

**PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE CONSTITUTION OF
THE RADIATION RESEARCH SOCIETY–2007**

ARTICLE II-Objectives

Proposed changes

1) Minor wording

Revised version of ARTICLE II- Objectives

The objectives of the Society shall be:

1. To promote original research in the natural sciences relating to radiation.
2. To facilitate integration of different fields/disciplines in the study of radiation effects.
3. To promote the diffusion of knowledge in these fields.

ARTICLE III-Members

Proposed changes

- 1) Alter the names of the categories of members to reflect current practice.
- 2) Modify the eligibility for membership and allow nomination by one full member or emeritus member rather than two.

Revised version of ARTICLE III–Members

1. The membership of the Society shall consist of Full Members, Associate Members, Scholars-in-Training, Emeritus Members, Corporate Members, and Institutional Members.

2. Full Members. There shall be elected to full membership only such persons who have contributed either two or more peer-reviewed research publications or made some other substantial and meritorious special service to the natural or population sciences. The fulfillment of these qualifications shall be determined by examination of the membership application and the published works of the applicant. Applicants for full membership in the Society must be nominated by a Full or Emeritus Member of the Society. The rights and privileges of Full Members include voting, holding office, subscribing and publishing in the Society publications at favorable rates.

3. Associate Members. Applicants who do not meet the requirements for full membership or another membership category, but whose interests and endeavors are otherwise aligned with the objectives of the Society, shall be elected as Associate Members of the Society. The fulfillment of these qualifications shall be determined by examination of the membership application and the published works of the applicant. Applicants for associate membership in the Society must be nominated by a Full, Emeritus or Associate Member of the Society. Associate Members have all privileges of Full Members except that they may not vote or hold office.

4. Scholars in Training. Pre-or-postdoctoral students may be elected as Scholars in Training. Membership as a Scholar in Training is limited to six years, but may be extended indefinitely by petitioning the Membership Committee. The fulfillment of these qualifications shall be determined by examination of the membership application. Applicants for Scholar in Training membership must be nominated by a Full, Emeritus or Associate Member of the Society. Scholars affiliated with an Institutional Member may be nominated by that Institutional Member. Scholars in Training have all the privileges of Full Members except that they may not vote or hold office.

5. Emeritus Members. An Emeritus Member fulfills the requirements for a Full Member, but has become Emeritus or retired at his/her own institution. He/she has all the rights and privileges of Full Members and pays no dues.

6. Corporate Members. Any corporation or business interested in the goals and mission of the RRS may be elected a Corporate Member. Corporate Members may not vote or hold office.

7. Institutional Members. Academic Departments or Institutes may be elected as Institutional Members. Institutional Members may not vote or hold office in the Society. An Institutional Member may subscribe to the Society's publications only at the institutional rates. Institutional Members may sponsor pre- and postdoctoral students from their institution for membership as Scholars in Training without an additional fee levied on the student. There is no limit to the number of students that can be so sponsored.

ARTICLE V-Elections

Proposed changes

- 1) **Alter the Constitution to allow for electronic balloting as well as mail balloting.**
- 2) **Define the process of succession if a vacancy occurs in any of the offices.**

Revised version of ARTICLE V-Elections

1. Officers and Councilors shall be elected by ballot, ***which can be sent to the eligible membership either by mail or electronically. The election process, ballot and its method of delivery shall be approved by the Council.*** Not less than 18 weeks before the Annual Meeting, the Secretary-Treasurer shall send to each Member ***either by mail or electronically*** a request for nominations, specifying the vacancies to be filled. Within fourteen weeks before the Annual Meeting, all nominations shall be received by the Secretary-Treasurer who shall transmit all those that are valid to the Nominating Committee. A person is nominated by the membership if he/she is named by at least 10 members. The Nominating Committee shall present at least two candidates for each vacancy, excepting only the office of Editor-in-Chief. The Committee may nominate candidates for each office in addition to those nominated by the membership. The names of all nominees shall be transmitted to the Secretary-Treasurer who shall have an election ballot prepared including all nominees of both categories and a blank space for each vacancy to provide for write-in candidates. The Secretary-Treasurer shall ***send*** a copy of the official ballot ***either by mail or electronically to each eligible Full or Emeritus*** Member not less than twelve weeks before the Annual Meeting. To be valid, each ballot must be properly marked and be received by the Secretary-Treasurer not less than eight weeks before the Annual Meeting. The Secretary-Treasurer shall deliver all valid ballots within seven weeks of the Annual Meeting to tellers appointed by the President. The tellers shall count the valid ballots, and the results shall be reported to the Secretary-Treasurer. In case of failure to secure a majority for an Officer or Councilor, one of the two candidates for each position having the highest number of votes will be chosen by ballot. The Secretary-Treasurer shall have a run-off election ballot prepared containing for each ***such*** position ***the two candidates*** having the highest number of votes. The Secretary-Treasurer shall ***send*** a copy of the official run-off ballot ***either by mail or electronically to each eligible Full or Emeritus*** Member not less than six weeks before the Annual Meeting. To be valid, each run-off ballot must be properly marked and ***must*** be received by the Secretary-Treasurer not less than two weeks before the Annual Meeting. The Secretary-Treasurer shall deliver all valid run-off ballots at or before the Annual Meeting to tellers appointed by the President. The tellers shall count the valid ballots, and the results shall be announced at the Annual Meeting.

