

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

Constitution and Bylaws of
The Mid-Atlantic Pharmacology Society
A Chapter of the American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I. Name

The name of this organization is The Mid-Atlantic Pharmacology Society (MAPS), a chapter of the American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics

ARTICLE II. PURPOSE

The purpose of this chapter is to provide scientists in the Mid-Atlantic region of the United States with a forum to discuss recent advances in pharmacology and therapeutics, as well as to provide interaction and mentoring of students and postdoctoral fellows interested in pharmacology. This Chapter of the American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics (ASPET) was initiated in 1987 by a group of local pharmacologists (Warren Chernick, Jay Roberts, Paul Bianchi, and J. Bryan Smith).

ARTICLE III. Amendments

Amendments to the Constitution may be proposed at any business meeting or by mail (postal or electronic), provided that each proposal is endorsed in writing by at least 15 members. Voting on such proposals shall be by voice at the annual meeting. At least 30 days prior to voting, the proposed amendment shall be sent by mail (postal or electronic) to each member of the Chapter. The President shall send a statement of any supporting and opposing views with the proposed amendment. Affirmative votes of two-thirds of the membership shall be required for adoption of an amendment.

BYLAWS

ARTICLE I. Members

SECTION 1. Membership Categories

Item 1. Regular Members. Qualified scientists (M.D., Ph.D., Pharm.D., D.O., D.V.M. or equivalent post-baccalaureate doctoral degree) engaged or interested in the study of pharmacology in the Mid-Atlantic region shall be eligible for membership with full rights and privileges in the Chapter. It is highly suggested, but not required, that each Chapter Member be a member of ASPET.

Item 2. Post-doctoral Members. Scientists who have achieved a doctoral degree or equivalent yet remain in training as a post-doctoral fellow at an academic or industrial institution shall be eligible for membership.

Item 3. Graduate Student Members. Persons enrolled in an undergraduate, graduate or professional degree program will be eligible for non-voting, student membership. Upon successful completion of their doctoral degree, applicants are eligible for regular or post-doctoral membership.

SECTION 2. Membership

Membership shall be open to all qualified scientists and trainees with research experience in pharmacology and/or interest in fostering pharmacology education and training.

SECTION 3. Rights and responsibilities of membership

Membership is renewed on a yearly basis with payment of dues. With membership comes access to a database of member contact information, posted on the MAPS page of the ASPET website or available from MAPS officers, and complimentary registration for the annual meeting. Lack of payment of annual dues will result in deactivation of membership and removal of contact information from membership database. Members are responsible for their own personal and scientific integrity. Additionally, participation and efforts to promote, foster, and support the furtherance of the discipline of pharmacology through research and education on the part of members is encouraged.

ARTICLE II. Councilors and Officers

SECTION 1. Eligibility

Regular and post-doctoral members are eligible to become a councilor, and for election to the Executive Committee.

SECTION 2. Executive Committee

The management of the Chapter shall be carried out by the Executive Committee which shall consist of the Executive Officers (President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, Immediate Past President), and the organization Councilors.

Item 1. President. A President shall be promoted after two years as Vice-President for a two year term and will officially take office within 30 days of his/her second annual meeting as Vice-President. Following a two-year term as President, the President shall become the Immediate Past President, functioning primarily as advisor to the Executive Committee.

Item 2. Vice-President. An incoming Vice-President shall be elected every two years at the annual meeting, and take office within 30 days of the annual meeting. Following a two year term as Vice-President, the Vice-President will become President. Should the Vice-President be unable or decline the promotion to President, a suitable President must then be elected at the next annual meeting. If needed, an interim President shall be elected by the Executive Committee to provide chapter leadership until election of new President.

Item 3. Treasurer. A treasurer shall be elected every three years at an annual meeting, and take office within 30 days of that annual meeting. The treasurer can be re-elected to serve for a maximum of two additional terms.

Item 4. Secretary. A secretary shall be elected every three years at an annual meeting, and take office within 30 days of that annual meeting. The secretary can be re-elected to serve for a maximum of two additional terms.

Item 5. Councilors. Any regular, and or post-doctoral member with the capability and desire to assist the Executive Committee with the management of the organization shall be eligible to become a Councilor. Councilors shall be elected by the Executive Committee for one-year term, which can be renewed annually pending their continuous membership in the organization and willingness to participate in its management.

Item 6. Interim Vacancies. Vacancies in the Executive Committee shall be appointed as needed by the Executive Committee. The method of election may be the same as outlined in ARTICLE III of the BYLAWS, or by electronic email ballot.

ARTICLE III. Nomination and Election of Officers and Elected committee Members

SECTION 1. Nomination and Election Procedures

ITEM 1. Method of Election. Election shall be by either secret ballot at the Annual Business Meeting or via electronic means within 1 month of solicitation of nominations at the Annual Business Meeting.

ITEM 2. Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee shall consist of members of the Executive Committee, and at least one person from the General Membership. The Chapter immediate Past-President shall serve as non-voting chair.

ITEM 3. Election Certification. A sitting officer of the Chapter shall certify the elections results.

