

Notification of Proposed SNMMI Bylaws Changes

The current version of the Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging (SNMMI) Bylaws is included below in its entirety; unaffected sections are not included. Proposed deletions are struck through. Proposed additions are underlined. The proposed amendments include some housekeeping changes that have accrued since the last amendments in 2015 and several more substantive changes as described below.

The substantive amendments are as follows:

1. Mission statement: Updated to reflect the core purpose of the organization.
2. Members in training: Medical students are added to this membership category. The SNMMI has initiated activities for medical students through the Workforce Pipeline Domain. We are advertising and marketing to medical students and need a formal process and opportunity for these individuals to join SNMMI. The existing in-training category in the SNMMI Bylaws is for residents, scientists, and technologists, who will not be affected by the amendment.
3. Lifetime membership category: This membership category is deleted from the Bylaws in this revision. Although SNMMI will continue to recognize the existing Lifetime Members, no new Lifetime Members have been accepted for many years.
4. General Program Chair: This position is removed as a nonvoting position on the SNMMI Board of Directors. The General Program Chair currently serves on the Scientific Program Committee and works with staff to visit potential sites for the SNMMI Annual Meeting. With the recent direction from the Board to restrict site consideration to a few cities, there is no longer a need for this position on the Board.
5. Center and Council Renewal: The Society recognizes the need for subspecialty interests and expertise within the field of nuclear medicine and molecular imaging. Both Councils and Centers provide expertise, professional networking, and educational programs for nuclear medicine and molecular imaging professionals in their respective areas and serve as resources for development and implementation of Society policy. Center status is reserved for those nuclear medicine and molecular imaging subspecialty or subdisciplinary areas of interest that have been so designated by the Board of Directors. As the profession changes and subspecialty and subdisciplinary interests evolve and change, there is a need for the Councils and Centers to evaluate their relevance and continued contributions to the Society. A recurring 5-year review enables Councils and Centers to evaluate their roles in SNMMI. If they feel they still have valuable contributions and work to do in their subspecialty areas of interest, they will ask the House of Delegates (Councils) or Board of Directors (Centers) to renew their approvals for an additional 5 years.
6. Technologist Section Immediate Past President: This position is added to the SNMMI Board of Directors. The SNMMI Immediate Past President is a member of the Board, but the SNMMI-TS Immediate Past President currently is not. The addition will enhance continuity on the Board.

*James M. Woolfenden, MD
Chair, SNMMI Committee on Bylaws*

Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging Bylaws

ARTICLE II MISSION AND OBJECTIVES

Section 1: MISSION

The Society is a multidisciplinary professional medical organization dedicated to improving human health by advancing nuclear medicine, molecular imaging and radionuclide therapy. ~~the advancement of excellence in the education, research, and clinical practice of nuclear medicine.~~

ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: CLASSIFICATIONS

A. Full Membership

Physicians, scientists or pharmacists possessing an advanced degree who have presented credentials indicating their professional activity, either medical, paramedical, investigational or educational in the scientific or clinical disciplines of molecular imaging or nuclear medicine, may join the Society as Full Members. This includes the diagnostic, therapeutic or investigational use of radionuclides or other molecular imaging technologies. These individuals have the right to vote

and to be elected an Officer of the Society. The Board of Directors by majority vote may extend Full Membership to individuals who have made exceptional contributions to molecular imaging or nuclear medicine, but who do not otherwise qualify for Full Membership.

