April, 1997 Constitution Revisions.

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University of North Florida

American Society of Criminology: Division on Women and Crime.

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Hi Susan!

Here are my suggested revisions. Feel free to edit, improve or trash - or call me this weekend at

Thanks.

Chris
CONSTITUTION FOR THE DIVISION ON WOMEN AND CRIME OF
THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CRIMINOLOGY

I. Name of the Organization:

The name of the organization shall be The Division on Women and Crime.

The division will be a constituent unit of the American Society of Criminology [hereinafter ASC] and will function in accordance with the Constitution, bylaws and policies of the Society.

II. Purposes and Objectives:

A. To bring together members of both sexes interested in discussing issues related to women of all ages who are professionals, victims and/or offenders in the criminal justice system.

B. To facilitate and encourage research and theory development about women of all ages as professionals, victims and/or offenders in the criminal justice system.

C. To encourage appropriate and effective teaching techniques and practices and to stimulate the development of curricula for courses on women/gender and crime, and/or curricular materials about women/gender and crime for inclusion in mainstream criminology/criminal justice courses.

D. To serve as a resource network for, and encourage interaction among, academic, research, practitioner and policy-making sectors in order to further the understanding of problems faced by women of all ages who are professionals, victims and/or offenders in the criminal justice system.

E. To organize conference sessions related to issues on women and crime.

F. To raise awareness of issues regarding gender/sex and crime among members of ASC, to bring these issues to the attention of the ASC Executive Board and/or appropriate ASC committees, and to recommend appropriate courses of action to resolve these matters.

III. Membership:

Membership in this Division will be open to all ASC members in good standing. A member in good standing is one who is current in their dues. Members who have paid Divisional dues will be considered eligible for voting at Divisional meetings, for the election of Divisional officers and will eligible to hold office. The Division Chair shall serve as the convener of the Executive Board.
IV. Executive Board:

There will be an Executive Board comprised of the Division’s current officers, immediate past Chair and three Executive Counselors. This Board will form policies for the Division, provide advice and decide the budget for the Division, and select approve committees and committee chairs.

V. Officers:

A. Chair

1. The Chair will provide executive direction for the Division and will preside over Division meetings.

2. The Chair or her/his designee will serve as liaison with the Annual ASC program Chair to ensure the inclusion of panels relating to issues on women and crime in the program.

3. The Chair or her/his designee shall bring issues regarding gender/sex and crime, and recommendations for their resolution, as decided by the Division, to the attention of the ASC Executive Board and/or appropriate ASC committees for their consideration.

4. The Chair will appoint all committees and committee chairs, with the approval of the Executive Board.

B. Vice-Chair

1. The Vice-Chair will preside over Division meetings in the absence of the Chair and shall be empowered to conduct all necessary business of the Division if the office of the Chair is vacant or if the chair is unable to serve.

2. The Vice-Chair or her/his designee will be responsible for assistance and oversight of the Newsletter Committee.

C. Secretary

1. The Secretary will keep the records and minutes of the Division.

2. The Secretary will record minutes of each meeting of the Division and will forward a copy to each member of the Executive Committee and the Newsletter Committee Chair for publication in the next issue of the Division newsletter.
3. The Secretary will maintain contact with the Treasurer of ASC who will maintain a separate account in the ASC treasury for the Division. The Secretary will inform the Division membership of the Division’s balance, debts, credits, etc., at the Annual Membership Meeting. The Secretary will notify the Executive Board of any financial issues that arise between Annual Membership Meetings.

4. The Secretary will serve as Chair of the Membership Committee.

D. Executive Counselors:

1. There will be three Executive Counselors, elected in alternating years. At least one Executive Counselor shall be selected from among members who are untenured or otherwise in the early stages of their careers.

