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Constitution and By-Laws

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CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

Adopted at the Founding Meeting, May 26, 1952

ARTICLE I—NAME

This organization shall be named The Operations Research Society of America.

ARTICLE II—OBJECT

The object of the Society shall be the advancement of the science of operations research, through exchange of information, the establishment and maintenance of professional standards of competence for work known as operations research, the improvement of the methods and techniques of operations research, and the encouragement and development of students of operations research.

ARTICLE III—MEMBERSHIP

1. The membership of the Society shall consist of Fellows, Members, Associate Members and Sustaining Members.

2. There shall be elected to Fellowship only such persons as have contributed to the advancement of operations research through original and significant work in that field, or who have rendered some other special service to this field which is considered equivalent to such contribution.

3. There may be elected to Membership persons who have demonstrated professional competence in the field of operations research. Members will have all of the rights and privileges of Fellows, except those of holding office, or serving as members of the Council.

4. There may be elected to Associate Membership those persons interested in operations research who are not eligible as Fellows or Members. Associate Members will have all of the rights and privileges of Fellows or Members, except those of voting, holding office, or serving as members of the Council.

5. There may be elected to Sustaining Membership those organizations or institutions engaged in the application of or teaching of operations research. Each Sustaining Member shall have the right to name a person as an Associate Member, and the person so named shall have all of the rights and privileges of Associate Members so long as the Sustaining Member naming him remains a Sustaining Member in good standing. Alternatively, a Sustaining Member may name as its representative an existing Member or Fellow of the Society.

6. The terms "member" and "membership" when printed without an initial capital in this Constitution and By-laws will refer to all classes.

ARTICLE IV—ELECTION OF MEMBERS

For the election of a new Fellow, Member, or Sustaining Member, or for change in the classification of a member, a written nomination, endorsed by two Fellows or Members of the Society, shall be presented to the Council, after approval by the Membership Committee, and receive favorable ballots of a majority of the Council. For election of Associate Members, a similar nomination shall be presented to the Membership Committee and receive the favorable ballots of a majority of that Committee.

ARTICLE V—OFFICERS

1. THE PRESIDENT shall be the chief executive officer of the Society, performing all duties required by the Constitution and By-laws or, if not there specified, by the Council.

2. THE VICE-PRESIDENT shall assist the President, carrying out such duties as may be assigned by the President. In the event of the incapacity of the President to serve, as determined by a unanimous vote of the Council members present at a meeting of the Council, the Vice-President shall assume and perform the duties of President.

3. THE SECRETARY shall conduct correspondence with members and others, prepare the minutes and historical records of the Society, receive applications and encourage inquiries concerning membership, collect dues and keep records of the dues status of each member, see that all disbursements are properly approved, maintain contact with all activities of the Society, both national and sectional, supply information to the officers at all times, and perform other duties usual to the office of an organization secretary, under the executive guidance of the President and Council. The Secretary shall conduct the routine of all elections, including balloting.

4. THE TREASURER shall receive dues and other money collected by the Secretary, deposit same in a bank approved by the Council, invest funds as authorized by vote of the Council, supervise disbursements and issue checks therefor countersigned by the Secretary or President, and serve as financial counsel to the Council. Proper accounting records shall be kept by the Treasurer. He shall prepare reports of the financial condition of the Society whenever required by the Council or the President, and submit a financial report to the members at the Business Meetings.

ARTICLE VI—COUNCIL

The President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, the two immediate Past Presidents if available to serve, and six other members all of whom are Fellows, shall constitute a Council which shall (a) manage the affairs of the Society in the intervals between its meetings, (b) fill all vacancies among the officers or elected Council members occasioned by death or resignation (such appointees to serve until the next annual meeting of the Society and until their successors shall be elected), (c) call and organize meetings, (d) decide upon the acceptability of papers, reports, and discussions offered for publication, (e) invest and administer the funds of the Society, (f) act upon nominations for membership presented by the Membership Committee, and (g) establish and appoint such committees as may be required.

ARTICLE VII—ELECTION AND TENURE OF OFFICERS AND COUNCIL

1. The officers of the Society and other members of the Council shall be elected by letter ballot. At each Annual Meeting, the Council shall appoint a Nominating Committee composed of five Fellows and/or Members. Not more than three months after the Annual Meeting, the Secretary shall send to each Fellow and Member of the Society a request for nominations, specifying the offices to be filled. Not more than seven months after the Annual Meeting, the Nominating Committee shall prepare the official ballot form containing (a) one or more candidates nominated by the Committee for each office to be filled, (b) the name of each candidate for any office nominated by at least ten Fellows and/or Members in good standing, and (c) blank spaces in which voters may write other names. A copy of the official ballot shall be mailed to each member who is entitled to vote not less than three weeks before the Annual Meeting. No ballot shall be counted unless marked by a qualified voter to indicate his choices, returned to the Secretary in a sealed envelope bearing the voter's

name, and received by the Secretary not less than five days before the Annual Meeting. A majority of all the ballots cast conforming to these rules shall be necessary for election. The ballots shall be counted by tellers appointed by the President, and the results shall be announced at the Annual Meeting. In case of failure to secure a majority for any office, the members present at the Annual Meeting shall choose by ballot one of the two candidates having the highest number of votes for that office.

2. The terms of office of elected officers shall begin at the close of the Annual Meeting at which the election is announced and shall continue in the cases of the President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer until the close of the Annual Meeting next following; in the cases of the elected members of the Council, until the close of the third Annual Meeting following. For the first Council of the Society, two members will be elected for a term of one year, two for a term of two years, and two for the full term of three years.

3. No officer or elected member of the Council, except the Secretary and Treasurer, shall be eligible for election to the same office for two successive terms.

