

# **Constitution of The Society for Music Research at the University of Michigan (SMR)**

Proposed June 25, 2015

Ratified July 3, 2015

Last amended September 23, 2021

## **ARTICLE I: Name.**

The name of this organization shall be the Society for Music Research at the University of Michigan (hereafter SMR).

## **ARTICLE II: Affiliation.**

SMR does not have any affiliations with campus departments or other organizations at this time.

## **ARTICLE III: Purpose, aims, and functions.**

This organization exists to represent graduate students doing research in the fields of ethnomusicology, historical musicology, and music theory in the School of Music, Theatre & Dance (hereafter SMTD) at the University of Michigan (hereafter U-M); to provide a central forum where SMR membership may meet to discuss issues pertaining to graduate students in music research at SMTD; to organize events and symposia that foster the sharing of knowledge in research on music at U-M; to organize social events for SMR membership; and to support any other organizations whose goals relate to those of SMR.

## **ARTICLE IV: Membership requirements and limitations.**

All currently-enrolled graduate students in ethnomusicology, historical musicology, and music theory at SMTD are members of SMR. **This is SMR's core constituency. Other interested students at U-M may join SMR by filling out a membership form. Individuals in SMR's core constituency may opt out of membership by filling out a form.** SMR is committed to a policy of equal opportunity for all persons and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, marital status, sex, sexual orientation, sexual expression, gender identity, gender expression, disability, religion, height, weight, or veteran status.

Upon joining this organization, all members agree not to undermine the purpose or mission of SMR.

## **ARTICLE V: Officers.**

### Section 1: Executive

1.1 The Executive of SMR shall consist of at least three and no more than four positions: two Co-Chairs and a Secretary–Treasurer. Should the workload of the Secretary–Treasurer become too great, the position may be divided between two individuals based on a vote.

1.2 The Executive positions shall be voted at the end of an academic year following the General Assembly. If only one candidate is presented for any position, that individual will be elected by default. SMR members will be notified of the election results no later than the last day of the winter term.

1.3 The Executive shall hold office for one academic year beginning one week after the last day of the preceding winter term.

- 1.4 No student shall occupy the position of Co-Chair for more than two successive academic years; there is no limit, however, on how many years total a student may occupy this position.
- 1.5 Positions that become vacant during the course of the year shall be filled by means of a by-election following the regular election procedure.

#### Section 2: Other Serving Positions

- 2.1 Other serving positions shall be filled on an ad-hoc basis following a General Assembly.
- 2.2 These positions shall be voted upon. If only one candidate is presented for any position, that individual will be elected by default.

### **ARTICLE VI: Operations.**

#### Section 1: General Assemblies

- 1.1 At least two General Assemblies shall be held annually: one shall be held at the beginning of the academic year and shall serve to introduce serving members of SMR, outline its plans for that academic year, and present the budget for that academic year. Another shall be held at the end of the academic year and shall include a presentation and discussion of the closing budget.
- 1.2 Other General Assemblies may be called by the Executive at any time.
- 1.3 Members of SMR apart from the Executive may call to order a General Assembly in special circumstances through a petition signed by 15% of the membership of SMR.
- 1.4 Notice of a General Assembly shall be provided at least one week prior to the meeting.

#### Section 2: Quorum and Voting

- 2.1 Quorum for voting shall be 50% + 1 of the membership of SMR. Votes of abstention do not count towards quorum.
- 2.2 **In cases where a vote is called regarding an issue pertaining strictly to SMR's core constituency (see article III), members outside of the core constituency must abstain.**
- 2.3 Election votes shall be held by means of an online voting system, which shall be open for voting for at least 72 weekday hours.
- 2.4 Non-election votes shall be held either at a General Assembly or by an online voting system.

### **ARTICLE VII: Removal of Officers or General Members.**

Any officer or general member of SMR in violation of SMR's purpose or constitution, or who fails to fulfill their responsibilities as outlined in Article IV, may be removed from their position or the society by a two-thirds majority vote (not to be held electronically) after a proper order has been called and seconded.

### **ARTICLE VIII: Amendments.**

Notice of proposed amendments to the SMR constitution shall be posted at least one week before a General Assembly, and proposed amendments shall be presented and discussed at a General Assembly. Amendments shall be ratified by electronic ballot and shall pass by a two-thirds majority.

### **ARTICLE IX: Ratification.**

The Executive Committee shall revisit and propose revisions to any language they deem necessary at least once per year.

This constitution must be ratified by two-thirds of all active members to take effect.