2. Executive Counselors will assist the Chair with executive decisions for the Division.

3. Executive Counselors will each normally chair at least one Division committee.

VI. Elections:

A. Nominations:

The Executive Board will appoint a Nominations Committee consisting of at least two members in good standing of the Division. The Committee will receive names in nomination for each office to be filled the following year. From these names, the Division’s Executive Board Nominating Committee will select two names to be included on the ballot for each office. The final ballot must be approved by the Executive Board. These names will be forwarded to the ASC Executive office for inclusion on the ASC Division ballot.

B. Qualifications:

Nominees and elected officers must be members in good standing of the Division.
C. Term of Office:

The term of office for all officers and Executive Counselors will be two years. The term of office of each incoming officer will begin with the close of the Annual Meeting following her/his election (NOTE: Do we want to change this to conform to practice? i.e., The term of office...will begin immediately following annual meeting of the Executive board...). Elected officers may serve a maximum of two consecutive terms in the same office. Upon completion of the second consecutive term of office, a person must wait for a period of at least one full term before running again for the same office.

D. Procedure:

Elections of officers and executive counselors shall be staggered in the following manner: One year elections will be held for Division Chair, Vice-Chair and one (1) Executive Counselor, while on alternate years elections will be held for Secretary and two (2) Executive Counselors.

Names of those nominated will be placed on the ASC Division ballot and sent to all members in good standing by the Executive Office of the ASC. Completed ballots will be returned to the ASC Executive Office and counted by ASC members staff.

The ASC Executive Office will notify the Division Chair of the election results. Results will be published in the Division Newsletter.

E. Vacancies:

Vacancies which occur in the office of Vice-Chair, Secretary or Executive Counselor during the year between Annual Meetings of the Division shall be filled by appointment of the Chair with the approval of the Executive Board.

VII. Amending the Constitution and Bylaws:

A. Amendments may be proposed by any members of the Division, but all such proposed amendments may only go forward under one of the following circumstances:

1. The petitioner receives the written support of one-fifth of the Division membership in good standing.
2. The proposed amendment is introduced at an Annual Meeting of the Division and receives two-thirds affirmative vote of those present to refer the proposal to a Constitution Revision Committee.

3. The Executive Board creates a Constitution Revision Committee which can consider any proposed amendments and make recommendations regarding same to the Executive Board.

A proposal for amendment which meets the requirements above shall be determined to be qualified by the Executive Board.

B. An amendment will be approved when it receives a two-thirds vote by mail ballot submitted to Division members in good standing. The results will be reported to the Executive Board by no later than the next Annual Meeting of the ASC.

C. Approved amendments shall take effect two months after immediately following the next annual Meeting of the ASC Division. Amendments are subject to the approval of the ASC Executive Board.
BYLAWS FOR THE DIVISION ON WOMEN AND CRIME OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CRIMINOLOGY

I. Dues:

*Dues will be determined by the Executive Board. Any increases must be ratified by vote of the members at the Annual Meeting.*

Dues are subject to the approval of the Executive Board of the ASC, and will be due at the time annual dues to the ASC are paid.

II. Committees:

A. **Standing Committees:**

*There will be three standing committees: Nominations Committee, the Membership Outreach Committee, the Division Awards Committee, the Student Paper Competition Committee and the Newsletter Committee. The membership of standing committees will be appointed by the Chair of the Division with the approval of the Executive Board.*

B. **Other Committees:**

The Executive board will create all such committees as it deems appropriate to carry out the purposes and objectives of the Division. Members of such other committees will be appointed by the Chair of the Division with the approval of the Executive Board.

C. **Committee chairs:**

*Committee chairs will be determined by the Executive Board Division Chair with the approval of the Executive Board and announced at the Annual Meeting of the Division. Committee Chairs will serve for one year and may be reappointed.*

III. Meetings:

A. **Executive Board:**

*The Executive Board shall meet at least once a year, on the first day of the ASC Annual Meeting. Such other meetings may be called as are needed.*
B. **Annual Meeting**

The general membership of the Division shall meet at least once a year at the ASC Annual Meeting. Such meeting shall be designated the Division's Annual Membership Meeting.