ARTICLE VIII—SECTIONS

1. Members and Fellows residing in any region may, with the approval of the Council, organize a local Section for the more active furtherance of the object of the Society as stated in Article II.

2. Any local Section of the Society may be dissolved at the discretion of the Council.

ARTICLE IX—AMENDMENTS

No part of this Constitution shall be amended or annulled except by formal proposal of an amendment, followed by opportunity for discussion at an Annual Meeting and by a letter ballot. Proposal of an amendment may be made by the Council, or by a petition to the President signed by at least ten Fellows and/or Members of the Society in good standing. The Secretary shall distribute copies of the proposed amendment to all members of the Society not less than three weeks before an Annual Meeting, and opportunity shall be given for discussion in the meeting. Not more than eight weeks after this meeting, the Secretary shall again distribute copies of the amendment accompanied by ballot forms. An amendment proposed by petition shall be submitted in the original form, but an amendment proposed by the Council may, in the discretion of the Council, be submitted with modifications made in the light of discussion at the Annual Meeting. No ballot shall be counted unless marked by a qualified voter to indicate his choice, returned to the Secretary in a sealed envelope bearing the voter's name, and received by the Secretary not later than a date to be specified by him upon the ballot form. The adoption of the proposed amendment shall require the affirmative votes of not fewer than two-thirds of the members voting. The ballots shall be counted by tellers appointed by the President, and the result announced at the next meeting of the Society following the count.

ARTICLE X—BY-LAWS

By-laws may be adopted or amended by the affirmative votes of a majority of the Fellows and Members present at a meeting of the Society, but no such By-law or amendment shall be voted upon unless it be proposed by the Council or by written request of at least ten Fellows and/or Members, nor unless notice of the proposed By-law or amendment shall have been mailed by the Secretary to each Fellow and Member at least one month before the meeting at which the By-law or amendment is offered.

ARTICLE XI—MEETINGS

1. There shall be an Annual Meeting of the Society, held on a day to be determined by the Council. At such Annual Meetings, there shall be a business session for reports of officers, for reports of tellers on the election of officers, and for other items of business.

2. Special meetings of the Society may be called at such times and in such manners as determined by the Council.

3. Meetings of the Council may be held at such times as are necessary to carry out the provisions of this Constitution and shall be held at such other times as three members of the Council may determine, but only on notice to all members of the Council. A majority of the Council shall constitute a quorum.

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I—DUES

1. The annual dues of Fellows shall be fifteen dollars; of Members and Associate Members (except students), ten dollars; of student Associate Members, three dollars; and of Sustaining Members, one hundred dollars, payable on the first of January. The dues of a member designated as the representative of a Sustaining Member in good standing shall be remitted.

2. The dues for the year in which a new member is elected shall be the full annual dues if the date of election is on or before July 1, and one-half of annual dues if the date of election is after July 1.

ARTICLE II—SEVERANCE OF MEMBERSHIP

1. A member in good standing may resign by submitting a written resignation to the Secretary. Subject to approval of the Council, a resigned member may resume his membership upon payment of current dues.

2. If the dues of any member remain unpaid beyond a reasonable time, as determined by the Council, his name shall be removed from the membership list after due notice.

3. The name of any member whose conduct may have been prejudicial to the good of the Society may be dropped from the roll of membership and removed from any office by a unanimous vote of the Council members present at a meeting of the Council, after the member has been notified by letter at least twenty days in advance of the meeting as to the charges against him, and been given the opportunity to answer the charges in person, in writing, or by an authorized representative.

ARTICLE III—PUBLICATIONS

1. Each member of the Society who has paid his dues in full shall be entitled to receive one copy of current official publications of the Society.

2. The Council shall be empowered to fix the terms under which members shall receive other publications of the Society and under which non-members of the Society shall receive material published by the Society.

ARTICLE IV—PAPERS

1. No contributed paper shall be accepted for presentation at any meeting of the Society unless the title and an abstract of the paper are in the hands of the Secretary at the closing date stated in the call for that meeting.

2. When two or more papers are offered by the same member, one only of these will be assigned a place on the regular program, while the others will be placed in a supplementary program, to be called for if time permits.

3. The maximum allowance of time for the presentation of a contributed paper shall be fifteen minutes.

ARTICLE V—COMMITTEES

1. The Council shall appoint, as soon after the Annual Meeting of the Society as may be expedient, the following Standing Committees: (a) a Membership Committee, (b) a Publications Committee, (c) a Nominating Committee, and (d) an Education Committee. The Council may also appoint such other Committees as it may consider desirable to promote the welfare of the Society. Members of Standing Committees shall serve until the close of the Annual Meeting next following their appointment, or until their successors are appointed.

2. The Membership Committee shall promote the obtaining of new members of the Society, with the approval of the Council adopt rules for determining the eligibility of candidates for membership, act upon nominations for Associate Membership, and consider and present to the Council approved nominations for Fellowship, Membership, and Sustaining Membership.

3. The Publications Committee shall promote the preparation of material suitable for publication by the Society, and have charge of the printing and distribution of material approved by the Council for publication. Its Chairman shall be designated Editor for the Society.

4. The duties of the Nominating Committee shall be as provided in the Constitution.

5. The Education Committee shall encourage and advise in the preparation of training programs in operations research.

6. All other committees authorized by the Council shall be considered automatically discharged at the close of the Annual Meeting next following their authorization, unless specific action to continue such a committee is taken by the Council. If continuance of a committee is authorized a new appointment of members shall be made, and no former member shall continue on the committee unless reappointed.

ARTICLE VI—RULES OF ORDER

The rules contained in *Robert's Rules of Order* shall govern the parliamentary procedure of all meetings of the Society, the Council, or Committees, in all cases to which they are applicable, and in which they are not inconsistent with the Constitution or By-laws.