

Letter of Explanation for Proposed Changes to Detroit Section Bylaws

This vote will be the final step in a multi-year process which was initiated to bring the bylaws into compliance with changes in the national bylaws and to make changes that will allow the section to operate more effectively. The Detroit bylaws were last updated in 1982. Your vote to approve these changes is required to complete this lengthy process.

The revisions which you are being asked to approve are the result of a process which included detailed reviews by the Detroit Bylaws Committee (Mark DeCamp, Jim Landis, and Walter Siegl), the full Detroit ACS Executive Committee, and the (national) Council Committee on Constitution & Bylaws (twice). Feedback and advice received along the way has been incorporated in the proposed changes. Essentially all of the changes fit into one of three categories: (1) they are required to bring our local bylaws in compliance with recent changes to the national bylaws, (2) they represent an effort to streamline the language (many of these changes have been mandated by the national ACS), or (3) they will allow us to facilitate governance of the Detroit Section. Most of the changes by far fit into categories (1) and (2). The "National" as used below refers to the ACS Council Committee on Constitution & Bylaws which has authority to act for the ACS Council in manners related to constitution and bylaws. Here are some specifics on the proposed revisions:

Bylaws I – III: to update and simplify wording as required by the National.

Bylaw IV: changes required to bring Detroit bylaws in compliance with changes made in the National bylaws.

Bylaw V: The offices of secretary-elect and treasurer-elect are being eliminated; they were created in the 1982 modifications to the bylaws and their existence has made recruiting of officers more difficult. Other changes are minor and reflect bringing the bylaws into sync with actual practices.

Bylaw VI: Changes reflect elimination of secretary-elect and treasurer-elect positions as well as changes in wording required by the National.

Bylaw VII: required wording changes.

Bylaw VIII: the list of committees is updated to reflect current practices; other detail is eliminated and will be incorporated in a manual of standard operating procedures.

Bylaw IX: updated and simplified wording required by the National.

Bylaw X: wording changes suggested by the National.

Bylaw XI: new wording recommended by the National.

Old Bylaw XIII and XIV: no longer consider appropriate for inclusion in the bylaws.

New Bylaw XIII: a bylaw on recall of elected officials is now required by the National.

New Bylaw XIV: wording changes bring bylaw into sync with current practices.

New Bylaw XV: required wording changes.