C. **Rules of Order:**

Meetings will be conducted in a manner determined by the chair. In the event of a conflict, Robert's Rule of Order will be determinative.

D. **Quorum:**

A quorum will consist of one-fifth of the Division's members in good standing. All votes will be determined by a simple majority of those present, unless provided otherwise by this document.

*In the event a quorum is not present at the general membership meeting(s), a majority of those present will be sufficient for action. Such action may be challenged by a member in good standing not in attendance at the ASC Annual Meeting. In case of a challenge, a ratification vote will be offered to the general membership in the next Division Newsletter.*
To: Members, Division on Women and Crime
From: Susan Krumholz, Constitution Revision Committee
Date: July 7, 1997
RE: Proposed changes to Constitution and Bylaws

Enclosed please find the final draft of the Proposed Constitution and Bylaws for the Division. This document is the result of nearly two years of work (not full time, believe me), and incorporates many individuals' suggestions.

I try to indicate where changes are proposed, but am not always successful; large sections were rearranged, but not substantively altered. I've included footnotes on occasion, not to complicate (I hope) but to explain. They will not be in the final document.

It would be helpful if you could take a look at this document. Any comments or questions can be directed to me at: skrumholz@umassd.edu or krumholz@edgenet.net. I can also be reached at the address and phone number above, if e-mail is inconvenient. Also, feel free to contact Chris Rasche (University of North Florida, 4567 St. Johns Bluff Road, Jacksonville, FL. 32224. or crasche@unf.edu) with questions or ideas.

A final (final-final?) proposal will be sent out in the Fall for a vote.

Hope you are all enjoying the summer.
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[See VI: Elections]

[Newsletter Editor eliminated as officer]

D. Executive Counselors:

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9 Clearly separates Counselors from the Board itself. Language added to explain position. Is this correct?
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The proposed amendment is introduced at an Annual Meeting of the Division, and receives a two-thirds affirmative vote of those present to refer the proposal to a Constitutional Revision Committee; or The Executive Board creates a Constitutional Revision Committee to review the Constitution and Bylaws and to make appropriate recommendations.

A proposal for amendment which meets the requirement above shall be determined to be qualified by the Executive Board.

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From: Susan Krumholz, Constitution Revision Committee  
Date: July 7, 1997  
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[See VI: Elections]

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or

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* * * * * * * * * * *

BYLAWS FOR THE DIVISION ON WOMEN AND CRIME OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CRIMINOLOGY

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December 9, 1996

Dear Chris,

I knew if I didn't get to this immediately it would end up at the bottom of one of my To Do piles. So here it is, the revisions of the Constitution and By-Laws.

I tried to indicate changes with italics or footnotes, if explanation seemed appropriate. The footnotes and italics are not intended as part of the final document.

I'll gladly receive any feedback, and instructions about what to do with it next.

Hope you're surviving the end of the semester without too much stress. Enjoy the holidays!

Regards,

Susan T. Krumholz

cc: Evelyn Gilbert, Vice-Chair
    Claire Renzetti, Secretary
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Well, I finally got to read through your revisions and on the whole I have to say bravo! They mostly look very good to me, and in some places it is a marked improvement over what was there!

Only a few edits and questions:

Section VI B, the Vice Chair--shouldn't item 2 read "assistance to and oversight of the Newsletter Committee"?

Section VI D, Executive Counselors--item 1 should read "...three Executive Counselors elected in..... Also, item 2 should have an addition, I think, that reads " and each will chair at least one committee of the Division."

Section VI, parts A and D both make reference to nominees being placed on the ASC ballot. I think what we mean is that nominees will be placed on the Division ballot. We have no control over the ASC ballot. Also, in part D it says that ballots will be counted by ASC members. In fact, the ballots are counted by Sarah so I think we ought to say "...Division members or ASC staff" to be consistent with practice. Also, there is nothing here to cover the situation we had back in November where we needed to hold an election on the spot to fill a vacancy due to oversight. Don't we need some language covering situations like that?

