

Science in Public Research Network Constitution

1.) NAME

The name of the group shall be the Science in Public Research Network, hereafter referred to as SiP.

2.) OBJECTIVES

- i. SiP provides a central point of contact and conversation for academics and professionals interested in research about science, technology and medicine in the public domain. This includes research on the relationships between science, technology, medicine and society; public opinion and engagement; media and culture; and the broader public sphere. SiP fosters cross-disciplinary debate across the many disciplines addressing these topics, including science communication and education; science and technology studies; history of science; development, policy, media and cultural studies; humanities, literature and the arts.

Because these fields are relatively 'young', we have a strong presence from early-career researchers: however, we encourage participation from academics at all stages of their career. Similarly, while the Network is UK based, we welcome involvement from and interchange with scholars and other networks anywhere in the world.

- ii. Since 2006, SiP has organised an annual conference (known until 2012 as the 'Science and the Public' conference) to facilitate these conversations. Each year the conference is run by a local organising team: a key objective of SiP is to provide long term continuity, organisational support and co-ordination between annual local organising teams.
- iii. As well as fostering cross-disciplinary conversations within academia, SiP also aims to facilitate conversations between research and practice in science communication, engagement and policy.
- iv. Finally, we will maintain an online presence for SiP research and researchers via our website scienceinpublic.org

3.) POWERS

In furtherance of the objectives, but not otherwise, the Organising Committee may exercise the power to:

- i. Publicise and promote the work of SiP and organise conferences, meetings, training courses, or seminars etc.
- ii. Invite and receive contributions and raise funds where appropriate, to finance the work of SiP, and to open a bank account to manage such funds, alongside those funds already raised.
- iii. Work with groups of a similar nature and exchange information, advice and knowledge with them, including cooperation with other voluntary bodies, charities, statutory and nonstatutory organisations.

- iv. Employ staff and volunteers as are necessary to conduct activities to meet the objectives.
- v. Appoint an Advisory Board of interested parties to provide counsel on the Organising Committee's decisions.
- vi. Take any form of action that is lawful, which is necessary to achieve the objectives of SiP.

4.) MEMBERSHIP

- i. The membership of SiP will consist of the core Organising Committee and its' Officers.
- ii. Membership shall be open to anyone who has an interest in assisting SiP to achieve its aims, is willing to adhere to the rules of the Group, and is admitted to the group by vote of the Organising Committee.
- iii. Where it is considered membership would be detrimental to the aims and activities of SiP, the Organising Committee shall have the power to refuse membership, or may terminate or suspend the membership of any member by majority vote and resolution passed at a meeting. Members shall have the right to appeal via an independent adjudicator determined by mutual agreement of the management committee.
- iv. Any member of the association may resign his/her membership by providing the Secretary with written notice.

5.) ORGANISING COMMITTEE

- i. SiP shall be administered by a management committee of no less than three (3) people and no more than fifteen (15), who must be at least 18 years of age. As described above, the Membership will form the Committee and *vice versa*. Members will be elected for a period of up to one year, but may be re-elected at the Group's AGM.

6.) OFFICERS AND ADVISORY BOARD

- i. The Committee shall appoint the following Officers:

The Chair
The Treasurer
The Secretary

plus any additional officers the Group deems necessary at the meeting required to carry out the required activities and aims of the Group

- ii. The Committee shall appoint an Advisory Board to provide feedback and advice on the activities of SiP.

7.) MEETINGS

- i. The committee shall meet at least once a year, during the annual Science in Public conference. Meetings shall enable the Group to discuss actions and monitor progress to date, and to consider future developments.
- ii. All members shall be given at least fourteen (14) days' notice of when a meeting is due to take place, unless it is deemed as an emergency.
- iii. Two-thirds of committee members must be present in order for a meeting to take place.
- iv. It shall be the responsibility of the Chairperson to chair all meetings or a designated deputy in his/her absence. All meetings must be minuted and accessible to interested parties.
- v. The AGM shall take place no later than three months after the end of the financial year. At least fourteen (14) days' notice must be given before the meeting takes place.
- vi. All members are entitled to vote at the AGM. Voting shall be made by a show of hands on a majority basis. In the case of a tied vote, the Chairperson or an appointed deputy shall make the final decision.

8.) FINANCE

- i. Any money acquired by SiP, including donations, contributions and bequests, shall be paid into an account operated by the Committee in the name of the Group. All funds must be applied to the objects of the Group and for no other purpose.
- ii. The Committee will grant to each year's local organising team any up-front funds required for e.g. room hire, publicity and other costs; in turn any profit or remaining funds shall be returned to SiP from the local organisers following the end of that year's conference.
- iii. A bank account shall be opened in the name of SiP. Any deeds, cheques etc. relating to the Group's bank account shall be signed by at least two (2) of the following committee members: Chairperson; Treasurer; Secretary.
- iv. Any income/expenditure shall be the responsibility of the Treasurer who will be accountable to ensure funds are utilised effectively and that the Group stays within budget. Official accounts shall be maintained, and will be examined annually by an independent accountant who is not a member of the Group. An annual financial report shall be presented at the AGM. The Group's accounting year shall run from 01 April to 31 March.

9.) ALTERATION OF THE CONSTITUTION

- i. Any changes to this constitution must be agreed by a majority vote at a special general meeting.

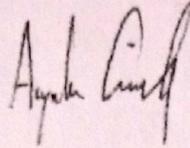
10.) DISSOLUTION

- ii. The Group may be dissolved if deemed necessary by the members in a majority vote at a special meeting. Any assets or remaining funds after debts have been paid shall be returned to their providers or transferred to local charities or similar groups at the discretion of the Management Committee.

28/04/16

This constitution was adopted at an SGM held on ~~DATE~~ by:

Signed: Chair



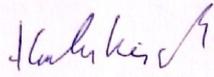
Dr. Angela Cassidy
Department of History
King's College London
Strand, London WC2R 2LS

Signed: Treasurer

Dr. Warren Pearce
<insert address here>

Signed: Secretary

Dr. Hauke Riesch
~~insert address here~~


BRUNEL UNIVERSITY LONDON

Signed: Member

Dr Rebekah Higgitt
School of History
Rutherford College
University of Kent
Canterbury CT2 7NX



Signed: Member
(SARAH DAVIES)

Signed: Member
(RICK HOLLIMAN)

Signed: Member
(ANNE GRAND)

 Sarah Davies - University of Copenhagen,
Denmark
 The Open University, UK.
 A Grand
University of the West of England, Bristol