

SICB Constitution

Rationale: Officer terms now end at the end of the Annual Meeting, but substantial work often remains for officers after the Annual Meeting (for example, selecting and communicating with Best Student Presentation winners, compiling minutes of Members Meetings, resolving expenditures from the Annual Meeting). In practice, officers whose terms have just ended often continue to work to complete these tasks, or new officers must step in to complete tasks they were not previously involved in. By shifting officer terms to begin and end 4 weeks after the annual meeting, terms will better align with the work expected of officers. In practice, we will aim for this transition to occur around February 1 each year.

Article III: Administrative Organization

Section 3. Term of Officers and Appointees: The term of office of all elected officers and appointed representatives shall begin **four weeks after** ~~at the end of the~~ second Executive Committee meeting at the Annual Meeting in the year the term is to begin and will end **four weeks after** ~~at the adjournment of the~~ second Executive Committee meeting at the Annual Meeting in the year the term is to expire.

Rationale: The quorum of the Executive Committee was set to be 12 at a time when this body had far fewer members (approximately 24). The Executive Committee has been expanded in recent years, and now includes 32 voting members, and so we propose that a quorum should include at least half of this Committee.

Article V: Quorum

Section 1. Fifty members shall constitute a quorum of the Society, and **sixteen** ~~twelve~~ a quorum of the Executive Committee.

SICB Bylaws

Rationale: The following changes to the Bylaws compile all the committee memberships of the society officers in the description of the position (without changing membership of the committees themselves).

Article III: President-Elect

Section 3. The President-Elect shall serve as an *ex officio* member of the Broadening Participation Committee **and the Educational Council.**

Article IV: Past President

Section 3. The Past President shall serve as a member of the Finance Committee.

Article XI: Treasurer-Elect

Section 3. The Treasurer-Elect shall serve as a member of the Finance Committee.

Rationale: It is possible for the same individual to hold more than one position on the Executive Committee (for example, a division chair may also be a journal editor). To formalize the “one person, one vote” principle on the Executive Committee, this amendment makes explicit that a person serving in two roles may not vote twice, but instead may have a replacement for one of their roles vote in that role.

Article XIII: Duties of the Executive Committee

Section 5. No member of the Executive Committee shall be permitted to vote more than once on any voting measure. In the situation where a member of the Executive Committee fills more than one role on the Executive Committee, that individual shall vote only in one of their roles. If possible, the SICB President may appoint an appropriate interim replacement for the second role to vote in their place (See Article XIV: Vacancies or Absences in Office, Section 5).

Rationale: The process of appointment of new members to all society committees involves the President-Elect collecting suggestions from committee members and/or divisional officers, for appointment by the President. The wording of the Educational Council process could be misinterpreted to suggest that the process is different for this committee, and the wording change proposed here clarifies this process (but is not a policy change). This amendment also formalizes the involvement of the President-Elect as an *ex officio* member of the Council, recognizes the Ed Council’s important role in developing workshops, and broadens the means of communication between the Council and SICB membership.

Article XV: Standing Committees

Section 2. Educational Council: The President shall appoint a Committee consisting of at least six members, each for a term of three years. The President shall appoint the chair of the Committee. The term of the Chair shall be three years and the Chair is a member of the Executive Committee. **The Council may recommend new members for consideration for appointment to the** President-Elect. ~~Selection of new members will be made by a recommendation of the Council to the President-Elect.~~ **The President-Elect shall serve as an ex officio member of the Council.** The Council will report to the Executive Committee through the Chair and will meet once a year at the Annual Meeting of the Society. The Educational Council will provide information to the SICB membership on educational issues in the life sciences, facilitate the development of consortia to respond to opportunities for funding from granting agencies, and respond to educational issues and questions brought up by members of the Society. The responsibilities of the Educational Council may include, but not be limited to, the following: **workshops at the Annual Meeting**, educational development for students; coordination of outreach activities; liaison with other professional groups with reference to educational issues; and response to proposals from members for particular projects. Ad hoc working groups will be established by the Educational Council to carry out these projects. The

Educational Council will communicate with members through society publications ~~the SICB newsletters and *Integrative and Comparative Biology*~~.

Rationale: The SICB Constitution and Bylaws do not define a group called the Executive Officers (as referred to in the following two sections), and in practice, for at least the last 4 years, the Executive Committee has voted to approve editors for the two society journals. These changes reflect the current practice of editorial appointment.

