

# The International Transmembrane Transporter Society

## *An international society of biomedical scientists*

### CONSTITUTION OF THE TRANSPORTER SOCIETY

Original 20 August 2014  
Amended 8 September 2017  
Amended 15 May 2018  
Amended 8 November 2020

#### **ARTICLE I: NAME**

The name of the organization is the International Transmembrane Transporter Society, Inc.

#### **ARTICLE II: PURPOSE**

The purpose of the Society is to promote scientific and social communications among individuals interested in membrane transport, specifically by sponsoring and conducting related scientific activities. Regular informal meetings will be held as dinners and/or mixers during the Annual Meeting of the American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics (ASPET) and/or the Annual Meeting of the Society for Neuroscience (SFN) or equivalent European-based meeting (e.g. Federation of European Neuroscience Societies [FENS]). Scientific meetings will be conducted either as a satellite to ASPET, SFN or European-based conference, or will be held as a stand-alone meeting. The nature and organization of scientific meetings sponsored by the Society shall be discussed and approved by the Transporter Researchers Executive Committee and the Local Organizing Committee, represented as the scientific organizing committees of such meetings.

The income and property of the Society shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the purpose of the Society as set out in the Article, and no portion thereof shall be paid or transferred directly or indirectly by the way of dividend, bonus or any other way of profit or pecuniary gain to members of the Society. In the event that the Society is discontinued, any surplus property is to be vested with the American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics, a non-profit organization with similar scientific objectives to those of the Transporter Researcher Society but with a wider ambit.

#### **ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP**

Membership is on an annual basis and is conferred upon any interested individual who pays the membership fee. If a member is one year in arrears with their membership fee, his/her name will be removed from the membership and mailing list of the Society.

#### **ARTICLE IV: OFFICERS**

##### *Section 1*

The Executive Committee consists of officers named below in Section 2.

##### *Section 2*

Officers of the Society are the President, Immediate Past-President, two Vice-Presidents, Secretary, Treasurer, and Diversity and Inclusion Officer.

(a) The President shall be elected for a term of two years, with no re-election to that position, serving as Chair of the Executive Committee. On completion of his/her term of office, the President shall serve as Immediate Past-President for a term of two years, unless he/she is elected as an officer of the Society, in which case the office of Immediate Past-President will remain vacant for that term.

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(b) The Vice-Presidents shall each be elected for a term of four years, with no re-election to that position. The Vice-President positions cannot be simultaneously held by individuals based in the same continent. Their duties consist of arranging the scientific and social program of the dinner/mixer meetings of the Society, advising the President, and assisting with general operations of the Society including membership drives and production of a biannual newsletter. Vice-Presidents, serve as President-Elects, and rotate into the role of President at the end of their four-year term. Consequently, and with the exception of the founding Vice-Presidents, Vice-Presidents will be elected such that their terms are two-years out of cycle. Each Vice President serves as "President-Elect", and will take over Presidency of the Society at the completion of their four year term as Vice President.

(c) The Secretary shall be elected for a term of four years, with the possibility of one re-election to that position. His/her duties consist of maintaining the record of the Society and its membership. Furthermore, he/she shall actively encourage persons interested in transporter research to become members of the Society. He/she shall be responsible for a regular Newsletter to be sent to all members.

(d)The Treasurer shall be elected for a term of four years, with the possibility of one re-election to that position. His/her duties consist of handling the overall financial affairs of the Society. Furthermore, he/she shall actively encourage persons interested in transporter research to become members of the Society.

(e) The Diversity and Inclusion Officer shall be elected for a term of four years, with the possibility of one re-election to that position. His/her duties consist of collecting and reporting of diversity data of ITTS membership and attendance at ITTS meetings and to promote diversity and inclusion in the Society, and in events organized by the Society.

(f) Councilors shall each be elected for a term of four years, with the possibility of one re-election to that position. Their duties consist of serving on the Executive Committee, and assisting the President and Vice-Presidents in the organization of the dinner meetings of the Society and in such other activities as are necessary for the operation of the Society.

(g) Associate Councilors shall each be elected for a term of four years. Associate Councilors will be new investigators with less than 10 years of experience after obtaining their advanced degree, i.e., Ph.D., M.D., etc. Their duties consist of serving on the Executive Committee, and assisting the President and Vice-Presidents in the organization of the dinner meetings of the Society and in such other activities as are necessary for the operation of the Society.

### **ARTICLE V: ELECTIONS**

#### *Section 1*

(a) The Vice-Presidents, Secretary, Treasurer, and Diversity and Inclusion Officer shall each be elected by and from all members.

(b) A member may nominate for more than one position at any election. The order in which offices will be filled by election is Secretary, Treasurer, Vice-Presidents, and if a member is elected to one of these offices, any nominations for other offices due to be filled subsequently will automatically lapse.

#### *Section 2*

Elections shall take place at two-yearly intervals in July or August with elected officials beginning their term of office at the beginning of the following calendar year, i.e., January 1st. If any office becomes

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vacant between elections, the Executive Committee may elect a replacement officer to serve the remainder of the full term of that office.

### *Section 3*

The Secretary shall send notices to all members, requesting nominations (including self-nominations) for each office due to become vacant. Nominations for each office must be signed by the candidate and by the proposer, each of whom is eligible to vote for that office. If the number of nominations of any office exceeds the number of vacancies a ballot shall be held. No member nominated for election to any vacant office shall serve as the returning officer for an election by ballot to that office. Normally, the President shall act as the returning officer for an election by ballot of all other officers. The Executive Committee shall appoint an officer of the Society to serve as a returning officer in place of the President, or the Secretary and Treasurer should either of the latter be ineligible to act.

## **ARTICLE VI: FINANCES**

### *Section 1*

The Treasurer is empowered to establish the price of the tickets to the dinner/mixer meetings, with the advice of the President and Vice-Presidents (for the two-yearly dinner/mixer meetings in conjunction with ASPET, SFN and/or European-based meeting). The annual membership fee (and the ways to recover it, so as to cover the expenses for the Society) will be determined by the Treasurer with advice from the Executive Committee. The Treasurer will engage in financial transactions necessary for the operation of the Society.

### *Section 2*

Voluntary contributions may be solicited by the Society, at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

### *Section 3*

The Treasurer or President shall report the financial status of the Society to the membership annually.

## **ARTICLE VII: AMENDMENTS**

This Constitution may be amended, or By-Laws may be added by a majority decision of those members voting at business meetings held in conjunction with conferences organized by the Society, or by e-mail ballot (or similar electronic voting systems) of the whole membership.

## **ARTICLE VIII: CHAPTERS AND BRANCHES**

Chapters or Branches of the Society may be formed in specific regions, to facilitate financial and other statutory requirements that are necessary for the conducting of activities in accordance with the objectives of the Society. All members of such Chapters or Branches must be members of the Society.

*Originally signed 20<sup>th</sup> August, 2014, by founding members:*

Haley E. Melikian, Ph.D, President

Lynette C. Daws, Ph.D., Vice-President (US)

Harald H. Sitte, M.D., Vice-President (Europe)

Habibeh Khoushbouei, Ph.D., Secretary/Treasurer