

PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE BYLAWS OF DCE

Change #1: Article V. Officers

Current:

(a) Officers shall be elected by a simple majority by mail ballot to be completed on or before December 15 of each election year.

Proposed:

(a) Officers shall be elected by a simple majority by mail or electronic ballot.

Rationale: This simply brings our bylaws in line with our current practices. Elections are usually complete before August so the December deadline is unnecessary.

Change #2: Article V. Officers

Current:

These six offices shall constitute an executive committee and shall be responsible for the affairs of the Division. Officers shall assume their duties on the 1st of January immediately prior to the annual meeting of the Division.

Proposed:

These six offices shall constitute the Division Executive Committee and shall be responsible for the affairs of the Division. The terms of these offices shall begin at the end of the second Society Executive Committee meeting at the Annual Meeting in the year the term is to begin. The terms of these office will end at the end of the second Society Executive Committee meeting at the Annual Meeting in the year the term is to expire.

Rationale: This change in the beginning and end of terms brings the division officers into synchrony with the society-wide officers. It was considered that the officers who planned the annual meeting events should remain in office throughout that meeting.

Change #3: Article VI. Chair

Current:

The Chair shall serve for a term of two years, directing the affairs of the Division and presiding at its business meetings. He/she shall represent the Division on the executive committee of the SICB. He/she shall appoint at any time those committees as may be required to assist him/her to conduct the affairs of the Division. In or before the month of September, he/she must appoint a nominating committee, consisting of a chair and two members, to present a slate of candidates to be elected for the office or offices to be filled for the following year. He/she shall appoint substitutes for officers that are unable to serve to the end of their term.

Proposed:

The Chair shall serve for a term of two years, directing the affairs of the Division and presiding at its business meetings. He/she shall represent the Division on the Society Executive Committee of the SICB. He/she shall appoint at any time those committees as may be required to assist him/her to conduct the affairs of the Division. At or before the annual national meeting, he/she must appoint a nominating committee, consisting of a chair and two members, to present a slate of candidates to be elected for the office or offices to be filled for the following year. He/she shall appoint substitutes for officers that are unable to serve to the end of their term.

Rationale: This changes the time for forming the nominating committee from “in or before the month of September” to “At or before the annual national meeting.” This brings our bylaws in line with our current practice.

Change #4: Article VIII. Program Officer

Current:

The Program Officer shall arrange programs for the meetings of the Division. He/she shall be elected for a term of two years and shall not be eligible for reelection until two years have elapsed. The Program Officer shall coordinate special programs with the Program Officers of the SICB and of related societies and divisions, as desirable.

Proposed:

The Program Officer shall arrange programs for the meetings of the Division. He/she shall be elected for a term of two years. The Program Officer shall coordinate special programs with the Program Officers of the SICB and of related societies and divisions, as desirable.

Rationale: This change removes the stricture that POs may not be immediately reelected for a second term. Given the difficulty and importance of this job, the experience of past POs is considered a plus and current officers consider it a bad idea to restrict the pool of eligible candidates.

Change #5: Article XIII. Nominations

Current:

The Nominating Committee shall prepare double nominations for each office to be filled and submit them to the Secretary prior to November 1 of each year to allow distribution of the mail ballot.

Proposed:

The Nominating Committee shall prepare double nominations for each office to be filled and submit them to the Secretary prior to February 1 of each year.

Rationale: This change brings us in line with current practice. Since the elections are coordinated society-wide and only run in the spring, nominations must reach the secretary prior to February 1 for inclusion in the spring newsletter. The rationale portion of the current version (“allow distribution of the mail ballot”) was considered unnecessary and would need modification to bring it in line with electronic ballots.

Change #6: Article XIV. Finances

Current:

Expenses of the Division shall be paid from the treasury of the SICB within limits of the amount allotted for this purpose in the annual budget of the Society, and from grants received for special projects. Grant applications to national foundations are to be prepared in consultation with the president of the SICB and must be submitted through the latter's office.

Proposed:

Expenses of the Division shall be paid from the treasury of the SICB within limits of the amount allotted for this purpose in the annual budget of the Society, and from grants received for special projects. Grant applications to national foundations are to be prepared in consultation with the president of the SICB.

Rationale: This change just deletes the last phrase to bring us in line with current practice. The society president does not currently require grant applications to be submitted through her/his office.

Change #7: Article XV. Meetings

Current:

One or two general meetings will be held every year as part of the conventions of the SICB. Regional conferences and symposia may be arranged by groups of members in collaboration with the divisional executive committee. A business meeting of the Division shall be held annually, normally during the last general meeting of the year. Notice of general meetings and calls for papers shall be sent out with the appropriate announcements of the SICB.

Proposed:

An annual national meeting of the division will be held every year as part of the convention of the SICB. Regional conferences and symposia may be arranged by groups of members in collaboration with the divisional executive committee. A business meeting of the Division shall be held annually at the national SICB conference. Notice of meetings and calls for papers shall be sent out with the appropriate announcements of the SICB.

Rationale: The first sentence was changed to bring it in line with our current practice of holding only one general meeting. The date for the business meeting was changed to more accurately reflect the meetings held at the society-wide conference at the beginning of the calendar year. The word “general” was considered unnecessary and deleted from the last sentence.

Change #8: Article XVII. Amendments

Current:

These Bylaws may be changed or amended at any annual meeting by two-thirds vote of those present or by at least two-thirds of the members responding to a mail ballot, provided that notice has been given to all members sixty (60) days in advance.

Proposed:

These Bylaws may be changed or amended at any annual meeting by two-thirds vote of those present or by at least two-thirds of the members responding to a mail or electronic ballot, provided that notice has been given to all members sixty (60) days in advance.

Rationale: The words “or electronic ballot” were added allow such voting and thus streamline divisional business in the future.