

## ESLRR Bye-Laws

### Article I: Name, Seat, Registration

- a) The name of the Society shall be the European Society for Low Vision Research and Rehabilitation (ESLRR).
- b) The official seat of the Society shall be Valladolid, Spain.
- c) The business year shall be the European calendar year.
- d) The official language of the Society shall be English.
- e) The business affairs of the Society shall be directed by an elected council.

### Article II: Objectives

- a) To promote and extend the knowledge of Low Vision Research and Rehabilitation.
- b) To promote co-operation and communication among eye healthcare providers, vision rehabilitation specialists and vision scientists within Europe.
- c) To promote and encourage Low Vision Research and Rehabilitation scientific and educational activities.
- d) To provide information and facilitate communication between members.
- e) To promote evidence-based practice and training standards in Low Vision Research and Rehabilitation.
- f) To disburse grants for the purpose of facilitating the aims of the society.
- g) To encourage other related activities deemed to be in the interest of furthering Low Vision Research and Rehabilitation within Europe.
- h) To interact with national and other international societies related to low vision.

### Article III: Charitableness

- a) The society promotes charitable purposes according to legal tax-regulations.
- b) The assets of the society can only be used for purposes stated in the by-laws.

### Article IV: Memberships

- a) Regular members: individuals professionally engaged in Low Vision Research and Rehabilitation. Regular members have all the privileges of membership, including the right to vote and to hold office.
- b) Trainee members: students or their equivalents, fellows, and post-graduate students. Trainee members have all the privileges of membership, excluding the right to vote and hold office.
- c) Corporate members: scientific, university or commercial organisations and rehabilitation institutes which have a bona fide interest in Low Vision Research and Rehabilitation. Corporate members do not have the right to vote or hold office.

- d) Senior members: members of the society who on retirement apply to continue membership. Senior members will have all the privileges of regular membership, except the right to hold office.

Applicants should complete, sign and submit the application form. The Board will confirm their membership.

#### Article V: Exclusion of Membership

The MGM has the right to vote to terminate the membership of any member of any member acting against the interest of the society.

#### Article VI: Duties of Members

- a) Uphold the good name of the society.
- b) To adhere to the by-laws and other regulations of the society.
- c) To pay the membership fees.

#### Article VII: Membership Fees

- a) The society may charge membership fees.
- b) Membership fee covers a period of two years.
- c) The amounts will be determined by the MGM after a proposal by the Council.

#### Article VIII: Council

The Council consists of the Board, the directors of the committees and Members-at-large.

- a) The Board consists of: The President, the Vice-President, the Secretary, and the Treasurer.
- b) Regular members with special qualifications may be asked by the Council to join the Council as advisory members. Advisory Council members have no Council voting rights.
- c) The council will be elected by the members of the society.
- d) The term of a council member is 4 years and renewable for one additional term of 4 years. An individual may not serve more than two terms (8 years).
- e) All members of the Council shall work in an honorary capacity.
- f) The Council shall meet at least twice a year.
- g) Decisions of the Council are taken by majority of the council members participating in the meeting. The quorum will be at least 50% of the council.

#### Article IX: Duties of the Council

- a) The council executes the decisions and directives of the MGM, the administration of the society's assets, and decisions about regulation.
- b) The Board implements the day-to-day processes required to make effective the decisions of the Council.
- c) The Council legally manage and represent the society.

#### Article X: Committees of the Society

The Council will establish and dissolve committees as required to support the aims of the society. Each committee chair will report to both the Council and the MGM.

#### Article XI: Calling of the Members General Meeting (MGM)

- a) The Council is responsible for arranging the MGM at least every two years.
- b) The agenda must be provided at least 4 weeks prior to the meeting.
- c) Proposals for the agenda should be delivered to the Secretary at least 12 weeks prior to the meeting in writing.
- d) An extraordinary MGM may be demanded by a minimum of 20% of the members, giving at least 60 days written notice stating the cause and purpose of the meeting. The extraordinary meeting of members has the same rights as the regular MGM.

#### Article XII: Procedure of the MGM

- a) Consideration and approval of the reports of the Council and committees.
- b) Approval of the Auditors' report.
- c) Setting of the membership fee.
- d) Changes to by-laws.
- e) Election of the Council.
- f) All decisions and elections during the MGM are based on a simple majority of votes of those present, unless otherwise stated in the by-laws.
- g) A change of the by-laws needs the agreement of at least 2/3 of the members with the right to vote present at a MGM.
- h) The transfer of a vote to another member is not permitted.
- i) Members who are unable to attend the membership meeting have the possibility to send their vote in writing or online.
- j) All proceedings have to be recorded by the Secretary in a written minute of the meeting, which is required to be approved by the Council and the subsequent MGM. The minute must be circulated to the Council within 4 weeks of the MGM and signed by the Secretary.

#### Article XIII: Auditors

The MGM is required to elect two Auditors of the society's accounts. The chosen auditors must provide an annual report to the Council and a biennial report to the membership on the society's financial status.

#### Article XIV: Dissolution of the Society

- a) Any proposal to dissolve the society has to be given in writing to the President at least 6 months prior to the proposed date of dissolution. The President has to send this proposal to all members with a right to vote immediately with an explanatory letter.
- b) Dissolution of the society will be decided by a meeting of the members with a majority of at least 2/3 of all members of the society with the right to vote.
- c) The assets of the society shall be given to a worldwide, tax-exempt scientific society, which will be named by majority decision of the MGM.
- d) In case of dissolution of the society the active members of the Council are the liquidators.

#### Article XV: Enactment

These by-laws were approved by the Council in Tübingen (Germany) on November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017. After approval they came into effect immediately.