B. Associate Membership

1. Scientists or other health professionals with a master or baccalaureate degree (or the equivalent qualification as determined by the Committee on Membership) who have presented credentials indicating their professional activity, either paramedical, investigational, or educational, in the scientific or clinical disciplines of molecular imaging or nuclear medicine may join as Associate Members. This includes the diagnostic, therapeutic or investigational use of radionuclides or other molecular imaging technologies. These individuals have the right to vote but may not be elected an Officer of the Society.
2. Nuclear medicine and molecular imaging technologists, with a master or baccalaureate degree (or the equivalent qualification as determined by the Committee on Membership) who have presented credentials indicating their professional activity, either paramedical, investigational, or educational, in the scientific or clinical disciplines of molecular imaging or nuclear medicine may join as Associate Members. This includes the diagnostic, therapeutic or investigational use of radionuclides or other molecular imaging technologies. These individuals have the right to vote but may not be elected an Officer of the Society.
3. Scientific Laboratory Professionals with a masters or baccalaureate degree (or equivalent qualification as determined by the Committee on Membership) who have presented credentials indicating their professional activity in molecular imaging research at the pre-clinical or translational level in fields including utilization of optical imaging, radiopharmaceuticals, MRI, MR spectroscopy, ultrasound, stem cell research and cell trafficking, may join as Associate Members. These individuals have the right to vote but may not be elected an Officer of the Society.

C. Technologist Membership

Technologists who have presented credentials indicating professional activity in molecular imaging or nuclear medicine technology or other related fields may join the Society as Technologist members without the rights to vote or to be elected an Officer of the Society. This membership does include membership in the Technologist Section with the right to vote and to be elected an Officer in the Technologist Section.

Scientific Laboratory Professionals who lack a master or baccalaureate degree or equivalent qualification, and who have presented credentials indicating their professional activity in molecular imaging research at the pre-clinical or translational level in fields including utilization of optical imaging, radiopharmaceuticals, MRI, MR spectroscopy, ultrasound, stem cell research and cell trafficking, may join the Society without the right to vote or to be elected an Officer of the Society. This membership includes membership in the Technologist Section with the right to vote and to be elected an Officer in the Technologist Section.

D. Members-in-Training (Student, Resident, Fellow)

Physicians, scientists, ~~and~~ technologists and medical students who are enrolled in accredited training programs, medical schools or postdoctoral fellowships may join the Society as Members-in-Training with all rights and privileges of membership, except the rights to vote and to be elected an Officer of the Society.

E. Affiliate Membership

Individuals committed to the advancement of molecular imaging or nuclear medicine, but not qualifying for membership in other categories, may join the Society as Affiliate Members with all rights and privileges of membership, except the rights to vote and to be elected an Officer of the Society.

F. Honorary Membership

Individuals who have rendered outstanding service in an area of nuclear medicine may be granted Honorary Membership in the Society with all rights and privileges of membership, except the rights to vote and to be elected an Officer of the Society.

G. Emeritus Membership

Individuals upon their retirement after at least ten (10) years of consecutive membership in the Society may be granted Emeritus Membership. Emeritus members have the full privileges of the membership category from which they entered the emeritus status except the right to be elected an Officer of the Society.

Section 2: LIFE MEMBERSHIP

~~Members of the Society in any membership classification who have made special contributions and commitments to the Society may be designated by the Board of Directors as Life Members. Criteria for eligibility and selection procedures shall be determined by the Board. Life Members shall retain all rights, privileges and responsibilities of their membership classification and shall have such additional privileges and recognition as are granted by the Board, consistent with the Bylaws.~~

Section 32: RESPONSIBILITIES OF MEMBERSHIP

- A. General Responsibility: Each member has the responsibility to support the Mission and Objectives of the Society and to adhere to the Bylaws.
- B. Good Standing: A member must be in good standing to vote, hold office, or receive the benefits and services otherwise reserved for members of the Society.

Section 43: DISCIPLINE

- A. Members may be subject to discipline, including deprivation of membership, if they are guilty of unprofessional conduct or if they have been convicted of a felony in a court of law.
- B. The Committee on Ethics shall review, either on its own initiative or on written and signed complaint, any case in which the circumstances in Sections 3:A or 4:A may lead to potential discipline and shall forward to the House of Delegates any recommendation on possible action. Such review shall afford the accused member an opportunity for a hearing.
- C. Members who have been convicted of a felony in a court of law may not hold a voting position in the House of Delegates or the Board of Directors and may not be appointed ~~General Program Chair~~, Scientific Program Chair, Editor of the *Journal of Nuclear Medicine*, Editor of the *Journal of Nuclear Medicine Technology*, or chair of a standing committee. This prohibition is lifelong unless overridden by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the House of Delegates.
- D. Recommendations for discipline of a member shall be referred to the House of Delegates, which will take final action by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote.

