

CONSTITUTION
OF THE
SOCIETY OF AIR FORCE MEDICAL LABORATORY SCIENTISTS, INC.

ARTICLE I

INCORPORATION

SECTION 1. The Society of Air Force Medical Laboratory Scientists, Inc., is organized under the Non-Stock Corporation provisions of the Articles of Incorporation of the State of Maryland.

ARTICLE II

OBJECTIVES

SECTION 1. The Corporation is organized exclusively for charitable, educational, and scientific purposes, including the following: (a) promote health and improve patient care throughout the Air Force population by application of improved laboratory procedures and techniques for diagnosis, treatment or prevention of disease, (b) to stimulate research in all branches of medical laboratory sciences, (c) to establish standards for performance of various laboratory procedures, (d) to conduct seminars and other educational programs and to prepare, publish, and disseminate educational materials designed to acquaint professional laboratory workers with scientific developments in the field of clinical laboratory medicine, (e) to establish (or participate in the establishment of) voluntary standards and curricula for the training of military technicians, (f) hold at least one scientific meeting yearly for exchange of ideas and the presentation of papers, and undertake any other activities which the Board of Directors of the Society may direct.

ARTICLE III

MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1. Membership shall be open to all commissioned officers in good professional standing in at least one of the following:

Anatomical Pathology
Bacteriology
Blood Banking
Chemistry
Clinical Laboratory
Clinical Pathology
Cytology
Hematology

Histopathology
Immunology
Laboratory Administration
Microbiology
Mycology
Nuclear Medicine (as directly related to Clinical Pathology)
Parasitology
Serology
Toxicology
Virology

who are currently on active duty with the United States Air Force; or who have in the past served at least one year on active duty with the USAF or U. S. Army Air Corps, being retired, reverted to inactive duty as reserve officers or discharged under Honorable Conditions; or who have served as consultants to the USAF Medical Service, either on a local or national basis; or commissioned members of the active or stand-by USAF Medical Reserve Forces.

SECTION 2. Membership shall be composed of four classes as follows: (a) Regular Members; these shall be officers on active duty or officer grade civilian personnel (GS-11 or above) in full time employment by the Air Force. As an additional classification under this group, medical consultants to the United States Air Force Medical Service, either locally or nationally, may qualify as Regular Members, and National Consultants Emeritus. Local or regional consultants will be recommended by a local regular member, (b) Associate Members; these shall be actively engaged in the practice of one of the professional specialties accepted into the membership in this Society (Article III) who are not on active duty with the Air Force. Such a member will have no vote on matters of business of the Society, (c) Emeritus Members; Officers of the Regular Service or the Reserve Components who in every respect would otherwise qualify for Regular Membership but who have retired from active duty either by virtue of length of service or physical disability will be invited to join the Society as Members Emeritus, (d) Honorary Members; upon unanimous agreement by the Board of Directors, the Society by a simple majority of regular members at the annual Executive Session may elect distinguished clinicians, scientists in fields associated with laboratory medicine and specialties, or other distinguished public figures to Honorary Membership. In such cases, all other requirements for membership are waived.

SECTION 3. All memberships shall be for life unless the member is expelled from the Society, as provided in subsequent section, or reverts to a position or practice not directly associated with the objectives of the Society.

SECTION 4. The Executive Secretary of the Society will maintain an up-to-date roster of membership, together with the addresses of the members.

SECTION 5. All members will be entitled to all the privileges of the Society except that attendance at Executive Sessions will be limited to Regular Members and Emeritus Members.

SECTION 6. Emeritus Members will have the privilege of the floor at Executive Sessions but will not have the privilege of voting. They may serve on the Board of Directors and vote at meetings of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE IV

OFFICERS

SECTION 1. The officers of the Society shall be a President, Vice President, Executive Secretary, Treasurer, and Recording Secretary.

SECTION 2. The officers, with the exception of the Executive Secretary, shall be elected annually from among the Regular Members of the Society by majority vote of the Regular Members at the Executive Session of the Annual Meeting with the exception of the Treasurer who will be elected for a period of three years. The Executive Secretary will be appointed by the President.

SECTION 3. The officers shall take office at the conclusion of the Annual Meeting, and shall be responsible for the affairs of the Society during the year and for the conduct of the succeeding Annual Meeting.

SECTION 4. The President shall direct the activities of the Society and preside over its Annual Meeting. He shall appoint all committees except the Nominating Committee. He may designate Moderators to preside over the various professional sessions of the Annual Meeting. In the event the President is unable to serve, the Vice President shall assume all his functions for the duration of his incapacity during the President's term of office.

SECTION 5. The Secretariat, comprised of the Executive and Recording Secretaries, shall keep minutes of the Annual Meeting and of all other meetings of the Society. They shall be responsible for all correspondence of the Society including notification of members of the Annual Meeting.

SECTION 6. The Treasurer shall be responsible for the financial affairs of the Society and shall collect all money for the Society and make all authorized disbursements on its behalf. He shall prepare an annual financial report to be presented at the Annual Meeting. The Treasurer's account shall be audited annually by a committee of not less than three (3) members appointed by the President.

ARTICLE V.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

SECTION 1. The Board of Directors shall be composed of the four elected officers, the Military Consultant in Pathology to the Surgeon General, the Associate Chief for Biomedical Laboratory Officers of the Biomedical Science Corps, and six At-Large Directors, each of whom shall be either a Regular or Emeritus Member elected for a term of two years, the terms to be arranged so that three expire each year. Each Director shall have one vote.

