

This document was posted to the SICB web site on October 25, 2019. Voting will open November 26, 2019 and close December 27, 2019. Comments to President@sicb.org

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

There are some changes needed to the SICB **Constitution** and the SICB **Bylaws** arising from the addition of the new journal *Integrative Organismal Biology*; changes are required throughout the two documents. **Only the relevant sections of the Constitution and the Bylaws are shown below.** The current wording of the Constitution and the Bylaws are found on the website (<http://sicb.org/about/constitution.php3>).

Changes to the current Constitution and Bylaws are highlighted in green.

Additions = **bold underline**

Deletions = ~~striketrough~~

One special note is that the description of the appointment of Associate Editors, Managing Editors, and Assistant Editors has been moved from the Constitution to the Bylaws where it properly belongs.

There are **additional changes** proposed.

- **Constitution Article III, Section 3** - a description of the SICB **Business Year**. The proposed change is to rename the section to “Term of Officers and Appointees” and to eliminate the first sentence describing the business year. The term business year has no real meaning in that SICB operates currently within a fiscal year (July 1 through June 30) and a membership year (April 1 through March 31). The essence of this section is to describe specifically the term of officers and appointees, which is part of the original language of this section.
- It is proposed that we eliminate **Bylaws Article X: Archivist**. The Archivist position has not been filled for over 20 years and probably much longer. The function of the archivist has been subsumed by the inclusion of many documents on the SICB website.

CONSTITUTION

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

Article I: Name and Object

Section 1. The name of this organization is the Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology (SICB).

Section 2. The Society promotes the discovery and dissemination of new knowledge and concepts in integrative and comparative biology, and it adopts and supports policies advancing innovative studies of organisms.

Section 3. These objectives shall be advanced by the holding of regular meetings; by publication of **a the journals, *Integrative and Comparative Biology* and *Integrative Organismal Biology***; and by assisting in the organization and financing of such activities as divisional meetings, symposia, and international congresses. The Society shall promote its stated objectives either directly or through the support of such agencies as the National Research Council and the American Institute of Biological Sciences.

Article II: Membership

Section 1. The Society shall consist of full members, student members, postdoctoral members, emeritus members, honorary members, life members and family members.

Section 2. Full Members: Any individual who has scientific training and is professionally engaged in the study or promotion of biology as a scientific discipline shall be eligible for Full Membership. Full Members shall receive announcements of meetings and all Society publications. Full Members may vote and hold office.

Section 3. Graduate Student Members: Any student enrolled in a graduate program in the biological sciences shall be eligible for Graduate Student Membership. An individual may hold Graduate Student Membership for a maximum of six years. After six years, the Graduate Student Member who has completed a doctorate shall automatically be promoted to Full Membership. A Graduate Student Member may request a limited extension of Graduate Student Membership by written request to the Business Office. Graduate Student Members shall receive announcements of meetings and all Society publications. Graduate Student Members may vote but may not hold office. A Graduate Student Member may present one paper or poster at each meeting of the Society under sponsorship of a Full Member.

Section 4. Student-in-Training (SIT) Members: Any undergraduate college or upper level high school student who has demonstrated a precocious and clear-cut understanding of science, which should lead to Full Membership at a later date, may hold this membership. Normally an individual may not hold SIT Membership for more than five years, after which he/she should be eligible for Graduate Student Membership. SIT Members shall receive announcements of meetings and all Society publications. They may neither vote nor hold office. A SIT Member may present one paper or poster at each meeting of the Society under sponsorship of a Full Member.

Section 5. Emeritus Members: Any individual SICB member who has belonged to the Society for at least 10 years and has reached the age of 65, or who has belonged to the Society for at least 25 years and has been granted retirement shall, after written application to the Secretary, be designated as an Emeritus Member. Emeritus Members shall receive announcements of meetings and ~~may elect to receive the Journal~~ **all Society publications**. They may vote and hold office.

