

**BYLAWS OF THE ORGANIC AND BIOLOGICAL ELECTROCHEMISTRY DIVISION  
OF THE ELECTROCHEMICAL SOCIETY**

**ARTICLE I.**

**Name**

The name of this Division shall be the Organic and Biological Electrochemical Division (hereinafter referred to as the “Division”) of The Electrochemical Society (hereinafter referred to as “ECS” or the “Society”).

**ARTICLE II.**

**Purpose**

Section 1. The purpose of the Division shall be to: (1) serve its members, the Society, and humanity; (2) promote and advance research in all areas of interest of the Division as specified in Section 2 of this article; (3) drive, encourage, and support dissemination of research findings in publications and symposia that highlight traditional research fields of the Division as well as transformative new frontiers; (4) promote education and training in the broader technical fields of the Division through short courses, tutorials, and other educational programs; (5) cooperate with other Divisions and Sections of the Society that share common or complementary interests in terms of technical fields or interdisciplinary educational and training goals; (6) bring new members and represent their interests within the Society; (7) enhance the professional standing and advancement of its members and members of the Society as a whole and (8) by providing an international forum for the exchange of the most recent scientific and technical information and developments, and outreach to government, academic, and industrial partners.

Section 2. The OBE Division focuses on fundamental and applied aspects of the electrochemistry of organic molecules and biological systems. The scope of research interests of the Division covers, but is not limited to, the following main topics: (1) electrochemical reactions of organic compounds on the macro, micro, and nano scales; (2) electrosynthetic reactions and electrocatalysis using organic, inorganic, and biological compounds; (3) mechanisms of electrochemically-induced reactions including electrochemically-generated chemiluminescence; (4) short-, and long-range electron-transfer reactions of organic, bioorganic, and nanoparticle systems; (5) molecular aspects of the electrochemistry of organic and bioorganic molecules in self-assembled or supramolecular systems; (6) bioelectrochemistry of native, bioinspired, and bioengineered systems; (7) electrochemistry of organic and bioorganic systems in the context of global challenges, such as energy storage and conversion; and (8) electrochemistry in sensing and biomedical diagnostics, and in other areas of medicine such as electrical stimulation to gain/affect biological function.

**ARTICLE III.**

**Members**

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Section 1. The members of this Division shall be those members of the Society in good standing who register their desire to be members of the Division. Student members who have expressed their desire for primary Division membership are not eligible to vote.

Section 2. Annual dues or changes thereto will be recommended by the Executive Committee of the Division and approved by the ECS Board of Directors, and shall be collected by the Society during its membership renewal billing process.

**ARTICLE IV.**

**Officers and Executive Committee Members**

Section 1. The Officers of the Division shall be the Chair, Vice-Chair(s), Secretary-Treasurer. Only the Chair shall not be eligible to serve consecutive terms in the same office. These Officers shall perform the duties prescribed by the Bylaws of the Society, by these OB Division Bylaws, and by other duties as adopted by the Division.

Section 2. The Governing Body of the Division shall be the Executive Committee, consisting of the Officers listed above, the immediate Past Chair of the Division, four Divisional Advisors, an ex officio appointed representative from the ECS Journals' Editorial Board, and at least four Members-at-Large.

Section 3. The ECS Journals' Editorial Board member will represent the Topical Interest Area in the journals appropriate to the Organic and Biological Electrochemistry Division and will be an ex officio, appointed member of the Governing Body as prescribed in the relevant journal's Charter. The term of office on the Governing Body for this appointment will be concurrent with his/her term on the Editorial Board.

Section 4. The Officers, and any Members-at-Large, shall be elected by a favorable vote of a majority of those present at the business meeting of the Division at the Spring Society meeting which falls in an odd-numbered year, or a favorable vote of the majority of those replying within two (2) months to a ballot sent to all members of the Division. The term of office shall be two years or until their successors have been qualified, and their term of office shall begin at 8:00 A.M. Eastern USA Time on the day after the close of the Society meeting at which the Division Business meeting is held.

