



SFS Constitutional Revision Committee, 2013-2014 Report

The Constitutional Revision Committee will propose two bylaw changes to the Society at the Business Luncheon in Portland. The details of, and rationale for, the proposed change are outlined below.

Respectfully submitted,
Steve Francoeur, co-Chair
Fred Benfield, co-Chair

PROPOSED REVISION 1

Recognizing the role of the Newsletter within the Society for Freshwater Science.

Rationale: The Newsletter has become an official publication of the Society (replacing the Bulletin), and should thus be represented on the Publications Committee. The Publications committee is in favor of these changes.

The Board of Directors have expressed their support for these changes.

Current version, Article 5, Section G:

G. Publications Committee. The Publications Committee (the "PC") will provide long-range planning and broad oversight of all publications published under the Society's name, as approved by the Board. The PC will not participate in the day-to-day operations of the Society's publications. The PC will work cooperatively with the Finance Committee to manage the finances of the Society's publications.

The Publications Committee shall consist of six (6) individuals including a Chair appointed by the President, Chair of the Long-Range Planning and Chair of the Public Information and Publicity committees, and three (3) members appointed by the Chair who shall serve staggered three (3) year terms. The Chair shall serve a three (3) year, renewable term and shall serve on the Board of the Society. The committee shall also include the following *ex-officio*, non-voting members: Journal Editor, Journal Business Manager, Web Editor, Bulletin Editor, and the Literature Review Editor.

Current Article 5, Section G, subsection b:

b. Bulletin of the Society for Freshwater Science Editorial

Subcommittee. The Bulletin of the Society for Freshwater Science (the “Bulletin”) Editor shall be responsible for the management and editing of the Society's Bulletin, operating under policies established by the Board. The Publications Committee, excluding *ex-officio* members shall evaluate and recommend appointment of the Bulletin Editor to the Executive Committee for a three (3) year, renewable term. The Bulletin Editorial Committee shall consist of the Bulletin Editor, who shall be Chair, and other members appointed by the Editor as needed. The Chair shall submit an annual report of the activities and costs of the Society's Bulletin to the Board.

Proposed changes (in red):

G. Publications Committee. The Publications Committee (the “PC”) will provide long-range planning and broad oversight of all publications published under the Society’s name, as approved by the Board. The PC will not participate in the day-to-day operations of the Society’s publications. The PC will work cooperatively with the Finance Committee to manage the finances of the Society’s publications.

The Publications Committee shall consist of six (6) individuals including a Chair appointed by the President, Chair of the Long-Range Planning and Chair of the Public Information and Publicity committees, and three (3) members appointed by the Chair who shall serve staggered three (3) year terms. The Chair shall serve a three (3) year, renewable term and shall serve on the Board of the Society. The committee shall also include the following *ex-officio*, non-voting members: Journal Editor, Journal Business Manager, Web Editor, **Newsletter Editor**, ~~Bulletin Editor~~, and the Literature Review Editor.

b. Newsletter Editorial Subcommittee. The **Newsletter** Editor shall be responsible for the management and editing of the Society's **Newsletter**, operating under policies established by the Board. The Publications Committee, excluding *ex-officio* members shall evaluate and recommend appointment of the **Newsletter** Editor to the Executive Committee for a three (3) year, renewable term. The **Newsletter** Editorial Committee shall consist of the **Newsletter** Editor, who shall be Chair, and other members appointed by the Editor as needed. The Chair shall submit an annual report of the activities and costs of the Society's **Newsletter** to the Board.

Current Article 12:

Article 12. Publications. The publications of the Society shall be Freshwater Science, the Bulletin of the Society for Freshwater Science, Current and Selected Bibliographies on Benthic Biology, the Society's Web site, and such other publications as the Society may authorize.

Proposed changes (in red):

Article 12. Publications. The publications of the Society shall be Freshwater Science, the **Newsletter**, Current and Selected Bibliographies on Benthic Biology, the Society's Web site, and such other publications as the Society may authorize.

PROPOSED REVISION 2

Restructuring the Elections and Place Committee.

Rationale: Currently, a recent Past-president is required as an "at-large" member of this Committee. Specifying the exact term that each Past-president will serve on this Committee will allow Past-presidents to plan out their committee commitments in advance of appointment and increase the efficiency with which members are appointed to this Committee. The Elections and Place committee is in favor of these changes.

The Board of Directors have expressed their support for this change.

Current Article 5, Section C:

C. Election and Place Committee. The Election and Place Committee (the "EPC") shall be responsible for organizing elections of Society officers and delegates to the Board and shall recommend possible Society Annual Meeting sites at least three (3) years in advance of the meeting. The EPC shall consist of the Past-President (who shall be Chair) and four (4) other members of the Society; two (2) new members will be appointed by the incoming President. The four (4) appointed members of the committee will serve for two (2) years. One (1) of the four (4) appointees shall be selected from Past-Presidents who have held office during the preceding five (5) years. It shall be the duty of the EPC to notify the members of the Society of vacancies in

elected offices (President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer and Delegates) and to solicit nominations for these offices. After reviewing the nominations, the committee shall select two (2) consenting nominees for each office.

The EPC shall also identify possible locations of the Society's Annual Meeting. At least one (1) potential location for the Annual Meeting will be presented at least three (3) years in advance of the meeting. The EPC will recommend its choice of location at the Board meeting held in conjunction with the Annual Meeting, and the final location must be approved by a majority vote of the Board.

Proposed changes (in red):

C. Election and Place Committee. The Election and Place Committee (the "EPC") shall be responsible for organizing elections of Society officers and delegates to the Board and shall recommend possible Society Annual Meeting sites at least three (3) years in advance of the meeting. The EPC shall consist of the **last two (2) Past-Presidents who will each serve 2 year terms and the Chair will be the Past-President in the year following their Presidential term** and **three (3)** other members of the Society; **one (1)** new member will be appointed by the incoming President. The **three (3)** appointed members of the committee will serve for **three (3)** years. It shall be the duty of the EPC to notify the members of the Society of vacancies in elected offices (President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer and Delegates) and to solicit nominations for these offices. After reviewing the nominations, the committee shall select two (2) consenting nominees for each office.

The EPC shall also identify possible locations of the Society's Annual Meeting. At least one (1) potential location for the Annual Meeting will be presented at least three (3) years in advance of the meeting. The EPC will recommend its choice of location at the Board meeting held in conjunction with the Annual Meeting, and the final location must be approved by a majority vote of the Board.