



# **BIOLOGICAL MACROMOLECULES SIG CONSTITUTION**

## **I. Name**

The name of this organization shall be The Scientific Interest Group on Biological Macromolecules of the American Crystallographic Association.

## **II. Purpose**

The purpose of this group of the American Crystallographic Association (hereafter ACA) is to further the advancement of all aspects of the application of crystallographic techniques to biological macromolecules and to promote communication between persons interested in such techniques and results.

## **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 members of the ACA on application to the Secretary-Treasurer of this Scientific Interest Group and payment of the prescribed dues, if any.

## **V. Organization**

The activities of this Group shall be administered by an Executive Committee of three officers elected by members of the Group. The officers of the Executive Committee shall be Chair, Chair-Elect and Secretary-Treasurer. It shall be the duty of the Chair to arrange, in cooperation with the ACA Program Chair, the Scientific Interest Sessions on Biological Macromolecules for the ACA meetings. The Chair-Elect shall serve in a special advisory capacity to the Chair and shall act in his capacity if for any reason the Chair cannot act. The Chair-Elect shall also serve to represent the Group to the Council of the Association and to be the Group's representative on the Program Committee of ACA meetings. The duties of the Secretary-Treasurer shall include the keeping of minutes of meetings, maintaining the membership list, reporting the activities of interest to the membership, and keeping a record of finances and expenditures of the Group in collaboration with the Treasurer of the ACA. Wherever possible, all notices to the Group shall be circulated along with the Newsletter of the ACA.

The term of office for each officer shall be the two calendar years immediately following election. The Chair-Elect automatically succeeds to the Chairship 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 regularly 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. 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 Biological Macromolecules half-day session, in cooperation with the ACA Program Chair, at least once every two years at an ACA meeting.

## **VII. Elections and 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 (see IX.)

## **VIII. 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.

## **IX. 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 2/3 majority of the members voting. Votes shall be by mail ballot.