

Constitution of the American Statistical Association

(Effective ~~January 1, 1999~~TBD)

Article I. NAME

The name of this organization is the American Statistical Association.

Article II. OBJECTIVES

~~The objectives of the American Statistical Association are to foster statistics and its applications, to promote unity and effectiveness of effort among all concerned with statistical problems, and to increase the contribution of statistics to human welfare. The ASA is a non-profit organization and achieves these objectives by conducting meetings, producing publications devoted to statistical methodology and its applications, and making available information concerning the science of statistics and its contributions. It also cooperates with other organizations in the advancement of statistics, stimulates research, promotes high professional standards and integrity in the application of statistics, fosters education in statistics, and, in general, makes statistics of service to society. Statistics is a continually evolving field, and the ASA strives to be the professional home for all those who learn from data – The Big Tent for Statistics and Data Science.~~
The objectives of the American Statistical Association are to promote the practice and profession of statistics, envisioning a world that relies on data and statistical thinking to drive discovery and inform decisions. The ASA is a non-profit organization and achieves these objectives by supporting excellence in the development, application, and dissemination of statistical science through meetings, publications, membership services, education, accreditation, and advocacy. The ASA advances research and promotes sound statistical practice to inform public policy and improve human welfare. The American Statistical Association is a nonprofit organization and achieves these objectives by conducting meetings, producing publications devoted to statistical methodology and its applications, and making available information concerning the science of statistics and its contributions. It also cooperates with other organizations in the advancement of statistics, stimulates research, promotes high professional standards and integrity in the application of statistics, fosters education in statistics, and, in general, makes statistics of service to society. Statistics is a continually evolving field, and the ASA strives to be the professional home for all those who learn from data – The Big Tent for Statistics and Data Science.

Commented [WRL1]: Updated to reflect mission and vision statements

Commented [WRL2]: Updated to reflect current description of the ASA

~~The ASA establishes professional standards of ethics and conduct so that these objectives are pursued without prejudice toward any person or group.~~

Commented [WRL3]: Without this edit there is no information on how we pursue these objectives without prejudice.

Article III. MEMBERSHIP

The Association may have one or more categories of members, as defined in Article I of the ~~By-Laws~~ASA Bylaws.

Except as otherwise provided by this Constitution and ~~the ASA By-Laws~~Bylaws, ~~only full individual members, as defined by Article I of the Bylaws, have the right to vote, to sign referendum petitions, to hold office, and to sign nominating petitions.~~ ~~shall be reserved to full members, as defined in Article I of the By-Laws.~~

Commented [WRL4]: Changing from "full member" to "individual member" (or just "member," when there is no ambiguity) to avoid the suggestion that some members have limited rights

Article IV. CHAPTERS

Members within a specific geographic area may form a chapter to develop and explore ways of pursuing the objectives of the Association. Responsibility for chartering and overseeing chapters rests with the Council of Chapters.

The Council of Chapters functions under a charter approved by the Board of Directors to serve the needs of the chapters. As part of this function, it channels information between the Association and the chapters and promotes cooperation among the chapters. It also provides oversight for chapter activities, including formation and dissolution of chapters, and ensures that chapter activities, including fiscal management, are consistent with the goals of the Association.

The ~~Council~~ council ~~shall consist~~consists of ~~Chapter~~chapter representatives and ex officio members as described in the charter of the Council of Chapters and elsewhere in the Constitution and ~~By-Laws~~Bylaws.

Article V. SECTIONS

Members may form a section in order to further the objectives of the Association in a field of statistical methods, theory, or applications. The scope of a section ~~shall~~must be sufficiently broad to represent active professional interests of a substantial segment of the Association. Responsibility for chartering and overseeing sections rests with the Council of Sections.

The Council of Sections functions under a charter approved by the Board of Directors to serve the needs of the sections. As part of this function, it channels information between the Association and the sections and promotes cooperation among the sections. It also provides oversight for section activities, including formation and dissolution of sections, and ensures that section activities, including fiscal management, are consistent with the goals of the Association. The Council ~~shall consist~~s of section representatives and ex officio members as described in the charter of the Council of Sections and elsewhere in the Constitution and ~~By-Laws~~Bylaws.

