

Amendments to the CSTHA constitution

Proposed by William Knight to the executive committee, March 15, 2020.

Notice given to membership April 20, 2020.

Section I. Membership

- A. Amend to: "as determined by the executive and approved by the membership at a General Meeting." This allows the executive some flexibility in determining the membership rates. For example, being able to offer free membership to students in the midst of the current pandemic in advance of an annual general meeting.
- B. No change.
- C. Delete. This has not been exercised in the last 10 years. Replace with "Participants at the biennial conference will automatically be enrolled as members of the association with the payment of the conference fee."
- D. Amend to: The association has not appointed an honorary member in the last ten years and our rates are so low as to make honorary status moot. We recognize members in other ways (e.g. through prizes, which are not defined by the constitution) so we could actually confer honorary status in much the same way as we confer prizes as there nothing in this constitution that forbids either prizes or honors.

Section II. Officers of the Association

- A. Amend to: "the Executive Committee shall consist of eight (8) officers," adding the position of Communications Director to the committee. Over the past 10 years, the informal position of communications director has played an important role in the conduct of the association: that position and role should be formalized as a voting member of the executive.
- B. Amend to: "Officers, except the Editor, shall serve two terms of two (2) years and may stand for re-election in any subsequent elections for the position." Term limits may impede the conduct of the association's business if candidates for positions are not forthcoming. Delete the requirement for odd- and even-year elections: this provision is a dead-letter and adds unnecessary bureaucratic burden on the operations of the executive committee.
- C. Duties of Officers:
 - 1. No change.
 - 2. Amend to: "The Secretary will distribute the membership notice of meetings and elections." Delete "any Letter Ballots as determined in Section VI B—Letter Ballots." With the advent of electronic polling and surveys, we should not restrict elections to paper or Letter Ballots.
 - 3. No change.
 - 4. No change.
- D. Election of Officers:

The changes below are meant to simplify the conduct of elections and permit other types of election formats other than Letter Ballots.

 - 1. Amend to: "The Secretary shall call for nominations for executive positions 60 days prior to a General Meeting." This deletes the date requirement as General Meetings may shift during an election year.

2. Amend to: "The Secretary shall collect nominations. Nominations must be received 30 days prior to a General Meeting. If only one nomination for a position is received, and the incumbent is retiring from the post, then the nominee will be acclaimed to the position."
 3. Amend to: "The Secretary will announce the slate of candidates for positions 14 days prior to a General Meeting."
 4. Amend to: "The Secretary shall conduct the election at a General Meeting. Votes will be collected using the most appropriate technology so that members attending the General Meeting and those who are not present may participate in the election. Officers shall be selected by simple majority vote. The Secretary will report the results of the election at the General Meeting. The Secretary will report the results of the election to members not present at the General Meeting within 14 days of the election."
 5. No change.
- E. Replacement of officers. No change.

III. Meetings

- A. No change.
- B. No change.
- C. No change.

IV. Committees. No change.

V. Financial Affairs.

- A. Amend to: "The Treasurer shall collect fees and, in coordination with the Secretary, maintain the list of Association Members." The rest stands.
- B. No change.
- C. No change.
- D. No change.
- E. **ADD.** "The Executive committee shall prepare a budget of proposed revenues and expenditures for the two-year period of its incumbency. The budget shall be distributed to the membership 30 days before a General Meeting, where it shall be approved by the membership at the General Meeting. A simple majority shall be required for a budget plan to pass." There is now no provision for planning and spending association funds. At the present moment, the Executive could spend association monies without oversight. This provision makes budgeting a requirement of executive committee operations and also brings accountability to the process.

VI. Changes to the Constitution and By-Laws

Strike "Twenty-five (25%) of the membership shall be deemed a quorum." III. Meetings C. defines quorum for a General Meeting as consisting of at least fifteen (15 members).

- A. Amend to: "Proposed amendment(s) of the Constitution may be brought forward by any member. Any change(s) to the Constitution approved by the membership at a General Meeting will be communicated to the membership within 30 days of the meeting." This simplifies the language and procedure of this provision.

VII. Non-profit Status

No change.

VIII. Affiliations.

No Change.

