

ASA Constitutional amendments 2017

Notes

Changes to Article 4 relates to the decision to rename the “Berenice Page Medal” as the “Arthur and Berenice Page Medal” following the death of Arthur Page.

Changes to Article 5 are to simplify members wishing to upgrade from Student Member to Member or from Member to Fellow.

Changes to Articles 6, 8 and 9 relate to changing the current Page Medal winners, free full membership for 1 year for and allowing them to continue as full members by paying annual fees, to allowing them to alternately accept Honorary Associate membership for life. The latter does not allow the use of the post-nominal (MASA), voting or election to office rights but gives the remaining benefits of lower conference registration and access to PASA. The Honorary Associate grade is newly created for this purpose.

Changes to Article 10 allow the Council to reduce the annual fees for any Member who is financial or personal distress as it can now for Full Member and Fellows who are retirees.

Red represents new text, red-strikeout represents deleted text. Unless the clause is new it is preceded by the existing text.

4 (2007) (i) Ph.D. graduates in astronomy or other persons who have contributed to the advancement of astronomy or a closely related branch of science through research or services to education, winners of the Society's Berenice Page Medal or other persons invited by the Council may be elected as Full Members and shall then be entitled to use the initials MASA after their names until they cease to be Full Members.

4 (2017) (i) Ph.D. graduates in astronomy or other persons who have contributed to the advancement of astronomy or a closely related branch of science through research or services to education, winners of the Society's Berenice **and Arthur** Page Medal or other persons invited by the Council may be elected as Full Members and shall then be entitled to use the initials MASA after their names until they cease to be Full Members.

5 (1998) Any person wishing to join the Society or change their grade of membership must make application and must be recommended by two Full Members or Fellows. Application for Fellowship must be recommended by two Fellows or by the Council. The application and recommendation shall be made on a form provided by a Secretary of the Society. The Council may elect as a Fellow, Full Member, Student Member or Associate Member of the Society any qualified person who has made the prescribed application.

5 (2017) Any person wishing to join the Society ~~or change their grade of membership~~ must make application and must be recommended by two Full Members or Fellows. Application for Fellowship must be recommended by two Fellows or by the Council. The application and recommendation shall be made on a form provided by a Secretary of the Society. The Council may elect as a Fellow, Full Member, Student Member or Associate Member of the Society any qualified person who has made the prescribed application. **Any person wishing to change their grade of membership must make application to a Secretary for approval by the Council.**

- 6 (1998) A person distinguished for promotion or extension of knowledge of astronomy may be elected by the Council as an Honorary Fellow of the Society. An Honorary Fellow shall have all the privileges of a Fellow but shall not be obliged to pay a subscription. The Council may in any calendar year elect not more than one Honorary Fellow. All persons previously Honorary Members of the Society shall become Honorary Fellows.
- 6 (2017) (i) A person distinguished for promotion or extension of knowledge of astronomy may be elected by the Council as an Honorary Fellow of the Society. An Honorary Fellow shall have all the privileges of a Fellow but shall not be obliged to pay a subscription. The Council may in any calendar year elect not more than one Honorary Fellow. All persons previously Honorary Members of the Society shall become Honorary Fellows.
- (ii) Winners of the Berenice and Arthur Page Medal will qualify for admission as Members of the Society. Alternatively they will have the option of accepting admission as Honorary Associate Members. An Honorary Associate Member shall have all the privileges of an Associate Member but shall not be obliged to pay a subscription. All persons previously winning the Berenice Page Medal or the Berenice and Arthur Page Medal shall be offered this choice.
- 8 (1995) In this Constitution, the word 'members' includes Fellows, Honorary Fellows, Full Members, Student Members, Associate Members, Associate Society Members and Corporate Members.
- 8 (2017) In this Constitution, the word 'members' includes Fellows, Honorary Fellows, Full Members, Student Members, Honorary Associate Members, Associate Members, Associate Society Members and Corporate Members.
- 9 (2013) Every member not an Honorary Fellow shall on the first day of January of every year be liable to pay an annual subscription, the amount of each category of membership being fixed by a special postal or electronic ballot or by a General Meeting of the Society for which notice of at least 28 days has been given.
- 9 (2017) Every member not an Honorary Fellow or an Honorary Associate Member shall on the first day of January of every year be liable to pay an annual subscription, the amount of each category of membership being fixed by a special postal or electronic ballot or by a General Meeting of the Society for which notice of at least 28 days has been given.
- 10 (1995) The Council may, at its discretion, reduce the amount of the annual subscription in the case of Full members and Fellows who are in retirement.
- 10 (2017) The Council may, at its discretion, reduce the amount of the annual subscription:
- (i) in the case of Full members and Fellows who are in retirement; or
- (ii) in the case of any member who is in financial or personal distress.

