

# INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COLLOID AND INTERFACE SCIENTISTS

## CONSTITUTION AND RULES

### 1. Definition

The International Association of Colloid and Interface Scientists is a voluntary, non-profit making organisation actively interested in promoting the field of colloid and interface science.

### 2. Objectives

The objectives of the Association are:

- (a) to promote international co-operation among colloid and interface scientists;
- (b) to encourage advancement in the field of colloid and interface science;
- (c) to promote the stature and understanding of colloid and interface science, both theoretical and applied.

### 3. Activities

The Association seeks to achieve these objectives:

- (a) by sponsoring and supporting the triennial International Conferences on Surface and Colloid Science (ICSCS) as well as other International Conferences in Colloid and Interface Science;
- (b) by encouraging regional activities, whenever appropriate in collaboration with other societies;
- (c) by maintaining a news and information service for its members by publishing an "IACIS Newsletter".

### 4. Membership

Membership is open to any person who identifies himself or herself with the objectives of the Association. Corporate membership is available at the discretion of Council. Members of other organisations may, in appropriate cases, be admitted on preferential terms.

### 5. Organisation

The ultimate responsibility for the activities of the Association rests with the Council. A General Assembly of members shall be convened at each ICSCS and, if possible, at other International Conferences sponsored by the Association. The Assembly shall consider any business relevant to the organisation and activities of the Association.

### 6. Responsibilities of Council

Council is responsible for the overall running of the Association, and for determining long term policy. The business of Council will, in general, be conducted by post or e-mail. Formal meetings will be convened when half or more members of the Council are present at a scientific meeting.

Among the specific duties of Council are:

- (a) to appoint the Honorary Secretary and Treasurer and the Newsletter Editor;
- (b) to approve the names of co-opted members recommended by the Standing Committee;
- (c) to approve the auditors;
- (d) to receive the annual accounts, which, if approved, will be circulated to all members;
- (e) to further the aims of the Association by encouraging activities in Colloid and Interface Science in their country or region. Local Associations or Groups concerned with Colloid and Interface Science should be encouraged to seek sponsorship for their meetings from IACIS.
- (f) to approve the hosts and organisers of the triennial ICSCS as well as the IACIS plenary lecturer at the ICSCS.

## 7. Standing Committee of Council

Responsibility for short term and day-to-day running of the Association including recommendations for co-option to Council and the sponsorship of meetings is delegated by Council to a Standing Committee. The Standing Committee will report its main activities to Council annually.

## 8. Finance

Council shall determine the membership fees triennially. All monies received by the Association shall be used for the purposes of the Association. Expenditure from the funds of the Association shall require authorisation from the President, or from any person to whom he/she delegates this authority.

Audited accounts shall be presented to Council annually and on approval shall be included in the Newsletter. Two independent auditors shall be appointed by the President after approval by the Council; the auditors shall serve for three years and be eligible for re-appointment.

## 9. Newsletter

A Newsletter will be circulated at regular intervals. One issue each year will contain (a) a report on the activities of Council; (b) the formal accounts of the Association; (c) in every three years an invitation to members to nominate new members of Council and the President-elect.

## 10. Membership of Council

The Council shall consist of a President, President-elect (Vice-President), Immediate Past President, Honorary Secretary and Treasurer, and twelve Ordinary elected members. The Council may co-opt additional members not exceeding eight. One of these shall be the Newsletter Editor. The other places shall be used to ensure a regional balance, to allow representation of regional organisations with objectives similar to those of the International Association and to maintain a balance between fundamental and applied aspects.

The terms of office of the Council shall be as follows:

	Tenure/yr
President	3
President-elect	3
Immediate Past President	3
Honorary Secretary and Treasurer	6
12 Ordinary members	6
Not more than 8 Co-opted members	3

The Standing Committee of the Council shall consist of the President, President-elect, Immediate Past President, the Honorary Secretary and Treasurer, and the Newsletter Editor.

The President is the administrative head and chief representative of the Association. On expiration of his term of office he/she shall serve on Council as Immediate Past President for three years. No person shall serve as President for more than one term.

