

## **EFACIS Governance Rules**

being subsidiary regulations to the Statutes of EFACIS, IVZW (as outlined in the founding deed of EFACIS as an International Non-profit Organisation)

### **Objectives and Activities**

The objectives and activities of EFACIS include:

1. the development, in a European context, of teaching and research in Irish Studies as an interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary field of study;
2. holding biennial conferences;
3. the affiliation of national and regional associations and centres, as well as individual scholars, of Irish Studies, and the co-ordination of its activities with other organisations within the field of Irish Studies;
4. further dissemination of research, critical inquiry and educational ideas in Irish Studies;
5. the facilitation and the establishment of research and teaching networks and projects on a European level.

### **Membership**

Membership is registered through the Treasurer of the EFACIS Board (Steering Committee). Membership of EFACIS is open to scholars, students or teachers, whether through their centres or associations or individually. Centres and associations must consist of at least five members. Registration of and payment for membership may be administered by affiliated national and regional associations and centres. Associations and centres shall inform the Treasurer of the names and email addresses of their associated members and shall pay their fee through their national organisation. Registered membership is a requirement for members to: (i) present papers at conferences held under the auspices of EFACIS; (ii) cast one vote at the General Assembly (Annual General Meeting); (iii) receive the publications of EFACIS, as well as electronic mailing lists and newsletters; (iv) access the members' section of the EFACIS website and its database of members; (v) participate in any EFACIS activities. The Board may communicate with members via e-mail and the website.

### **Membership Fee**

Members pay an annual fee, the amount of which is determined by the Board subject to the approval of the General Assembly. Fees are due by 15 January each year and should be paid by bank transfer to the EFACIS account.

### **The General Assembly**

The General Assembly is held annually and will also coincide (when applicable) with the biennial conference. The General Assembly debates and approves the report of the Board, discusses the policies of EFACIS, elects the officers of the Board and two auditors.

General assemblies must be announced at least four months in advance. The announcement must call for nominations for all offices of the Board on a biannual basis. The agenda of the General Assembly and a list of nominated candidates, including statements of the candidates, should be circulated electronically to members at least two months prior to the assembly. Only paid-up members have the right to vote.

### **The EFACIS Board**

The EFACIS Board consists of nine members elected individually by the General Assembly for a period of two years. On its election, the Board shall elect from among its members the President, the Vice-President, the Treasurer and the Secretary.

The Board must be largely representative of the affiliated associations and centres. The Board shall be empowered to co-opt up to five further members with a view of maintaining a balanced representation of the membership or of organising events within the auspices of EFACIS.

The Board is responsible for advancing the objectives of EFACIS and for presenting a general and financial report to the General Assembly. The financial report, signed by the auditors, shall be distributed in written form at the General Assembly. The Board is responsible for the production and circulation of an electronic newsletter to all affiliated bodies and members of EFACIS. It is also responsible for producing and maintaining the EFACIS website on the World Wide Web as a service to members and others interested in Irish Studies.

### **Amendments**

The present governance rules may be amended by the General Assembly by a majority of two thirds of the voting members. Amendments may be proposed by members of the Board and by individual and corporate members. Proposed amendments must be communicated to all members at least four months prior to the General Assembly.