

The Bye-Laws of the Lagos Studies Association
April 2017

Mission

The Lagos Studies Association is an international interdisciplinary association of academic and non-academic practitioners whose interest focus on Lagos and its peoples. Our members include scholars, students, activists, artists, teachers, donors, policymakers, and development professionals. Through exchanges between academic and non-academic practitioners, we anticipate deepening the rigor of contemporary scholarship as well as encouraging the integration of critical and thought-provoking questions into non-academic projects on Lagos.

Article 1: Name of the Organization

This organization shall be called the Lagos Studies Association (LSA, hereafter). The LSA shall be a registered coordinate organization of the African Studies Associations of the United States, Africa, Canada, and Europe, among other professional associations interested in Nigerian and African studies. The LSA achieves its mission by:

1. Promoting cutting-edge scholarship and access to key debates in Lagos studies
2. Forming sustained cross-disciplinary conversations among scholars who are working on Lagos from different topical and methodological standpoints
3. Encouraging sustained intellectual exchanges between scholarly theorizations of issues in Lagos studies and the work of non-academic practitioners working in related fields
4. Facilitating exchanges between scholars and practitioners to deepen the rigor of contemporary scholarship on Lagos
5. Encouraging the network of scholars and practitioners through our annual conference and other avenues such as workshops, seminars, and roundtables
6. Through professionalization workshops for graduate students, shape and support the development of emerging scholars
7. Collaborating with institutions and similar associations across the world to promote the study of cities through conferences, seminars, symposia, and other professional avenues
8. Aiding research of members by awarding research and travel grants
9. Publishing a yearly electronic Newsletter, highlighting the works of academic and non-academic practitioners of Lagos

Article 3: Membership of the LSA

1. Individual members shall include but not limited to scholars, students, activists, artists, teachers, donors, policymakers, and development professionals
2. Institutional members shall include but not limited to universities, research centers, libraries, archives, foundations, museums, non-partisan think-thank and scientific institutions/organizations
3. All individual and institutional members shall pay dues on a yearly basis.
 - Student membership: N2,000 (Africa)
 - Student membership: \$15 (North America, Europe, and others)
 - Academic and non-academic practitioners: N5,000 (Africa)
 - Academic and non-academic practitioners: \$30 (North America, Europe, and others)

- Institutional membership: N20,000 (Africa)
 - Institutional membership: \$100 (North America, Europe, and others)
 - Lifetime membership: N200,000 (Africa)
 - Lifetime membership: \$600 (North America, Europe, and others)
4. Due-paying Membership benefits shall include discounted registration rate for the annual Lagos conference, opportunities to serve on LSA committees and nominate individuals for the Distinguished Scholar/Personality Award, and priority consideration for panels at major international conferences, workshops, seminars, research grants, and other professional development opportunities
 5. Annual dues shall be due every January 1.
 6. The entire Executive and Board of Directors or their member/s can be removed by majority vote of the general membership during the business meeting of the annual Lagos conference
 7. Members shall have the power to vote for the Executive either through online voting or physically at the LSA business meeting during the annual Lagos conference
 8. Members may resign their membership without informing the Executive of Board of Directors
 9. Members may be expelled for misconduct by the Board of Directors
 10. The annual business meeting (open to all members) of the LSA shall be held during the annual Lagos conference. Quorum for the annual meeting shall 20 members physically present
 11. Every member shall have only one vote. In the event of the equality of votes, the President as the Chairperson of the Annual business meeting shall a Casting vote
 12. Minutes of the annual business meeting shall be recorded by the Secretary. Or any other member of the Executive in the absence of the Secretary

Article 4: Board of Directors

1. The Board shall consist of maximum of 20 persons, and the Executive of the LSA
2. Members of the Board shall include academic and non-academic practitioners interested in Lagos studies
3. The Board shall meet a least once in a year (during the annual meeting of the Lagos Conference) to review the activities and finances of the LSA, and make recommendations for improvement
4. Board members shall serve a five-year term, starting from the Board meeting of the annual Lagos conference.
5. The Board shall be headed by a Chair (elected among Board members) on a yearly basis during the annual Lagos conference
6. The Board can also conduct their activities and make decisions via electronic communication. Online voting can be conducted to fill vacant positions of the Board or committees appointed by the Board
7. Members of the Board can be appointed by the president or elected by member of the LSA during the annual Lagos conference
8. All members of the Executive and the Board shall have equal voting power
9. Board members shall participate in identifying and soliciting funds from prospective supporters and donors
10. Board members will not be paid for their services

11. The Executive and Board members can be removed by majority vote of the general membership during the business meeting of the annual Lagos conference for poor performance

Article 5: Organization

Section I: Secretariat

The LSA shall have secretariats both in Lagos and outside Lagos

Section II: The officers of the LSA shall consist of the Board of Directors, Executive, and the Editors of the LSA Newsletter. The LSA shall have the following committees to oversee its activities: (1) Conference, Workshop, and Seminar; (2) Distinguished Scholar/Personality Award; (3) Fund Raising; (4) “Travel and Research Grant” (5) Ethics and Bye-Law Review

Section III: The President shall

1. Constitute a five-year commitment to the LSA
2. Be re-elected for maximum of two terms
3. Be elected by majority vote of the general membership during the business meeting of the annual Lagos conference or through online voting
4. Be responsible for providing leadership for the LSA, setting priorities with consultation with the Executive and the Board of Directors
5. With consultation with the Executive, appoint LSA committee members
6. Be a sitting member of all LSA committees
7. With the Vice-President and Secretary maintain correspondence with LSA members and the Board, among others entities and bodies
8. Take over the responsibility of any vacant Executive position until filled
9. With the Treasurer and Vice-President act as co-signatory to all LSA bank accounts

Section IV: The Vice-President shall

1. Constitute a five-year commitment to the LSA
2. Be re-elected for maximum of two terms
3. Be elected by majority vote of the general membership during the business meeting of the annual Lagos conference or through online voting
4. Assist the president in providing leadership for the LSA
5. Be a sitting member of all LSA committees
6. Prepare agenda for the annual business and Board meetings
7. Specifically oversee the fund-raising drive of the LSA
8. Be co-signatory to the LSA Bank accounts—with the President and Treasurer

Section V: The Secretary shall

1. Constitute a five-year commitment to the LSA
2. Be re-elected for maximum of two terms
3. Serve as the Secretary to the Board and the LSA
4. Record the minute of meetings at the annual business meeting
5. Be elected by majority vote of the general membership during the business meeting of the annual Lagos conference or through online voting

6. Ensure proper keeping and custody of all LSA records
7. With the president, maintain correspondence with LSA members and the Board, among others
8. Compile and present the annual records of the association
9. Record the minute of Business meeting at the annual Lagos conference

Section VI: The Treasurer shall

1. Constitute a five-year commitment to the LSA
2. Be re-elected for maximum of two terms
3. Be elected by majority vote of the general membership during the business meeting of the annual Lagos conference or through online voting
4. Administer the finances of the LSA
5. Maintain the LSA bank accounts and all financial records
6. Prepare all budget for LSA activities, including conferences, workshops and seminars
7. With the President and Vice-President, act as co-signatory to all LSA bank accounts

Amendment

This bye-law and any part may be amended by a two third of the full membership during the annual meeting or online voting