Section VIIB talks about amendments being approved by a two-thirds vote by mail ballot. Does that mean two-thirds of those voting or of the membership? I would prefer a two-thirds vote of those voting.

In the Bylaws, Section II refers to standing committees and names three including a membership committee. In practice we have never really had a functioning membership committee--we have something we have called the outreach committee, but that is as close as it gets. I would prefer to specify as standing committees the following: nominations, outreach, awards, programming, student affairs, and special events. What do you think?

Bylaws Section III B talks about the general membership meeting "at least once a year at the ASC Annual Meeting. Such a meeting shall be designated the Division's Annual Membership Meeting" Can we add words such as "...which may be divided into two parts if time constraints during the ASC meeting make this desirable to the membership." Is this needed. It is what we have been doing.

OK, that's it. Let me know what you think. And thanks again for all your hard work here and please forgive my delayed response. It would be great to get some of this into the next newsletter if possible once we agree on any of the above ideas.
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practices and to stimulate the development of curricula for
courses on women and crime.

D. To serve as a resource network for, and encourage interaction
among, academic, research, practitioner and policy-making
sectors in order to further the understanding of problems faced
by women of all ages who are professionals, victims and/or
offenders in the criminal justice system.

E. To organize conference sessions related to issues on women and
crime.

F. To raise awareness of issues regarding gender and crime among
members of ASC, to bring these issues to the attention of the ASC
Executive Board and/or appropriate ASC committees, and to
recommend appropriate courses of action to resolve these
matters.

1 This section was previously omitted.
2 standard language -- for convenience.
III. Membership:

Membership in this Division will be open to all ASC members in good standing. A member in good standing is one who is current in their dues. Members who have paid Divisional dues will be considered eligible for voting at Divisional meetings, for the election of Divisional officers and will be eligible to hold office.3

IV. Executive Board:4

There will be an Executive Board comprised of the Division's current officers, immediate past Chair and three Executive Counselors. This Board will form policies for the Division, provide advice and decide the budget for the Division, and select committee chairs. The Division Chair shall serve as the Convenor of the Executive Board.

V. Officers:5

A. Chair6

1. The Chair will provide executive direction for the Division and will preside over Division meetings.

2. The Chair or her/his designee will serve as liaison with the Annual ASC Program Chair to ensure the inclusion of panels relating to issues on women and crime in the program.

3. The Chair or her/his designee shall bring issues regarding gender and crime, and recommendations for their resolution, as decided by the Division, to the attention of the ASC Executive Board and/or appropriate ASC committees for their consideration.

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3 No substantive changes. Clarifying.
4 In many cases redundant language was eliminated, or sections were reorganized for clarity. Not a lot of substantive changes.
5 Newsletter Editor is eliminated; not an officer. Terms of office have been omitted and included in their own section under elections.
6 Both Chair and Vice-Chair have been shorten from Chairperson.
B. Vice-Chair

1. The Vice-Chair will preside over Division meetings in the absence of the Chair and shall be empowered to conduct all necessary business of the Division if the office of Chair is vacant or if the Chair is unable to serve.\(^7\)

2. The Vice-Chair or her/his designee will be responsible for assistance and oversight of the Newsletter Committee.

C. Secretary

1. The Secretary will keep the records and minutes of the Division.

2. The Secretary will record minutes of each meeting of the Division and will forward a copy to each member of the Executive Committee and the Newsletter Committee Chair.

3. The Secretary will maintain contact with the Treasurer of ASC who will maintain a separate account in the ASC treasury for the Division. The Secretary will inform the Division membership of the Division's balance, debts, credits, etc., at the Annual Membership Meeting. The Secretary will notify the Executive Board of any financial issues that arise between Annual Membership Meetings.

4. The Secretary will serve as Chair of the Membership Committee.

D. Executive Counselors:\(^8\)

1. There will be three Executive Counselors, electing in alternating years. At least one Executive Counselor shall be selected from among members who are untenured or otherwise in the early stages of their careers.