In the previous paragraph, the term "sections" is understood to cover any and all entities that operate under the charter of the Council of Sections.

Commented [WRL6]: At present this refers to interest groups but leaves room in the description should other entities be created later

Article VI. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors is the policy-making and legislative body of the Association. It ~~shall consist~~s of sixteen members: ~~which are~~ President, President-Elect, Past President, three Vice Presidents, three representatives ~~of from~~ the Council of Chapters, three representatives ~~of from~~ the Council of Sections, International Representative, Secretary, Treasurer, and Publication Representative. ~~The Secretary and Treasurer are ex officio members without vote. All voting members of the Board of Directors and the Treasurer must be full individual members of the Association for the five years preceding the start of their term of office. No employee of the Association, with the exception of the Secretary, may serve as a member of the Board of Directors~~

Commented [WRL7]: This Article reorganized to improve clarity

The President, President-Elect, Past President, Vice Presidents, representatives of the Council of Chapters, representatives of the Council of Sections, International Representative, and Publication Representative ~~shall are collectively be known as the~~ at largevoting Board members. ~~The Secretary and Treasurer are ex officio members without vote. All voting members of the Board of Directors and the Treasurer must be individual members of the Association for the five years preceding the start of their term of office.~~

Commented [WRL8]: Eliminates some ambiguity about the meaning of "at-large," addresses what is actually meant

No employee of the Association, with the exception of the Secretary, may serve as a member of the Board of Directors

Article VII. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee ~~shall~~ consists of the President, President-Elect, Past President, senior Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. The Secretary and Treasurer are ex officio members without vote.

Article VIII. OFFICERS

The officers of the Association ~~shall be~~ the President, President-Elect, Past President, three Vice Presidents, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Article IX. METHOD OF SELECTION

All ~~full individual~~ members ~~shall be~~ eligible to vote for every elected position on the Board of Directors.

Nominees for the positions of President-Elect and Vice President are selected by the Committee on Nominations as described in Article V, Section 1 of the ~~By-Laws~~Bylaws.

The Council of Chapters ~~shall~~ nominates candidates for its representatives ~~to on~~ the Board of Directors ~~to be elected by a vote of all full members~~. Each of the three geographic regions, as established by the charter of the Council of Chapters, ~~shall will~~ have one representative ~~to on~~ the Board of Directors.

The Council of Sections ~~shall~~ nominates candidates for its representatives ~~to on~~ the Board of Directors ~~to be elected by a vote of all full members~~.

The Board-appointed editors ~~shall~~ nominate candidates for the Publication Representative ~~to on~~ the Board of Directors ~~to be elected by a vote of all full members~~.

~~The International Representative shall be elected by a vote of all full members.~~ Candidates for International Representative ~~shall be~~ nominated as specified in Article V, Section 1 of the By- Laws.

The Secretary and Treasurer ~~shall be~~ selected according to Article V, Section 2 of the ~~By-Laws~~Bylaws.

Article X. TERMS OF OFFICE

The President is elected to the position of President-Elect and normally serves a three-year term. The first year will ~~shall~~ be as President-Elect, the second year as President, and the third year as Past President. ~~Once elected to the position of President-Elect, the incumbent shall normally serve a three-year term. The first year shall be as President-Elect, the second year as President, and the third year as Past President. Once an individual has served as ASA President, that person cannot again be nominated for nor serve as ASA President-Elect.~~

The Vice Presidents ~~shall be~~ elected for three-year terms, one Vice President being elected each year. No Vice President ~~shall be is~~ eligible for immediate re-election to the same office.

Commented [WRL9]: This edit replaces an awkward sentence in which the word "incumbent" was used incorrectly.

Commented [WRL10]: (1) The other positions have a restriction against immediate re-election but president does not
(2) It seems reasonable not to allow someone to serve twice as president, and that is our practice anyway

The representatives of the Council of Chapters ~~shall~~ serve a three-year term, one representative being elected each year.

The representatives of the Council of Sections ~~shall~~ serve a three-year term, one representative being elected each year.

No Chapter or Section Representative completing a full term ~~shall be~~ eligible for immediate re-election to the same office.

