

The Kurt Vonnegut Society
<http://blogs.cofc.edu/vonnegut>

Activities

The Kurt Vonnegut Society was formed for two principal purposes: (1) to promote the scholarly and critical study of Vonnegut's work, and (2) to provide a forum for students and scholars to share research and ideas. To that end, the Society has established a website, which will include a bibliography of important works of interest to Vonnegut scholars and enthusiasts, calls for papers or submissions, a blog, and whatever other relevant information the webmaster and members deem suitable. The Society will also organize at least one panel at the annual conference of the American Literature Association (ALA), where it may also host informal social gatherings.

Membership

At present, membership in the Kurt Vonnegut Society is free, although dues may be collected in the future if deemed necessary or advantageous to promote the interests of the Society.

By-Laws

Article I. Name

Sec. 1. The name of the organization shall be the Kurt Vonnegut Society.

Article II. Purpose

Sec. 1. The purpose of the Society shall be to promote the scholarly study and general interest in the work of Kurt Vonnegut, and to facilitate the exchange of ideas between students, teachers, scholars, critics, and readers at large who are interested in Vonnegut's work.

Sec. 2. The Society shall maintain a website (currently available at the following address: www.vonnegutsociety.net), which will include *inter alia* a bibliography of relevant research on Vonnegut, calls for papers, news and announcement, a blog, and whatever other material the webmaster and the members deem suitable.

Sec. 3. An important function of the Society shall be the sponsorship and organization of panels at conferences, and in particular at the annual American Literature Association conference.

Article III. Membership

Sec. 1. Any person—including any individual, business, educational institution, publisher, or corporation—interested in the aims of the Kurt Vonnegut Society may join.

Sec. 2. Membership in this Society shall be through the website.

Sec. 3. Membership is free; however, should the members deem in desirable in the future, dues may be collected at such time.

Article IV. Privileges

Sec. 1. All members in good standing shall have the right to participate in any Society-sponsored panels, as well as to serve as organizer, chair, or respondent in such panels.

Sec. 2. All members in good standing shall have the right to post materials or contribute to the blog on the Society's website, pending approval of the webmaster, and to receive any publications issued by the Society.

Article V. Officers

Sec. 1. The officers of the Society shall be a President, a Vice-President, and a Webmaster, along with any such officer as the Society deems necessary in pursuit of its aims (e.g., a Secretary, a Treasurer, or an editor of a newsletter, should the Society publish one).

Sec. 2. Officers shall serve without compensation.

Sec. 3. One person may serve in more than one office simultaneously (e.g., the President and the Webmaster).

Sec. 4. A vacancy in any of the offices occurring during the incumbent's time in office shall be filled by a volunteer chosen by the remaining officers until such time as a new election can be held.

Sec. 5. The officers of the society shall perform the following duties:

a. The President shall preside at the annual general meeting, at the ALA conference or elsewhere, unless unable to do so. The President shall also be responsible for appointing the Webmaster to maintain the Society's website.

b. The Vice-President shall be responsible for organizing the Kurt Vonnegut Society's sessions at the ALA Conference or at other venues, unless unable to do so. In lieu of a Secretary or similar office, the Vice-President shall also be responsible for maintaining a record of the Society's activities.

c. The Webmaster shall maintain the Society's website and shall have the authority to make such decisions as needed to keep the website in working order.

d. The Treasurer shall be responsible for keeping a record of the Society's money, received or disbursed, and shall prepare an annual report of the Society's finances. However, until such time as the Society begins collecting dues, the office of the Treasurer may remain open, as its duties are not needed.

e. Any other office created by the Society shall have its duties defined at the time of its creation.

Sec. 6. Officers shall be elected triennially by the Society, by email vote or by vote at the annual general meeting of the Society, from a slate of nominees. Nominations may be submitted by any member of the Society. Officers shall serve three-years terms beginning on May 31. Officers may be re-elected and may serve multiple terms.

Article VI. Meetings

Sec. 1. The annual general meeting of the Society shall be held in conjunction with the ALA conference, or at such other time as the Society deems appropriate. The President may call special meetings for business or social purposes.

Article VII. Funds and Liabilities

Sec. 1. The funds of this Society, if any, shall be collected and disbursed by the Treasurer for the Society's needs and lawful expenditures.

Sec. 2. No member of the Society shall be liable except for the payment of dues.

Article VIII. Amendments

Sec. 1. Amendment to these By-Laws shall be voted upon by the full membership, via mail, email, and/or at the Annual General Meeting; approval will require a two-thirds majority of those voting. Amendments may be proposed by the officers of the Society, or by petition signed by twenty or more Society members in good standing.