

STATUTES

of the

International Federation for Research in Women's History / Fédération Internationale pour la Recherche en Histoire des Femmes

NAME

The name of the organization is International Federation for Research in Women's History / Fédération Internationale pour la Recherche en Histoire des Femmes (IFRWH/FIRHF).

LANGUAGES

English and French are the working languages of the Federation.

PURPOSE

The International Federation is organized as a not-for-profit educational and charitable organization.

The purpose of the Federation is to encourage, promote, and coordinate, at an international level, studies and scientific, scholarly research in women's history, during all periods and from all perspectives. The Federation intends:

- To work for exchange of information and publications;
- To encourage or support international congresses and more restricted meetings of scholars;
- To promote and support individual and collective high-quality research projects submitted to the Federation by its members, by other organizations, or by individual scholars, and to encourage publication of the results of such projects;
- To encourage the formation of national committees of professional scholars working on women's history.

MEMBERSHIP

National Committees representing individuals, societies, institutes, or other organizations, using all their efforts, or a considerable part of their efforts in scientific research on women's history may become members. National committees joining the Federation and approving the statutes of the Federation before 15 April 1987, the date of the founding of the Federation, are considered the original members of the Federation.

After that date any national committee filling the above-mentioned qualifications and applying for admission, may be accepted as a member by a two-thirds majority vote, by mail or in meeting, of the members of the Council. They may vote upon being accepted as members.

Membership may be terminated by a two-thirds majority vote of the Council, either on request (resignation) of the member or for non-payment of dues, or for committing an act prejudicial to the interests and purposes of the Federation.

ORGANIZATION

Council

The Federation will be governed by a Council consisting of a delegate (i.e., the president or director or other authorized representative) from each of the national committees. Every national committee of the Federation disposes of one vote in the Council.

The Council will meet at least once per five years, during a Business Meeting at the international conference organized by the International Committee of Historical Sciences/ Comité International des Sciences Historiques (ICHS/CISH). During the interim, the Council will mainly function by correspondence, but can call meetings when necessary, by notifying delegates at least two months in advance. At least two-thirds of the delegates must be represented, in person or by written proxy, in order to constitute a quorum.

Decisions concerning the Federation may be made by mail or in meeting. Routine decisions will be made by a simple majority (51%) of those present at meetings. An absolute majority (51% of the full Council) is required for mail votes. Changes to the Statutes will require a two-thirds majority vote of full Council.

Executive Board

The Executive Board consists of a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary-Treasurer, and at least two but no more than nine others. The Secretary-Treasurer's address will be the official address of the Federation for the duration of their term of office.

The Executive Board will be responsible for the routine administration of the Federation, for regularly informing national committees of the work of the Federation, and for soliciting the input and votes of the Council, as required by the Statutes. In the case of mail ballots, the Executive Board must make assurances that materials have been received in a timely fashion.

Officers and other Board Members will be elected by a simple majority vote (51%) of Council members present at a meeting, or by an absolute majority in the case of a mail ballot. Officers will serve for a period of five years. The other Executive Board members may serve a second five-year term; during the second term they may serve as Officers.

An Officer or Executive Board member may be dismissed for reasons of severe neglect of duty or the commission of an act prejudicial to the purposes of the Federation by a two-thirds vote of the full Council.

In case of the resignation or dismissal of a Board member, the remaining members may function at their reduced number provided there are no fewer than five continuing members, or they may ask the Nomination Committee to name a replacement to finish out the term. The replacement candidate may be elected to two complete terms, in addition to serving as a replacement.

In the case of the resignation or dismissal of an Officer, the other Executive Board members may name a replacement from among one of their number, or they may request that the Nominating Committee name the new Officer who will serve out the remaining term.

Committees

A Nominating Committee of five members shall be elected by the Council. The Nominating Committee will request each National Committee to submit names and information about individuals (including a statement of their willingness to serve) from among their membership for consideration as Officers, members of the Executive Board, and/or members of the Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee shall then prepare the slate of individuals for the next election, identifying a geographically diverse group of individuals for the Council's vote.

The Council may establish other standing (permanent) committees and determine their membership, in order to oversee specific scientific projects and activities. The Executive Board may establish ad hoc committees, for a maximum of five years.

RELATIONS WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

The Federation is associated with the International Committee of Historical Sciences/Comité International des Sciences Historiques (ICHS/CISH). As an Affiliated International Organization, it is represented at the General Assembly of ICHS/CISH by a voting delegate, who may be accompanied by a non-voting associate delegate. Delegates to the ICHS/CISH will be the President and one or two other officers, or another delegate to the Council appointed by the Executive Board.

FINANCES

National Committees are required to pay an annual contribution to the Federation in order to enable the Federation to administer the affairs of the Federation and to pay the annual contribution that is required by the ICHS/CISH. The annual fee shall be negotiated between the National Committee and the Executive Board based on the needs of the Federation and the means of the National Committee.

The Executive Board shall submit an annual financial report and budget for the upcoming year to the Council for approval by a majority (51%) of those present, or represented by a proxy, at a meeting or by an absolute majority in the case of a mail vote.