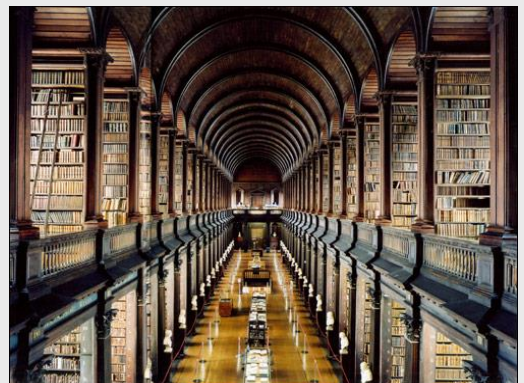




THE GERMAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION OF IRELAND (GSAI)



CHARTER



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I NAME AND OBJECTIVES

Article 1

The name of the Association shall be the German Studies Association of Ireland.

Article 2

The objectives of the Association shall be:

- (a) to promote the national and international standing of German Studies in Ireland;
- (b) to promote the effective post-secondary teaching of German Studies in Ireland;
- (c) to promote research in the field of German Studies at third-level institutions;
- (d) to encourage in Irish society the acquisition of German language competence and to deepen cultural knowledge of German-speaking countries;
- (e) to identify and develop within third-level institutions the interests of potential learners of German;
- (f) to provide a forum for discussion of subjects of concern to all involved in the post-secondary teaching of German Studies in Ireland;
- (g) to further professional contacts between Departments and members;
- (h) to facilitate the regular exchange of information on courses, structures, examinations, staffing and resources;
- (i) to make available information on short courses, research projects, grants and scholarships, cultural events, job opportunities, teaching materials, lectures,

seminars, conferences, student and staff exchanges that will be of interest to members and to students of the subject;

- (j) to maintain links with relevant professional, educational, business and cultural bodies at national and international level so as to ensure representation and appropriate and effective return of information to members.

Article 3

To achieve these aims the Association shall:

- (a) hold an annual General Meeting;
- (b) organise symposia, seminars, workshops etc. at regular intervals;

II. MEMBERSHIP

Article 4

- (a) Full members will be teachers and researchers in the field of German at post-secondary level in Ireland. Full members are entitled to participate in all activities of the Association, including voting and election to office;
- (b) Associate members will be other individuals interested in furthering and promoting the aims of the Association. They shall be entitled to participate in the activities of the Association, but shall not be entitled to vote or hold office;
- (c) Corporate members are associations, institutions or organisations interested in furthering the aims of the Association. They shall be entitled to receive documentation and one copy of each publication, and shall have observer status at the meetings of the Association;
- (d) Application for membership shall be made to the Membership Secretary.

Article 5

The organs of the Association shall be:

- (a) the General Meeting;
- (b) the Executive Committee;
- (c) any other *ad hoc* committee that may be set up by the General Meeting.

Article 6

The General Meeting is the highest organ of the Association and comprises all members under Article 4. It shall meet once every year at different locations within Ireland. A General Meeting will include an academic programme and a business meeting.

Article 7

A quorum of the General Meeting shall consist of 25% of the fully paid-up members of the Association.

Article 8

The General Meeting of the Association shall decide on policy and administrative matters including the election of the executive committee, standing and *ad hoc* committees. The business of the Association shall be conducted in either German or English or both languages.

Article 9

The Executive Committee shall consist of a joint Chair (representing different sectors), Secretary, Membership Secretary/ Treasurer, and a Publications Editor. Election to office shall be by simple majority following nomination by two full members with consent of the candidate. Nominations for office shall be submitted in advance of the General Meeting.

Article 10

lected (once only in succession).

Article 11

Election shall take place at the General Meeting and shall be concluded before the General Meeting ends.

Article 12

The Executive Committee shall meet at least once a year.

Article 13

The Executive Committee is responsible for the preparation and organisation of conferences, workshops, seminars etc. which may be called by the Association itself or in co-operation with other organisations or institutions.

IV. SEAT

Article 14

The address of the Association shall be that of the current Secretary. It will appear on all written communication.

V. FINANCE

Article 15

The income of the Association shall be derived from members' annual subscriptions of € 30 members in full time positions and € 15 for others, and from donations.

Article 16

The Executive Committee is empowered to exchange information or join projects with any appropriate Association in the field of language/cultural studies and education with particular reference to German Studies.



VI. AMENDMENTS AND DISSOLUTION



Article 17

Proposals for amendment to the constitution or its dissolution shall be forwarded in the first instance to the Secretary for consideration by the Executive Committee and the subsequent General Meeting. Adoption then shall be based on a 2/3 majority.