

BY-LAWS
NANOSCALE SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING FORUM (NSEF)

American Institute of Chemical Engineers

Friday, July 05, 2002

Amended February 4, 2009

Article I - Name and Objectives

- Section 1. The name of this organization shall be the Nanoscale Science and Engineering Forum (NSEF) of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers (the Institute).
- Section 2. The Forum is established in accordance with the Institute's Constitution, By-laws and Rules.
- Section 3. NSEF is a forum for the combined community of engineers and scientists who are developing and applying nanotechnologies. Nanotechnology is defined as research and technology development at the atomic, molecular or macromolecular levels, in the length scale of approximately 1 - 100 nanometer range, to provide a fundamental understanding of phenomena and materials at the nanoscale and to create and use structures, devices and systems that have novel properties and functions because of their small and/or intermediate size. This necessarily includes chemical, biological, and materials processes and products. A key feature of NSEF is that it will bring together communities across chemical engineering sciences that are engaged in nanotechnology research, development, and education.
- Section 4. The objectives of the NSEF shall be to:
- a. Provide a forum for communication and networking among those with an interest in nanoscale sciences and engineering.
 - b. Coordinate, sponsor, co-sponsor, and advertise relevant programming, including crosscutting and special-initiative technical sessions and conferences.
 - c. Promote interchange of ideas, concepts, know-how, and experiences in nanotechnology.
 - d. Encourage educators at all levels, particularly in chemical engineering, to integrate concepts of nanoscale sciences and engineering.
 - e. Advocate curricula that prepare students for career use of nanotechnology.
 - f. Promote lifetime learning through workshops and short courses.
 - g. Provide centralized links to technical publications and databases related to nanotechnology as it relates to chemical engineering sciences.

- Section 5. The Forum is under the supervision and control of the Chemical Engineering Technology Operating Council (CTOC) of the Institute. Forum programming activities shall be carried out in cooperation with the National Programming Committee of the Institute. The Forum does not have the authority to act for the Institute or to incur any financial obligations in the name of the Institute.

Article II – Membership

- Section 1. Membership in the Forum is by self-selection, subject to the payment of any annual dues required by the Executive Committee.
- Section 2. Nonmembers of the Institute are encouraged to join the Forum. Application to the Vice-Chair for Membership will permit membership without payment of dues, if so required, for one year with the approval of the Chair of the Forum.

Article III - Organization

- Section 1. The activities of the Forum will be directed by an Executive Committee consisting of six representatives (at least two of whom will be members from non-academic professions). The Executive Committee will include a Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary-Treasurer, immediate Past-Chair, and two at-large members. Each Executive Committee member shall be a member of AIChE at the time of election.
- The method of electing and terms of office for all Executive Committee members is detailed in Article V.
- Section 2. The officers of the Executive Committee of the Forum shall include the Chair, the Vice-Chair, and the Secretary-Treasurer, each having a two-year term. In even-numbered years, a new Executive Committee will be elected. Elections will include Vice-Chair, Secretary-Treasurer, and two at-large members. The previous Vice-Chair succeeds to the Chair position and the previous Chair to the Past-Chair position. The Executive Committee shall also appoint from the Forum membership a Director of Membership, a Director of Technology, and a Director of Programming, each having two year terms. All appointments and other votes of the Executive Committee require a majority of those present. A quorum is four members.
- Section 3. Ad hoc members of the Executive Committee can be appointed by a majority vote of the Executive Committee.
- Section 4. The Executive Committee shall direct the activities of the Forum.
- Section 5. The Chair is the chief officer of the Forum and is Chair of the Executive Committee. The Vice-Chair shall perform the duties of the Chair in the Chair's absence or inability to serve. In the event of a vacancy in the office

of Chair, the Vice-Chair shall serve as the chief officer of the Forum until the next election.

Section 6. The Chair shall

- a. Develop the Forum in accordance with the Forum Goal and Objectives.
- b. Provide leadership and management for the Forum.
- c. Serve as the presiding officer for all Forum and Executive Committee meetings.
- d. Appoint task forces for special projects as needed.
- e. Coordinate activities through the leadership of the Executive Committee.
- f. Coordinate activities of the Liaison Directors.