ARTICLE V ORGANIZATIONAL CATEGORIES**Section 3: COUNCILS**

- A. Description: The Society recognizes the need for sub-specialty interests/expertise within the field of nuclear medicine and molecular imaging. Councils provide the expertise, professional networking, and educational programs for nuclear medicine and molecular imaging professionals in respective areas and serve as a resource for development and implementation of Society policy.
- B. Mission: The mission of councils shall be to:
 1. Serve as a forum for members with like interests,
 2. Provide expertise in the field to the membership-at-large,
 3. Foster research and education in their areas of interest,
 4. Serve as a resource to Society leadership, and
 5. Provide outreach to other professionals and organizations.
- C. Membership: Council membership is voluntary. Society members are eligible for council membership.
- D. Organization:
 1. Each council shall adhere to Society Bylaws and policies, while operating under its own Operating Procedures, as approved by the House of Delegates, and its own business plan and budget, as approved by the Board of Directors.
 2. Each council shall have a Board of Directors, at least one member of which shall be a member of the Society's Board of Directors.
- E. Renewal: Every five (5) years each Council shall review its relevance and contributions to the Society and decide whether to continue operations. Each continuing Council shall request renewed approval from the House of Delegates.

Section 4. CENTERS

- A. Mission: Center status is reserved for nuclear medicine and molecular imaging subspecialty or sub-disciplinary areas of interest, each approved by the Board of Directors. Centers provide professional networking and educational programs for nuclear medicine and molecular imaging professionals in respective areas, while simultaneously serving as a resource for development and implementation of Society policy. Leadership of centers is composed of elected members of the center and appointed members from the Board of Directors. Centers will manage Society programs and activities related to their subspecialty or sub-disciplinary areas of interest.
- B. Membership: Center membership is voluntary. Society members are eligible for center membership.
- C. Organization: Centers adhere to Society bylaws and policies, while operating under their own Operating Procedures and budget process, approved by the Board of Directors.
- D. Renewal: Every five (5) years each Center shall review its relevance and contributions to the Society and decide whether to continue operations. Each continuing Center shall request renewed approval from the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VI OFFICERS

Section 3: TERM OF OFFICE

- A. The President, Vice President, and Vice President-Elect serve for a one (1)-year term.
- B. The Secretary/Treasurer serves for a single term of three (3) years except that the Secretary/Treasurer may serve out a vacancy of the office plus a full term, if elected.
- C. Except for the Secretary/Treasurer who shall serve for three (3) consecutive years, and except for an Officer who assumes office due to a vacancy as described in these Bylaws, the term of office for each Officer shall commence with the conclusion of the Annual Meeting of the Society and shall terminate at the conclusion of the subsequent Annual Meeting.
- D. At the conclusion of the terms of office of the President, the Vice President shall automatically succeed to the office of President, and the Vice President-Elect shall automatically succeed to the office of Vice President.

ARTICLE VII HOUSE OF DELEGATES

Section 2: RESPONSIBILITIES

- A. To develop and recommend to the Board of Directors, Society policies and programs regarding professional issues affecting nuclear medicine and molecular imaging.
- B. To elect the seven (7) Directors-at-Large, the majority of the voting members of the Board of Directors.
- C. To approve amendments to the Bylaws in accordance with the Bylaws and Procedures.
- D. To approve establishment, suspension, renewal and dissolution of chapters and councils.
- E. To review the strategic plan annually.
- F. To oversee and monitor the work of the committees of the House of Delegates.
- G. To elect the ~~Speaker of the House, the~~ Vice-Speaker of the House (who ascends to speaker), and the Historian.
- H. To elect the members-at-large of the Committee on Nominations.
- I. To elect the members of the Audit Committee.
- J. To approve the selection of the Editor of *The Journal of Nuclear Medicine*.

