

CONSTITUTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CHEMICAL THERMODYNAMICS

ARTICLE 1

Name and Objectives

Section 1. The name of this organisation shall be the International Association of Chemical Thermodynamics hereinafter referred to as IACT, wherein "Thermodynamics" includes both equilibrium and non-equilibrium thermodynamics.

Section 2. The objects of IACT shall be: -

- 2.1 to advance education in thermodynamics;
- 2.2 to advance the application of thermodynamics in science, technology and education;
- 2.3 to develop a better theoretical understanding of thermodynamic properties;
- 2.4 to encourage the measurement of thermodynamic properties of pure compounds and mixtures which have industrial importance and/or are of special academic interest;
- 2.5 to improve experimental techniques in thermodynamics;
- 2.6 to promote the development of theory (including statistical mechanics, quantum chemistry, molecular mechanics and molecular simulation) to improve the understanding of thermodynamic properties;
- 2.7 to establish standards of excellence in the conduct of thermodynamic research and in its reporting in the scientific literature;
- 2.8 to encourage the compilation, critical evaluation and dissemination of thermodynamic data and other information;
- 2.9 to promote the understanding, teaching and use of thermodynamic principles, procedures and data;
- 2.10 to publicise the important role played by thermodynamics in the solution of problems of present-day civilisation;
- 2.11 to select the site and appoint the Conference Chair for the biennial International Conference on Chemical Thermodynamics (hereafter called the Biennial Conference);
- 2.12 to provide a forum for communication among thermodynamicists world-wide for the exchange of ideas and results of recent research;
- 2.13 to encourage collaboration among thermodynamicists through project-based activities.

ARTICLE II

Membership

Section 1. Qualified applicants shall attain membership as provided in the Bylaws. Applications for membership may be denied at the discretion of the Directors.

ARTICLE III

Board of Directors and Officers

Section 1. The Officers and other Members of the Board of Directors shall be Members of IACT.

Section 2. The Officers of IACT shall be a Chair, Chair-elect, and a Secretary-Treasurer, or a Secretary and a Treasurer. They shall be elected by the Board of Directors, after their election by the Members at a business meeting of IACT at the Biennial Conference. The term of office of the Chair shall be four years. The Chair-elect is appointed two years before the end of term of the Chair, and automatically becomes Chair after serving for two years. After serving his term, the Chair becomes Past Chair for two years. The term of office of the Secretary-Treasurer (or the Secretary and Treasurer) shall be four years, with a possible re-election for one further term. The terms of office shall begin at the close of the business meeting of IACT at the Biennial Conference, at which the election of the officers occurred. Offices vacated for any reason shall be filled by election at the next regular meeting of the IACT. Interim appointments to such offices may be made by the Board of Directors.

Section 3. Board of Directors: The Board of Directors shall consist of the Officers, the immediate Past Chair, six Directors serving staggered four-year terms, and five Counsellors serving staggered four-year terms. At the business meeting of IACT at each Biennial Conference, there will be an election of three Directors to four-year terms, except in those years where the terms of office of any of the Officers, or of the immediate Past Chair is due to expire, when an equal number of additional Directors will be elected to the Board, also for a four-year term. Two Counsellors (or three as required) shall be elected to four-year terms by the Board of Directors as soon as possible after the business meeting of IACT at each Biennial Conference. Directors and Counsellors shall be eligible for re-election. Vacancies in unexpired terms of elected Directors shall be filled at the time of the next regular election of Directors. Vacancies in unexpired terms of Counsellors shall be filled at the next meeting of the Board of Directors.

Section 4. The terms of office of elected Members of the Board of Directors shall begin at the close of the the business meeting of IACT at the Biennial Conference during which their election occurs, and shall terminate at the close of the business meeting at which the next regular election for that office occurs.

Section 5. The Board of Directors shall have charge of the property, financial affairs, and all legal matters affecting the IACT, and shall be responsible for carrying out the programmes and pursuing the aims of the IACT, as set forth in Article I. It shall meet in a Board of Directors meeting, normally once each year, and ordinarily in conjunction with, or immediately preceding, a scientific conference.

