

LSJ Constitution

Chapter 1: General Rules

- Article I The name of the Society shall be the *Nihon Gengo Gakkai* (The Linguistic Society of Japan).
- Article II The object of the Society shall be to contribute to the advancement and development of the scientific study of language.
- Article III The Society shall undertake the following.
- a) To host its biannual conferences and other research meetings;
 - b) To issue its journal and other academic publications;
 - c) To carry out other necessary activities.
- Article IV The Secretariat shall be housed at the institution with which the President or the Secretary-general is affiliated.
- Article V Local branches of the Society may be launched with the approval of the Board of Councilors.

Chapter 2: Membership

- Article VI There shall be six classes of members: regular members, sustaining members, supporting members, honorary members, student members, and senior members.
- Article VII Individuals or institutions (e.g. libraries, research institutions, book stores) who agree with the objectives of the Society may become regular members of the Society according to the prescribed procedures. [i]
- 2 Regular members may become sustaining members according to the prescribed procedure.[ii]
 - 3 Students who agree with the objectives of the Society may become student members according to the prescribed procedure.[iii]
 - 4 Regular members who agree with the objectives of the Society may become senior members according to the prescribed procedure. [iv]
- Article VIII Individuals or institutions who agree with the objectives of the Society and provide financial support to the Society may become supporting members with the approval of the Board of Councilors.
- Article IX Individuals who have made distinguished contributions to the study of language may become honorary members with the nomination by the Board of Councilors and the approval in a General Membership Meeting.[v]
- Article X Members in good standing receive notifications of the meetings and activities of the Society as well as copies of the journal of the Society, and may participate in activities of the Society.
- 2 Individual members shall be entitled to present their research at the conferences of the Society and publish in the journal of the Society according to the prescribed procedures.
 - 3 Any individual members may vote to elect and may be elected to, the President Editor-in-chief Auditors, and Councilors. Currently, members residing outside of Japan are not eligible to vote to elect or to be elected to the above positions. Student members are not eligible to vote to elect or to be elected to the above positions.
 - 4 Members may have their membership suspended if they fail to comply with the "Linguistic Society of Japan Ethics Statement" provided separately.

Chapter 3: Officers and committee members

Article XI There shall be the following officers and committee members in the Society:

- President
- Secretary-general, members of the Secretariat
- Standing Committee
- Board of Councilors
- The *Gengo Kenkyu* Editorial Committee (Editor-in-chief, editors)
- The Conference Organizing Committee (Chair and other members)
- The Publicity Committee (Chair and other members)
- The Summer Institute Committee (Chair and other members)
- The Awards Committee (Chair and other members)
- The Ethics Committee (Chair and other members)
- Advisers
- Auditors

Article XII The President shall represent the Society and holds responsibility for the academic, administrative, and financial matters of the Society.[vi]

2 The President shall be elected from the individual (not institutional) members by the individual members. The term of the President shall be three years and may not be renewed.

3 If the President resigns the position during his/her term, the vacancy shall be filled by the candidate who received the second largest number of votes in the election in which the President was elected.

4 In the event of unforeseen circumstances involving the President, the President shall appoint an acting President from the Standing Committee members. Alternatively, a meeting of the Standing Committee shall be convened by a proposal made by a majority of the Standing Committee members, and an acting President shall be decided from among the Standing Committee members by mutual election.

Article XIII The Secretary-general and other members of the Secretariat shall serve the Society together with the President and perform the administrative business of the Society.

2 The Secretary-general shall be appointed by the President from the individual (not institutional) members. The term of the Secretary-general shall be three years.

3 The members of the Secretariat shall be appointed from the individual (not institutional) members by the Secretary-general in consultation with the President.

Article XIV The Standing Committee shall consist of the President as the chair and members of the Committee. The Committee shall discuss important issues concerning the administration and activities of the Society.

2 Members of the Standing Committee shall be appointed by the President from the individual (not institutional) members. The term of the members of the Standing Committee shall be three years.

Article XV The Board of Councilors shall consist of the President and the Councilors. The President shall serve as chair. The Board shall deliberate and vote on the following matters:

- a) Amendments to the Constitution, establishment and modification of Society rules;
- b) Approval of the budget and the settlement of accounts;
- c) Establishment and dissolution of committees and subcommittees, and approval of the establishment of taskforces and reports of the performed activities;
- d) Approval of outsourcing of the business of the Secretariat;
- e) Approval to dispatch representatives of the Society to international conferences;

- f) Nomination of honorary members;
- g) Approval of supporting members;
- h) Approval of the establishments of local branches;
- i) Discussion and decisions on other important issues.

2 Councilors shall be elected from the individual (not institutional) members by the individual (not institutional) members. The term of the Councilors shall be three years. Councilors may be elected for more than one successive term.

Article XVI The *Gengo Kenkyu* Editorial Committee shall consist of the Editor-in-chief and other members of the Committee. The Committee shall edit the journal of the Society.

