

# Constitution of the European Narratology Network

## § 0. Preamble

**0.1** The association shall be called the European Narratology Network (hereafter: ENN).

**0.2** The ENN is an association of individual narratologists and narratological institutions. The ENN's focus is predominantly, but not exclusively, European in the sense of

- its object domain: narrative representation in literature, film, digital media, etc. across all European languages and cultures;
- its institutional affiliation: universities, research institutions and interest groups based in one of the European countries.

**0.3** The ENN is an association not for gain.

**0.4** The purpose of the ENN is the promotion of narratology in research and teaching.

**0.5** In furtherance of the aforementioned purpose, the ENN shall, among other things:

- create and maintain an information infrastructure including devices such as the ENN website [www.narratology.net](http://www.narratology.net) as well as associated web portals, e-mail lists and digital repositories enabling individuals and research groups to exchange information and to coordinate their narratological activities;
- arrange for narratological conferences from time to time;
- liaise with other narratological associations, networks, research centres and groups and assist them in the coordination of their narratological activities;
- be entitled to do all other lawful things necessary to advance said purpose, including preparation and submission of grant applications.

## § 1. Membership

**1.1** Membership will be open to all persons, subject to approval by the Steering Committee.

**1.2** The Steering Committee may, at its discretion, confer Honorary Membership on persons who have rendered distinguished service to the ENN.

**1.3** The Constitution will be made available on the ENN website.

## **§ 2. Meetings**

- 2.1** The ENN shall hold General Meetings at such time and place as to be decided by the Steering Committee, with the proviso that a General Meeting shall take place at the time of the bi-annual conference. No less than eight (8) weeks' notice shall be given of the General Meeting.
- 2.2** Other General Meetings may be called by the Steering Committee or at the written request of no fewer than twenty (20) members. Prior notice of no less than three (3) weeks shall be given for other General Meetings.

## **§ 3. Voting**

Each Individual Member of the ENN is entitled to one (1) vote. Votes may be cast in person at a General Meeting or by a written and signed proxy forwarded to a Member who attends the Meeting; no Member shall be allowed to accept more than two (2) proxies.

## **§ 4. The Steering Committee**

- 4.1** Management of the ENN will be entrusted to the Steering Committee. The Steering Committee consists of three (3) elected members. Members of the Steering Committee shall be Members of the ENN.
- 4.2** Election to the Steering Committee takes place by a vote of the General Meeting at the time of the bi-annual conference. Vacancies on the Steering Committee shall be filled by election and the result declared at the respective General Meeting. All Members of the ENN are eligible for election to the Steering Committee. Nominations, by ENN Members who are not members of the Steering Committee, must be followed by a statement from the nominee confirming his or her willingness to serve. Nominations must reach the Secretary on or before the published deadline for nominations, which shall be no less than eight (8) weeks prior to the General Meeting.
- 4.3** Elected Members of the Steering Committee normally serve for two (2) years, with one-third of their number retiring at the time of each election. Retiring Members are eligible for immediate re-election for one further term in office of two (2) years.
- 4.4** The quorum for meetings of the Steering Committee consists of the three (3) elected members of the Steering Committee.

## **§ 5. Officers of the Steering Committee**

- 5.1 The Members of the Steering Committee shall appoint a Chairperson and a Secretary from among their ranks immediately after the election.
- 5.2 The Chairperson's home institution serves as the official headquarters for the ENN during the given period. The Chairperson is responsible for maintenance of the ENN homepage and mailing list.
- 5.3 The Members of the Steering Committee shall appoint from among their ranks, no later than six (6) months after election, the organiser and host of the next bi-annual ENN conference.
- 5.4 Said Officers shall hold office for two (2) years. Re-election for the chair position is not possible. The ENN headquarters and chairperson shall change location every two (2) years at most, and no later than at the time of the General Meeting held during the bi-annual conference.

## **§ 6. Co-optation of Members to the Steering Committee**

The Steering Committee is entitled to add up to three (3) Members to its number by co-optation in order to further the aims of the ENN. Co-opted Members will be voting Members of the Steering Committee but are not required to form the quorum. Co-opted membership in the Steering Committee expires at the first General Meeting subsequent to appointment unless renewed by the Steering Committee for a maximum of one (1) additional term in office.

## **§ 7. General**

- 7.1 The Steering Committee may set up Subcommittees, Regional Branches and Specialist Groups at its discretion to further the objects purpose of the ENN.
- 7.2 This Constitution, except for the purpose, this Clause and the dissolution provisions, may be amended by a resolution passed by three-fourths of the Members of the ENN present and represented at a Meeting called for that purpose, provided no amendment be made that would cause the ENN to cease to exist as an association not for gain.
- 7.3 The receipts and assets of the ENN shall be applied solely towards the promotion and purpose of the ENN as set forth in this Constitution, and no portion thereof shall be paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of dividend, bonus, or otherwise to Members of the ENN.
- 7.4 Members of the ENN can remove any member of the Steering Committee before expiry of his/her term in office by postal or remote electronic vote, where such vote is requested by no fewer than twenty (20) members.

## **§ 8. Dissolution**

If, upon winding up or dissolution of the ENN, there remains, after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities, any assets whatsoever, said assets shall not be paid to or distributed among the Members of the ENN but shall be assigned or transferred to some other organisation or organisations not for gain whose purpose is similar to the purpose of the ENN, with such organisation or organisations to be determined by the Members of the ENN at or before the time of dissolution.

This Constitution was accepted at the founding meeting of the ENN held in Hamburg on 24 January 2009. It was amended at the General Meeting held in Kolding on 11 March 2011 and again at the General Meeting held in Paris on 30 March 2013.

.....  
Chairperson of the Steering Committee

.....  
Secretary to the Steering Committee