

# Constitution of The Irish Gerontological Society

## **1. Name**

The name of the society is the Irish Gerontological Society, hereinafter called 'the Society'.

## **2. Main Object**

The object of the Society is the study of ageing and related subjects and the promotion of a better understanding by the general public of ageing and related issues.

## **3. Subsidiary Object**

The object of the Society shall be attained by:

- a) The presentation and discussion of the research of its members and the timely publication of such research.
- b) Participation individually and as a body in international conferences on ageing.
- c) Such other methods as may be decided by the Executive Committee and endorsed by the Society at its annual meeting.

## **4. Membership**

The Society shall be composed of ordinary members and associate members.

### *4.1 Ordinary Membership:*

The following shall be eligible for ordinary membership:

- a) Academic staff of universities or similar institutions involved in the study of ageing
- b) Health and Social Care professionals engaged in service delivery to older people
- c) Those involved in the promotion of advocacy for older people
- d) Such other persons as the Society shall admit.

### *4.2 Associate Membership:*

The following shall be eligible for associate membership:

- a) Academic staff of universities or similar institutions, outside of Ireland and the UK, involved in the study of ageing
- b) Health and Social Care professionals, outside of Ireland and the UK, engaged in service delivery to older people.
- c) Students in health and social care professions engaged in service delivery to older people
- d) Such other persons as the Society shall admit.

4.3 Candidates for ordinary membership shall be proposed and seconded by two ordinary members whose application shall be considered by the committee and if approved shall be submitted to the Society for election.

## **5 Society Committees**

The Society shall have an Executive Committee and a Scientific Committee.

### *5.1 Executive Committee:*

The Executive Committee shall be composed of the President, the Secretary, the Treasurer and four persons elected from and by the ordinary members. The membership of the Executive Committee should include at least one each of the following disciplines:

- (i) Geriatric Medicine,
- (ii) Nursing associated with care of older people,
- (iii) Psychiatry of Old Age,
- (iv) Psychology of Ageing,
- (v) Social Gerontology and the Therapies associated with rehabilitation of older people.

The Executive Committee shall be responsible to the members for the conduct of the affairs of the Society. Three members of the Executive Committee shall form a quorum for its meetings. The Committee shall be elected at the AGM. The maximum term of office shall be three years and the Officer elections should be staggered to ensure continuity in running the business of the Society.

#### *5.2 Scientific Committee:*

The Scientific Committee of the IGS will report to the Executive Committee and consist of:

- (i) the Honorary Officers ex-officio,
- (ii) three representatives of the host institution of the annual scientific meeting, and
- (iii) up to three other members who can be co-opted.

The Scientific Committee will be responsible for the planning and execution of the Annual Scientific Meeting and ensuring high scientific standards and timely publication of the abstracts.

## **6 Meetings of the Society**

### *6.1 Annual General Meeting*

The Annual General Meeting ('AGM') of the Society will be held within one calendar month of 1<sup>st</sup> October each year. At least 2 weeks' notice, in writing, of this meeting shall be given to each member by the Secretary. The Officers of the Society shall submit their reports to the members at this meeting.

### *6.2 Extraordinary General Meeting*

An Extraordinary General Meeting ('EGM') shall be convened on the written request of 20 members of the Society for the purpose of discussing a particular subject or subjects, other than anything concerning the IGS constitution. At least fourteen days' notice in writing of an EGM shall be given to all registered members.

### *6.3 Amendment to Constitution*

The constitution can only be altered at an AGM or at an EGM specifically convened on receipt of the written request of forty members of the Society. Any proposed alteration shall be circulated to all registered members of the Society at least 3 weeks before the meeting and shall not take effect unless approved by the formal vote of at least two-thirds of the members present.

### *6.4 Ordinary Meetings*

Ordinary Meetings of the Society shall be held as decided by the Executive Committee. Fourteen days' notice of such meetings shall be sent to every registered member by the Secretary.

## **7 Membership & Registration Fee**

The annual membership subscription shall be payable on or before the date of the AGM each year. Members who are more than two years in arrears shall be deemed to have resigned but may be reinstated on payment of arrears and the subscription for the current year.

The amount of the annual subscription shall be determined by the Executive Committee and endorsed by the Society at the AGM.

The amount of the registration fee for the annual scientific meeting shall be determined by the Executive Committee.

## **8 Affiliates**

The Society shall affiliate with national and international organizations dedicated to the study of ageing and advocacy for older people when this is recommended by the Executive Committee and endorsed by the Society at the AGM.

The Society is a member of the 'International Association of Gerontology'.

## **9 Income and Property**

The income and property of the body, shall be applied solely towards the promotion of its main object as set forth in this Constitution. No portion of the body's income and property shall be paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of dividend, bonus or otherwise howsoever by way of profit, to the members of the body. No Officer shall be appointed to any office of the body paid by salary or fees, or receive any remuneration or other benefit in money or money's worth from the body. However, nothing shall prevent any payment in good faith by the body of:

- (a) reasonable and proper remuneration to any member of the body (not being an Officer) for any services rendered to the body;
- (b) interest at a rate not exceeding 5% per annum on money lent by Officers or other members of the body to the body;
- (c) reasonable and proper rent for premises demised and let by any member of the body (including any Officer) to the body;
- (d) reasonable and proper out-of-pocket expenses incurred by any Officer in connection with their attendance to any matter affecting the body;
- (e) fees, remuneration or other benefit in money or money's worth to any Company of which an Officer may be a member holding not more than one hundredth part of the issued capital of such company.

## **10 Winding Up**

If upon the winding up or dissolution of the body there remains, after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities, any property whatsoever, it shall not be paid to or distributed among the members of the body. Instead, such property shall be given or transferred to some other charitable institution or institutions having main objects similar to the main object of the body. The institution or institutions to which the property is to be given or transferred shall prohibit the distribution of its or their income and property among its or their members to an extent at least as great as is imposed on the body under or by virtue of Clause 9 hereof. Members of the body shall select the relevant institution or institutions at or before the time of dissolution, and if and so far as effect cannot be given to such provisions, then the property shall be given or transferred to some charitable object.

**11 Additions, Alterations or Amendments**

No addition, alteration or amendment shall be made to or in the provisions of this Constitution for the time being in force unless the same shall have been previously approved in writing by the Revenue Commissioners.

**12 Keeping of Accounts**

Annual accounts shall be kept and made available to the Revenue Commissioners on request.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
          **Chairperson**

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
          **Secretary**

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
          **Treasurer**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_