Section 5. In the event of a vacancy in the office of Chair, the Vice-Chair shall succeed to this office for the remainder of the term. Other vacancies on the Executive Committee shall be filled by appointment by the Chair, subject to the approval of the Executive Committee.

Section 6. The elected Vice-Chair and the elected Secretary-Treasurer shall be considered eligible to serve as the Alternate for the Chair in attending meetings of the Board of Directors of the Society from which the Chair is absent, and in exercising at such meetings the rights, powers, and

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privileges of the absent Chair. The Vice-Chair or Secretary-Treasurer shall be designated as the Alternate at any particular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Society by the Chair; or, in the absence of such designation, by vote of the Executive Committee. Written notice of this designation shall be provided to the Executive Director of the Society prior to the meeting of the Board.

**ARTICLE V.**

**Duties of the Officers**

Section 1. The Chair shall have the following duties:

- a. Preside at all meetings of the Division and of its Executive Committee and perform such other duties as required by these Bylaws or by action of the Executive Committee or as may be appropriate to his/her office.
- b. Represent the Division on the Board of Directors of the Society as provided in the Bylaws of the Society. If unable to be present, the Vice-Chair(s) or Secretary-Treasurer will perform this function as prescribed in Article IV, Section 6.
- c. Appoint three members to a Nominating Committee, subject to approval by the Executive Committee, at least 12 months prior to the next Division election.
- d. Represent the Division or select an Alternate to attend Society meetings on publications, symposium planning, and other Society activities involving the Division.
- e. Appoint chairs of the Division committees as prescribed in Article VII.
- f. Establish other committees and appoint committee chairs as deemed appropriate.

Section 2. The Vice-Chair shall have the following duties:

- a. Assist the Chair in his/her duties and assume the duties of the Chair in his/her absence. This includes substituting for the Chair at the Board of Directors Meetings.
- b. Serve as the Chair of the Division's Technical Program Planning Committee, whose duties include development of journals content, symposium topics and associated meeting publications, and represent the Division or select a designee at the Society's Symposium Planning Advisory Board meetings held in the fall and spring.

Section 3. The Secretary-Treasurer shall have the following duties:

- a. Maintain an accurate record of all proceedings of the Division.
- b. Perform correspondence services on behalf of the Division as required.

Section 4. The Secretary-Treasurer shall also have the following duties:

- a. To maintain and have custody of the assets of the Division, which are audited at the conclusion of each fiscal year ending on December 31, by a public accountant approved by the Society Board of Directors. Expenditures of funds by the Treasurer or Chair shall

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be with the approval of the Executive Committee. (The Society carries a policy that provides bonding of the treasurers of all Divisions and Sections.)

- b. To present a report, including a current financial statement, to the members of the Division at the annual business meeting.

Section 5. The Members-at-Large and the Division Advisors shall attend the Division Executive Committee meetings and at the request of the Division Chair, participate in activities, and serve as subcommittee chairs as required.

Section 6. The ECS Journals' Editorial Board representative shall lead the future acquisition and development of content for the journals in the Division's Topical Interest Area.

**ARTICLE VI.**

**Executive Committee**

Section 1. The Executive Committee (see Article IV, Section 2 for members) shall have general supervision of the affairs of the Division between its business meetings, shall be responsible for the planning, organization, and execution of the technical programs and publications in the Topical Interest Area of the Division. It shall make recommendations through the Chair to the Division members and to the Board of Directors of the Society. It shall perform such other duties as are specified in these Bylaws. The Executive Committee shall be subject to the orders of the Division, and none of its acts shall conflict with action taken by the Division or by the Society.

