

DUBLIN UNIVERSITY GENETICAL SOCIETY CONSTITUTION

Article 1: The Society shall be named “The Dublin University Genetical Society”

Article 2: The objective of the Society will be to promote a greater understanding, appreciation and enjoyment of Genetics for all its members and guests.

Article 3: Membership of the Society will be open to:-

- a) Staff, students and graduates of the University
- b) Members and graduates of other Universities subject to the approval of the Committee.
- c) Honorary Life Members of the Society nominated by the Committee, and ratified at an Ordinary General Meeting.

Article 4: The annual subscription for membership will be €1, subject to annual review by the Committee.

Article 5: The Officers of the Society will be the President, Vice President(s), Auditor, Secretary and Treasurer.

The President shall be the Head of the Genetics Department.

Vice President(s) shall be Departmental Staff, members appointed annually by the Committee.

The Auditor, Secretary and Treasurer of the Society will be students in the Department, elected at the Annual General Meeting.

The Committee will consist of the Auditor, Secretary and Treasurer with three other members, elected at the Annual General Meeting, one of whom will normally be a post-graduate student of the Department of Genetics.

Tenure of elected officers and committee members will be from the date of their election until the next Annual Meeting.

The quorum for an annual General Meeting shall be ten members of the Society, i.e. qualified persons under article 3, who have fully paid subscriptions to the society for the current session.

The election of Officers and Committee members will be by a simple majority of those present in person at the A.G.M. only. No officer may retain his/her post after the first Annual General Meeting of his/her tenure, unless the officer has been incumbent for a period of less than six calendar months prior to the A.G.M. All committee members, including Officers must resign at the second Annual General Meeting of their tenure, and may not stand for re-election to any post on the Committee.

The Head of Department may nominate any previous Vice-President for the position of President for the pertinent session of an Annual General Meeting. Such nominations may be accepted by a simple majority of those present at the A.G.M.

Article 6: The Auditor will:-

- a) Represent and act for the Society whenever this may be required, and if unable to do so he may nominate any member of the Society to perform specified functions, subject to ratification by the Committee.
- b) Chair Ordinary General Meetings of the Society, or invite Visiting Chairmen to perform this function.

- c) Refrain from voting at Ordinary General Meetings but hold a casting vote in the event of ties.

The Secretary will:-

- a) Attend to the correspondence and minutes of the Society and be answerable to the Committee,

The Treasurer will:-

- a) Supervise the finance and accounts of the Society and be answerable to the Committee.

Other Committee Members will perform such functions as may be entrusted to them by majority vote at Committee Meetings.

Article 7: Officers and Committee members may be removed by a two-thirds majority at the Extra-Ordinary General Meeting of the Society.

Article 8: Ordinary meetings will normally be held fortnightly during the Michaelmas and Hilary Terms. They shall be called by the Auditor, or the Secretary at his request. Three calendar days notice shall be given of an Ordinary General Meeting by the presentation of posters where the Committee shall deem reasonable and feasible.

At least three days' notice must be given for all meetings of the Society by means of a notice prominently displayed in the Genetics Department.

The quorum for an Ordinary General Meeting at which Private Business is discussed will be eight Members of the Society, and only such Members may vote on any proposed resolutions.

Article 9: The Order of Business for an Ordinary General Meeting will be:-

- a) Minutes of the previous meeting
- b) Correspondence
- c) Private Business
- d) Address
- e) Discussion

The Address and discussion may be replaced by the presentation of any material that the Committee sees fit, such as films, etc.

Article 10: Visitors may speak at Meetings only with permission from the Chair.

Article 11: An Extra-Ordinary General Meeting may be called by a majority of the Committee, or by a petition signed by one third of the Society's Members stating the topic of the proposed meeting.

Seven days' notice will be given of Extra-Ordinary General Meetings.

Article 12: Only the topics specified in the notice of an Extra-Ordinary General Meeting may be discussed at the Meeting.

The quorum for an Extra-Ordinary General Meeting will be ten members of the Society, and resolutions shall be passed by simple majority unless they refer to Items of Business specified in Article 13.

Article 13:

I The following items of business may only be discussed at Extra-Ordinary General Meetings:

- a) Removal of Officers
- b) Election of Officers (other than at A.G.M.)
- c) Constitutional changes
- d) Finance
- e) Other matters subject to the conditions of Article 12

II Items pertinent to sections Ia, Ib, Ic and Id above require a two thirds majority for resolutions concerning them to be passed.

Article 14: Extra-Ordinary General Meeting resolutions shall over-rule any pertinent previous resolutions and shall be subject to change only at subsequent Extra-Ordinary General Meetings.

Article 15: The Annual General Meeting will be held in Trinity Term, chaired by the outgoing Auditor. Ten calendar days' notice shall be given of the Annual General Meeting. All posts on the Committee shall become open for election at such meetings, and or subject to the conditions outlined in Article 5.

Article 16: The Inaugural Meeting will be held annually during Michaelmas Term. The address will be given by a Presidential nominee, invited with the Committee's consent.

Article 17: Committee meetings will be held fortnightly or at the request of the Auditor, or by the request of the majority of the Committee.

Five Committee members will constitute a quorum for a Committee meeting.

The Auditor will take charge of Committee meetings.

Resolutions at Committee Meetings will be passed by simple majority and made know to members during the Private Business period of the next Ordinary General Meeting. In the event of a tied vote, the Auditor's decision on a resolution is binding.

Article 18: Voting at all meetings shall be by a show of hands unless a ballot is specifically requested and approved by a show of hands. The Auditor or his nominee will have the final say in the case of a tied vote.

Article 19: Prizes will be awarded by election at an E.G.M. subject to such competition rules and requirements as the Committee sees fit.

Article 20: This Constitution is binding as and from the date of being passed, and is alterable only by resolution of an Extra-Ordinary General Meeting.

May 1982