Section 6. No part of the net income of the IACT can go to the benefit of any director or officer of the Association, except in the case of travelling, accommodation and other expenses properly incurred by them in connection with their attendance at meetings, where prior approval for partial or full reimbursement has been given by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE IV

Committees

Section 1. Committees having assignments within the stated terms of reference of the IACT may be established by a vote of the Board of Directors at its Annual Meeting.

Section 2. Ad hoc committees for study of and report on special problems may be appointed by the Chair, with the approval of the Board of Directors.

Section 3. The Committee on Nominations shall normally consist of the Chair-elect and two other Members of the Board of Directors, who are not officers and who shall be selected by the Chair-elect with the concurrence of the Chair.

Section 4. The Committee on Audit shall consist of three Members who are not Members of the Board of Directors and of whom at least one shall be an ex-officer of the IACT.

ARTICLE V

Amendments

Section 1. Proposals to amend the Constitution of the IACT may be initiated by 25 or more Members of the IACT in good standing, or by a minimum of a two-thirds majority of the Board of Directors, and must be sent to the Secretary.

Section 2. Proposals to amend the Constitution of the IACT shall be sent by electronic mail by the Secretary to all Members 30 days before the Biennial Conference at which a secret ballot will be taken during the business meeting of IACT. Approval by two-thirds of the votes cast shall be necessary for ratification.

ARTICLE VI

Bylaws

Section 1. The Board of Directors is empowered to adopt such Bylaws for the proper government of the affairs of the IACT as do not conflict with the Constitution.

Section 2. Proposals to amend the Bylaws shall be sent by the Secretary to the Board of Directors at least fourteen days before the meeting of the Board of Directors at which a ballot will be taken. Amendments to the Bylaws will be adopted when approved by more than half of the total number of Directors.

ARTICLE VII

Mail Ballots

Section 1. Where any members are unable to attend a business meeting of IACT at the Biennial Conference, or where any of the Directors are unable to attend a meeting of the Board of Directors, their votes may be cast by electronic mail or by fax.

BYLAWS OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CHEMICAL THERMODYNAMICS

ARTICLE 1

Duties of Officers

Section 1. The Chair shall preside at business meetings of the IACT, and of the Board of Directors. He or she shall call meetings of the Board of Directors, when he or she deems it necessary or on written request of a majority of the Directors. He or she shall approve Members of the Nominating Committee recommended by the Chair-elect, and shall also appoint other committees as authorised by the Constitution.

Section 2. The Chair-elect, in the absence of the Chair, shall preside at meetings of the IACT and of the Board of Directors. He or she is Chair of the Nominating Committee, and is responsible for selecting the members of this committee, which will choose the candidates to run for election as Directors.

Section 3. The Chair-elect is responsible for the Biennial Conferences four years, and six years, after his or her appointment and does the planning for these meetings during his or her term in office.

Section 4. The Secretary shall keep a complete roll of Members and the mailing lists of the IACT. He or she shall prepare minutes of the business meetings of the IACT and shall distribute them to all Members, and shall prepare and distribute minutes of the Board of Directors meeting. He or she shall maintain a record of the Membership of all committees, and of the affairs of the IACT.

Section 5. The Treasurer shall collect all monies due the IACT. He or she shall have custody of IACT funds and shall keep regular accounts and books belonging to the IACT, which shall be open to the inspection of any Member of the Board of Directors at all times. Disbursement of amounts greater than US \$100 by the Treasurer must be approved by the Chair and shall be reported at meetings of the Board of Directors. The Treasurer shall present a summary report of the status of the IACT funds at the business meeting each year.

Section 6. If a single individual is elected to the dual role of Secretary/Treasurer, the duties of both, delineated in Sections 4 and 5, apply.