2. If a vacancy in any elective office or position, except that of President, Vice-President/President-Elect, ***Secretary-Treasurer, or Editor-in-Chief*** occurs between Annual Meetings, the Council shall appoint ***an interim*** successor for a term expiring at the time of the business session of the Annual Meeting. The vacancy will ***then*** be filled ***following the usual processes for such appointments.*** If a vacancy occurs in the office of President, the Vice-President/President-Elect shall act as President until the next business session of the Annual Meeting. If a vacancy occurs in the office of Vice-President/President-Elect, the Vice-President-Elect shall act as Vice-President/President-Elect until the next business session of the Annual Meeting. If a vacancy occurs in the office of Vice-President-Elect, both a Vice-President/President-Elect and a Vice-President-Elect will be chosen at the next election. ***If a vacancy occurs in the office of Secretary-Treasurer, the Secretary-Treasurer-Elect (if already elected) shall act as Secretary-Treasurer. If a vacancy occurs in the office of Editor-in-Chief, the Council shall appoint an interim successor for a term expiring at the time of the business session of the Annual Meeting.***

3. Members of the Board of Editors shall be elected by simple majority vote of the Council on nomination by the Editor-in-Chief.

ARTICLE VI-Duties

Proposed changes

- 1) **Revise duties of the Past President.**
- 2) **Alter the composition of the membership and nominating committees to add members to represent the full membership as well as members to represent the original disciplines.**

Revised version of ARTICLE VI–Duties

1. The duties of the President, the Vice-President/President-Elect, the ***Past President, the*** Secretary-Treasurer, and the Editor-in-Chief are those customarily performed by such officers, unless otherwise directed by the Council. The Vice-President-Elect assures a smooth presidential succession, ***and, with the Past President, both*** assist the Vice-President/President-Elect in the organization of the Annual Meeting, and serves as otherwise directed by the Council.

2. The duties of the Council shall be:

- (a) To serve as the Board of Directors of the Corporation.
- (b) To administer all funds of the Society and to make appropriations for the necessary expenses of the Society.
- (c) To establish annually the dues for members.
- (d) To take such action as seems desirable and appropriate to promote the objectives of the Society.
- (e) ***To appoint a membership committee consisting of one member representing physics, one chemistry, one biology, one medicine, and 2 at-large. The membership committee shall*** examine the eligibility of applicants ***for membership*** and report its findings to the Society ***consistent with the instructions given in the ByLaws.***
- (f) To appoint a Nominating Committee consisting of ***one member representing*** physics, one chemistry, one biology, one medicine, ***and 2 at-large.*** Each member of this Committee shall be appointed for a one-year term only, but he/she may be reappointed.
- (g) To establish and foster representative publications as they become desirable.
- (h) The Council may, if it deems necessary, appoint an Executive Director with appropriate compensation to assist in handling the affairs of the Society.
- (i) The Council may, at its discretion, appoint an Executive Committee from its members and may delegate to this committee such powers as it sees fit.
- (j) To appoint such other committees as are necessary.

ARTICLES VII and VIII-Quorum and Amendments

Proposed changes

1) Minor wording

Revised version of ARTICLE VII–Quorum

Eight voting members of the Council shall constitute a quorum. Fifty Members shall constitute a quorum for all business meetings of the Society.

Revised version of ARTICLE VIII–Amendments

No part of this Constitution shall be amended or annulled except by formal proposal of an Amendment, followed by opportunity for discussion at an Annual Meeting and by a ballot. Proposal of an Amendment may be made by the Council, or by petition to the President signed by at least ten members. The Secretary-Treasurer shall distribute copies of the proposed Amendment to all Members of the Society no less than three weeks before an Annual Meeting, and opportunity shall be given for discussion in the meeting. Not more than eight weeks after this meeting the Secretary-Treasurer shall again distribute copies of the Amendment in its final form, accompanied by ballot forms, to all Full and Emeritus Members. To be valid, each ballot must be properly marked and returned to the Secretary-Treasurer in time to be received not later than a date specified on the ballot form. The Secretary-Treasurer shall deliver all valid ballots to tellers appointed by the President. The tellers shall promptly report the outcome of their count to the President who shall then promptly report it to the Council and membership. Adoption of a proposed Amendment shall require the affirmative votes of not fewer than two thirds of the Full and Emeritus Members voting and shall become effective as soon as the tellers report the vote to the President.