

Proposed Amendments to the DNNSB Bylaws

June, 2021

Proposed changes to the bylaws are indicated as follows.

Additions = **bold underline**

Deletions = ~~strikethrough~~

Rationale: We propose changing the pronouns in Section 1 to make the wording more inclusive of all gender identities.

Article III. Administrative Organization

Section 1. Officers

The officers of the Division shall be a Chair, Secretary and Program Officer. The Officers plus the DNNSB representative on the SICB Student/Postdoctoral Affairs Committee shall comprise a Divisional Executive Committee. The Chair shall be elected for a term of three years and shall not be eligible for re-election. The Program Officer shall be elected for a term of three years and shall be eligible for re-election. The Secretary shall be elected for a term of three years and shall be eligible for re-election. Elections for each of these offices shall occur individually.

In the circumstance that an elected officer is unable to complete ~~his or her~~ **their** term of office, the following provisions are made: If the office of Secretary or Program Officer is vacated early, the Chair, in consultation with the Divisional Executive Committee, shall appoint someone to serve until elections can be held to fill the position. If the office of Chair is vacant, the Divisional Executive Committee will appoint someone to serve as the interim Chair until an election can be held.

Rationale: We propose changing the wording from “mail ballot” to “electronic ballot” to reflect how the division’s members currently vote in elections.

Article III. Administrative Organization

Section 2. Elections

Election of officers shall be held by either appropriately secure electronic ballots or paper ballots. The names of candidates for offices shall be published in advance of **the electronic** ~~a mail~~ ballot, and a brief biography of each candidate shall be made

available on the ballot. The term of office of all elected officers and appointed representative shall begin at the end of the second SICB Executive Committee meeting at the Annual Meeting in the year the term is to begin, and shall end at the adjournment of the second SICB Executive Committee meeting at the Annual Meeting in the year the term is to expire.

Rationale: We propose offering more flexibility in the deadline by which nomination by petitions may be submitted. A submission date at least two weeks before an election provides maximum flexibility while still allowing time for the Secretary to gather and communicate candidate bios to the membership prior to voting.

Article III. Administrative Organization

Section 5. Nominations by Petition

Candidates for elected offices may be nominated by petition. Candidates nominated by petition must be members in good standing of SICB. A petition for additional nominations for any office may be made in writing to the Secretary by 10 members of the Division **at least two weeks before an election** ~~prior to March 15.~~

Rationale: We propose an addition to Article VI of the division's bylaws to clarify the kind of work that is eligible for the Best Student Presentation competition. Work presented by new PhDs/postdocs may be eligible for a Best Student Presentation award only if the work was completed prior to the awarding of their PhD. Other less substantive changes to the wording in Article VI clarify that an individual student can win each of the Best Student Presentation awards (poster and talk) only once.

Article VI. Best Student Presentation Awards

Two awards will be made for Best Student Presentation at each Annual Meeting, one for the best oral presentation and one for the best poster presentation. Each awardee will receive a certificate and a monetary prize. Eligibility will include undergraduate students and graduate students who have not yet been awarded the PhD, as well as new PhDs who have received the degree within the 12 months prior to the meeting. The work must be original and must have been carried out primarily by the student presenting it **prior to the awarding of the PhD.** ~~The prize~~ **Each award** can be awarded **given** only once to any student, and each student competing must be a member of the Division. The Chair shall be responsible for organizing a committee of judges to review the presentations.

Rationale: We propose changing the wording from “mail ballot” to “electronic ballot” to reflect how the division’s members currently vote on divisional bylaws.

Article VII. Amendments to the Bylaws

Section 1.

Proposed amendments to the Division Bylaws may be originated by the Executive Committee or by the members of the Division. Division Bylaws may be amended by at least two-thirds vote of the members of the Division present at any Annual Meeting of the Division or by at least two-thirds votes of the members responding to **an electronic** ~~a mail~~ ballot. Proposed amendments receiving at least two-thirds votes in the affirmative become effective 15 days after the ballots are counted.