The ASA Council is required to notify the membership of changes it makes to the Society By-Laws but does not require members to vote on them.

The following By-Law additions and changes reflect:

- operational updates
- minor changes to the rules of some prizes for clarification
- changes to the Page medal in line with the constitutional changes for that award
- addition of PASA International Advisory Board structure which had not been codified (J8-J10)
- addition of the ability to disband a Society Chapter and listing of current Chapters (N6 & N7)

ASA By-Law amendments 2017

- A2 (2013) The annual subscription including GST shall be \$188 for a Fellow, \$158 for a Full Member, \$105 for an Associate Society Member, \$75 for a Student Member or Associate Member, and \$550 for a Corporate Member, or such other amounts as shall be determined from time to time in accord with Article 9 of the Constitution. Retired Members and retired Fellows shall pay the same subscription as Student Members. The Council may choose to offer a discount on some or all of these rates for factors such as prompt payment or membership of cognate societies.
- A2 (2017) The annual subscription including GST shall be \$203 for a Fellow, \$170 for a Full Member, \$113 for an Associate Society Member, \$81 for a Student Member or Associate Member, and \$593 for a Corporate Member, or such other amounts as shall be determined from time to time in accord with Article 9 of the Constitution. Retired Members and retired Fellows shall pay the same subscription as Student Members. The Council may choose to offer a discount on some or all of these rates for factors such as prompt payment or membership of cognate societies.
- A3 (1995) Fellows, Full Members, Student Members and Associate Members shall in the year of their election pay half the prescribed annual subscription if elected after 1st July.
- A3 (2017) Fellows, Full Members, Student Members and Associate Members shall in the year of their election pay a *pro rata adjusted* annual subscription for the balance of the year if elected after 1st July.
- A5 (2007) A reminder that the annual subscription has become due on the first day of January shall be sent by the Treasurer to each member, not an Honorary Fellow, in or before January of each year. A second reminder shall be sent in June to those members, not Honorary Fellows, whose subscription has not yet been received.
- A5 (2017) A reminder that the annual subscription has become due on the first day of January shall be sent by the Treasurer to each member, not an Honorary Fellow or an Honorary Associate Member, in or before January of each year. A second reminder shall be sent in June to those members, not Honorary Fellows or an Honorary Associate Member, whose subscription has not yet been received.

A8 (2017) New clause

Any former member who has resigned or been deemed to have resigned under clause 12 may be readmitted at the discretion of the Council under the following guidelines:

- (i) A member who has resigned will be re-admitted with payment of the regular subscription for the time they apply in the current year, without a re-joining fee.
- (ii) A member who has been deemed to have resigned for non-payment of subscriptions will be re-admitted with payment of the regular subscription for the time they apply in the current year plus a re-joining fee equal to one year's regular subscription at the grade of the previous membership. A deemed member applying for readmission after more than 5 years of non-payment may be readmitted without a re-joining fee.

B4 (2000) An instruction by the Council to the Executive Committee to carry out any business implies authorization to make the necessary payments. All accounts above \$500, or such other limit as shall be determined by Council from time to time, shall require specific approval by the Council or the Executive before payment.

