

**CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS  
OF  
THE AMERICAN BOCCACCIO ASSOCIATION**

- I. The name of this association shall be: THE AMERICAN BOCCACCIO ASSOCIATION
- II. PURPOSE. The purposes of the Association shall be: the encouragement of Boccaccio studies among American scholars, regardless of their particular disciplines; the establishment of a permanent Boccaccio Studies Center; the hosting of the annual Boccaccio Studies Forum; the publication of a newsletter as a clearing-house of information and communication for Boccaccisti; the sponsoring of a journal of Boccaccio scholarship, consisting of studies, abstracts and reviews.
- III. MEMBERSHIP. Any person may become a member of the Association by payment of the dues determined by the Executive Committee. Charter members are those who joined the Association within the first year since its inception, that is, before April 10, 1975. Honorary members may be elected from among non-resident foreign scholars and benefactors of the Association by the Executive Committee. In accordance with the result of the Association's 2008 referendum on foreign scholars' dues, members who reside outside of the United States are not required to pay dues.
- IV. ORGANIZATION. Under the Provisional Constitution of the Association, the governing body shall be the Executive Committee, consisting of a President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer.
- V. OFFICERS. Election, Term of Office and Duties.
  - a. The President of the Association shall be elected by the general membership from a slate of candidates prepared by a nominating Committee of three members, for a term of office of three years. The President will preside at all meetings of the Executive Committee and of the General Membership.
  - b. The Vice President shall be elected in the same manner as the President and will also serve for three years. In the absence of the President the Vice President will assume the President's duties.
  - c. The Secretary is elected for a term of three years. The Secretary shall act as secretary of the Executive committee and of the General Membership meetings and shall be the editor of the Association newsletter. Editorial and clerical assistance shall be provided to the secretary at the discretion of the Executive Committee and under its supervision.
  - d. The Treasurer is elected for a term of three years. The Treasurer will handle all business arrangements, including the collection of dues and the budgeting of Association expenses.
  - e. In order to ensure the continuity of the Association and to foster the participation of its members, the Nominating Committee will ensure that at least one office in the Executive Committee be contested in every election by two current members of the Executive Committee.

The text herein recorded, approved by the membership in February 2012,  
supersedes all previous versions of the Association's constitution and bylaws.

- f. When an elected official leaves office before the expiration of the term of office, the Executive Committee shall provide a replacement for the duration of the term.
  - g. Nomination to honorary positions is made at the discretion of the Executive Committee and should be submitted to the general membership for approval. Such nomination should be made rarely and only of scholars of outstanding achievement.
- VI. COMMITTEES. A Nominating Committee of three members shall be elected from the general membership. The membership shall propose a slate of candidates to be elected to the Nominating Committee via electronic polling. The general membership shall then elect from that slate the three-member Nominating Committee who shall subsequently elect their own chair and determine their own organization. The Nominating Committee shall solicit nominations from current members for the elected offices, ensure the willingness of each candidate to serve and present to the general membership for a vote a slate of two candidates for each office.
- VII. DUES. The payment of dues entitles members to all of the rights and privileges of membership and immediate access to the newsletter. Members in good standing may vote, serve on committees, contribute to the newsletter and other publications and participate in the formation of policy.
- VIII. MEETINGS. The Association's annual meeting will be held in conjunction with the annual meeting of the International Congress on Medieval Studies at Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo. An organizational meeting of the Executive Committee shall be held at least one month prior, whether in person or by conference call.
- IX. MODIFICATIONS. Amendments to and revisions of the Association's by-laws and constitution may be submitted to the Executive Committee by any member in good standing. All changes must be approved by a two-thirds majority of the general membership in order to be ratified.

## BYLAWS

1. Membership Lists. Copies of the membership lists, updated after the general membership meeting each year, will be given to the members of the Executive committee. No one may use the membership lists, except for the normal uses of the Association, without express permission from a majority of the Executive Committee.
2. Filing of records and documents. Originals of Association documents and records are to be kept by the Secretary. The Treasurer is responsible for all financial records and related documents. Digital archiving shall be the preferred means of preservation of such documents.
3. All communication issuing from and directed to the Association shall take place via electronic means. The Association's contact e-mail address shall be that of the Secretary.