

SOCIETY FOR GENERAL MICROBIOLOGY BYE-LAWS¹

1. Membership

- (a) Persons interested in the study of Microbiology shall be eligible for Membership.
- (b) There shall be the following categories of Individual Membership:
 - (i) Ordinary Members, open to any person, subject to approval by the Council;
 - (ii) Associate Members, to include:

Members who are retired from full-time employment and have previously been Ordinary Members of the Society;

Post-graduate students worldwide who are registered for a higher degree in a microbiological subject; whose annual salary or stipend does not exceed a certain level to be determined by Council from time to time; and microbiologists resident in the UK or Republic of Ireland such as research assistants, graduate scientists, postdoctoral fellows, biomedical scientists, technicians and clinical scientists, whose annual salary does not exceed a certain level to be determined by Council from time to time;

all subject to approval by the Council.
 - (iii) Honorary Members, being persons of special distinction in Microbiology, and elected by the Council;
 - (iv) Undergraduate student members, open to students registered for a first degree at a higher education institution in the United Kingdom and Ireland, subject to approval by the Council.
- (c) All categories of Individual Members shall have the following privileges, subject to amendment by the Council from time to time:
 - (i) Members may attend any Ordinary Scientific Meeting of the Society on payment of a reduced registration fee;

¹ As a Limited Company, the Society's governing documents are its Memorandum and Articles of Association, held at the Registered Office, the Society Headquarters.

- (ii) Members will receive the Society publication *Microbiology Today*;
 - (iii) Members will have an opportunity to subscribe to other Society journals at preferential rates as determined by the Council from time to time.
- (d) Companies and other bodies with interests in microbiology shall be eligible for Corporate Membership, subject to approval by Council.
- (e) Corporate Members shall have the following privileges, subject to amendment by the Council from time to time:
- (i) Corporate Members shall receive the Society publication *Microbiology Today*;
 - (ii) Corporate Members shall received discounted rates for advertising and inserts in *Microbiology Today*, and for exhibiting or placing inserts at Society meetings;
 - (iii) Corporate Members shall be acknowledged as sponsors in *Microbiology Today*, at Society meetings, and on the Society website.
- (f) Schools involved in teaching microbiology in the United Kingdom and Ireland shall be eligible for School Corporate Membership, subject to approval by Council.
- (g) School Corporate Members shall have the following privileges, subject to amendment by the Council from time to time:
- (i) School Corporate Members shall receive the Society publication *Microbiology Today*;
 - (ii) School Corporate Members shall receive priority mailings of Society educational materials and services;
 - (iii) School Corporate Members shall be eligible for discounts on SGM training courses.
- (h) Every Member other than an Honorary Member shall pay an annual subscription. Rates shall be notified at each Annual General Meeting. Subscriptions shall be due in advance and shall become due on dates to be decided by Council. A Member that has been given notice that their subscription is in arrears shall cease to be a Member on notice from Council to that effect.

- (i) All categories of Members shall have the right to receive notice of and attend at any General Meetings, but only Ordinary Members shall have the right to take part in elections of Council Members and to vote at General Meetings.

2. Journals

- (a) The Society shall publish *Microbiology*, the *Journal of General Virology* and the *Journal of Medical Microbiology*.
- (b) The Editors in Chief for each Journal shall be as appointed under Article 25(1)(b)(iii). Other Editors of each Journal shall be appointed by the Council for a period of 5 years and shall be eligible for re-appointment for one further period of 3 years. The Editors shall be assisted by Editorial Boards, the members of which shall be appointed by the Council for a period of 5 years, and shall be eligible for re-appointment on the recommendation of the Editors.
- (c) The Society shall publish the *International Journal of Systematic and Evolutionary Microbiology* on behalf of the Bacteriology and Applied Microbiology Division of the International Union of Microbiological Societies, for the duration and under the terms of the contract between the Society and the Bacteriology and Applied Microbiology Division of the International Union of Microbiological Societies.

3. Scientific meetings

- (a) The scientific meetings of the Society shall be organized by the Scientific Meetings Committee.
- (b) The Scientific Meetings Committee shall be chaired by the Scientific Meetings Officer, shall include the Deputy Scientific Meetings Officer, the Chairs and Chairs-elect of the scientific and other Divisions, the Treasurer and General Secretary in attendance if required and invited to attend, and shall be attended by appropriate Society staff.
- (c) The scientific Divisions shall include Virology, Prokaryotic Microbiology and Eukaryotic Microbiology, and the other Divisions shall include Education and Training, and an Irish Division, or such other scientific, vocational or regional Divisions as Council may from time to time determine.
- (d) Divisional Committees shall consist of a number of members, to represent cross-cutting themes in microbial science, number and themes to be determined by Council from time to time, and shall include a Council representative.
- (e) Chairs and Chairs-elect of Divisional Committees shall be chosen by the Scientific Meetings Committee, subject to the approval of Council, and shall serve for 2 years in each position.

- (f) Members of Divisional Committees shall serve for up to 3 or 4 years, as determined by Council, and shall not be eligible for re-election, other than as Chair-elect, for a period of 1 year.
- (g) Nominations for election to Divisional Committees may be made by the Divisional Committee and Scientific Meetings Committee, taking account of the need for balanced representation of the cross-cutting themes of microbial science.
- (h) A notice inviting nominations for election to Divisional Committees in the appropriate cross-cutting themes shall be placed annually in *Microbiology Today*. Nominations must be proposed and seconded by Ordinary Members of the Society.
- (i) All Ordinary Members of the Society shall be entitled to vote in elections for Divisional Committees, to be held in a manner to be determined by Council from time to time.
- (j) All members of Divisional Committees shall be members of the Society.
- (k) A member of a Divisional Committee who consistently fails to attend Committee meetings and does not contribute to the planning of scientific meetings shall, by decision of the Committee and subject to approval by the Scientific Meetings Committee, cease to be a member of the Committee.

Modified at Annual General Meeting, 7 September 1999 and 11 September 2001
Modified by Council, 3 May 2002, 7 November 2003, 20 February 2004, 6 May 2005,
2 November 2007 and 2 May 2008