

**Bylaws of The Renaissance Society
California State University, Sacramento**

Article I: Name

The name of this organization shall be THE RENAISSANCE SOCIETY of California State University, Sacramento.

Article II: Purpose

The Renaissance Society shall be a participatory and self-directed group that furthers the intellectual pursuits of its members within the setting of the university community.

Article III: Relationship to CSUS

A. The Renaissance Society shall be a membership organization under the administrative auspices of the California State University, Sacramento (CSUS), and associated with the College of Social Sciences and Interdisciplinary Studies, CSUS. It shall function in accordance with these Bylaws as approved by the President of CSUS or a designated representative.

B. An executed Memorandum of Agreement, dated February 14, 2003, describes the partnership between the Renaissance Society and the College of Social Sciences and Interdisciplinary Studies. Either party, with 60 days prior notice, may terminate the partnership at any time.

C. CSUS shall provide to the Renaissance Society and its membership such physical facilities and auxiliary services as are essential to the proper functioning of the Renaissance Society within available resources.

Article IV: Membership

A. Membership shall be open to all senior persons who subscribe to the purpose of the Renaissance Society and are willing to abide by the provisions of these Bylaws and have paid their dues.

B. No person shall be excluded from membership based on color, ethnicity, religion, sexual preference or physical impairment.

C. All members of the Renaissance Society are eligible to vote in any general or special meeting of the membership.

D. The Dean of the College of Social Sciences and Interdisciplinary Studies, CSUS, shall be an ex-officio, non-voting member of the Renaissance Society.

Article V: Dues

Membership dues are set by the Board of Directors and shall be payable at the beginning of the fiscal year, which shall run from July 1 to June 30. Members joining the Society after January 1 may pay one-half (1/2) the regular dues, plus a nominal processing fee, for their first semester. All dues must be paid before members may participate in Renaissance activities.

Article VI: Officers and Members-At-Large

A. The elected officers shall be the President, Vice President, Secretary and Controller.

B. There shall be six Members-at-Large elected by the membership to serve on the Board of Directors.

C. The officers and members-at-large shall be elected by ballot at the May general meeting of the membership. If a single slate is presented, and there are no nominations from the floor, voting may be by a show of hands. All elected officers shall assume their positions on the succeeding July 1st. The term of office for President, Vice President, Secretary and Controller shall be for one year and/or until successors are elected. The term of office for the Members-at-Large shall be for two years and/or until successors are elected.

D. If deemed appropriate by the Board of Directors, voting on measures or candidates may be conducted by mail. Ballots must be returned by at least one-third of the membership to be

considered a valid election. Procedures for a mail ballot shall conform to those set forth in the Society's parliamentary authority.

E. Vacancies in the positions of the elected offices shall be filled by appointment of the President, with the approval, by majority vote, of the Board of Directors. In the case of simultaneous vacancies in the offices of President and Vice President, the Board shall elect, by majority vote, a President Pro-Tem to serve until the end of the current term.

Article VII: Duties of Officers

The duties of officers shall be as follows:

The President shall:

1. Act as Chief Executive Officer for all operations of the Renaissance Society.
2. Preside over all general meetings of the membership and meetings of the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors.
3. Develop agendas for the meetings of the Executive Committee, the Board of Directors and general meetings of the membership.
4. Seek implementation of decisions reached by the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors.
5. Report to the membership at all general meetings on the activities of the Society.
6. Appoint all committee chairs.
7. Be an ex-officio member of all standing committees except the Nominating Committee.

The Vice President shall:

1. Assume the duties of President in his/her absence and, in the case of a vacancy, fill the office of president until the end of the current term.
2. Assist the President in carrying out all functions of his/her office.

The Secretary shall:

1. Handle correspondence on behalf of the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee and any such secretarial matters as directed by the Board.

The Controller shall:

1. Oversee all Renaissance Society financial affairs in accordance with the CSUS Foundation and any such financial tasks as required by the Board.
2. Present a proposed budget for the fiscal year (July 1-June 30) no later than the June meeting of the Board of Directors.

Article VIII: Board of Directors

A. The Board of Directors shall be the policy-making body of the Society. All decisions shall be consistent with CSUS policy. The Board shall adopt by a majority vote such Standing Rules as are necessary to carry out the objectives of the Society.

B. The voting members shall consist of the elected officers; the immediate past president; the elected members-at-large; and the chairs of all standing committees.

C. The Dean of the College of Social Sciences and Interdisciplinary Studies, the Associate Vice President of Finance and Financial Services and/or a designated representative from these offices or the office of the President, CSUS, shall be ex-officio non-voting members of the Board.

D. Notices of Board meetings and copies of Minutes of all meetings shall be sent to ex-officio Board members.

D. The Board of Directors shall meet at least ten (10) times a year. Meetings shall be open to the general membership.

F. A majority of voting members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum.

G. The Board of Directors may establish non-voting liaison and any other ancillary roles as needed for the well-being of the Society. These positions shall be filled by appointment by the president.

Article IX: Committees

A. The Executive Committee shall be the policy-implementing body of the Renaissance Society. It shall consist of the president, vice president, secretary, controller and immediate past president.

B. Standing Committees shall be established by the Board of Directors as required to accomplish the objectives of the Renaissance Society. The purpose of each committee and its responsibilities shall be delineated in the Standing Rules.

C. The Nominating Committee shall consist of at least three members, appointed by the President no later than the month of March, and approved by majority vote of the Board of Directors.

Article X: Membership Meetings

A. The annual meeting of the general membership shall be held in May. The President, when recommended by the Board of Directors, may call special meetings.

B. One-fifth of the membership, or one hundred members, whichever is the smaller number, shall constitute a quorum to conduct business.

Article XI: Funds

All funds shall be deposited and disbursed through the CSUS Foundation as the fiscal agent of the Renaissance Society.

Article XII: Parliamentary Authority

Business meetings shall be conducted in accordance with the rules contained in the current edition of Roberts Rules of Order except where these rules are inconsistent with the Bylaws and Standing Rules.

Article XIII: Bylaws' Amendments

A. These Bylaws can only be amended at a general or special meeting of the members who have been notified of the proposed amendments at least one month prior to the meeting.

B. Amendments to these bylaws require a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting at a general or special meeting provided a quorum is present.

Article XIV: Dissolution

A. The relationship between the Renaissance Society and the California State University, Sacramento, may be terminated by the President of CSUS or by a two-thirds vote of those present and voting at a membership meeting of the Society provided that notice has been sent to all members at least 30 days in advance.

B. A decision to move the Society to a new location, other than CSUS, may be decided by two-thirds vote of those present and voting at a membership meeting provided that notice has been sent to all members at least 30 days in advance.

C. The Renaissance Society may be dissolved by a two-thirds vote of those present and voting at a membership meeting, called for this purpose, provided that notice has been sent to all members 30 days in advance.

D. In the event of the dissolution of the Renaissance Society, and after payment of all outstanding obligations of the Society, all remaining assets of the Society shall be distributed to such non-profit organization(s) serving seniors as agreed upon by two-thirds of the membership present and voting at the meeting at the time of the dissolution.

Adopted May 5, 1996 Amended November 30, 1999

Revised March 28, 2003
Revised May 1, 2012

/s/ Alexander Gonzalez
ALEXANDER GONZALEZ, President,
California State University, Sacramento

/s/ P.J. Garrido
P.J. GARRIDO, President, Renaissance Society,
California State University, Sacramento