

# *North American Society for the Study of Romanticism*

## CONSTITUTION

### Origins:

The North American Society for the Study of Romanticism was established on October 25th, 1991, at the University of Western Ontario.

### Purpose:

The Society aims to provide a forum for the discussion of Romanticism and to encourage a wide variety of theoretical approaches to the field. Its members work in a number of disciplines as well as a range of countries and regions, and are drawn primarily from the United States and Canada, although members from other countries are also welcome. To further its goals, the Society will organize full-scale conferences every year, usually to be held in either the United States or Canada. It will publish a newsletter which will distribute information regarding members' activities, news of conferences and other information of interest to members. It will also provide other informational services to members (for example a Members' Directory). The Society is a non-profit organization affiliated with the journal *European Romantic Review*. *European Romantic Review* is an independent entity. NASSR pays a part of its membership fees to the publisher of ERR to cover costs of distribution, and ERR includes an annual conference issue which publishes the best graduate student paper at the NASSR conference; however NASSR does not derive revenue from it or have any say in its publishing arrangements. In addition to the cost of distributing the journal to NASSR members, NASSR fees cover its own administrative costs, including Society publications and subsidy to the annual conference. NASSR aims at reaching a broad membership, and to that end will make every attempt to offer reduced membership fees to graduate students and retired members.

### Organization:

The work of the Society will be conducted by

a) An Executive Committee connected with the university at which the offices and records of the Society are housed. The Committee includes the Secretary-Treasurer and, *ex officio*, a representative of *ERR*. The Committee in conjunction with an Executive Assistant will conduct the day-to-day business of the Society, including correspondence, maintenance of membership records, administration of elections to the Advisory Board, and production of the newsletter and other information for members. A member of the Executive Committee will also serve on the Conference Committee of the institution hosting the annual conference, so as to offer help and advice with the implementation of the goals outlined in the "Conference Guidelines," and so as to keep the membership informed of plans for the conference through the newsletter.

b) An Advisory Board of nine members, to be elected by the membership at large for staggered terms of three years. In order to reflect the organization, membership and goals of the Society, there will be members elected each year from each of the following categories: 1. A U.S. member; 2. A non-US member (normally Canadian); 3. A member representing a field other than Anglophone literature. The Board shall offer advice on various ways in which the Society might serve the academic interests of the profession, on the goals and procedures of the Society, and on such specific issues as conference sites and ways in which the annual conference can best be made to reflect the concerns of the Society. Members of the Advisory Board will remain in communication with the Executive Committee throughout the year as necessary, and will meet with the Executive Committee at the annual conference.

The current Advisory and Executive Boards will be responsible for nominating or for overseeing the nomination of future members of the Board and shall confirm the willingness of these candidates to stand for election, before submitting a list of nominees to the Secretary-Treasurer for inclusion in a fall ballot.

(Ratified by the NASSR membership Aug 29th, 1993)