Section 6. Postdoctoral Members: Any student who has earned a doctoral degree and is professionally engaged in the study or promotion of biology as a scientific discipline and is a postdoctoral fellow or associate shall be eligible for Postdoctoral Membership. Postdoctoral Members shall receive announcements of meetings and all Society publications. Postdoctoral Members may vote but may not hold office.

Section 7. Family Members: SICB offers three types of family memberships: Full Family Membership, Postdoctoral Family Membership, and Graduate Student Family Membership. Family memberships allow two persons in one household to be members. ~~Although both~~ **Both** members are eligible to vote ~~and both, only one subscription of the Journal per household is included in this membership category~~ **shall receive announcements of meetings and all Society publications.**

Section 8. Life Members: Individuals qualified for Full Membership may elect to become Life Members upon payment of the appropriate dues as set by the Executive Committee. Such members would receive all the rights, privileges and benefits of traditional Full Membership, for life.

Section 9. Honorary Members: Honorary Members are individuals distinguished for their research and/or for their contributions to the Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology.

Honorary Members are exempt from yearly dues and receive **the Journal announcements of meetings and all Society publications**. Potential Honorary Members may be nominated by divisions, the executive officers, and/or the Membership Committee. The Membership Committee shall review the credentials of nominees, and make recommendations for approval/denial to the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee will vote on the recommendations. The President will notify a new Honorary Member of his or her election. Honorary Members may neither vote nor hold office.

Article III: Administrative Organization

Section 2. Executive Committee: The management of the Society shall be vested in an Executive Committee consisting of the Executive Officers, three Members-at-Large from the Society general membership, the Chairs of the Divisions of the Society, the Editor of *Integrative and Comparative Biology*, **the Editor of *Integrative Organismal Biology***, the Chair of the Graduate Student/Postdoctoral Affairs Committee, the Chair of the Educational Council and the Chair of the Broadening Participation Committee. Of the three Members-at-Large, one shall be elected each year for a term of three years. The Executive Director of the Society shall serve as an *ex officio* member of the Executive Committee but may not vote.

Section 3. Term of Elected Officers and Appointees ~~Business year. The business year of the Society shall begin on January 1 and end on December 31.~~ The term of office of all elected officers and appointed representatives shall begin at the end of the second Executive Committee meeting at the Annual Meeting in the year the term is to begin and will end at the adjournment of the second Executive Committee meeting at the Annual Meeting in the year the term is to expire.

Article VIII: The SICB Journals: *Integrative and Comparative Biology*

Section 1. Integrative and Comparative Biology: The Executive Committee shall appoint the Editor of *Integrative and Comparative Biology* after consultation with the Editorial Board of the journal. The Editor of *Integrative and Comparative Biology* shall serve for a term of five years, with reappointment for **up to** two additional terms permissible, and shall serve as Chairperson of the Editorial Board. **Remuneration of the Editor and the Managing Editor(s), and payment for standard and appropriate journal operating expenses, shall be determined by the Finance Committee and shall be included as items in the annual budget of the Society.**

Section 2. 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 Editorial Board. Remuneration of the Editor and the Managing Editors, and payment for standard and appropriate journal operating expenses, shall be determined by the Finance Committee and shall be included as items in the annual budget of the Society.

Section 2. Integrative Organismal Biology: The Executive Committee shall appoint the Editor of *Integrative Organismal Biology* after consultation with the Editorial Board of the journal. The Editor of *Integrative Organismal Biology* shall serve for a term of five years, with reappointment for up to two additional terms permissible, and shall serve as Chairperson of the Editorial Board. **Remuneration of the Editor and the Managing Editor(s), and payment for standard and appropriate journal operating expenses, shall be determined by the Finance Committee and shall be included as items in the annual budget of the Society.**

BYLAWS PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

Article X: Archivist

Section 1. The archivist shall be appointed by the President. The archivist shall serve for a term of five years.

Section 2. The Archivist shall be responsible for the Society's Archives. The Archivist shall solicit from the officers and members of the Society materials deemed important for the development of the Archives. The Archivist shall be responsible for ensuring that these items are maintained in a manner suitable for their use by both the Society and by professionals interested in the past history of the Society.

