

1 **THE WILLIAM GILMORE SIMMS SOCIETY**

2 **BYLAWS**

3 I. **CONSTITUTION:**

4 All aspects of the Society must be in keeping with the Constitution of the Society.

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6 II. **MEMBERSHIP:**

7 Membership is fivefold: (1) Charter Members are those who join the Society prior to December 31,
8 1993, and who pay annually the dues assessed Regular Members; (2) Regular Members join after
9 December 31, 1993, and are those who pay annual dues established by the Society (\$10.00 to begin
10 with); (3) Lifetime Members are those who contribute at least ten times the annual dues of either,
11 as appropriate, individuals or institutions; (4) Graduate students in good standing will be entitled to
12 pay annual dues of 1/2 the dues of regular members for a total of three years; (5) institutional
13 members pay 50% more than regular members.

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15 III. **OFFICERS:**

16 Officers are a President, President-elect, and Secretary-Treasurer and an Executive Council
17 consisting of the Society's officers, the editors of the Society's journal and web site (both nonvoting
18 ex officio), the immediate past president, the founding president (ex officio), and two other at-large
19 members. The governing body of the Society, composed of all of the persons mentioned above in
20 this article, is referred to throughout as the Executive Council. The President-elect, Secretary-
21 Treasurer, and at-large members are nominated by the Executive Council (with nominations also
22 being accepted from the floor) and are elected to two-year terms by majority vote of the members
23 present at the business meeting. [If vacancies occur due to resignations or any other circumstances,

1 replacements for the remainder of the two-year terms will be appointed by the President, with the
2 advice of the officers, the at-large members, and the ex officio members.] The President presides at
3 meetings, conducts necessary business throughout the year, convenes a meeting of the Executive
4 Council preceding the annual meeting of the Society, prepares minutes for publication in the
5 journal or on the web site, and oversees the functions of the Society. The President may authorize
6 expenditures totaling \$200.00 or less that need to be made between annual meetings. With the
7 consent of the Executive Council the President can authorize expenditures totaling more than
8 \$200.00 per year when exigencies arise. The President-elect assists the President, shares in the
9 program planning for annual and special meetings, presides in the President's absence, and
10 becomes President at the conclusion of his or her predecessor's term. The Secretary-Treasurer
11 keeps a list of members and their addresses, handles correspondence, records minutes of meetings
12 of the Executive Council, manages the treasury, gives an annual financial report, and performs such
13 duties pertaining to the endowment fund as shall be designated. The Council helps plan annual
14 meetings, aids the executive officers in carrying on the business of the Society, serves as a
15 nominating committee for officers, and stands in an advisory capacity to the Society's journal.

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17 **IV. MEETINGS:**

18 The Society meets every two years during symposiums called by the officers and held at locations
19 appropriate to Simms's life or writings or to Simms studies. These symposiums include an open
20 business meeting that holds elections of officers and at-large members of the Council.

21

22 **V. PUBLICATIONS:**

1 The Society will publish as frequently as funds will allow a periodical devoted to notices of
2 research in progress, current bibliography, short articles, brief notes and queries, announcements
3 concerning business meetings of the Society, and other material of a brief nature related to Simms
4 or the Society .The Editor is selected by the Executive Council for a three year term (renewable).
5 The editor is an ex officio member of the Executive Council. Each member of the Society will
6 receive one copy of each publication. The papers of the editorial office are to be placed in a proper
7 archive. The Society will also maintain a web site. The Editor is selected by the Executive Council
8 for a three-year term (renewable) and serves as an ex officio member of the Executive Council.

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10 **VI. ENDOWMENT FUND:**

11 In order to advance the stated purposes of the Society, the Executive Council shall establish a
12 permanent endowment fund by soliciting donations from members, friends, corporations, and other
13 interested parties. All donations will be placed in a separate account, the interest from which may
14 be used by the Society for special purposes as approved by the Executive Council. The Secretary-
15 Treasurer will supervise, manage, and invest the funds.

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17 **VII. AMENDMENT OF THE BYLAWS:**

18 Changes of a minor nature in these bylaws may be effected by a two-thirds majority of the
19 members present at the Society's business meetings during symposiums. Amendments of a more
20 fundamental nature (e.g., concerning the organization, structure, or membership of the Society)
21 shall be submitted by mail or through the journal to the entire membership of the Society and shall
22 require approval by two-thirds of the members returning ballots. All proposed amendments must be

- 1 circulated among the entire membership at least one month prior to the annual meeting or the mail
- 2 ballot deadline.