoting student representative. The *ex officio* members shall be the President, Past President, President-Elect, and Secretary. Six members-at-large shall be elected for staggered six-year terms, with two elected each biennium. Three members-at-large shall be appointed by the Council for staggered six-year terms, with one appointed each biennium. The student representative shall be elected for a two-year term each biennium. No member-at-large shall be eligible for election, re-election, appointment, or re-appointment to the Council as a member-at-large until two years after the expiration of a previous term.

Section 4. The Council shall be responsible for the formulation of policy and for general supervision of the affairs of the Society. It shall call regular and special meetings of the Society. It shall have the power to fill vacancies in its elective membership resulting from death, resignation, or failure to elect, such appointees to hold office until the next biennial election. It shall be authorized to interpret the Constitution and By-Laws. When the Council is not in session, the Secretary may make such temporary rulings as are necessary, subject to review by the Council at its next meeting. The Council shall appoint and may remove by majority vote the Executive Officer and the Editors of publications sponsored by the Society for terms to be determined by the Council.

Section 5. A majority of the members shall constitute a quorum of the Council. When the Council is not in session, questions may be submitted by mail to all members of the Council for their vote.

Section 6. The President of the Society shall chair the Council, and the Secretary of the Society shall be Secretary of the Council.

**ARTICLE IV**  
**Official Publications**

Section 1. The Society shall issue such regular or occasional publications as it deems necessary in achievement of its purposes.

**ARTICLE V**  
**Meetings**

Section 1. The President shall call at least one general meeting of the Society each biennium at a time and place to be determined by the Council. At each biennial meeting there shall be at least one business meeting at which the Officers and Council shall report to the Society and respond to questions from the membership.

Section 2. At the business meeting, a majority of the voting members present may: (a) place items on the agenda of that business meeting and (b) pass courtesy resolutions. If at least seventy-five members of the electorate are present, a majority can place items on the agenda of the Council.

Section 3. Special business meetings of the Society shall be held at any time upon call of the Council or upon the call of one-fifth of the electorate of the Society. The Council shall determine the time and place of such special meetings.

Section 4. Notice, in writing, for every regular or special business meeting shall be mailed to each member of the Society no fewer than fifteen days before any such meeting, and if for a special meeting, such notice shall state the object or objects thereof.

**ARTICLE VI**  
**Committees**

Section 1. The Council may establish such committees as may be necessary in the management of the affairs of the Society.

**ARTICLE VII**  
**Special Funds and Endowments**

Section 1. The Society may solicit and receive special funds and endowments. Acceptance and expenditure of such funds shall be authorized by the Council.

**ARTICLE VIII**  
**Amendments**

Section 1. The Constitution may be amended by the affirmative vote of two-thirds of those casting ballots in a referendum submitted by mail to the electorate of the Society.

Section 2. Amendments may be proposed by the Council/or by petition of at least five percent of the electorate of the Society.

Section 3. Any proposed amendments of the Constitution shall be transmitted to the electorate at least forty-five days prior to the vote on the amendment.