Section 3. The Archivist shall act as the link between the Society and the institution chosen to act as the repository for the Archives of the Society.

Section 4. The Archivist shall make an annual report to the Executive Committee on the state of the Archives.

Article X XI: Treasurer

Section 1. The Treasurer shall be responsible for monitoring the financial affairs of the Society. These duties will include ensuring the timely distribution of notices of dues to the membership, the solicitation of budget requests from Divisions and other cost centers of the Society, and preparation of the Annual Budget to cover the fiscal operation of the Society including all allocations of funds for the expenses of Officers, Standing Committees, Divisions and the Editorial Offices of *Integrative and Comparative Biology* and *Integrative Organismal Biology*.

Section 2. The Treasurer shall submit the Annual Budget to the Executive Committee for review and approval at the Annual Meeting prior to the Society's annual business meeting.

Section 3. The Treasurer shall present a statement of the current financial position of the Society at the annual business meeting of the Society.

Section 4. The Treasurer, together with the Finance Committee, shall have oversight of the investment of any funds over and above the operating budget of the Society.

Section 5. The Treasurer shall serve as Chair of the Finance Committee and as an *Ex Officio* member of the Development Committee and the Student Support Committee.

Article XI XII: Treasurer-Elect

Section 1. The Treasurer-Elect shall assist the Treasurer in the duties specified in Article XI.

Section 2. The Treasurer-Elect shall assume the duties of the Treasurer in the latter's absence or inability to serve.

Article XII XIII: Duties of the Executive Committee

Section 1. The Executive Committee shall serve as the governing Board of the Society. The Executive Committee is responsible for the conduct of the affairs of the Society and shall review and establish policies and procedures of the Society in line with the provisions of the Constitution and Bylaws.

Section 2. The Executive Committee shall (a) set the time and place of meetings as proposed by the President; (b) advise the President on appointments; (c) approve the Annual Budget as submitted by the Treasurer, following its review and possible amendment; (d) appoint the Editor of *Integrative and Comparative Biology* and the Editor of *Integrative Organismal Biology*,

each for a term of five years, and the Editor of such other publications as the Society may sponsor, for appropriate and specified terms.

Section 3. The Executive Committee shall meet at the time of each Annual Meeting of the Society to conduct such business as may properly come before it and to receive the annual reports of standing and temporary committees of the Society.

Section 4. The Executive Committee is empowered to establish a business relationship with individuals or organizations to perform the executive functions of the Society within the framework of the budget approved by the Executive Committee.

Article XIII XIV: Vacancies or Absences in Office

Section 1. If for any reason the office of President should become vacant before the expiration of the normal term, the President-Elect shall immediately assume the duties of President.

Section 2. If there is no officer-elect to assume the duties, a vacancy in the office of Secretary, Program Officer, Past Program Officer, or Treasurer shall be filled through appointment by the President for the remainder of the term.

Section 3. If a member-at-large of the Executive Committee shall be unable to serve on the Executive Committee because of election to an office of the Society, resignation, or any other cause, a member-at-large shall be elected at the next annual election of the Society to serve the remainder of the term so vacated.

Section 4. A member-at-large of the Executive Committee shall not be eligible for immediate re-election unless a term of less than three years shall have been served.

Section 5. In divisions where there is no specific provision in the divisional bylaws for someone to serve as the Divisional Chair when the Chair is temporarily absent from her/his duties, then the Divisional Executive Committee may appoint a representative in place of the absent Divisional Chair, provided that notice is given to the SICB President. The SICB President also has the authority to appoint a representative. The SICB President has the authority to appoint temporary committee chairs.

Article XIV XV: Standing Committees

Section 1. Advisory Committee: The Advisory Committee shall consist of the President, the President-Elect, and the former Presidents. The Advisory Committee shall consider long-range plans and policies of the Society, make recommendations to the Executive Committee, perform such other functions as may be delegated to it by the Executive Committee, but be without power to commit the Society to action. The Past President shall preside.