Section 7. The Counsellors serve as an advisory body to the Chair and Board of Directors for study and advice on important policy and planning matters. They shall be voting members of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE II

Nomination and Election of Officers, Directors, Counsellors and Non-voting Members

Section 1. Directors. The Committee on Nominations shall prepare a slate of candidates for the position of Directors. This slate shall be communicated to all members at least three months in advance of the Biennial Conference. The communication shall indicate the positions to be filled and the terms of office, and shall carry a Statement indicating the right of Members to submit the names of additional nominees. Such additional nominees must be on written petition of at least ten Members of the IACT, and must reach the Secretary, with a copy to the Chair, at least two months in advance of the Biennial Conference. The full list of nominees must be communicated to all members at least one month in advance of the election, which shall be held at the business meeting of IACT at the Biennial Conference and shall be by secret ballot. Members who are unable to attend the conference shall be able to cast their votes by electronic mail or fax to the Secretary, with a copy to the Chair, at the latest two weeks before the conference. The Chair shall appoint an appropriate number of Tellers (usually the counsellors) and shall designate one individual to be Chair of the Tellers who shall be responsible for certifying the tally to the Secretary.

Section 2. Officers. The Directors will elect the Chair, Treasurer and Secretary.

Section 3. Counsellors. Election of each Counsellor is made by majority vote of the Board of Directors.

Section 4. Non-voting Members. The Board of Directors may co-opt non-voting members to ensure a) that there is representation of interests across the wide range of chemical thermodynamics and b) that major regions of the world are represented, where this has not been achieved by the appointment of Counsellors.

ARTICLE III

Membership

Section 1. Applications for Membership shall be approved by the Secretary, Treasurer, or Chair, or by a Membership Committee appointed by the Chair.

Section 2. Payment of the membership subscription will normally be made when registering for the Biennial Conference, but may be made at any time.

Section 3. The normal membership period is for two years from the end of the early registration period for one Biennial Conference, usually April 30th. for a Conference held in August, to the end of the early registration period for the following Biennial Conference. Where payment is made at times other than during the early registration period for a Conference, the membership period is until the end of the early registration period for the following Biennial Conference.

Section 4. Members will receive a discount in the Biennial Conference registration fee.

Section 5. All Members shall be entitled to receive announcements of meetings and reports of the business meeting of IACT at the Biennial Conference, and to vote for the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE IV

Dues and Revenues

Section 1. The Treasurer shall be responsible for maintaining a bank account in the name of the IACT with the Treasurer as Agent to cover general expenditures of the IACT. Interim deposit of surplus funds in a savings account may be authorised by the Board of Directors.

Section 2. The membership subscription will be set by a two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors in attendance at the meeting of the Board in the year preceding a Biennial Conference.

Section 3. In the event of dissolution of the IACT, the balance of funds on hand at the time of dissolution, after payment of all just debts and obligations, shall be donated to a non-profit scientific organisation on the recommendation of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE V

Audit

Section 1. On expiration of the regular term of office of the Treasurer (usually every four years), the Chair shall appoint an Audit Committee responsible for examination of the books of the IACT. The report of the Audit Committee shall be conveyed to the Chair in writing and read at the annual meeting.

ARTICLE VI

Scientific Meetings of the International Association of Chemical Thermodynamics

Section 1. The IACT will have a Biennial Conference, which shall have the nature of a scientific conference.

Section 2. The IACT will seek the sponsorship of IUPAC (the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry) for the Biennial Conferences.

Section 3. Planning for the Conference should follow the current edition of "Guidelines for Organisation of IUPAC International Conference on Chemical Thermodynamics", available from the Secretary.

Section 4. The Board of Directors may solicit proposals or guidance from Members concerning sites for the Biennial Conference, which should be selected approximately four years in advance of the actual conference. The Board of Directors will have the final responsibility for the selection of the site, and the appointment of the Conference Chair and, where appropriate, a Co-Chair.

Section 5. The Conference Chair (and Co-Chair), in consultation with previous Chairs, shall set up an International Advisory Committee, consisting of about 15 members from a wide variety of countries, who have high profiles in the thermodynamics community. This committee will provide advice concerning international matters and other matters more removed from the day-to-day operations of the conference. The Conference Chair is also Chair of the International Advisory Committee.

Section 6. The Conference Chair (and Co-Chair), together with the International Advisory Committee, shall be responsible for setting up a Scientific Programme Committee. This Committee, which should consist of at least two members from different countries associated with each symposium and workshop, selects the plenary lectures and invited speakers and works closely with the Conference Chair (who is also Scientific Programme Committee Chair).

Section 7. The Conference Chair (and Co-Chair) shall establish a Local Organising Committee, which will be responsible for the day-to-day organisation of the Biennial Conference. The Conference Chair is Chair of the Local Organising Committee.