The International Representative ~~shall be~~ elected for a three-year term and ~~shall not be~~ not eligible for immediate re-election to the same office.

The Treasurer is appointed to a three-year term as provided for in Articles V and VII of the ASA Bylaws. The Treasurer may not be immediately reappointed to same office.

The Board of Directors sets the term of office for the Secretary, who also serves as the ASA's Executive Director, as provided for in Articles V and VII of the Bylaws. The Secretary is appointed to an original term of no more than five years, and upon action of the Board of Directors may be reappointed at any time during the Secretary's term for a period of up to five years from the date the reappointment takes effect.

The Board of Directors shall fix sets terms of office of five years or less for the Secretary and the Treasurer. The Secretary and the Treasurer may be re-appointed to the same office.

Commented [WRL11]: Makes the Treasurer position on the board similar to other board positions regarding term and reappointment

Commented [WRL12]: Describes the long-standing practice of appointment and reappointment of the Executive Director more clearly.

The Publication Representative ~~shall serve~~s a three-year term and ~~shall is~~ not be eligible for immediate re-election to the same office.

The Board of Directors may provide shorter terms during periods of organizational transition.

Terms of office ~~shall end~~, and new terms ~~shall begin~~, on January 1, but each office holder ~~shall serve~~s until a successor takes office.

No elected individual may serve simultaneously in two capacities on the Board of Directors.

Article XI. COMMITTEES

The committees of the Association ~~shall~~ consist of the Executive Committee and other committees of the Board of Directors, which are named in the ~~By-Laws~~Bylaws; ~~Standing-standing~~ ~~Committees~~committees, which are named in the ~~By-Laws~~Bylaws; and such ~~Continuing-continuing~~ and ~~Ad-ad~~ hoc ~~Committees~~ committees as the President or the Board of Directors may establish.

Article XII. PUBLICATIONS

Publication of journals ~~may~~must be authorized by the Board of Directors. Other periodicals, reports, proceedings, or publications ~~may be~~are authorized in the ~~By-Laws~~Bylaws, by vote of the Board of Directors, or by the Council of Chapters or the Council of Sections.

Article XIII. MEETINGS

The Association ~~shall~~must hold an annual meeting of the membership, ~~at a time and place in a manner~~ designated by the Board of Directors based upon recommendation from the Committee on Meetings, ~~unless extraordinary circumstances dictate otherwise. The decision not to hold an annual meeting would be made by the Board of Directors and announced to membership along with an explanation of the rationale for the decision.~~

Commented [WRL13]: To cover virtual meetings if necessary

Article XIV. AMENDMENTS

Amendments to the Constitution may be proposed by the Board of Directors or by a petition signed by at least 100 ~~full~~individual members.

An amendment originating by petition ~~shall be~~is referred to the Board of Directors, which ~~shall~~must vote on its recommendation regarding ratification. The Board of Directors may also decide upon the final wording of the proposed revision, as long as such wording is consistent with the original intent of the petition. Periodic revisions, as provided for in Article IX, Section 5h of the ~~By-Laws~~, ~~shall be~~are referred to the Board of Directors, which may recommend ratification as a whole or in parts.

As soon as feasible following action by the Board of Directors, the Secretary ~~shall~~must publish a copy of the proposed amendment in a news bulletin. ~~In this Constitution and the ASA Bylaws, a "news bulletin" is understood to mean a method of notification that is readily accessible and widely distributed to the membership.~~ The published copy ~~shall~~must include revisions by and recommendations of the Board of Directors and ~~shall~~ invite comment. Comments received ~~shall~~must be summarized or published in full in subsequent issues of a news bulletin. At least 30 days

Commented [R14]: See discussion of "news bulletin" in article II of the bylaws

| ~~shall~~must elapse between the ~~mailing date of the news bulletin containing~~publication date of these comments and the vote on an amendment or revision. Regardless of the recommendation of the Board of Directors, an amendment proposed by petition must be submitted for vote. However, the Executive Committee may delay the vote to coincide with the next annual election. Ratification requires an affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of the membership. If a portion of the membership chooses not to cast ballots, that portion of the membership ~~shall be~~is counted as voting in the same proportion as that portion of the membership casting ballots.