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. Selection of new members will be made by a recommendation of the Council to the President-Elect. 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: 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 the SICB newsletters and *Integrative and Comparative Biology*.

Section 3. Membership Committee: The President shall appoint a Membership Committee of three members, each for a term of three years. The appointment of members of the Committee shall be ordered so that the term of one member shall expire each year. The senior member of the Committee shall serve as Chairperson and the Secretary shall be an *ex officio* member of the Committee. The Committee shall consider matters relating to the recruitment of new members and the procedures and policies of membership in the Society. The Committee shall review the credentials of nominees for honorary membership and make recommendations for approval/denial to the Executive Committee.

Section 4. Nominating Committee for Society-Wide Offices: The President shall appoint and charge a Nominating Committee consisting of the Member-at-Large of the Executive Committee whose term will next expire, and three members of the Society who are not members of the Executive Committee. Each member of the Nominating Committee shall be from a different Division of the Society and serve for a term of one year. The Nominating Committee shall meet at the Annual Meeting to evaluate potential candidates on the basis of scientific achievement, ability to discharge official duties, and record of service to the Society, and submit to the Secretary of the Society, a list consisting of no fewer than two candidates for each Society-wide office in time for publication of the list of nominees and their biographical sketches in the spring SICB Newsletter. The Nominating Committee must certify to the Secretary that each candidate has declared willingness to run for office and to serve, if elected. Any twenty-five members of the Society may make additional nominations for any office in writing to the Secretary.

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 Editorial Board and the Executive 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 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 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 Officers.

The Sections below will be incremented by one to account for the new section 6 added above.

Section 7 6. Student/Postdoctoral Affairs Committee: The President shall appoint a Committee consisting of a Full Member as Chair and, after consultation with each Division, a student or postdoctoral member from each Division. The Committee shall host a program of special interest to Student and Postdoctoral Members at each annual meeting. The term of the Chair shall be three years and the Chair will sit on the Executive Committee; the terms of the Student and Postdoctoral Members shall be flexible, but no more than three years, depending upon academic status of the individuals. The Chair shall serve as an *ex officio* member of the Broadening Participation Committee.

Section 8 7. 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 as needed. 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.

Section 9 8. Finance Committee: The Finance Committee shall consist of the President, the Treasurer and the Executive Director, with the Treasurer serving as chair. This committee has discretionary powers concerning the Contingency Fund as described in the Society's Policies. The committee also makes recommendations to the Executive Committee about such matters as hiring a professional financial advisor or advisory company.

Section 10 9. 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 appointment of members of the Committee shall be ordered so that the term of 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 Committee shall work with the Secretary to report to the press important activities of the Society. The Program Officer and the Secretary shall be *ex officio* members of the Committee.

Section 11 10. Program Committee: The Program Committee shall consist of the Program Officer, who shall chair the committee, the Program Officer-Elect or the Past Program Officer, the Divisional Program Officers, and other individuals appointed by the President. This Committee shall decide upon at least one Society-wide symposium to be held at the annual meeting. The Committee shall identify topics for the planned oral contribution sessions arranged on inter-divisional lines, which will be made known to the members in the call for papers.

Section 12 11. Development Committee: The President shall appoint a Committee consisting of at least three members, each for a term of three years. The appointment of members of the Committee shall be ordered so that the term of one member shall expire each year. The President shall appoint the chair of the Committee. The Treasurer shall serve as an *ex officio* member. The

Committee is broadly charged to assist the Executive Committee to develop and enhance resources for the Society to support its programs.

Section 13.12. Broadening Participation Committee: 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 will sit on the Executive Committee. The appointment of members of the Committee shall be ordered so that the terms of one-third of the members shall expire each year. The Committee shall design and promote activities of the Society to increase the diversity of the membership of the Society and of fields of integrative and comparative biology. The Program Officer, the chair of the Student Postdoctoral Affairs Committee, and the President-Elect shall be *ex officio* members of the Committee.