2. Executive Counselors will assist the Chair with executive decisions for the Division.

\(^7\) Changed from disabled.

\(^8\) Clearly separates Counselors from the Board itself. Language added to explain position. Is this correct?
VI. Elections:

A. Nominations:

The Executive Board will appoint a Nominations Committee consisting of two members in good standing of the Division. The Committee will receive names in nomination for each office to be filled the following year. From these names the Division’s Nominations Committee will select two names to be included on the ballot for each office. These names will be forwarded to the ASC Executive Office for inclusion on the ASC ballots.

B. Qualifications:

Nominees and elected officers must be members in good standing of the Division.

C. Term of Office:

The term of office for all officers and Executive Counselors will be two years.

The term of office of each incoming officer will begin with the close of the Annual Meeting following her/his election. (NOTE: Do we want to change this to conform to practice? i.e., The term of office... will begin immediately following the annual meeting of the Executive Board...) Elected officers may serve a maximum of two consecutive terms in the same office. Upon completion of the second consecutive term of office, a person must wait for a period of at least one full term before running again for the same office.

D. Procedure:

Names of those nominated will be placed on the ASC ballot and sent to all members in good standing by the Executive Office of the ASC. Completed ballots will be returned to the ASC Executive Office and counted by ASC members.

The ASC Executive Office will notify the Division Chair of the election results. Results will be published in the Division Newsletter.

Add: Elections of officers and Executive Counselors shall be staggered in the following manner: one year elections will be held for Chair, Vice-Chair and one Executive Counselor; in alternate years elections will be held for Secretary and two (2) Executive Counselor.
VII. Amending the Constitution and Bylaws:

A. Amendments may be proposed by any member of the Division, but the written support of one-fifth of the Division membership in good standing is required for further action. A proposal for amendment which meets the requirement above shall be determined to be qualified by the Executive Board.

B. An amendment will be approved when it receives a two-thirds vote by mail ballot submitted to members in good standing. The results will be reported to the Executive Board by the next Annual Meeting of the ASC immediately following the Annual Meeting of the ASC. Amendments are subject to the approval of the ASC Executive Board.

C. Approved amendments shall take effect two months after the next Annual Meeting of the ASC. Yicks! How should we do this? Any ideas?
BYLAWS FOR THE DIVISION ON WOMEN AND CRIME OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CRIMINOLOGY

I. Dues:

Dues will be determined by the Executive Board. Any increases must be ratified by vote of the members at the Annual Meeting.  

Dues are subject to the approval of the Executive Board of the ASC, and will be due at the time annual dues to the ASC are paid.

II. Committees:

A. Standing Committees:

There will be three standing committees: Nominations Committee, the Membership Committee, and the Newsletter Committee.

B. Other Committees:

The Executive Board will create all such committees as it deems appropriate to carry out the purposes and objectives of the Division. Members will be appointed by the Chair of the Division.

C. Committee Chairs:

Committee Chairs will be determined by the Executive Board and announced at the Annual Meeting of the Division. Committee Chairs will serve for one year and may be reappointed.

III. Meetings:

A. Executive Board:

The Executive Board shall meet at least once a year, on the first day of the ASC Annual Meeting. Such other meetings may be called as are needed.

B. Membership

The general membership of the Division shall meet at least once a year at the ASC Annual Meeting. Such meeting shall be designated the Division's Annual Membership Meeting.

10 Usually best not to include a dollar amount in By-laws, but there are always exceptions.
C. Rules of Order:

Meetings will be conducted in a manner determined by the Chair. In the event of a conflict, Robert's Rules of Order will be determinative.

D. Quorum:

A quorum will consist of one-fifth of the Division's members in good standing. All votes will be determined by a simple majority of those present, unless provided otherwise by this document.

In the event a quorum is not present at the general membership meeting(s), a majority of those present will be sufficient for action. Such action may be challenged by a member in good standing not in attendance at the ASC Annual Meeting. In case of a challenge, a ratification vote will be offered to the general membership in the next Division Newsletter.