



## **CONSTITUTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR MOLECULAR RECOGNITION, ISMR**

### **Purpose of the society**

The purpose of the ISMR is to promote science concerned with molecular recognition.

The ISMR aims to:

- Plan, support and execute a biannual international scientific meeting, Affinity, that focuses on the principals of molecular recognition, the procedures utilized to investigate molecular recognition, the results obtained utilizing such procedures, and the application of new concepts and methods in this area.
- Promote activities in the area of molecular recognition, including local meetings, such as minisymposia or workshops at other national or international meetings.
- Recognize excellency and impact of established researchers working in the Affinity Technology field through the international and highly-prestigious Affinity Awards.
- Encourage Excellent Young in the field of Affinity Technology through the Younger Investigator Awards.

### **Membership**

Membership is free of charge. Interested persons can join at the biannual Affinity symposium, by joining the LinkedIn group for the International Society for Molecular Recognition or by sending an e-mail to the Executive Council.

### **Society Councils**

The Society is governed and steered by its Councils, the General Council and the Executive Council.

The **General Council** is elected by the members on the biannual meeting, which is held in conjunction with the biannual symposium.

The **Executive Council** is elected by the General Council.

The **General Council** shall select and advise the Executive Council and determine the policies under which the Executive Council shall manage the activities of the Society. The General Council members shall also be responsible for promoting the Society in their respective nations and/or scientific areas where the Society is active. The formation of National or Regional Societies associated with the Society, shall be encouraged. The General Council consists of at least eleven (11) members of the Society. Included in this number will be the president, vice-president, treasurer and immediate past-president of the Society. To ensure a close connection between the Society and the symposia, the chairperson or a co-chairperson of the next scheduled Affinity symposium should be part of the General Council. Delegates with regional responsibilities shall also be included. All members will be elected for a term of two (2) years with a maximum duration of eight (8) years. The slate of candidates will be formulated at the biennial meeting. Council members are expected to take part in the council meetings (in person and online) and the biannual symposia.

The **Executive Council** consists of three (3) active members of the Society (President, Vice-President and Treasurer) who are elected to the Executive Council for a two (2) year term with a maximum duration of six (6) years. The members of the Executive Council also are *ex officio* members of the General Council. The Executive Council is responsible for management of the Society's web-page, arranging for upcoming Affinity symposia, overseeing the work of the standing committees, and acting to uphold the Constitution of the Society. The President will preside over the meetings of the Councils and will be the official spokesperson of the Society. The Vice President will succeed the President. The Vice President will replace the President if for any reason the President is unable to fulfill the responsibilities of that office for any period exceeding 6 months.

## Standing Committees

The Society and its activities are supported by its four (4) standing committees, responsible for different areas and actions.

The **Web-page committee** is responsible for hosting and maintaining the web-page. The Web-page committee will be chaired by the president of ISMR.

The **Communication committee** is responsible for planning and writing interesting articles about important historic and recent innovations and scientific breakthroughs to share on the web site. The committee will also actively update ISMR's Twitter and LinkedIn accounts to make ISMR visible as an active and updated society that delivers interesting news and shares the most recent research published by our members. The communication committee will be chaired by the chair of the upcoming symposium or by the vice president of ISMR.

The **Funding committee** will gather information and points of contact for companies and organizations that might have an interest in sponsoring the biannual symposia. The funding committee will be chaired by the chairperson or a co-chairperson of the next scheduled Affinity symposium.

The **Awards committee** is in charge of awards, medals and trophies. This committee constitutes of two parts: the Senior award committee and the Younger investigator award committee.

## **International scientific Symposia**

International scientific Symposia, called the Affinity conference and styled "Affinity XXXX", where XXXX is the year, should be held biannually. The mission of this conference is to offer a platform for promotion, education and discussion of recent findings and innovations within the area of the Society. The venue and the responsible person(s) of the biannual Affinity conference is decided by the General Council at the General Council meeting that is held at the biannual Affinity conference. All members are invited to present suggestions for venue and organization of the symposium.

The organizing committee of the symposium should ensure that the symposium features the most recent scientific findings of the highest quality and has sound economic planning.

The international and highly-prestigious Award in Affinity Technology as well as awards to young investigators, which is given out at each biennial Affinity Conference, is administered by ISMR's Awards committee.

To ensure a close connection between the Society and the symposia, the chairperson of the upcoming conference is the Vice-President of the General Council. The Executive Council is to follow the planning of the symposia closely to ensure good scientific and economic planning. The organizing committee of the specific symposium is responsible for the financial result and is therefore to handle any shortfall/excess from the symposium. When possible, the Society will offer the symposia organizers a start-up loan to facilitate the planning of the symposium. If the symposium runs a profit, the organizer will agree with the Society the return of the total or a part of the profit to the Society treasury to further support awards and the seeding of upcoming conferences.

## **Amendments**

Amendments to the Constitution may be proposed at any meeting of the Society or by email. Voting and decision on such proposals shall be done on the occasion of a meeting of the members at the biannual *Affinity* conference. An affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members voting will be required for adoption of each amendment.

## **Fellow of the Society**

Fellows are nominated by members of the ISMR and elected by the General Council of the Society.