

Statutes

ARTICLES AND ASSOCIATIONS

1. NAME AND LEGAL DOMICILE

In accordance with the articles set forth hereunder and with articles 60 and following of the Swiss Civil Code, a Society was formed under the name of **EUROPEAN SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF PURINE AND PYRIMIDINE METABOLISM IN MAN** (hereinafter referred to as the **ESSPPMM**). The legal permanent domicile (siege) of the **ESSPPMM** and its successor is in **Lausanne (Switzerland)**. The society was renamed the

PURINE AND PYRIMIDINE SOCIETY

(hereinafter referred to as **PPS**), which was approved by the Executive Committee at their meeting the 10th of June 2003, the Scientific Committee at their meeting the 12th of June 2003 and the General Assembly at their meeting the 10th of June 2005. In accordance with the Statutes (see article 5) the members were informed of this proposal in March 2005.

2. PURPOSE

The objective of **PPS** is to improve diagnosis, treatment and understanding of inherited and acquired purine and pyrimidine disorders, as well as to extend the knowledge of the importance of normal purine and pyrimidine metabolism in man. This knowledge should be disseminated to treat diseases such as cancer, cardiovascular and renal diseases, immune disorders, viral infections, inflammatory diseases and any disease that may benefit from treatment with a purine or pyrimidine or an analogue compound and/or with adjustment of uric acid concentrations in body fluids. **PPS** exists to advance science and practice in the mentioned field and to further its application in the provision of health services.

The aim of the **PPS** is to:

1. Educate young investigators worldwide.
2. Encourage clinicians and basic scientists to collaborate closely with each other and with researchers in other disciplines.
3. Establish, encourage and foster high professional standards.

4. Promote international cooperation and coordination in matters of research, methods, materials, training, codes of ethics, and related subjects.
5. Provide a basis for closer liaison and the free exchange of professional information among individuals devoted to the field.
6. Sponsor, organize and support Symposia on Purines and Pyrimidines. Sponsor and support regional meetings of high scientific interest. These PPS meetings will be held at two year intervals alternating between Europe and a non-European country. The meetings will have the abbreviated title reflecting the year in which they are held: PP05, PP07, PP09 etc. with an additional description such as '12th/13th/14th Symposium of the Purine and Pyrimidine Society'. The meeting will be organized by the president-elect of the society. PPS will sponsor these meetings; hence, profits of the meetings will return to PPS.
7. Encourage, sponsor and/or conduct studies, and prepare reviews and reports on facts of worldwide interest and concern within the field.
8. Contribute in other ways wherever practical and feasible to the improvement of the study of purines and pyrimidines and its services to humanity.
9. Members of the Society will pay a reduced registration fee for the PPS meeting. The Symposium registration fee for non-members should be greater than the full membership fee for the PPS, and the members' reduction should be a substantial benefit of membership. In order to be eligible for the reduced registration fee, members should have paid their dues before the early registration period ends.
10. PPS shall provide money to support miniprojects and exchange of young scientists between laboratories of full senior members. Funding is dependent on the financial situation of PPS and will require approval of the Executive Committee who can ask advice of the Scientific Committee.
11. PPS will provide, as financially feasible, young investigator awards to young or junior scientists (the category includes Ph.D and M.D. students, and first year post-docs, and is not dependent on actual age) in order to enable them to attend the biannual meetings. Each awardee should have become an associate member before the meeting (see article 2.9).
12. PPS will seek possibilities for associations with a journal to become associated with and to publish proceedings of the symposia.

3. ORGANIZATION

The PPS is organized with:

1. a General Assembly (Article 5 hereafter)
2. a Scientific Committee (article 6)
3. and an Executive Committee (Article 7 hereafter) and holds general Meetings as provided under Article 8 hereafter.

4. MEMBERSHIP

4.1. Types of Membership

There are four types of membership: full membership, corporate membership, honorary membership and associate-membership.

4.1.1. Full Membership

For Full Membership, all individuals holding an academic degree, working in the field of purines and pyrimidines on a professional level, and interested in the purpose of PPS are eligible. Full Members constitute the voting members of the General Assembly.

4.1.2. Corporate Membership

For Corporate Membership, organizations manufacturing products or offering services for the field may be admitted. Membership will be linked to the organization, not a specific named member, and will require a higher membership fee.

4.1.3. Honorary Membership

Individuals who have made extraordinary contributions in basic and clinical research in the field of purines and pyrimidines may be proposed for Honorary Membership in the Society.

4.1.4 Associate membership

In order to facilitate membership of (junior) scientists holding a Bachelors, Masters or Ph.D. degree (Ph.D. students and first year post-docs), an associate membership has been created with reduced dues. These members have all rights of a full member.

4.2. Application Procedures

4.2.1. Full Members

The application for Full Membership shall be presented to the Secretary of PPS. Applications shall be supported and signed by two other Full Members of PPS and are subject to approval by the Executive Committee.

4.2.2. Corporate Members

The application shall be presented to the Secretary. Applications for corporate membership shall be approved by the Executive Committee.

4.2.3. Honorary Members

On recommendation of the Executive Committee and the Scientific Committee the General Assembly can honor individuals. The citation by the Executive Committee shall summarize the merits of the distinguished scientist.

4.2.4. Associate members.

Associate members should be recommended by their supervisor or head of department and one other full member. They should also provide proof of their status.

