

## Report of Rules and Procedures Committee, 2020 ACE

The R&PC has looked at modifying Section I.C, which deals with how the House officers are elected. The reason for considering this modification is to enable the potential for the officer elections to take place by electronic voting, prior to the annual meeting of the House. If voting took place by this mechanism, the House process would be comparable to how the Association officers are elected. By shifting the voting to the time period before the meeting, there would be some simplification of the meeting agenda and some time saved. This matter came to the Committee via discussion within the House leadership team.

The other matter that is (still) under consideration is a rationalization of Section III, dealing with committees and their roles. Again, this matter comes from House leadership team discussions. Filling positions on House committees is a very large job for the incoming House chair, and some standing committees (such as the Newsletter Committee) have not actually been in operation for some period of time, since the tasks assigned to that Committee are routinely performed by the House leadership team. It is also true that some committees function without their full complement of appointed members. Furthermore, the set of standing committees have individual descriptions (of who is to be appointed, and the roles of that committee) that are presented in a way that is quite different from one to another.

The R&PC review of Section III is, for the present, focused on simplification and clarification, and our intent is to avoid, at this time, changing the scope of the duties of a committee. There is a reasonable argument to be made that some committees warrant an examination of their scope, but we will leave that to another year – with some of the present R&PC views to be summarised for next year's Committee to use as they start their work.

The changes (beyond the rationalization effort noted above) that R&PC are considering, include: eliminating the need to appoint vice-chairs in the committees; removing the requirements on committee sizes (to allow committees to operate at smaller or larger numbers of members), and the 'hard' requirement on the home Section/Region of its members; defining the Newsletter Committee as an optional 'as needed' committee; removing the paragraph that outlines a 'qualified' delegate (since this is done in the Bylaws); and altering the Membership Committee description to enable it to be formally linked with a similar committee constituted by the Association's Executive Committee.

The recommendations that will emerge from R&PC will be in the form of proposed amendments to the Rules and Procedures. Those amendments will be circulated to Delegates 60 days before the annual meeting.

As Chair of the R&PC, I wish to thank the R&PC members: Cynthia Huggins, Ramadan Ghalayini, Ana Goncalves, Ian Shaw, John Welch, and Travis Helms.

Gary Couples, R&PC Chair, March 2020