Article XV: Standing Committees

Section 5. Editorial Board, *Integrative and Comparative Biology*: The Editor shall have the authority to appoint one or more Associate Editors (to assist with editorial duties) and one or more Managing Editors (to provide administrative and secretarial assistance), subject to approval by the Executive **Committee** Officers. Assistant Editors shall be appointed by the President upon nomination by the Editor and approval of the Executive Committee. The Editorial Board of *Integrative and Comparative Biology* shall consist of the Editor, Associate Editor(s), and one Assistant Editor from each Division, each of whom shall serve for a term of five years. The Managing Editor(s) shall serve as *ex officio* member(s) of the Editorial Board but may not vote. Additional Assistant Editors may be added to the Editorial Board and each shall serve a term of 2, 3, or 4 years, as agreed between the Editor and the appointee. The Editorial Board shall assist with the manuscript peer review process and advise the Editor in matters relating to journal policy, with particular reference to determining editorial and business policies for the journal in all respects not otherwise specified by the Constitution and Bylaws or directed by the Executive **Committee** Officers.

Section 6. Editorial Board, *Integrative Organismal Biology*: The Editor shall have the authority to appoint one or more Associate Editors (to assist with editorial duties) and one or more Managing Editors (to provide administrative and secretarial assistance), subject to approval by the Executive **Committee** Officers. The Editorial Board of Integrative Organismal Biology shall consist of the Editor, and Associate Editor(s). The Managing Editor(s) shall serve as *ex officio* member(s) of the Editorial Board but may not vote. The Editorial Board shall assist with the manuscript peer review process and advise the Editor in matters relating to journal policy, with particular reference to determining editorial and business policies for the journal in all respects not otherwise specified by the Constitution and Bylaws or directed by the Executive **Committee** Officers.

Rationale: The definition of “ad hoc members” for the Student Support Committee is currently unclear. This amendment clarifies that standing committee members with 3-year terms may not be appointed by the Chair, but that when needed, ad hoc reviewers can be brought in on a temporary basis for proposal review (for example, to better cover a field for which the standing committee members do not have expertise).

Article XV: Standing Committees

Section 8. Student Support Committee: The President shall appoint a Committee consisting of a Full Member as Chair and no fewer than five (5) committee members. The Chair may also appoint ad hoc members **reviewers to assess student proposals before the Annual Meeting**, as needed. The Chair shall serve as a member of the Executive Committee. The committee shall be responsible for overseeing all SICB activities related to student support as directed by the Executive Committee. The term of the Chair shall be three (3) years; the terms of the committee members shall be staggered at two (2) year intervals. The Treasurer shall serve as an *ex officio* member.

Rationale: The Public Affairs Committee has had far more than 3 members for a number of years. The following amendment clarifies the expectation of term rotations among the larger committee.

Article XV: Standing Committees

Section 10. Public Affairs Committee: The President shall appoint a Committee consisting of at least three members, each for a term of three years. The President shall appoint the chair of the Committee. The Chair shall serve as a member of the Executive Committee. The appointment of members of the Committee shall be ordered so that the term of **approximately one-third of the members** ~~one member~~ shall expire each year. The Committee shall promote the programs and interests of the Society, consistent with the Society mission, to the public. The Committee shall also conduct programs and workshops for Society members in order to develop skills and provide information regarding public affairs. The Committee shall work with the Program Officer to broadly advertise the program of the Annual Meeting of the Society. The Program Officer and the Communications Editor shall serve as *ex officio* members of the Committee.

Rationale: In an effort to make the Best Student Presentation (BSP) competitions more equitable and transparent for student participants and more streamlined for divisional officers and judges, SICB leadership has begun the process of more clearly defining BSP practices and policies. This amendment reflects the expectation that, while divisional BSP competitions will continue to vary in many ways (e.g., number of competitors in competitions, how judges are assigned to presentations, whether extended abstracts are required), all divisions will use a core set of practices and policies (e.g., common rubrics, cash awards and journal subscriptions for winners).

Article XVI: Awards

Section 1. Best Student Presentations. Each division may elect to have awards for best student presentations at the annual meeting. Separate awards may be given for best oral presentation and best poster presentation. Each division is responsible for securing a panel of judges and **following society-wide** ~~establishing~~ procedures for selecting award recipients. Divisions may have additional restrictions or requirements than those set forth here. Competitors must be members of SICB and are responsible for checking divisional rules.

Graduate Student, Undergraduate, and High School Student Members and those who have received a Ph.D. within 12 months of the competition are eligible to compete for awards. A presentation (oral or poster) may be entered in only one divisional contest **per year**. A student who wins best oral presentation in a given division may not compete in best oral presentation contests in that same division in the future. A student who wins best poster presentation may not compete in best poster presentation contests in that same division in the future. Student award winners in one division are not excluded from competing for awards in other divisions in other years.