The President-elect shall hold office for three years, and will take over the duties of President at the expiration of the President's term of office, or if the President resigns or becomes incapacitated before his/her term of office expires.

The Honorary Secretary and Treasurer shall serve for six years and be eligible for re-appointment, at the discretion of the Council.

Ordinary members shall hold office for six years. Six members shall retire every three years. No one leaving Council in any capacity will be eligible for re-election as an Ordinary member of Council for three years.

Co-opted members, other than the Newsletter Editor, shall hold office for three years, but their co-option may be extended at the discretion of Council.

## 11. Elections

### President-elect

The President-elect shall be elected from among past or present Ordinary members of Council. Nominations, supported by four members of the Association, and with the prior agreement of the nominee, shall be submitted to the Secretary and Treasurer. If necessary a postal ballot will be held of all members: the successful candidate will be the one for whom the largest number of votes are cast.

### Council

Nominations, with proposer and seconder and with the agreement of the nominee may be submitted to the Secretary and Treasurer by any member of the Association. If the nominations do not provide adequate regional representation or a balance between fundamental and applied interests on Council, the Standing Committee may add additional names. If the total number of nominations exceeds six, then a postal ballot will be held of all members: the six candidates securing the largest number of votes shall be elected.

In addition to regional representation it is important that contact is maintained with Regional Organisations. If the elected members of Council do not include adequate representation of the various interests, the Standing Committee may co-opt up to eight additional members.

## 12. Calendar

Nomination forms for President-elect and Council will be circulated to members in the spring of every election year, and balloting will be completed one month before the triennial ICSCS sponsored by IACIS.

Officers and Council will then assume office at the occasion of the triennial ICSCS sponsored by IACIS.

The financial year of the Association will run from 1st September.

## 13. Honorary Secretary and Treasurer

The Honorary Secretary and Treasurer is appointed by Council. He/she is responsible for dealing with all membership matters, and is responsible to Council for the proper handling of financial matters. He/she will present audited accounts of the Association to Council by 1st December each year.

## 14. Newsletter Editor

The Newsletter Editor is appointed by the Council and co-opted to the Council and the Standing Committee, and is responsible for the IACIS Newsletter.

## 15. Membership

Applications for membership, accompanied by the annual subscription, shall be forwarded to the Secretary and Treasurer. Membership shall then continue so long as the annual subscription is paid. Exceptions to this ruling shall be at the discretion of the Standing Committee.

Where appropriate, arrangements will be made for the payment of membership fees in local currencies.

Members are entitled to the following benefits:

- (a) copies of the IACIS Newsletter;
- (b) reduced registration fee to any International Conference sponsored by and receiving financial support from the Association;
- (c) a limited number of IACIS-bursaries will be available from IACIS-sponsored meeting organisers.

Members are entitled to make representations to Council concerning changes to the Constitution and Rules; or any other matter related to the activities of the Association. They are expected to further the objectives of the Association by encouraging work in colloid and interface science in their own country, or geographical region, and to play a full part in the activities of the Association, including submitting nominations for President-elect and Council and voting in elections.

**16. Relationship with National and Regional Groups**

The Association shall maintain close liaison with National and Regional Groups in Colloid and Interface Science. Such Groups will be represented on Council and the Association will offer collaboration and sponsorship of scientific meetings wherever appropriate.

**17. Changes in Constitution and Rules**

Members are entitled to recommend Council changes in the Constitution and Rules.

Changes in the Constitution and Rules shall be approved by the Council by postal ballot or e-mail, with a majority of at least two-thirds of all members of the Council.

In all cases where the Constitution and Rules are not clear or do not give a decision, the President's ruling shall be decisive after consultation with members of the Council.

**18. Termination of the Association**

The decision to terminate the Association can only be taken with a four-fifths majority at a general meeting of the Association at which at least two-thirds of the members are present or are legally represented. In case of termination of the Association the funds shall be used exclusively for non-profit making scientific purposes in the field of colloid and interface science. The distribution of such funds shall be at the discretion of the Council.