B4 (2017) An instruction by the Council to the Executive Committee to carry out any business implies authorization to make the necessary payments. All accounts above \$1000, or such other limit as shall be determined by Council from time to time, shall require specific approval by the Council before payment. All accounts above \$500, or such other limit as shall be determined by Council from time to time, shall require specific approval by ~~the Council or~~ the Executive before payment.

F1 (2013) There shall be a medal, called The Berenice and Arthur Page Medal, which shall be awarded by the Society for excellence in amateur astronomy in Australia and its Territories. This award shall be made by the Council at appropriate intervals. The prize will include free membership of the Society for the calendar year following the award.

F1 (2017) There shall be a medal, called The Berenice and Arthur Page Medal, which shall be awarded by the Society for excellence in amateur astronomy in Australia and its Territories. This award shall be made by the Council at appropriate intervals. ~~The prize will include free membership of the Society for the calendar year following the award.~~ The prize will include the winner's choice of Membership or Honorary Associate Membership of the Society, as outlined in the Constitution. Winners who elect to become Members will pay the annual Member subscription from the year following their free Membership year.

J8 (2015) New clause

The Council of the Society shall appoint an International Advisory Board that shall act as a public advocate for the Publications of the Astronomical Society of Australia and provide strategic advice to the Editorial Board or the Council when requested.

J9 (2015) New clause

Council appointments of Members of the International Advisory Board shall be for 3 years or such shorter term as the Council may deem necessary. Consecutive appointments shall be allowed.

J10 (2015) New clause

In making appointments to the International Advisory Board, the Council shall take into account geographical representation and fields of expertise encompassed by the Publications of the Astronomical Society of Australia and shall stagger the appointments to ensure continuity of geographical representation and expertise.

- L1 (2009) There shall be a prize, called the David Allen Prize, awarded, at the discretion of the Council, every three years. It shall be for the best contribution, or series of contributions, published in the previous calendar year in any form of media that is widely accessible to Australians, which portrays an astronomical theme in an exciting and educative manner and which informs the general public in understandable language, while retaining the integrity of the science.
- L1 (2015) There shall be a prize, called the David Allen Prize, awarded, at the discretion of the Council, every three years. It shall be for the best contribution, or series of contributions, published in the **interval since the previous award of the Prize** in any form of media that is widely accessible to Australians, which portrays an astronomical theme in an exciting and educative manner and which informs the general public in understandable language, while retaining the integrity of the science.
- L2 (1995) Eligibility for the prize shall be restricted to Australian residents.
- L2 (2015) Eligibility for the prize shall be restricted to Australian **permanent** residents **or Australian based institutions**. **Previous winners are ineligible to renominate for the award.**
- N6 (2016) **New clause**
Chapters of the Society may be disbanded in accordance with their constitution or guiding principles or by the Council.
- N7 (2016) **New clause**
The Chapters of the Society are:
(i) Australian National Institute for Theoretical Astrophysics (ANITA) Chapter,
(ii) Early Career Researcher (ECR) Chapter,
(iii) Education and Public Outreach (EPOC) Chapter,
(iv) Inclusion, Diversity and Equity in Astronomy (IDEA) Chapter.
- O1 (2009) There shall be a prize, called the Louise Webster Prize, awarded, at the discretion of the Council, annually. It shall be for the best research paper, in astronomy or a closely related field, by a scientist early in their post-doctoral career. The award will be based on the scientific impact of a single research paper, which has the applicant as first author.
- O1 (2016) There shall be a prize, called the Louise Webster Prize, awarded, at the discretion of the Council, annually. It shall be for the best research paper, in astronomy or a closely related field, by a scientist early in their post-doctoral career. The award will be based on the scientific impact of a single research paper, which has the applicant as first author. **The prize is intended for work carried out primarily after completion of a postgraduate degree.**
- O4 (2009) The applicant must be an Australian citizen or permanent resident at the nomination deadline or, if not, the nominated research paper must have been published with affiliation to an Australian institution.
- O4 (2017) The applicant must be an Australian citizen or **permanent** resident at the nomination deadline or, if not, the nominated research paper must have been published with affiliation to an Australian institution.