**ARTICLE VII.**

**Committees**

Section 1. It shall be the duty of the three-member Nominating Committee appointed by the Division Chair to:

- a. nominate candidates for the offices of the Division (Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, and at least four Members-at-Large), with the understanding that the Vice-Chair should be considered as a candidate to succeed the retiring chair, the Secretary-Treasurer a candidate to succeed a retiring Vice-Chair, but it is not mandatory that they be so nominated,
- b. secure the acceptance of nomination from each candidate,
- c. report in writing to the Chair and Secretary of the Division no later than the 6 months prior to the election, and
- d. list the nominees of the Division in a Society or Division publication that is distributed to all Division members prior to the election.

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Section 2. The Division Technical Program Planning Committee chaired by the Division Vice-Chair will be composed of at least three (3) members of the Division. This Committee shall prepare and coordinate a three (3) year future schedule for the publications and symposia sponsored by the Division. The plans for symposia and publications for the following three (3) years must be approved by the Technical Affairs Committee and shall be reported to the Executive Committee twice a year and to the Society's Symposium Planning Advisory Board and Editorial Board at the spring and fall Society meetings.

Section 3. The Organic and Biological Electrochemistry Division Manuel M. Baizer Award Committee, composed of a minimum of three (3) members of the Division, selected by the Division Chair, shall recommend a nominee for this award to the Division Chair for approval by the Executive Committee.

Section 4. The chair for such other committees, standing or special, as established by the Division Chair or Executive Committee, shall be appointed by the Division Chair as deemed necessary to carry on the work of the Division.

**ARTICLE VIII.**

**Meetings**

Section 1. The Divisional Business meetings shall be held annually during the Spring Society meeting unless otherwise ordered by the Division Executive Committee, and shall be for the purpose of receiving reports of Officers and committees and transacting any other business that may arise.

Section 2. Special Divisional Business Meetings can be called by the Chair or by the Executive Committee and shall be called upon the written request of twenty (20) members of the Division. The purpose of the meeting shall be stated in the call. Except in cases of emergency, at least thirty (30) days' notice shall be given to all members of the Division.

Section 3. Division Executive Committee meetings shall be held two times per year and scheduled prior to or at the Society's biannual meetings. The purpose of these meeting is to receive reports from the Secretary, Treasurer, and all Division Committee Chairs, to act on new and old business, to discuss content development in meetings and publications, and to prepare for the Division business meeting.

Section 4. Special Executive Committee Meetings may be called by the Chair and shall be held upon the written request of three members of the Executive Committee.

Section 5. For voting purposes, 10 members of the Division, present in person, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of all business at a business meeting of the Division, and four members of the

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Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of all business at a meeting of the Executive Committee.

**ARTICLE IX.**

**Nominations**

The report of the Nominating Committee shall be submitted to the Division Chair and Secretary in writing prior to the Fall Society meeting, which falls in an even-numbered year and published in a Society or Division publication that is distributed to all Division members prior to the election to be held in the Spring of odd-numbered years. Additional nominations, either by petition signed by five (5) members of the Division, or from the floor shall be permitted, provided they are accompanied by acceptance of nomination from each candidate.

**ARTICLE X.**

**Parliamentary Authority**

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the Division in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws and any special rules of order the Division may adopt.

**ARTICLE XI.**

**Amendment of Bylaws**

Section 1. Amendments to these Bylaws may be passed by a:

- a. favorable vote of two-thirds of those present at a Division Business meeting at which a quorum is present, or
- b. favorable vote of two-thirds of those replying within two (2) months to a ballot sent to all members of the Division.

The text of the proposed amendment and a notice of the voting must be published in a Society or Division publication that is distributed to all Division members prior to the election.

Section 2. Amendments to these Bylaws become effective on approval by the Board of Directors of the Society.

*Approved by the Board of Directors October 21, 1976  
Revisions approved by the Board of Directors October 21, 1982  
Revisions approved by the Board of Directors May 10, 1990  
Revisions approved by the Board of Directors October 15, 1992  
Revisions approved by the Board of Directors May 19, 2005  
Revisions approved by the Board of Directors December 16, 2013  
Revisions approved by the Board of Directors June 2, 2016  
Revisions approved by the Board of Directors October 5, 2017*