Section 4: MEETINGS

- A. Regular and Annual Meetings
 1. The House of Delegates shall have at least two regular meetings each year. One of the regular meetings shall be designated as the Annual Meeting and shall be held in conjunction with the Annual Meeting of the Society.
 2. Formal notice of regular and Annual Meetings of the House of Delegates shall be ~~published~~ distributed in the manner specified in Procedures.
- B. Special Meetings: Special Meetings of the House of Delegates shall be summoned by the Board of Directors or the Speaker of the House, as circumstances warrant.
- C. Notification: Delegates shall be given at least sixty (60) days advance notice of the two regularly scheduled meetings of the House of Delegates and five (5) working-days' notice of a special meeting of the House of Delegates.
- D. Quorum: A quorum for all meetings of the House of Delegates is a majority of the total voting Delegates.

ARTICLE X BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 3: COMPOSITION

The Board of Directors shall be composed of ~~fourteen~~ fifteen (15) voting members and ~~seven~~ six (6) non-voting members.

- A. Voting Members
 1. Society Officers: ~~the~~ President, Vice President, Vice President-Elect, and the Secretary/Treasurer. The President shall serve as Chair of the Board of Directors.
 2. Immediate Past President
 3. President of the Technologist Section
 4. Immediate Past President of the Technologist Section
 5. Speaker of the House of Delegates
 6. Seven (7) Directors-at-Large
 - a) Directors-at-Large shall serve for a three (3)-year term, which shall commence at the conclusion of the Annual Meeting at which they are elected and which shall terminate at the conclusion of the third subsequent Annual Meeting following the election. A Director-at-Large chosen by the Technologist Section may serve for a term of less than three years at the discretion of the Technologist Section. Directors-at-Large may serve no more than two (2) consecutive terms, following which at least three years must elapse before service as a Director-at-Large is again permitted.

- b) Candidates for Director-at-Large must have been a member of the Society for at least three (3) years to be eligible to serve on the Board of Directors.
- c) Four (4) Directors-at-Large shall be elected by the House of Delegates from the voting Delegates of the House. Three (3) Directors-at-Large shall be elected by the Technologist Section from the eight (8) Technologist Section delegates in accordance with procedures established by the Technologist Section.

B. Non-Voting Members: there shall be ~~six~~ ~~seven~~ (7) non-voting members on the Board of Directors:

- 1. Chair, Committee on Finance
- 2. Chair, Committee on Government Relations
- 3. ~~General Program Chair~~
- 4.3. Chair, Committee on Publications
- 5.4. Chair, Scientific Program Committee
- 6.5. Education and Research Foundation (ERF) President
- 7.6. Chief Executive Officer

Section 6: VACANCIES

Vacancies of a voting member of the Board of Directors shall be handled in accord with Bylaws and Procedures. Vacancies of Officer positions shall be handled as described in Article VI. In the event of a vacancy in a Director-at-Large position, the Speaker of the House shall appoint an interim Director to serve until the next annual election. Vacancies in Director-at-Large positions from the technologist section shall be filled in the manner prescribed in the technologist section procedures.

ARTICLE XII COMMITTEES

Section 1: DESCRIPTION

- A. The House of Delegates shall have the following standing committees, as well as such additional committees or subcommittees as may be required by the House:
 - 1. Committee on Chapters
 - 2. Committee on Councils and Centers
 - 3. Committee on Ethics
 - 4. Committee on Nominations
 - 5. Committee on Bylaws
- B. The Board of Directors shall have the following standing committees, as well as such additional committees or subcommittees as may be required by the Board:
 - 1. Committee on Awards
 - 2. Committee on Audit
 - 3. Committee on Finance
 - 4. Committee on Government Relations
 - 5. Committee on Membership
 - 6. Committee on Publications
 - 7. Committee on Education
 - 8. Committee on Radiopharmaceuticals
 - 9. Committee on ~~Young Professionals~~ Early Career Professionals