

CONSTITUTION OF THE RADIATION RESEARCH SOCIETY
(Proposed Amendment re Presidential Rotation through Disciplines)

ARTICLE IV – Management

Item 9: A single paragraph will be added as selected below from mutually exclusive options. These will be presented to the membership in a stepwise vote leading to a final selection.

Option 1: Because the four offices of the presidential succession represent the Society as a whole, they will be filled by election of the Vice-President-Elect without regard to discipline or field.

This effectively eliminates the custom of rotating the presidency through the disciplines. While rotation has been a long-standing tradition, it has never been mandated by the Constitution.

Option 2: It is strongly encouraged that the succession of the Presidency shall rotate through the four primary disciplines and at-large, to be accomplished by the election of a Vice-President-Elect from a specific discipline/field. The order of rotation is chemistry, biology, medicine, physics, and at-large; the order of rotation is maintained regardless of whether a candidate from the scheduled discipline is elected in a specific year.

*This is effectively no change from what is currently mandated by the Constitution. It merely formalizes a guiding principle of the Society but does not **require** a rotation.*

Option 3: It is strongly encouraged that the succession of the Presidency shall rotate through the four primary disciplines and at-large, to be accomplished by the election of a Vice-President-Elect from a specific discipline/field. The order of rotation is chemistry, biology, medicine, physics, and at-large; the order of rotation is maintained regardless of whether a candidate from the scheduled discipline is elected in a specific year. The election slate must contain at least one valid candidate from a discipline when that discipline occurs in the rotation. The remaining candidate(s) may be from any discipline and shall be selected as described in Article V.1.

This requires one candidate from the specified discipline so as to provide a choice to the membership.

Option 4: It is strongly encouraged that the succession of the Presidency shall rotate through the four primary disciplines and at-large, to be accomplished by the election of a Vice-President-Elect from a specific discipline/field. The order of rotation is chemistry, biology, medicine, physics, and at-large; the order of rotation is maintained regardless of whether a candidate from the scheduled discipline is elected in a specific year. Nominations for candidates in the specific discipline will be considered first. If a slate cannot be presented of at least two valid candidates from a discipline when that discipline occurs in the rotation, then the remaining candidate(s) shall be selected as described in Article V.1.

This initially attempts to have only (but at least two) candidates from the specified discipline but only if that is not possible are candidates from other disciplines allowed.

Option 5: The succession of the Presidency shall rotate through the four primary disciplines and at-large, to be accomplished by the election of a Vice-President-Elect from a specific discipline/field. The order of rotation is chemistry, biology, medicine, physics, and at-large. When the discipline occurs in the rotation, only members from that discipline will be considered for nomination and as candidates.

This mandates an absolute requirement for a specific discipline to be elected. Note that it does not specify how that will be accomplished or what to do if a problem arises with developing a slate.

A series of sequential questions will be submitted to the membership in the process of amendment ratification.

Question 1: Should the concept of the rotation of the Presidency be formally and specifically **eliminated** from the governance principles of the Society?

No – proceed to question 2.

Yes - this selects Option 1.

Question 2: Should the concept of the rotation of the Presidency be formally recognized in the Constitution?

No - this maintains the current Constitution (no item 9 added).

Yes – proceed to question 3.

Question 3: Should the Constitution mandate more than merely “encouraging” the rotation of the Presidency?

No – this selects option 2.

Yes – proceed to question 4.

Question 4: Should the rotation of the Presidency be absolutely required, i.e., only candidates from the discipline allowed?

No - proceed to question 5.

Yes – this selects Option 5.

Question 5: Is it preferable to attempt to have two candidates from the specified discipline (but require none) rather than require at least one candidate?

No - this selects Option 3.

Yes – this selects Option 4.

Interpretation of voting, with 2/3 affirmation required to affect a change:

1. If at least 2/3 of the votes cast on Question 1 are for Yes, then Option 1 is selected and no further options/votes are considered.
2. If less than 2/3 of votes cast are for Yes on Question 2, then this portion of the Constitution remains unchanged and no further options/votes are considered.
3. If at least 2/3 votes for Yes on Question 2 but less than 2/3 of the votes cast on Question 3 are for Yes, then Option 2 is selected and no further options/votes are considered.
4. If at least 2/3 of votes on Questions 2, 3, and 4 are for Yes, then Option 5 is selected and no further options are considered.
5. If at least 2/3 of votes on Questions 2 and 3 are for Yes, less than 2/3 of votes on Questions 4 are for Yes, and at least 2/3 of votes on Question 5 are for Yes, then Option 4 is selected. If less than 2/3 of votes on Question 5 are for Yes, then Option 3 will be selected.