4.3. Membership in each of the above groups becomes operative from the moment of approval.

4.4. In addition to the procedures mentioned above, all participants of a Symposium will automatically become eligible to apply to become a member of PPS, unless they specifically indicate not being interested in the membership. This membership only commences after the meeting and requires payment of membership fees for the 2-year period containing the next Symposium, when the new member may apply for travel funds and other benefits of membership. The willingness to attend a PPS Symposium and to submit a poster or oral presentation for review by referees is considered sufficient proof of interest to become a PPS member.

5. GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1. The General Assembly exercises its authority at regular (Article 5.6.) or extraordinary meetings (Article 5.7.) or when written submissions are presented to it according to the protocol established below.
2. The Full Members and Honorary Members shall be the voting members of General Assembly.
3. Each Corporate Member may designate a non-voting representative to General Assembly.
4. The General Assembly at the proposal of the Scientific Committee shall elect a President, a Vice-President (President-elect), a Secretary, and a Treasurer who will become members of the Executive Committee (Article 7).
5. The General Assembly is presided over by the President or, in his/her absence, by the Vice-President.
6. The General Assembly, at the call of the Executive Committee, shall meet in the same period and at the same place as a Symposium on Purines and Pyrimidines. At such an occasion the majority of the Full and Honorary Members present shall decide on all issues put before it by the Executive Committee, which considers written (including e-mail) suggestions from members received at least eight weeks before the Assembly.
7. Extraordinary meetings of the General Assembly may be called by the Executive Committee or by one third of the voting members in writing to the Secretary. At a duly called extraordinary meeting a quorum of the General Assembly shall consist of a simple majority of all Full Members. In the absence of a quorum at such a duly called meeting, business is subject to a mail or e-mail ballot performed by the Executive Committee. The requirement of the above quorum holds also for the mail ballot. If no quorum is reached, the issue will be put before the next regular General Assembly.
8. In the period between two General Assemblies the Executive Committee may submit questions by mail ballot to the voting Members constituting a General Assembly, after consulting the Scientific Committee.

6. SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

- 1 The Scientific Committee advises the Executive Committee on all Scientific and organisational aspects at their meeting at the biennial PPS congress, and in between when being asked by the Executive Committee. Members of the Scientific Committee can also offer unsolicited advice.
- 2 The Scientific Committee discusses and votes on the composition of the Executive Committee. Proposals for a new president, secretary or treasurer can be put forward by individuals to the Executive Committee who will propose these for approval to the Scientific Committee. After approval by the Scientific Committee (normal majority) this will be put forward to the General Assembly.
- 3 The Scientific Committee should be a reflection of the membership of PPS with one or more members from countries with a sizable number of scientists as members of PPS. Members of the Scientific Committee should be reputable senior scientists, full members of PPS for at least two periods. There is no limitation in the term, but renewal with younger scientists should be encouraged.
- 4 Membership can be proposed by the Executive Committee or by members of the Scientific Committee. A simple majority is required at voting.
- 5 The Scientific Committee can propose the formation of sub-committees e.g. on publication, sponsors, new members or any item thought to be important by the Scientific Committee. The subcommittees can be ad hoc and be discharged when the need does not exist anymore.

7. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

1. The Executive Committee is charged with the day-to-day management of the PPS.
2. The Executive Committee consists of the President, Vice-President (President-elect), Secretary, Treasurer and the immediate Past-President. Other individuals may be co-opted as non-voting members at the executive Committee's discretion.
3. The term of office of the president shall be 2 years and will start at the 1st of January (in an odd-numbered year) immediately before the biennial meeting. The immediate past-president will remain a member of the Executive Committee, after his/her term as president, until the new vice-president takes office (usually at the biennial meeting or at the 1st of January before the meeting when the new president will take office as well). Hence, the total term of office of a president will be six years (two years as vice-president, two years as president and two years as immediate past-president). The office of vice-president is dependent upon an offer to become the organizer of the subsequent Symposium and hence the President in that year.
4. The term of office of the secretary and treasurer shall be three years and shall start on the 1st of January preceding the Symposium on Purines and Pyrimidines. These members of the Executive Committee are eligible for re-election once only for a given office.

5. The Executive Committee shall ensure the orderly discharge of the function of the PPS and, in particular, carry out the administrative duties between meetings of General Assembly.
6. A casual vacancy on the Executive Committee may be filled by co-option of a member by the Committee. Such an appointment will be subject to ratification by the General Assembly at its next regular meeting or by a mail ballot.

8. THE RIGHTS OF MEMBERS

The Rights of Full Members are determined by General Assembly. In particular all members have the right to participate in all activities of PPS. Full Members are eligible for the Executive Committee.

9. DUES

The annual dues for the Full, Corporate and Associate Membership of the PPS shall be fixed by the Scientific Committee and approved by the General Assembly. Failure to pay dues by the prescribed date shall lead to a loss of rights. If a member for 2 years is in arrears with his/her dues, membership ends automatically. Honorary Members are exempted from annual dues. The Executive Committee has the discretion to recognize exceptional circumstances affecting a Member and has the power to modify dues on an individual basis.

10. AMENDMENTS

Proposals of amendments to these articles of PPS may be presented in writing through the Executive Committee to the General Assembly. Such proposals must be proposed and seconded by two voting members of the General Assembly. Amendments may also be presented by the Scientific Committee and Executive Committee. Any such proposal must be received three months before a meeting of General Assembly. Acceptance of amendments shall require a two-thirds majority of those voting.

January 1988

Amended June 2005 following acceptance by more than two-thirds majority of the General Assembly.