

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF PLANT BIOLOGISTS

Annual Election, 2020

Article III: Membership:

Proposed Amendments 1-5

Constitutional amendments require a vote by ASPB membership. The first, second, and fifth proposed changes represent textual changes for clarity only.

For the third and fourth items, ASPB proposes to formalize two new membership categories. The purpose is to acknowledge our support of these member categories, but also to allow for a separate member fee structure.

Article VIII: Standing Committee:

Proposed Amendment 6

A name change is proposed for our standing committee, the minority affairs committee (MAC) to the equity, diversity and inclusion committee (EDIC) in all relevant places in the text of ASPB's Constitution. The new name was proposed by the current Minority Affairs Committee and supported by the Council and the Board of Directors. This new name more accurately reflects the goals and activities of this standing committee.

Please give careful consideration to each and you may vote in favor or against each proposed change.

Current Constitution Showing Proposed Deletions
(Strike Through) and Additions (Underlined)

Article III: Membership

FIRST PROPOSED AMENDMENT

~~Membership is open to plant biologists and other scientists of all nations and to any other person or organization in sympathy with the purposes of the Society.~~ The Society consists of its individual members and supporting organizations.

Membership is open to plant biologists and other scientists of all nations and to any other person or organization in sympathy with the purposes of the Society. Members join the Society by application and payment of dues. Organizations or individuals who wish to support the Society, but not to participate as active voting members, may do so as patron or sustaining members.

New Wording of Constitution if Amendments Are Approved

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SECOND PROPOSED AMENDMENT

In addition to regular memberships, various specialized membership categories are established. Members join the Society by application and payment of dues. Postdoctoral associate memberships are open to persons who have received their doctorates and are employed as postdoctoral associates. Graduate student memberships are for those pursuing a degree in the field at the graduate level. Undergraduate student memberships are open to students actively pursuing degrees in plant biology or a related science.

THIRD PROPOSED AMENDMENT

K-12/Community College Educators memberships are open to persons who are currently teaching in a K-12 classroom or in a community college.

FOURTH PROPOSED AMENDMENT

Retired memberships are open to those members who have retired but do not meet the other qualifications for Emeritus membership.

FIFTH PROPOSED AMENDMENT

~~Life members contribute to an endowment fund, or the Society makes the contribution as an award, which thereafter pays the annual dues for the life member.~~ Emeritus membership (dues free) is awarded, upon application, to retired persons who have reached age sixty-five and who have been Society members continuously for twenty years or more. Life members contribute to an endowment fund, or the Society makes the contribution as an award, which thereafter pays the annual dues for the life member. Corresponding memberships are honorary awards, conferred by election on distinguished non-U.S. plant biologists. ~~Postdoctoral associate memberships are open to persons who have received their doctorates and are employed as postdoctoral associates. Graduate student memberships are for those pursuing a degree in the field at the graduate level. Undergraduate student memberships are open to students actively pursuing degrees in plant biology or a related science.~~

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Article VIII: Standing Committees

SIXTH PROPOSED AMENDMENT

There shall be thirteen standing committees: a board of directors, a council, a program committee, a board of trustees, a publications committee, an education committee, a nominations committee, a constitution and bylaws committee, a women in plant biology committee, a science policy committee, an equity, diversity and inclusion committee ~~minority affairs committee~~, a membership committee, and an international committee. The executive director is a non-voting member of all of the standing committees of which she/he is a member.

The council shall consist of the following ex-officio members: the president; the immediate past president, who chairs the committee; the president-elect; the secretary; the treasurer; the chair of the women in plant biology committee; the chair of the publications committee; the chair of the equity, diversity and inclusion committee ~~minority affairs committee~~; the chair of the membership committee; the chair of the international committee; the chair of the education committee; and the chair of the science policy committee. The two elected members of the board of directors also serve a four-year term on the council. In addition, there shall be a voting representative from each section of the Society who shall be elected by the section for a non-renewable three year term. Sectional representatives, with approval of the president, may send a voting substitute to council meetings, but no predetermined proxy or absentee votes may be submitted for such meetings.

The equity, diversity and inclusion committee ~~minority affairs committee~~ shall consist of six members appointed by the president, two each year for a period of three years, and one of whom the president designates chair.

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