Section 7. The Vice-Chair shall

- a. Formulate and implement long-term plans and strategic activities for the Forum.
- b. Lead fundraising activities for the Forum.
- c. Implement projects in coordination with the Chair.
- d. Serve as Forum liaison to the Institute.

Section 8. The Secretary-Treasurer shall

- a. Keep records of the proceedings of the Forum.
- b. Handle the general correspondence of the Forum, and shall, at the direction of the Chair, issue all notices of all meetings.
- c. Handle and record the collection and disbursement of funds as authorized by the Executive Committee of the Forum.
- d. Coordinate, with Headquarters, the preparation, electronic mailing, and tallying of annual election ballots.
- e. Submit a report covering the finances and activities of the Forum at the end of each year to the Executive Committee of the Forum and the Secretary of the Institute.
- f. Prepare a proposed budget for the upcoming year, for review and approval by the Executive Committee.

Section 9. The Past-Chair shall

- a. Chair the Awards Committee.

Section 10. The Director of Membership shall

- a. Maintain records of the membership.
- b. Plan and implement strategies to recruit suitable members.

Section 11. The Director of Technology shall

- a. Oversee the maintenance of the Forum website, including financial aspects, and coordinate email communication with Forum membership.

Section 12. The Director of Programming shall

- a. Serve as the Forum representative to all Institute programming retreats and other programming activities.
- b. Be responsible for the programming activities of the Forum, including appoint session and topical chairs/co-chairs as needed.
- c. Appoint Programming Chairs for Forum programming areas, including 22a-Carbon Nanotubes, 22b-Bionanotechnology, and 22c-Nanowires.
- d. Coordinate all topical and session requests in conjunction with Forum sub-area (22a-Carbon Nanotubes, 22b-Bionanotechnology, and 22c-Nanowires) Programming Chairs and with Meeting Programming Chairs for the Institute Spring National and Annual Fall meetings.

Section 13. The duties in Sections 6 to 12 can be changed or redistributed with approval of the Executive Committee.

Section 14. Standing committees of the Forum shall consist of the following:

Programming Committee: The Programming Committee shall consist the Director of Programming and the Programming Chairs for each of the Forum programming sub-areas, including 22a-Carbon Nanotubes, 22b-Bionanotechnology, and 22c-Nanowires. The Director of Programming shall lead the Programming Committee and shall have the discretion to appoint additional members to satisfy session and/or topical programming needs beyond specified programming areas.

Awards Committee: The Awards Committee shall consist of the Past-Chair, the award winners from the previous two years, the AIChE staff liaison, and two additional members appointed by the Past-Chair. Under the leadership of the Past-Chair, the Awards Committee shall seek nominations for awards given by the Forum, including but not limited to the Forum Award and Young Investigator Award, by May 30 and will select and notify award winners by August 15.

Section 15. Such other committees as may be required shall be appointed by the Chairman with the approval of the Executive Committee. The Chair with the approval of the Executive Committee may terminate the services of any such committees or committee members at any time.

Section 16. Committees that are appointed to prepare for specific meetings or other events will continue to perform their functions, if satisfactorily handled, until the meetings or events designated have actually occurred. The term of service of such committees may therefore continue after the retirement of the Division Chairman who made the original appointments.

Section 17. If a vacancy other than the Chair arises in the Executive Committee, the replacement shall be appointed based on majority vote of a quorum of the remaining Executive Committee members.

