

International Society for the Studies of Chinese Overseas

Constitutions and Bylaws

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I NAME

The name of the organization shall be The International Society for the Studies of Chinese Overseas, Incorporated (ISSCO). The Chinese name of the organization shall be Shijie Haiwai Huaren Yanjiu Xuehui.

ARTICLE II PURPOSES

The purposes of the society shall be (a) to form a scholarly, nonpolitical, and nonprofit professional organization of all persons interested in and committed to the study of Chinese overseas; (b) to promote interest in and scholarly study of Chinese overseas in schools, universities, professional organizations, government agencies, and community organizations; (c) to promote cooperative activities and exchange of information within the field of the study of Chinese overseas; (d) to facilitate contact and exchange of information between scholars and scholarly organizations interested in such studies; (e) to provide means for the publication of scholarly research and other materials designed to promote such studies; (f) to support library and museum projects designed to enhance research in such studies; (g) to advance widespread recognition and constant improvement of professional standards in the study of Chinese overseas; and (h) to organize and support national and international forums or conferences on topics related to the study of Chinese overseas.

ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Membership shall be open to all individuals and institutions committed to the purposes of the society and shall be divided into such classes as may be defined in the Bylaws.

Section 2. Members in good standing and with voting rights, as defined in the Bylaws, may vote at the Membership Meeting and at such special Membership Meetings as may be called by the Board of Directors as prescribed in the Bylaws.

Section 3. Only members in good standing and with voting rights are eligible to hold elected or appointed offices.

Section 4. Membership dues shall be paid annually, except by those classes of members exempted by the Bylaws.

ARTICLE IV BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The society shall be governed by a Board of Directors, the constitution and election of which shall be as provided in the Bylaws. The Board of Directors shall have authority to execute

on behalf of the society all powers and functions of the society that are consonant with the Constitution and Bylaws.

ARTICLE V REGISTERED HEADQUARTERS AND AGENT

The registered headquarters of the society shall be located in an internationally recognized or accredited institution of higher education or of research, as designated by the Board of Directors and provided in the Bylaws.

ARTICLE VI LANGUAGES

The business of the society shall be conducted in English. Chinese, Spanish, and other languages may be used in scholarly conferences and publications sponsored by the society, preferably with translation into English, if such service is available.

ARTICLE VII AMENDMENTS

Section 1. These articles in the Constitution may be amended by the members by mail ballot, provided that a proposed amendment is approved by a majority of the votes cast.

Section 2. Amendments may be proposed by the Board of Directors or by five (5) percent of the Members in good standing. The Board of Directors shall have the proposed amendment circulated to the Members and it shall allow sixty(60) days for the return of ballots.

BYLAWS OF THE SOCIETY

ARTICLE I ORGANIZATION

Section 1. The International Society for the Study of Chinese Overseas (ISSCO) is a general membership organization consisting of individual members.

Section 2. The society shall create, designate, or recognize and disassociate or dissolve affiliated regional groupings established with the similar purposes as the society.

(a) Such grouping above shall adopt and maintain its own bylaws or rules of procedure consistent with the society's Bylaws, elect or appoint its own officers, and engage in publishing and program activities appropriate to its purposes.

(b) Such grouping shall contribute regularly news and information to ISSCO bulletin or newsletter and shall submit an annual report to the Board of Directors of the society.

