

NOTICE OF SPECIAL RESOLUTION

At our 2023 Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Tuesday 7 November at 5 30 pm NZDT / 3 30 pm AEDT in Christchurch, the members present will be requested to consider and vote on amendments to the Constitution via a Special Resolution. The key aspects of a Special Resolution, summarised, are:

- 28 days' notice to members
- 75% of the voting members present (in person or on Zoom) approve the amendments

The Special Resolution is:

That ACPSEM members **approve the proposed amendments** to the Constitution.

A preamble and the actual amendments in text form are on the following pages.

Bradley Shallies

ACPSEM Company Secretary

PREAMBLE TO PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

Current Category	Proposed Category
New category	Student Member
Affiliate	No change
Associate Member	No change
Ordinary Member	Member
New category	Fellow
Fellow	Distinguished Fellow
Honorary Fellow	No Change
Life Member	No Change
Corporate Supporter	Organisational Supporter

ACPSEM and its consultancy partners have invested financially and intellectually during 2023 to refine our member value proposition. This included a survey and focus groups and harnessed the growing interest in promoting medical physics in schools and undergraduate spaces; we want to indoctrinate medical physics in the STEM spectrum. Of concern, however, is the research validated that members believe that those studying physics and engineering are not truly aware of medical physics career possibilities; this represents an opportunity for the ACPSEM.

The first proposal is one considered from the perspective of community expectations and usage. 'Ordinary Member' has negative connotations because no one is 'ordinary'. The term is inconsistent with our values. The proposal, therefore, in our view, needs no further consideration. We simply wish to move to the word '**Member**'. The definition needs no further work.

Alongside members' aspirations for the college to act are research findings that confirm that a student tier within affiliate membership that targets those studying relevant disciplines is sector best practice. This shift in thinking recognises that maximising student membership (broadening the membership base) maximises retention potential and commitment in the longer term (a membership pipeline).

It is therefore proposed to introduce a new membership category of '**student member**'. These members would be admitted free of any subscription fee for the duration of their enrolment and would be supported through supportive administrative processes including a .edu email address.

Further, and in support of student and related strategies, it is also proposed that 'corporate supporter' membership be broadened to '**organisational supporter**' membership (more the norm), and sustained effort be applied to have universities support the recruitment of students.

The research also found that there needs to be recognition of career achievement and status. Medical physicists generally feel under-recognised professionally by peers, their medical teams and by patients. Recognition is sought of their growth and development along the career path rather than just at certification. Other medical and clinical colleges have such distinctions, including our international equivalents.

It is proposed therefore to restructure the Fellow level status:

1. Change the name of the existing category '**Fellow**' to '**Distinguished Fellow**', and

2. Add a new membership tier of **'Fellow'**.

Existing Fellows would transition to Distinguished Fellow and the existing Fellow criteria would now apply to Distinguished Fellow.

The proposed criteria for the new **'Fellow'** category is:

1. Members must apply to be considered for the category (including payment of an assessment fee), and
2. Minimum 15 years as a clinical, academic/clinical or academic medical physicist, biomedical/clinical engineer or radiopharmaceutical scientist, confirmed by 2 referees who are members of the ACPSEM, and
3. Member of the ACPSEM for at least 10 of the 15 years preceding application, and
4. Served on ACPSEM committees and groups for at least 5 years (in total and not necessarily continuously) and if part of working groups, branches or specialty groups, a statement about personal contribution must be included in the application.

(Note: Membership fees for new 'fellow' remain the same as 'Member')

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE ACPSEM CONSTITUTION

7. Membership categories

7.1. The membership categories of the College are:

- a. Member;
- b. Associate Member;
- c. Fellow
- d. Distinguished Fellow;
- e. Life Member;
- f. Affiliate;
- g. Student
- h. Honorary Fellow; and
- i. Organisational Supporter.

7.2. The Board may from time to time determine:

- a. the various sub-categories under each category of membership; and
- b. the eligibility criteria for such sub-categories.

7.3. The Board may transfer a Member from one category of membership to another category provided the Member consents to the transfer and satisfies the eligibility criteria for the new category.

8. Eligibility criteria for Membership

8.1. Members are individuals with a degree in a physical science or engineering and who have appropriate experience as a physical scientist or engineer in a hospital, university or other relevant institution.

8.2. Associate Members are individuals who are not eligible for admission as a Member who have:

- a. an appropriate bachelor's degree in a physical science or engineering; or

b. other qualifications and experience deemed suitable by the Board.

8.3. Fellows are individuals who:

a. members who have applied to be considered for the category (including payment of an assessment fee); and

b. have a minimum 15 years as a clinical, academic/clinical or academic medical physicist, biomedical/clinical engineer or radiopharmaceutical scientist, confirmed by 2 referees who are members of the ACPSEM; and

c. have been a Member of the ACPSEM for at least 10 of the 15 years preceding application; and

d. have served on ACPSEM committees and/or groups for at least 5 years (in total and not necessarily continuously) and if part of working groups, branches or specialty groups, a statement about personal contribution must be included in the application.

8.4. Distinguished Fellows are individuals who:

a. have been an Member for at least 3 years who, in the opinion of the Board, have extensive experience in a physical science or engineering in medicine and have made a noteworthy contribution to these disciplines and to the College; or

b. in the opinion of the Board, have made a noteworthy and significant contribution to the field of physical sciences and engineering in medicine and are expected to continue to contribute to the field.

8.5. Life Members are individuals who are Fellows or Members who, in the opinion of the Board, have retired from their chief professional occupation and who have actively participated in and contributed to College activities for considerable periods.

8.6. Affiliates are individuals currently engaged in duties/roles in a relevant field(s), or with a high level of interest in a relevant field(s) or the College, who do not qualify for Associate Membership.

8.7. Students are individuals currently engaged in studying in a relevant field.

8.8. Honorary Fellows are Distinguished Scientists or Engineers who have rendered outstanding services to the physical sciences or engineering in medicine and other eminent persons who the College wishes to honour.

8.9. Organisational Supporters are companies or organisations with an interest in the application or the promotion of the physical sciences and engineering in medicine.

9. Applications for Membership

9.1. Applications for membership must be made in the form and manner prescribed by the Board from time to time.

9.2. The Board may at its discretion accept or reject an applicant as a Member.

9.3. The Board may delegate the authority to consider and determine membership applications.

9.4. The College must notify the applicant of the Board's decision to accept or reject the application for admission to membership in accordance with the procedures determined by the Board from time to time.

9.5. Upon acceptance of an applicant to be a Member, the applicant must pay any subscriptions in accordance with clause 15.1 within a period as determined by the Board. If any such payment is not made then the Board may, in its discretion, cancel its acceptance of the applicant for membership of the College.

9.6. Subject to clause 9.5, an applicant becomes a Member and is entitled to exercise the rights and privileges of that membership when their name is entered in the register of Members.

10. Rights and obligations of Members

10.1. Members, Associate Members, Fellows, Distinguished Fellow and Life Members (the Voting Members) are entitled to: a. receive notices of and attend and speak at General Meetings; b. vote at a General Meeting; and c. vote in elections for Directors.

10.2. Students, Affiliates, Honorary Fellows and Organisational Supporters (the Nonvoting Members):

a. are entitled to receive notices of and to attend General Meetings but may only speak at the invitation of the Chair; and

b. are not entitled to vote at a General Meeting; and

c. are not entitled to vote in elections for Directors.

10.3. Every Member shall be bound to further to the best of the Member's ability the Objects, interests, influence and standing of the College and shall observe the Constitution and the by-laws and regulations of the College in force from time to time.