Article IV - Meetings

- Section 1. There shall be at least one general meeting of the Forum during the Annual Meeting of the Institute. The Chair of the Forum shall schedule the meeting.
- Section 2. The Chair of the Forum shall preside at all meetings of the Forum Executive Committee. In the absence of the Chair, the Vice Chair or the Secretary-Treasurer, in that order, shall preside.
- Section 3. Notices will be sent to the membership for Forum meetings called at any time other than the Annual Meeting.
- Section 4. A quorum for meetings of the Forum body shall consist of at least 5% of the Forum's membership. Except otherwise stated in these By-laws, all decisions at a meeting of the Forum will be decided by the majority vote of those present.
- Section 5. The presiding officer shall determine the order of business for meetings of the Forum.
- Section 6. The Forum Executive Committee shall meet at least once each year. The Chair may call meetings at such places and times as (s) he deems advisable. Meetings may be held by physical attendance, teleconference, videoconference, or other electronic communications means, and votes – including election of officers – may be cast either in person, by mail, or by other electronic communications means. Meetings may also be called at the request of a majority of the members of the Executive Committee. Notices will be sent to the Executive Committee of all meetings at least two weeks in advance unless all members of the Executive agree in writing (including electronic approval) to an earlier meeting.
- Section 7. A majority of the members of the Forum Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum. Except where otherwise stated in these By-laws, all actions of the Executive Committee shall be by simple majority vote of the quorum. The presiding officer does not normally vote. Only in the event of a tie vote will the presiding officer cast the deciding vote.
- Section 8. Any member of the Forum Executive Committee who fails to attend two consecutive Executive Committee meetings shall be considered to have tendered his or her resignation from the Executive Committee. However, such a resignation shall be effective only upon acceptance by the Executive Committee, which shall have taken into account any extenuating circumstances.

Article V - Elections

- Section 1. Two at-large Executive Committee members, the Vice-Chair, and the Secretary-Treasurer shall stand for general election every two years. General election shall occur by letter or electronic ballot sent to Forum members by October 1. Election shall be by a majority of those voting.

Three weeks shall be allowed between the mailing of the ballots and the counting of the votes. The Executive Committee shall certify the count.

- Section 1a. Section 1a will sunset at the end of 2009. Due to the ongoing amendment process for the Forum By-Laws, no elections were held in 2008. At the end of 2008, the sitting 2008 1st Vice-Chair succeeded to the Chair position, the 2008 2nd Vice-Chair succeeded to the Vice-Chair position, the 2008 Chair succeeded to the Past-Chair positions, and a Secretary-Treasurer was elected from the general membership at the Annual Meeting. A special general election will be held before June 2009 to elect two at-large members of the Executive Committee. The current Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary-Treasurer, Past-Chair and the two at-large members to be elected before June 2009 will constitute the first Executive Committee. General elections per Section 1 shall resume in 2010.
- Section 2. Nominations for the elected offices in Section 1 shall come from the Executive Committee. Under the leadership of the Chair, the Executive Committee shall formulate a slate of one or more candidates for each of the remaining offices to be filled for proposal to the membership. Other nominations from the membership shall be solicited and will be accepted if received by the Chair by September 24 before the election.
- Section 3. No member shall be eligible for election to more than one office at one time.

Article VI - Dues and Finances

- Section 1. The Forum Executive Committee in accordance with policies of the Institute shall determine annual dues. Those members who continue to be delinquent on the following January 1 shall be dropped from the rolls of the Forum.
- Section 2. The Forum Executive Committee shall make all other regulations regarding payment of dues and shall provide for an annual audit of the Forum's financial accounts.
- Section 3. The Forum Executive Committee shall review, in their last meeting of the year, the budget submitted for the upcoming year by the Secretary-Treasurer. The officers of the Forum may make expenditures within the provisions of the approved budget. The Forum Executive Committee shall spend additional amounts only after specific approval.

Article VII - General Provisions

- Section 1. The decision of the Executive Committee shall be final on any questions concerning the interpretation of the By-laws, subject to the jurisdiction of the Chemical Technology Operating Council of the Institute.

- Section 2. In all respects not specifically covered by these By-laws, the general rules of the Institute governing the conduct of the Forums shall apply with equal force as if included in these By-laws.
- Section 3. In the case that the Forum is dissolved, any remaining assets shall be returned to the Institute.

Article VIII - Amendments

- Section 1. All proposed amendments of these By-laws shall be reduced to writing. Amendments shall be proposed to and voted on by the membership.
- Section 2. A proposed amendment ballot shall be sent electronically or otherwise to all Forum members. Voting results shall be certified by the Executive Committee, which shall accept as approval of the amendments a two-thirds affirmative vote of those returning these ballots. The amendment shall then be submitted to the Chemical Engineering Technology Operating Council (CTOC) of the Institute and shall become an effective part of the By-laws upon its approval.