ITEM 4. Eligibility for Office. The Nominating Committee shall determine the eligibility of nominees, and ascertain that nominees are willing to stand for office. No member shall be eligible to be a nominee for more than one elective office at any one time. The President must be a regular member of ASPET, and regular ASPET membership is encouraged for all other councilors and executive committee members.

ITEM 5. Election Ballot. The election ballot shall contain at least one nomination provided by the Nominating Committee for each of the offices of Vice-President-Elect, Secretary-Elect, Treasurer-Elect and/or Councilor. Space shall also be provided for write-in votes for each office. If election occurs at the Annual Business Meeting, a listing of the names for each office on the ballot shall be provided to the membership at least thirty days prior to the annual meeting, however nominations from the floor will also be accepted prior to reading of the Election Ballot.

ITEM 6. Election and Election Results. The election shall take place either at the Annual Business Meeting, or via electronic means, after which the election results shall be made to the membership by the Past-President within 30 days of the close of the Annual Business Meeting.

ARTICLE IV. Finances

SECTION 1. Annual Assessments

ITEM 1. Members. Newly elected members shall become entitled to the privileges of membership only after payment of dues following their election. Failure to pay the annual dues will result in cessation of membership.

ITEM 2. Sustaining Members. Any member of the Chapter may contribute to the support of the Chapter a sum in excess of the annual assessment. These members shall be recognized by the Council.

SECTION 2. General Fund

Beyond the expenditures required by the ordinary activities of the Chapter, no money from the general Chapter account shall be disbursed save by authority of the Council or the Chapter.

SECTION 3. Annual Report

The Treasurer or President shall give a financial report on all funds at the annual meeting.

SECTION 4. Dissolution

In the event of dissolution of the Chapter, the Council shall, after paying or making provision of payment and discharge of all the liabilities of the Chapter, distribute all of the Chapter assets to an exempt organization under Section 501(c) 3 of the Internal Revenue Code, who engages in activities similar to those of the Chapter, known as the American Society for Experimental Therapeutics (ASPET), exclusively for charitable, scientific, literary, and educational purposes.

ARTICLE V. Meetings

SECTION 1. Regular Meetings

ITEM 1. Scientific Meetings. The Chapter shall hold at least one annual scientific meeting on a date and at a location approved by the Council.

ITEM 2. Conduct of Chapter Business and Business Meetings. A Business Meeting of the membership shall be scheduled at the annual meeting of the Chapter, where possible. Other business meetings of the Chapter may be held at times and places determined by the Council. Members of the Chapter shall be notified as soon as possible of such meetings. Matters pertaining to normal business of the Chapter may be affirmed by simple majority of those present at a business meeting.

ITEM 3. Council Meetings. There shall be Council meetings at times and places determined by the Council. One-half of the current voting members of the Council shall constitute a quorum.

SECTION 2. Programs

ITEM 1. Arrangement of Programs. The Council shall designate one or more of its members to arrange scientific programs and shall appoint a Program Committee to assist in this task.

ITEM 2. Presentation of Research. The Council shall establish regulations governing the presentation of research at Chapter meetings. Regulations shall be published in a Call of Abstracts prior to the meeting.

SECTION 3. Procedure

The rules contained in Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised, 11th edition by Henry M. Robert, III, Sarah Corbin Robert, William J. Evans, Daniel H. Honemann, and Thomas J. Balch (Da Capo Press, Incorporated, 2011) shall govern the conduct of business sessions of the Chapter when these are applicable and not inconsistent with the Constitution and Bylaws or with special rules of order adopted by the Chapter.

ARTICLE VI. Amendment of Bylaws

Adoption, alternation, or repeal of bylaws may be moved at any business session of the Chapter. Requests for alternation or repeal of bylaws by the membership at large should be made in writing to the Executive Council, and so moved at the next business session where possible. Upon a favorable vote of two-thirds of the members present, the motion shall be submitted to the membership by ballot. Final passage shall require a three-fifths majority vote within 30 days after submission.

ARTICLE VII. Conflict of Interest

Any Council member, officer, or committee member having an interest in a contract or other transaction, or determination presented to the Council or a committee for recommendation, authorization, approval or ratification shall give a prompt, full and frank disclosure of his/her interest to the Council or committee prior to its acting on such contract or transaction. The body to which such disclosure is made shall thereupon determine, by majority vote, whether the disclosure shows that a conflict of interest exists or can reasonably be construed to exist. If a conflict is deemed to exist, such person shall not vote on, nor use his/her personal influence on, nor participate (other than to present factual information or to respond to questions) in the discussion or deliberations with respect to such contract, transaction or determination. Such person may not be counted in determining the existence of a quorum at any meeting where the contract, transaction, or determination is under discussion or is being voted upon. The minutes of the meeting shall reflect the disclosure made, the vote thereon, and where applicable, the abstention from voting and participation, and whether a quorum was present.

ARTICLE VIII. Nondiscrimination

The officers, and persons served by this non-profit, scientific organization shall be selected in a non-discriminatory manner with respect to age, sex, race, national origin, and political or religious opinion or affiliation.