

SOUTH CAROLINA BRANCH
AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR MICROBIOLOGY

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I. (Name)

The organization shall be known as the South Carolina Branch of the American Society for Microbiology.

Its geographical area shall include the State of South Carolina. The legal address of the Branch shall be the institutional or professional employment address of the Secretary-Treasurer of the Branch.

ARTICLE II. (Objectives)

The objectives of the organization shall be: to promote scientific knowledge through presentation of papers, personal associations and interchange of ideas; to develop and maintain a wholesome relationship both socially and intellectually among the members; to foster education in microbiology; to cooperate with other branches and the ASM in all matters pertaining to operation of the organization.

ARTICLE III. (Membership)

The membership of the organization shall consist of the following categories:

- (1) Active - A member in good standing with the ASM who has paid local dues.
- (2) Associate - Not a member of ASM, but in good standing with local Branch.
- (3) Student - Any regularly matriculated student who has paid local student dues.
- (4) Emeritus -
 - (a) Any active or associate member who has been in good standing with the local branch for five years prior to the age of retirement from the field of microbiology.
 - (b) An ASM member from other branches who is eligible for Emeritus membership under rules of ASM but would otherwise be excluded by time limit stated above.
- (5) Sustaining - Any person or organization interested in advancing the objectives of the local branch upon payment of sustaining membership dues.

- (6) Patron Membership - Available to those who wish to contribute more money to the Branch than active member dues but cannot afford the sustaining membership.

ARTICLE IV. (Officers)

- (1) The officers of the Branch shall be: President, Vice-President (President-Elect), Secretary-Treasurer, Councilor and Alternate Councilor.
- (2) The Executive Committee shall be composed of the above officers, the immediate past president, the editor of the Branch Newsletter and the educational representative to the Board of Education and Training of ASM.
- (3) The President, Vice-President, Councilor, Alternate Councilor and Secretary-Treasurer shall be elected by a majority of the active membership present at alternate Spring Meetings of the Branch.
- (4) The term of office for all officers shall be for two(2) years.
- (5) The above officers, except for Secretary-Treasurer and Councilor shall be ineligible for reelection to the same office for a period of two (2)years following termination of their service in the particular office. However, they may be elected to a new office immediately subsequent to termination of former office. The Councilor shall be ineligible for reelection for more than two consecutive terms.

The Secretary-Treasurer shall be elected so that the term of office will begin on alternate years from the other elected officers.

- (6) All officers shall begin their terms of office on July 1 following the meeting at which they are elected.
- (7) The duties of the officers shall be as follows:

President - The President shall be the presiding officer during each meeting of the Branch, as well as perform those duties normal to the role of president.

Vice-President - The Vice-President shall become the presiding officer in the absence of the President, in addition to performing those duties delegated by the President.

Secretary-Treasurer - The Secretary-Treasurer shall maintain written records of all Branch meetings and activities as well as manage the financial matters of the Branch.

Councilor - The Councilor shall represent the Branch at the annual meeting of the ASM each year.

Alternate-Councilor - The Alternate-Councilor shall serve in the absence of the Councilor.

In the event of a vacancy in the above offices, the remainder of the Executive Committee shall appoint a replacement.

ARTICLE V. (Meetings)

The Branch shall hold two (2) meetings during each calendar year. These meetings shall be held within the State of South Carolina, except in cases of meeting held jointly with other branches. The Branch shall be eligible to hold meetings jointly with other scientific organizations in the State.

ARTICLE VI. (Amendments)

Any proposed amendment to the constitution shall be presented in writing and read at any business meeting of the Branch. It shall be voted upon at the next meeting. A copy of the proposed amendment shall be mailed to each member at least thirty (30) days prior to the meeting at which a vote will be taken. A two-thirds affirmative vote of the members present shall be required for adoption of a proposed amendment.

BY-LAWS

- (1) Dues for active and associate members shall be \$5.00 per year; for student members \$2.00 per year; for patron members per year and for sustaining members \$25.00 per year. Dues shall be payable at the time of application for membership and on or before January 1 of each calendar year thereafter. Failure to pay dues for two (2) successive years shall terminate one's membership in the Branch.
- (2) The following standing committees shall exist, and the chairman of each shall be:

Program Committee - President

Membership Committee - Vice-President

Nominating Committee - Immediate Past President

Local Arrangements Committee - The President shall appoint the local arrangements committee subsequent to the selection of the site of the next meeting of the Branch. It shall be the duty of this committee to attend to all arrangements for the branch meeting for which they have been appointed to serve.

Educational Committee - Appointed by the President

President's Award Committee - Appointed by the President

Outstanding Microbiologist Committee - Appointed by the President

Two additional members of each committee shall be appointed by the President. The term of office for the committee chairmen and members shall be for two (2) years.

- (3) The President shall have authority to appoint special committees to deal with matters pertaining to operation and activity of the Branch.
- (4) The President shall appoint an Editor for the Branch Newsletter.
- (5) The President shall appoint an Archivist for a term of 5 years. The Archivist shall keep all records of the activities of the Branch.
- (6) Student Chapters - Associations of student members of the Branch may form local student chapters of the Branch at their colleges or universities, under the advisorship of faculty members who are themselves members in good standing of the Branch, and with constitutions patterned upon and not in conflict with the Constitution of the Branch. Such student associations may be recognized as Student Chapters by a majority vote of the members present at any business meeting of the Branch.
- (7) At the business session of each meeting, the order of business, subject to revision by the Executive Committee, shall be:
 - (a) Call to order
 - (b) Reading of minutes of previous meeting
 - (c) Treasurer's report
 - (d) Report of Executive Committee
 - (e) Report of other committees
 - (f) Report of Nominating Committee
 - (g) Miscellaneous business
 - (h) Installation of officers
 - (i) New business
 - (j) Announcements
 - (k) Adjournment
- (8) The Nominating Committee must have a statement from the nominee that he or she is willing to have his/her name placed in nomination and will serve if elected. The Chairman of the Nominating Committee must notify the President of the Branch of the nominees prior to the next business meeting.
- (9) These By-Laws may be amended at any business session of the Branch by majority vote of the members present.