

Proposed Amendments to the DCE Bylaws

June, 2021

Rationale: We propose to make several minor changes to the bylaws to make them consistent with current SICB and DCE policies and naming conventions, to remove redundancy, and to update language.

Proposed changes to the Bylaws are indicated as follows.

Additions = **bold underline**

Deletions = ~~strikethrough~~

Article III. Membership

Membership in the Division is open to all classes of members of the SICB. It is acquired by registration with the SICB **Business Office**~~Secretary~~.

Article V. Officers

Officers of the Division shall be a Chair, Chair-Elect, Program Officer, Program Officer-Elect, Secretary, and a Secretary-Elect. The term of office for the Chair, Chair-Elect, and Secretary shall be for two (2) years. The term for Program Officer shall be for three (3) years. The term of office for the Program Officer-Elect and Secretary-Elect shall be for one (1) year.

(a) Officers shall be elected by a simple majority by ~~mail or~~ electronic ballot.

(b) The Chair, upon the completion of the second year in office, shall be succeeded by the Chair-Elect.

(c) Balloting for a new Chair-Elect will be conducted in the second year of office of the incumbent Chair and Chair-Elect.

The Officers plus the ~~Graduate~~-Student/Postdoc Representative shall constitute an Executive Committee responsible for divisional affairs. The officers shall be elected by a plurality vote of the members conducted by a ballot prior to the annual meeting by a procedure consonant with the Bylaws of the Society for Integrative and Comparative

Biology. At least two candidates should be placed on the ballot. In the event that the election results in a tie, the outcome will be determined by a majority vote of the elected officers of the Divisional Executive Committee. If the votes cast by the Executive Committee result in a tie, the deciding vote will be determined by the divisional Chair. A brief biography of each candidate shall be made available on the ballot. The term of office of all elected officers and appointed representative shall begin at the end of the second SICB Executive Committee meeting at the Annual Meeting in the year the term is to begin and will end at the adjournment of the second SICB Executive Committee meeting at the Annual Meeting in the year the term is to expire. In the case when a divisional office is unexpectedly vacated, the following provisions are made: If the office of Secretary or Program Officer is vacated early, the Chair, in consultation with the Divisional Executive Committee, will appoint someone to serve until elections can be held to fill the position. If the office of Divisional Chair is vacant, the Divisional Executive Committee, in consultation with the SICB President, will appoint someone to be the interim Chair until an election is held.

Article VI. Chair

The Chair shall serve for a term of two years, directing the affairs of the Division and presiding at its business meetings. ~~They~~He/she shall represent the Division on the Society Executive Committee. ~~They~~He/she shall appoint at any time those committees as may be required to assist ~~them~~him/her to conduct the affairs of the Division. At or before the Annual Meeting, ~~the Chair~~he/she must appoint a nominating committee, consisting of a chair and two members, to present a slate of candidates to be elected for the office or offices to be filled for the following year. ~~In the circumstance where an elected officer is unable to complete his or her term of office, the following provisions are made: If the office of Secretary or Program Officer is vacated early, the Chair, in consultation with the Divisional Executive Committee, will appoint someone to serve until elections can be held to fill the position. If the office of Divisional Chair is vacant, the Divisional Executive Committee, in consultation with the SICB President, will appoint someone to be the interim Chair until an election is held.~~

Article VII. Chair-Elect

The Chair-Elect shall serve for two (2) years and assume the duties of the Chair after the two-year term of office of the incumbent Chair has been completed, as well as when

that person is unable to act. ~~They~~He/she shall assist the Chair in the conduct of the affairs of the Division whenever they are~~he/she is~~ so requested by the Chair.

Article VIII. Program Officer

The Program Officer shall arrange programs for the meetings of the Division. ~~They~~He/she shall be elected for a term of three (3) years. The Program Officer shall coordinate special programs with the Program Officers of the Society and of related societies and divisions, as desirable.

Article IX. Program Officer-Elect

The Program Officer-Elect shall assume the duties of the Program Officer whenever that person is unable to act. ~~They~~He/She shall serve for a term of one year after which they~~he/she~~ shall automatically assume the position of Program Officer.

Article X. Secretary

The Secretary shall keep the records of the Division and handle its business affairs in accord with the directives of the Chair. ~~They~~He/she shall maintain complete files of the Division's activities, summarize and present these at business meetings, prepare the Newsletter of the Division, and at the termination of ~~their~~his/her office transmit the files in good order to the successor. ~~They~~He/she shall be elected for a term of two (2) years.

Article XI. Secretary-Elect

The Secretary-Elect shall assume the duties of the Secretary whenever that person is unable to act. ~~They~~He/She shall serve for a term of one year after which they~~he/she~~ shall automatically assume the position of Secretary.

Article XII. Continuity of Offices

~~Program Officer and Secretary are to be elected in alternate years.~~ **All officers will be elected as stated above to ensure continuity of leadership.**

Article XVII. Best Student Presentation Awards

Two awards will be given in the Best Student Presentation competition at the Annual Meeting: one for the best oral presentation and one for the best poster presentation. Competitors must be members of SICB. The award for the best oral presentation will be named the Aubrey Gorbman Award. The award for the best poster presentation will be named the Lynn Riddiford Award. ~~Student-in-Training~~ **Undergraduate and High School Student** Members, Graduate Student Members and those who have received a Ph.D. within 12 months of the competition are eligible to compete for awards. The work presented must be original and must have been carried out principally by the student competitor.

Article XVIII. Amendments

These Bylaws may be changed or amended at any annual meeting by two-thirds vote of those present or by at least two-thirds of the members responding to ~~a mail or an~~ **an** electronic ballot, provided that notice has been given to all members ~~thirty(30)sixty (60)~~ **thirty(30)** days in advance.