# THE ASSOCIATION FOR CHINESE STUDIES IN IRELAND

The Association for Chinese Studies in Ireland (ACSI) is founded to encourage Chinese studies in Ireland, in particular by stimulating research and teaching. It organizes lectures and conferences. Membership is open to all those concerned with the study of China and the Chinese.

# **CONSTITUTION**

#### **NAME**

1. The name of the Association shall be "The Association for Chinese Studies in Ireland".

#### **OBJECT**

2. The object of the Association shall be to encourage Chinese Studies in Ireland, in particular by research and teaching.

# MEMBERSHIP AND SUBSCRIPTIONS

3. The Association shall consist of Ordinary Members, Corporate Members and Honorary Members.

Ordinary Members shall be any individuals who support the object of the Association; they shall be admitted to membership only with the consent of the Council, and on payment of an annual subscription to be determined by the Council.

Corporate Members shall be organisations which desire to support the object of the Association. They shall be admitted to membership only with the consent of the Council, and on payment of an annual subscription to be determined by the Council.

Honorary Members shall be elected by the Council in recognition of eminent contributions to Chinese studies in Ireland, and shall not exceed ten in number.

4. Subscriptions shall be payable in advance and shall be due on the first day of January in each year. The Council shall have power to remove from the membership list the name of any member whose subscription is in arrears.

# **MANAGEMENT**

5. The affairs of the Association shall be managed by a Council.

# **OFFICERS**

6. The Officers of the Association shall comprise a Chair, a Secretary and a Treasurer.

# COMPOSITION OF THE COUNCIL

7. The Council of the Association shall comprise:

the Officers

the Elected Student representative

two other Elected Members

This Council shall have power to co-opt two extra members as are thought necessary to promote Council business.

Four members of the Council shall form a quorum.

#### ELECTION OF THE COUNCIL

- 8. The Officers and Elected Members of the Council shall be members of the Association and shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting by the Ordinary and Corporate Members of the Association.
- 9. The Council shall have power to appoint one or more Members of the Association to posts other than those

referred to in Rule 6. The Council may appoint Committees, for which any Member of the Association shall be eligible.

- 10. The Council shall have power until the elections at the next Annual General Meeting to fill any vacancy occurring among the Officers or on the Council until the elections at the next Annual General Meeting. For the purpose of Rule 9 such services shall not be counted.
- 11. Any Council member (elected or co-opted) who fails to attend a minimum of one of the meetings in a calendar year to which he/she has been invited with due notice shall be asked whether he/she wishes to remain a Council member, and if so shall be required to attend at least one of the next two meetings. Failure to do so may result in removal from the Council.
- 12. The Officers and Elected members of the Council members shall serve for one year, and may seek reelection at the Annual General Meeting.

# ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

13. An Annual General Meeting shall be held at such a date and place as is determined by the Council, to consider an Agenda prepared by the Council, and to transact any other business of which notice has been given in writing to the Secretary. Ten members of the Association shall form a quorum.

# SPECIAL GENERAL MEETINGS

14. Ten or more Members of the Association may at any time call a Special General Meeting by giving notice in writing to the Secretary stating the motion or motions to be brought forward. A Special General Meeting shall be held at a time and place to be determined by the Council and shall take place within six weeks of receipt of such notice by the Secretary. Not less than four weeks' notice shall be given of a Special General Meeting. The notice of the Meeting shall state the business to be transacted and no

business other than that specified in the notice shall be transacted at such a Meeting, at which fifteen members shall form a quorum.

# **VOTING**

15. Any decision at a general meeting shall be adopted if approved by a majority of those members voting. For these purposes each Corporate Member represented shall be entitled to one vote. The Constitution shall only be changed by a vote which is administered by the Council of all Ordinary and Corporate Members either at the AGM or by postal ballot. Changes shall only be effected if approved by a two-thirds majority of those returning completed ballot papers.

#### REGISTRATION

16. A member may at any time resign from the Association by notifying the Secretary in writing, but resigning Members shall be liable for any subscription due.

# CONTINGENT AUTHORITY OF THE COUNCIL

16. The Council shall have full authority to deal with any matter affecting the Association's interests that is not provided for in this Constitution.

Adopted 13<sup>th</sup> December 2006