

## **BY-LAWS**

The below specified by-laws follow from Article VII of the Constitution of the Regional Science Association International (RSAI) which were agreed at the RSAI Council meeting in Sao Paolo March 2008.

### **By-law 1: Superregional Associations**

The three superregional organizations recognized by RSAI are:

- The European Regional Science Association (ERSA), comprising sections in the European realm;
- The Regional Science Association of the Americas (RSAmericas), comprising sections from North, Central and South America;
- The Pacific Regional Science Conference Organization (PRSCO), comprising sections in Asia (East, South East and South), Australasia and the Pacific Rim facing parts of the Americas.

### **By-law 2: Branding of the RSAI**

*a. Name and logo of RSAI.* All conferences and workshop announcements and other activity related marketing communication of superregional organizations and their constituent sections should carry, together with their own logos and names, those of the RSAI. All web sites and other promotional material of member sections and super regional organizations should carry the RSAI name and logo and link to the RSAI site. Logos of the RSAI should also be included in all journals sponsored by or edited by national and/or language sections.

*b. RSAI presence at superregional meetings.* Time will be made available at all superregional and section meetings for a report from the President of RSAI or his/her representative on RSAI activities and developments. Such reporting should be scheduled as part of the formalities of the meeting. Incorporated into the formalities of the superregional conferences will be a time slot for the presentation of RSAI awards - e.g., announcement of new Fellows of the RSAI and presentation of plaques. Sections and the superregional organizations are encouraged to utilize RSAI Fellows as organizers of special sessions and presenters of keynote addresses in order to fully engage the RSAI Fellows in a scholarly leadership role.

### **By-law 3: RSAI Council Member Elections**

*a. General rules.* Whenever possible, officers of RSAI should be members of the Council when nominated. Experience as a Council member before assuming office is highly desirable to ensure officers are well-acquainted with RSAI operations before assuming a leadership role. If an officer is not on the Council when assuming office, or if the officer is in the third year of a regular Council term, the officer shall automatically occupy one of the six (6) at-large Council positions. If no at-large position is immediately available, the officer shall serve as an additional (e.g., 16th) voting member of the Council until the first such position shall become available. If an officer upon assuming office is in the first or second year as a regular member of Council, the officer shall be permitted to occupy the position as voting Councilor throughout the entire term as officer. If such a person was elected to the Council by a superregional organization, that organization shall not be

permitted to fill the Council position until the officer has completed the term as officer. If such a person was elected to the Council by the membership at large, the Council position shall not be refilled until the term as officer has been completed. Given the fact that no term or sequence for an officer holding voting powers on the Council exceeds three years, these provisions assure that no Council position shall need to be encumbered for more than two years.

*b. Voting members.* The voting members of the Council shall be comprised of:

- The President (an officer with duties defined in Article V, Section 3a of the Constitution)
- The Vice-President who is the President-Elect (an officer with duties defined in Article V, Section 3b of the Constitution)
- The Executive Director (an officer with duties defined in Article V, Section 3d of the Constitution)
- Additional Councilors needed to bring voting membership to fifteen.

The fifteen voting places on the Council shall be occupied by a total of nine (9) Council members appointed by three superregional organizations, specifically:

- The European Regional Science Association shall appoint three (3) members;
- The Regional Science Association of the Americas shall appoint three (3) members,;
- The Pacific Regional Science Conference Organization shall appoint three (3) members;
- The active membership of the Association shall elect six (6) members.

A section which is present in two superregional associations can elect a member for the Council as an appointee of only one superregional association at the time.

*c. Normal limitation on number of voting members of the Council.* The total number of voting members of the Council, including officers, shall normally be limited to fifteen (15), so as to maintain the effectiveness of the Council as an administrative body. This limitation may, at times, result in the invocation of special conditions regarding appointments and elections, as specified in the paragraphs below. Whereas the Council shall make every reasonable effort to ensure that membership does not exceed fifteen, it is recognized that for short periods, and in exceptional circumstances, the voting membership may slightly exceed this number.

*d. Appointment of councilors by superregional organizations.* The superregional organizations specified in By-law 1, shall appoint members of Council by procedures of their own choosing. To the extent possible, these terms should be staggered to assure continuity and a smooth, annual transition of Council duties. During the year of initial implementation of this Constitution, each superregional organization shall designate one of its three appointees to serve a regular three-year term, one a special two-year term, and one special one-year term.

*e. Election of councilors-at-large.* Nominations for Councilors to be elected at-large shall be made by the Council after solicitation of suggestions from the members of the Association. Every effort should be made to ensure the number of nominees each year shall be greater than the number of positions necessary to be filled. At-large positions shall not be considered available if, as noted below, they are encumbered by officers completing their terms of office. To achieve desirable staggering of terms of office, the Council may, from time-to-time, designate certain at-large positions to be for special terms not to exceed in duration the regular term of three (3) years.

f. Election procedures. Members of the Association in good standing on August 1 shall be entitled to vote in RSAI elections. Elections shall be conducted by e-mail ballot. The Executive Director shall mail ballots to eligible members by September 15 of the year preceding the year in which new Councilors shall assume office. Only ballots received prior to November 15 shall be included in official counts. The Executive Director shall notify the Council and candidates of election results no later than December 1. Members of the Association shall be informed of results as soon as possible.

#### **By-law 5: RSAI President Elections**

a. President election procedure. The RSAI President shall be elected by the Council for a two-year-term and confirmed by a vote of the entire active membership of the Association. To canvass suitable candidates for nomination, the Council establishes a "Nomination Committee" comprising the RSAI President, the RSAI Immediate Past-President, three members RSAI Council (one each from among the council members who are appointees of the three superregional organizations), and two members of the Long Range Planning Committee (LRPC) recommended by the LRPC itself.

b. Criteria of the nominees. The nominees should satisfy the following criteria: a) financial resources sufficient to cover travel costs to perform RSAI duties; b) support from candidate's institution including relaxation of duties to enable President to travel as needed to execute RSAI business; c) RSAI Council experience (Council member experience) and/or other service to the regional science community (e.g., super regional and/or other sections, editor or one of the regional science journals, etc.).

c. Time for the formation of the "Nomination Committee". The President Elect nomination committee shall be formed at the RSAmericas meeting at the end of the second year of the outgoing president so that the appointment is made at the PRSCO meeting in the next calendar year (first year of the incoming president).

#### **By-law 6: Executive Director Elections**

a. Executive Director election procedure. The Executive Director of the Regional Science Association International shall be elected by the Council for a three-year term, that can be renewed twice according to the Council's needs, and shall serve at the pleasure of the Council. During the term of office the Executive Director is a regular, voting member of the Council, eligible to vote on all matters coming before it with the exception of those concerning the election and conduct in office of the Executive Director. Normally the council would appoint a nomination committee to canvass the names of suitable potential candidates make a recommendation to the Council for consideration.

b. Criteria of the nominee. The nominee should satisfy the following criteria: a) financial resources sufficient to cover travel costs to perform RSAI duties; b) support from candidate's institution; appropriate experience in the management of a superregional or local section of the Association, and/or officer level involvement in another association, and a considerable commitment to the objectives and affairs of the Association.