



Statutes of the Fellows' Club

Preamble

The Association of Former Fellows of the Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin e. V. (hereafter referred to as the "Fellows' Club") offers Fellows of the Wissenschaftskolleg from years past the opportunity to pursue research and other scholarly activities.

§1 Name, Place of Business, and Fiscal Year of the Association

- (1) The association bears the name "Association of Former Fellows of the Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin e. V."
- (2) The association has its place of business in Berlin.
- (3) It is entered in the register of associations.
- (4) The fiscal year corresponds to the calendar year.

§2 'Non-Profit Status and Purpose of the Association

- (1) The association solely and directly pursues non-profit objectives as defined in that section of the tax code pertaining to "Tax-Deductible Purposes."
- (2) The purpose of the association is to sponsor and promote scholarship and research.
- (3) The aim of the statutes is fulfilled in particular by:
 - a. staging scholarly events with former and current Fellows of the Wissenschaftskolleg – for instance the annual meeting of the Fellows' Club, workshops, excursions, debates on art, or scholarly lectures with musical accompaniment;
 - b. regularly sending information pertaining to scholarly events and other such undertakings as well as research findings which involve former and current Fellows;
 - c. sponsoring the scholarly projects of former Fellows of the Wissenschaftskolleg, particularly events and publications;
 - d. assisting former Fellows who are experiencing hardship, particularly those whose scholarly work is endangered by reason of political circumstances.
- (4) The association is altruistic; it does not pursue goals which primarily serve its own economic interest.

§3 Membership

- (1) A member can be any former Fellow of the Wissenschaftskolleg who was affiliated with the Wissenschaftskolleg for at least three months. Application for membership is done through a written declaration to the board of directors and then approved by them.
- (2) Other persons who want to help the association fulfill its objectives can become honorary members on suggestion of the board of directors and by resolution of the Members' Assembly.
- (3) With exception of the honorary members, members of the Fellows' Club pay an annual membership fee. The amount of this fee is fixed by the Members' Assembly and is dictated by the applicable membership-fee regulations. After non-payment of the annual membership fees for more than two years, one's membership is automatically revoked.
- (4) Disaffiliating oneself from the association ensues through a written declaration to the board of directors; one's membership will then expire at end of the calendar year.

§4 The Association's Organs

The organs of the association are the Members' Assembly and the board of directors.

§5 Members Assembly

- (1) The Members' Assembly defines the guidelines for the work of the Fellows' Club. It determines the annual budget. It receives the board of directors' annual report and the annual financial statement and approves the budget and actions of the board of directors. The annual financial statement is reviewed by the Secretary of the Wissenschaftskolleg.
- (2) According to the following provisions, the Members' Assembly elects the chairperson, his/her deputies, and the general manager.
- (3) On occasion of the annual meeting, the ordinary Members' Assembly is convoked in writing by the board of directors. Members should have received the invitation along with the meeting's agenda at latest four weeks before the meeting.
- (4) The board of directors can convoke extraordinary sessions of the Members' Assembly (section 3, paragraph 2). The board of directors must convoke the Members' Assembly if one-tenth of the members call for it.
- (5) At every session the Members' Assembly elects a meeting chairperson and a secretary who takes the minutes of each meeting.
- (6) The Members' Assembly will constitute a quorum when there are at least seven members present. A resolution must be adopted when a majority of those members present vote in its favor. This is also the case for elections. On suggestion of the board of directors, resolutions can be effected through a written procedure.
- (7) Members who are prevented from attending a Members' Assembly can transfer their vote to another member. No member can wield more than three votes.

§6 Board of Directors

- 1) The board of directors consists of the chairperson and up to three deputy chairpersons. The board members must be members of the Fellows' Club. The chairperson or his/her deputy chairpersons represent the association both legally and extra-judicially as per §26 of the German Civil Code. In tandem with the general manager (§7) the board of directors monitors the association's day-to-day business and drafts the annual budget.
- 2) The board of directors is elected by the Members' Assembly for three years. A recall can only be effected if there is an important reason for it. One-time reelection is possible.
- 3) The board of directors remains in office until a new board of directors can be elected.
- 4) The board of directors can be paid an expense allowance.

§7 Secretary

- (1) At suggestion of the board of directors, the secretary is appointed by the Members' Assembly. He/She can receive an appropriate expense allowance.
- (2) In line with the directives of the board of directors, the secretary tends to the association's day-to-day business on his/her own authority. He/She prepares the annual meeting and that of the Members' Assembly. He/She can transfer certain individual administrative tasks to the responsibility of the Wissenschaftskolleg.

§8 Funds and Their Use

- (1) Funding for the association is raised through the contributions of members and donations.
- (2) Funding for the association can only be used for purposes in accordance with its statutes. Members receive no allowances or gratuities from the association's funds.
- (3) No person may benefit through disbursements that are alien to the purpose of the corporation or through disproportionately high remuneration.
- (4) In the case of the association's dissolution or the surcease of its tax-privileged objectives, its assets shall devolve upon the Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin e. V., which shall solely and directly use them for non-profit purposes.

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