Section 8. The right to publish scientific papers presented at the Biennial Conferences shall remain with the individuals who present the papers. The one exception is the Rossini lecture, which the recipient agrees to publish in the Journal of Chemical Thermodynamics. However, the Conference organisers may appoint a Publications Secretary, who will arrange with members of the Scientific Programme Committee who are responsible for organising individual Symposia and journal publishers to publish papers from specific symposia and workshops in appropriate journals.

Section 9. A Conference registration fee shall be charged to each registrant at the Biennial Conference.

Section 10. The Conference Chair may waive the Conference registration fee in special cases, at his or her discretion.

Section 11. The Conference Chair (and Co-Chair) after consultation with the Conference Treasurer, will allocate a sum for funding to each Symposium for invited lecturers.

Section 12. It is the Conference Chair's responsibility to obtain additional revenues necessary to cover the expenses of the Biennial Conference, including honoraria for guest speakers, by solicitation from interested companies and funding organisations. Display or demonstration privileges at annual meetings may be granted to contributors for a reasonable fee. Use of any budget surplus shall be at the discretion of the Local Organising Committee, with due consideration given to passing some funds on to the next Conference.

Section 13. The IACT will not have any financial responsibilities in connection with the Biennial Conferences, and will not be liable for any deficits incurred by the Conference Chair and the Local Organising Committee.

Section 14. The Board of Directors may approve other Conferences or workshops, whose organisation is assigned to a committee specially set up by the Board of Directors for that purpose.

ARTICLE VII

Quorum

Section 1. The members in attendance at the business meeting of the Biennial Conference shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of any business duly presented at this meeting.

Section 2. For conduct of business by the Board of Directors, a quorum shall be more than one third of the total Members of the Board.

ARTICLE VIII

Order of Business

Section 1. The rules of parliamentary procedures contained in Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the business meetings of the IACT and of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE IX

Disputes

Section 1. In the event of any dispute arising, this will be settled by English law.

ARTICLE X

Amendments

Section 1. These Bylaws may be amended as provided in Article VI, Section 2, of the Constitution.

ARTICLE XI

Awards

Section 1. The Rossini Lectureship Award, which is made by the IACT, is given in recognition of a significant contribution to the field of thermodynamics. It is presented every two years at the Biennial Conference, when the recipient delivers the Rossini Lecture.

Section 2. Nominations are accepted from any member of the IACT during a three-month period following a Biennial Conference for this award for the following Biennial Conference.

Section 3. The Award recipients are selected by the vote of the Board of Directors (either by ballot at a meeting, by e-mail ballot, by fax or by telephone). The Chair, or Secretary, tallies the votes by adding the scores of the candidates. Whoever obtains the lowest total score is the winner. In the event of a tie, the candidate receiving the highest number of first choices will then be the winner.

Section 4. The IACT Chair, or Secretary, directs the activity leading to the selection of the award recipients. He or she calls for nominations and conducts the vote of the Board of Directors, with copies of the ballot being sent to each of these Officers.

Section 5. The Board of Directors may provide prizes in recognition of high-quality research in Chemical Thermodynamics. The details for the award of these prizes, which must be agreed by the Board of Directors, may be announced at the business meeting of IACT at a Biennial Conference, or in other appropriate ways. Selection of prize winners shall be made by a small committee under the Past-Chair, set up by him or her, and with the approval of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE XII

Projects

Section 1. Proposals for projects in any area of Thermodynamics may be solicited at the business meeting of IACT at Biennial Conferences, or submitted at any time to any Director, for consideration by the Board of Directors.

Section 2. The Board of Directors may provide financial support to projects which they approve. The funds will be given to the Institution in which one of the proposers of the project works, for administration.

Section 3. The Board of Directors will recommend highly-approved proposals for projects to international bodies such as IUPAC and CODATA, for their support.

Section 4. Reports on all current IACT-approved projects should be presented to the Board of Directors, and a short report made to the business meeting of IACT at the Biennial Conference.

Section 5. When results of an IACT-approved project are to be published, an acknowledgement stating that "This work was carried out under the auspices of the International Association of Chemical Thermodynamics" should be made.