SECTION 2. The Board of Directors shall be empowered to transact all business in the name of the Society between Annual or Special Meetings by majority vote except that it cannot increase dues or levy assessments, and a unanimous vote of a quorum of the Board shall be required for the expenditure of more than 25% of the unobligated money in the Treasury of the Society.

SECTION 3. The Board of Directors shall be the Nominating Committee for the Society.

SECTION 4. The Board of Directors will nominate persons for Honorary Membership.

SECTION 5. Two-thirds of the members assigned within the Continental United States shall compose a quorum for meetings of the Board of Directors.

SECTION 6. The Board of Directors shall meet at least once a year. It shall make recommendations to the Society for action and it shall serve as a liaison body between the Membership and the Office of the Surgeon General, USAF. This shall imply no official relationship between the Society and the Surgeon General.

SECTION 7. Special Meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by the President of the Society, who will also function as the Chairman of the Board of Directors, or by written request of four or more members of the Board, by request of the Military Consultant to the Surgeon General, USAF, or by request of the Associate Chief for Biomedical Laboratory Officers of the Biomedical Science Corps.

SECTION 8. In the event of inability of both the President and Vice-President to function, a quorum of the Board of Directors shall designate a President pro tempore who shall function as President.

ARTICLE VI

MEETINGS

SECTION 1. The Society will hold one annual meeting as required by Article 11.

SECTION 3. One part of this meeting will be reserved for an Executive Session limited to Regular and Emeritus Members at which the business of the Society will be transacted.

SECTION 4. A quorum at any meeting of the Society shall consist of the members present and voting at any regularly called voting period.

SECTION 4. Regular attendance by all members at Annual Meetings is encouraged. Regular members who absent themselves from three consecutive meetings, except by reason of overseas assignment, shall be dropped from the membership roll and will be expected to make satisfactory explanation to the Board of Directors who may then recommend their reinstatement. If the explanation is not satisfactory, they may be required to reapply for membership and will then be required to pay the initiation fee.

ARTICLE VII

FEES AND DUES

SECTION 1. Initiation fee shall be five dollars. A certificate will be provided from the fund derived from this fee.

SECTION 2. Dues and special assessments may be levied by simple majority vote of a quorum of the Regular Members present at an Annual Meeting, providing such levies do not exceed two dollars.

SECTION 3. Members who have fallen two years in arrears in payment of dues and assessments will be suspended from the Society. They may be reinstated upon payment of such.

SECTION 4. Dues are payable on a calendar year basis and become due for all members on 1 January of each year.

ARTICLE VIII

AMENDMENTS AND BY-LAWS

SECTION 1. This constitution may be amended by request of two-thirds of a quorum of the Board of Directors and agreement by three-fourths concurring vote of a quorum of Regular Members present at an Annual Meeting.

SECTION 2. Any member may propose by-laws not in conflict with the constitution, and upon simple majority approval by a quorum of the Regular members present at an Annual Meeting, they will become binding on the membership.

ARTICLE IX

CONDUCT OF MEETINGS

SECTION 1. In all matters not covered by this constitution or subsequent by-laws, the provisions of Robert's "Rules of Order" will apply.

ARTICLE X

EXPULSION OF MEMBERS

SECTION 1. If it is alleged that any member has conducted himself in a manner as to bring disgrace upon the traditions of Medicine or the traditions of the Military Service of the United States, the facts of the case shall be brought by any member to the attention of the Board of Directors.

SECTION 2. The member shall be given at least 60 days in which to prepare his defense or refutation, after which he shall be invited to appear before a quorum of the Board of Directors. If it is the unanimous opinion of the quorum of the Board of Directors that the charges have been substantiated, the matter shall be presented at the next Executive Session of the Society and upon two-thirds concurring vote of a quorum of the Regular Members, he shall be expelled permanently from the organization.

ARTICLE XI

SUSPENSION OF REQUIREMENTS

SECTION 1. Such provisions of this constitution as require Annual Meetings of the Society shall be suspended during periods of War or other National Emergency. Such suspensions shall be authorized by the concurring vote of the Board of Directors polled by Registered Air Mail at the request of the President of the Society. The Secretary shall then notify the membership in writing within 30 days.

SECTION 2. In such an event the President may designate three members of the Board of Directors as a Board of Regents to conduct the affairs of the Society for the duration of the Emergency.

SECTION 3. Such Regents shall have all powers and responsibilities delegated otherwise to the Officers and Board of Directors. They shall function by majority vote in such manner as may seem to them most expeditious.

SECTION 4. In the event of the incapacity of any Regent by death, illness, imprisonment, or any other unforeseen event, he shall be succeeded in order of rank by the remainder of the Board of Directors followed by the Secretary of the Society and the Regular Members in order of rank.

ARTICLE XII

APPLICATION AND ELECTION TO MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1. Application for membership or for change in class of membership shall be made on a form approved by the Board of Directors and shall be submitted in the manner specified in the form.

SECTION 2. All applications for membership shall be reviewed by the Executive Secretary to determine eligibility for membership. Following such investigation, the applications shall be submitted to the Board of Directors. An affirmative vote of two-thirds of the Directors voting in person shall be required for election.