

# ASSOCIATION OF GERMAN TEACHERS IN IRELAND

## **RULES AND CONSTITUTION**

### **1. Name of Association**

Association of German Teachers in Ireland (GDI)

### **2. Objectives**

The objective of the Association is the official representation of German teachers in Ireland as well as the continual promotion of the subject of German as a foreign language in Ireland. The Association aspires:

- a) To support German teachers in their professional activity, their professional education and continuous professional development.
- b) To organize and support lectures, discussions, round-table discussions and seminars on the topics of methodology, didactics, curricula, teaching materials and learning resources, examinations and assessment, language training etc.
- c) To seek collaborative partnerships with all organizations and institutions in Ireland that have an interest in German language and culture.
- d) To seek ongoing and constructive collaboration with the Department of Education and Skills.
- e) To maintain continuous contact with other related associations.
- f) To create an ongoing and close connection with German-speaking countries.

### **3. Membership**

- a) Ordinary membership is open to any German teacher in Ireland.
- b) Associate membership may be offered to people with a particular interest in German language and culture. This decision lies with the Committee.
- c) The Committee consists of a chairman, a deputy chairman, a treasurer and a secretary as well as six other members.
- d) The Committee is authorized to convene committees and to set up regional groups. When necessary, representatives of these committees and regional groups may be co-opted by the Committee to the Committee. Reports by the treasurer and the secretary should be furnished at each board meeting and each general meeting.
- e) To be appointed chairman requires having previously served on the Committee.
- f) At the end of its two-year term of office the entire Committee resigns and the general assembly discharges the outgoing Committee of its duties. When

a member resigns ahead of schedule, the Committee elects a new member for the remaining term of office.

At the general assembly all the members of the Committee as well as three trustees are elected for a period of two years. The three trustees may attend board meetings but may not vote.

- g) The Committee is obliged to send out written invitations to the biennial general assembly. Each member is to receive the invitation along with the agenda at the latest two weeks before the general assembly.
- h) The general management and administration of the Association is the responsibility of the Committee; it uses the available funds in the interest of the Association.
- i) Board meetings will be called as required by the secretary as agreed with the chairman or the deputy chairman.
- j) The Committee is authorized to adopt its own rules of procedure.
- k) The Committee reserves the right to terminate the membership of members who seriously act against the interests of the Association.

#### **4. Membership fee**

The annual membership fee which is set by the Committee is paid by all ordinary and associate members. Only those who have paid their annual contribution by the start of the relevant general assembly are entitled to vote.

#### **5. Election of the Committee**

- a) Every ordinary member of the Association is entitled to nominate in writing candidates for the Committee before the general assembly.
- b) Chairman, deputy chairman, treasurer and secretary must be elected in separate ballots. The remaining members of the Committee must be elected in a single ballot.
- c) Only members who are present at the general assembly are entitled to vote.
- d) Every member proposed for election must be seconded by another member.

#### **6. Amendments to the Rules and Constitution and dissolution of the Association**

- a) Once the Rules and Constitution have been adopted by the members, any later amendment requires a two-thirds majority of those eligible to vote and present at the general assembly.

- b) A decision to dissolve the Association may be taken by a two-thirds majority of those eligible to vote and present at the general assembly.
- c) If the Association is dissolved, the assets of the Association shall be divided equally among the members.

Ratified November 11th 2017

Signature 1

*Louise Walker-Keeser*

Signature 2

*Arthur Z...*

\_\_\_\_\_ Date :

November 20<sup>th</sup> 2017