



# **YOUNG SCIENTISTS SIG CONSTITUTION**

## **I. Name**

The name of this group shall be The Young Scientist Scientific Interest Group (YSIG).

## **II. Purpose**

The purpose of this Scientific Interest Group of the American Crystallographic Association is to address the needs and concerns of graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, and other scientists who are making the transition from their education to the workplace or research establishments. The goal is to introduce young scientists into the ACA and its activities; and to provide a forum for the exchange of ideas and information relevant to their positions.

## **III. Relationship to the American Crystallographic Association**

The constitution of this organization shall be consistent with the Constitution, By-laws, and Operating Rules of the ACA. In the event of conflict the Constitution, By-laws and Rules of the ACA shall prevail.

## **IV. Membership**

Membership in this Group is open to all graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, and other scientists who are new in the field.

## **V. Organization**

The activities of this Group shall be administered by an Executive Committee consisting of three officers elected by members of the Group. The officers of the Executive Committee shall be Chair, Chair-Elect and Secretary-Treasurer. The term of office for each shall be the two calendar years immediately following election. The Chair-Elect automatically succeeds to the Chair after one year. Thus, a Chair-Elect is elected each year, and a Secretary-Treasurer is elected every two years. Vacant, unexpired terms are filled by appointment by the Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee shall appoint a Nominating Committee of three members, none of who may be on the Executive Committee, to nominate candidates for election. The Nominating

Committee shall be appointed by March 31st of each year and shall report its nominees to the Secretary-Treasurer by July 31st following. Other candidates may be nominated from the membership by petitions signed by five or more members. No persons may be elected to any office of the Executive Committee for more than two consecutive terms. Elections shall take place at the same time as do ACA elections.

## **VI. Duties of the Officers & Executive Committee**

### **1. The Chairperson**

- (a) To administer the affairs of the Group
- (b) To preside at meetings of the Group and of the Executive Committee
- (c) To represent the group to the Council of the ACA and to be the group's representative on the program committee of the ACA meetings.
- (d) To serve as a consultant to the Executive Committee during the ACA meeting at which his/her term has ended.

### **2. The Chairperson-Elect**

- (a) To act in place of the Chairperson when the Chairperson is not present or is unable to discharge his/her duties.
- (b) To perform such duties and functions on behalf of the Group as the Chair may, from time to time, direct.

### **3. The Secretary-Treasurer**

- (a) To keep minutes of all meetings of the SIG.
- (b) To keep membership files
- (c) To attend to correspondence and notices of the group. Wherever possible all notices to the Group shall be circulated along with the Newsletter of the ACA.
- (d) To keep exact records of the finances of the Group in collaboration with the Treasurer of the ACA.
- (e) To conduct the elections of the Group.

(f) To prepare an annual report of Group's activities and to submit it to the ACA Council prior to the annual meeting.

(g) To perform such duties and functions on behalf of the Group as the Chair may, from time to time, direct.

#### 4. The Executive Committee

(a) To deliberate the affairs of the Group and to cause appropriate action to be taken based upon these deliberations or as the result of a decision being taken at a Group meeting or based upon the report of an appointed committee.

(b) To organize a session relating to some specific aspect of the Group's interest at least once very two years. This session will be held at a regular meeting of the ACA and be organized in cooperation with the Program Chair of the meeting.

(c) To promote any activity which, in the opinion of the Executive, furthers the purpose of the Group.

(d) To appoint a Nominating Committee and such other committees as, from time to time, are deemed necessary. No appointee to such a committee shall have a term of more than two years.

### **VII. Nominating Committee & Nominations for Executive Office**

The Nominating Committees shall consist of three members. The immediate past Chairperson shall be invited to be a member of the Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee shall propose at least two persons for election to each Executive Office that will fall vacant in the succeeding year. Additional nominations may be submitted from the membership by petition signed by five or more members of the Group. Nominations from the Nominating Committee shall be related in writing to the Executive before August 1st of each year.

### **VIII. Activities**

The Executive Committee and the Group may engage in any activities consistent with the ACA Constitution, By-laws, and Operating Rules, which in its opinion further the purposes of the Group. These activities include, but are not restricted to, organizing a YSSIG half-day session, in cooperation with the ACA Program Chair, at least once every two years at an ACA meeting.

## **IX. Elections & Voting**

All votes shall be by mail ballot. Votes shall be by a simple majority of those voting, except for votes on amendments to the Constitution. In any election the candidate receiving the largest number of votes shall be deemed elected.

## **X. Dues**

The Executive Committee may set dues to be charged to members of the group subject to an affirmative vote of the membership and to approval by the ACA Council. Such dues shall be collected and disbursed by the ACA Treasurer.

## **XI. Business**

A business meeting of the Group shall be held annually to coincide with one of the regular meetings of the Association. A Quorum at a business meeting shall be one third of the membership of the Group or twenty-five members whichever is the smaller number. A simple majority of those votes shall be sufficient to pass a motion at a business meeting.

## **XII. Amendments**

An amendment to the Constitution may be proposed at any time by a petition signed by 5% of the membership or 7 members, whichever is smaller, or by the Executive Committee. Amendments must be ratified by a two-thirds majority of the members voting. Votes shall be by mail ballot.

## **XIII. Vacancies of the Executive Committee**

If the office of Chair becomes vacant the Chair-Elect shall succeed to the Chair for the remainder of the unexpired year and will succeed in the following year according to the provisions of Article V. If any other office becomes vacant, the remaining officers shall appoint a member of the Group to fill the vacancy until the next election is held. An appointed member of the Executive Committee shall be eligible for regular election to the Committee and the term of such appointed service shall not be counted under the provisions of Article V.