2 The Editor-in-chief shall be elected from the individual (not institutional) members by the individual (not institutional) members. The term of the Editor-in-chief shall be three years and shall be limited to one term.

3 The Editor-in-chief shall attend meetings of the Standing Committee to respond to requests for recommendations from the Committee.

4 The members of the Editorial Committee shall be appointed by the Editor-in-chief from the individual (not institutional) members.

5 The Editor-in-chief may appoint special editors. The special editors do not need to be members of the Society.[vii]

Article XVII The Conference Organizing Committee shall consist of the Chair and other members of the Committee. The Committee shall organize and carry out the Meetings of the Society.

2 The Chair of the Conference Organizing Committee shall be appointed by the President from the individual (not institutional) members. The term of the Chair shall be one and a half years.

3 The Chair of the Conference Organizing Committee shall attend the meetings of the Standing Committee to respond to requests for recommendations from the Committee.

4 The members of the Conference Organizing Committee shall be appointed from the individual (not institutional) members by the Chair of the Committee in consultation with the President.

Article XVIII The Publicity Committee shall consist of the Chair and other members of the Committee and are responsible for the public relations of the Society.

2 The Chair of the Publicity Committee shall be appointed by the President from the individual (not institutional) members. The term of the Chair shall be one and a half years.

3 The Chair of the Publicity Committee shall attend the meetings of the Standing Committee to respond to requests for recommendations from the Committee.

4 The members of the Publicity Committee shall be appointed from the individual (not institutional) members by the Chair of the Committee in consultation with the President.

Article XIX The Summer Institute Committee shall consist of the Chair and other members of the Committee. The Committee shall organize and carry out the LSJ Summer Institute.

2 The Chair of the Summer Institute Committee shall be appointed by the President from the individual (not institutional) members. The term of the Chair shall be two years.

3 The Chair of the Summer Institute Committee shall attend, upon request of the President, the meetings of the Standing Committee to respond to requests for recommendations from the Committee.

4 The members of the Summer Institute Committee shall be appointed from the individual (not institutional) members by the Chair of the Committee in consultation with the President.

- Article XX The Awards Committee shall consist of the Chair and other members of the Committee. The Committee shall make selections for LSJ Awards.
- 2 The Chair of the Awards Committee shall be appointed by the President from among the individual (not institutional) members. The term of the Chair of the Awards Committee shall be three years.
- 3 The Chair of the Awards Committee shall attend, upon request of the President, the meetings of the Standing Committee to respond to requests for recommendations from the Committee.
- 4 Members of the Awards Committee shall be appointed from the individual (not institutional) members by the Chair of the Committee in consultation with the President.
- Article XXI The Ethics Committee shall comprise the Ethics Committee Chair, the Ethics Committee Vice-chair, and the Ethics Committee members and shall examine ethical problems for the Linguistic Society of Japan based on the Ethics Statement.
- 2 The Chair of the Ethics Committee shall be appointed by the President from among the senior Ethics Committee members (including the Vice-Chair). The term of the Chair of the Ethics Committee shall be six months.
- 3 The Vice Chair of the Ethics Committee shall be appointed by the President from among the individual members. The term of the Vice Chair of the Ethics Committee shall be six months.
- 4 The Ethics Committee members shall be appointed from among the individual members by the Chair and the Vice Chair of the Ethics Committee in consultation with the President. The term of the Ethics Committee members shall be one year, with half of the members rotating.
- Article XXII The Advisers shall respond to requests for recommendations from the President and the Board of Councilors.
- 2 The Advisers shall be former Presidents who have completed their terms.
- Article XXIII The Auditors shall inspect and report to the Board of Councilors the funds and financial circumstances of the Society.
- 2 The Auditors shall be elected from the individual (not institutional) members by the individual (not institutional) members. The term of the Auditors shall be three years and may not be renewed.

Chapter 4: Policy on serving in more than one executive position

- Article XXIV The President and Auditors shall not serve as other officers or committee members during their terms.
- Article XXV The Advisers shall not serve as other officers or committee members during their terms with the exception that they may serve as Councilors during their terms.
- Article XXVI The Editor-in-chief, the Chair of the Conference Organizing Committee, the Chair of the Publicity Committee, and the Secretary-general shall not serve as members of the Standing Committee during their terms.

Chapter 5: Meetings

- Article XXVII There shall be a regular General Membership Meeting once per year. This Meeting shall be called by the President.
- 2 When necessary, the President may call an extraordinary Membership Meeting. If an extraordinary Membership Meeting cannot be called, votes may be taken from all the individual (not institutional) members by means including postal mail.

- Article XXVIII The Board of Councilors shall meet twice per year. These meetings shall be called by the President. The President shall notify the Board of the agenda prior to the meetings.
- 2 When necessary, the President may call an extraordinary meeting of the Board of Councilors. The President shall call an extraordinary meeting when it is requested by seven or more Councilors.
- 3 Votes for the meetings of the Board of Councilors may be taken by means including postal mail.
- Article XXIX Meetings of the Standing Committee shall be called by the President. The President shall notify the Committee of the agenda prior to the meetings.

Chapter 6: Fiscal policy

- Article XXX The funds of the Society shall be collected as membership dues, subsidiary aids, donations and other financial resources.
- Article XXXI The President shall make a budget proposal, which shall be approved by the Board of Councilors. The President shall also make a statement of accounts, which shall be inspected by the Auditors and approved by the Board of Councilors. The President shall report the approved statement to the members of the Society in the General Membership Meeting.
- Article XXXII The fiscal year of the Society shall commence on April 1 and end on March 31 of the following year.

Chapter 7: Outsourcing of business of the Secretariat

- Article XXXIII A part of the business of the Secretariat may be outsourced with the approval of the Board of the Councilors.[viii]

Chapter 8: Amendments to the Constitution

- Article XXXIV Amendments to the Constitution of the Society shall be approved by the Board of Councilors and reported at the Membership Meeting.

Footnotes

- [i] Article VII, Clause 1
The procedure involves payment of annual dues: 7,000 yen.
- [ii] Article VII, Clause 2
The procedure involves payment of annual dues: 10,000 yen.
- [iii] Article VII, Clause 3
The procedure involves (a) payment of annual dues (4,000 yen and (b) submission, by postal mail or e-mail, of valid documentation of student status (e.g., a photocopy of student card, document of enrolment). The valid student documentation shall be renewed every year by April 30.
- [iv] Article VII, Clause 4

Senior members shall be those who are sixty-four years of age or older at the start of the fiscal year and who have been regular or sustaining members for ten consecutive years or more and paid their membership fees up to the year before the fiscal year in question. The period of exemption from membership fees due to disasters, etc. shall be included in the fiscal years in which the membership fees are paid. Those who wish to become senior members shall, in principle, submit applications to the secretariat branch office between April the 1st and April the 30th of the fiscal year in question. The membership fee shall be paid in a lump sum of 40,000 yen at the time of recognition as a senior member.

The term of senior membership shall be for life. Those who wish to resign their memberships shall submit applications to the secretariat branch office. If the Secretariat is unable to contact senior members by postal mail or e-mail for two years, the memberships shall be deemed to be terminated at the end of the fiscal year in question. In the tenth fiscal year of the senior membership period, senior members shall be asked if they wish to continue the memberships. The differences in the membership fees are not refundable even if senior members withdraw from the Society less than ten years after application. Regular or sustaining members who are 65 years of age or older and have paid membership fees for the last ten consecutive years or more at the time of application shall be recognized as senior members if they have paid the amount of 4,000 yen multiplied by the number of years obtained by subtracting their age as of the year of application from 74 years of age.

Regular or sustaining members who are 74 years of age or older shall be recognized as senior members without dues if they have paid membership fees for ten consecutive years prior to and including the year in which they turn 63 years of age and have paid membership fees for at least ten consecutive years beginning with the year in which they turn 64 years of age. Membership fees already paid are not refundable. Regular or sustaining members who are 64 years of age or older and have not paid membership fees for ten consecutive years prior to and including the year in which they turn 63 years of age shall be recognized as senior members if they have paid 7,000 yen for each

[v] Article IX

Honorary members shall be exempt from payment of membership dues.

[vi] Article XII, Clause 1

The President shall make an inaugural lecture at the Meeting of the Society in the first fiscal year after taking office. This lecture shall appear in the *Gengo Kenkyu* journal published in the fiscal year in which the lecture is made.

[vii] Article XVI, Clause 5

Special editors shall, upon request by the Editor-in-chief, help edit *Gengo Kenkyu* and work to improve its public relations outside of Japan (e.g., to review articles, to provide suggestions in occasions including the selection of reviewers, and to recruit members and make recommendations to submit papers to the journal of the Society). Special editors shall receive a free copy of *Gengo Kenkyu*. Special editors who are not members of the Society shall be entitled to submit papers to *Gengo Kenkyu* under the same conditions as members.

[viii] Article XXXIII

A part of the business of the Secretariat shall be for the moment outsourced to the Nakanishi Printing Company (Ogawahigashiiru, Shimotachiuridori, Kamigyo-ku, Kyoto City, Kyoto 602-8048).

Appendix

This Constitution shall be in force from April 1, 1975.

Amendments to the Constitution have been approved on November 29, 1975,

October 14, 1978,

November 13, 1984 (enforced on April 1, 1985),

October 23, 1993 (enforced on April 1, 1994),

November 27, 1999 (enforced on April 1, 2000),

June 29, 2001 (enforced on October 1, 2001),

November 17, 2001 (enforced on April 1, 2002),

June 19, 2004,

November 20, 2004 (enforced on April 1, 2005),

June 17, 2006,

June 20, 2009,

November 28, 2009,

November 27, 2010,

November 26, 2011,

June 16, 2012,

November 23, 2013,

November 28, 2015,

June 22, 2019,

June 25, 2021,

and January 18, 2022.