

Statutes of IASCYS

- as drafted by the IFSR Executive Committee on 18 July 2009,
- passed by the IFSR Board on 07 April 2010 in Vienna, Austria,
- amended by the IASCYS General Assembly on 25-27 October 2010 in Chengdu, Sichuan Province, P.R. China,
- amended by the IASCYS Executive Committee, 2 years phase report on 13 April 2012 in Vienna, Austria,
- amended by the re-elected IASCYS Executive Committee, 4 years phase report and General Assembly on 25 April 2014 in Vienna, Austria ,
- proposed by the renewed IASCYS Executive Committee (general e-voting from 01 to 07 November 2015), after the IASCYS-IFSR internal meeting on 22 October 2015 in Chengdu, PR China,
- amended by the IFSR-IASCYS WebEx discussion on 13 January 2016.

Article 1 – Name and Seat

1.1. In 2010, the International Federation for Systems Research (IFSR) established an international **non-profit association** called the International Academy for Systems and Cybernetic Science, hereafter so called the IASCYS. As a Non-Governmental Organization **IASCYS is now open to all systemics & cybernetics organizations**.

1.2. During 6 years IASCYS was governed as an **IFSR partner** organization but now it is an independent organization **having its own statutes, rules of procedure and membership criteria** (attached to these statutes).

1.3. IASCYS has its own seat. It can be at the seat of any organization of the IFSR, WOSC or UES-EUS. Its seat can be transferred to any other place through a simple decision of the IASCYS General Assembly (in brief **GA**) according to this law valid for IASCYS, once so suggested by IASCYS Executive Committee (in brief **EC**).

Article 2 – Purpose of IASCYS

2.1. Humankind currently is in serious trouble, because of damage to the natural and social preconditions of existence. This results from **too much power to one-sided specialization** with insufficient concern for the requisite holism of approach and requisite wholeness of outcomes of human actions; especially missing has been an approach that could be best attained by **interdisciplinary creative co-operation** of several different specialists. **IASCYS should be first a way for member associations of systemics & cybernetics organizations** to work at helping humankind find a way out the present predicament.

2.2. The purpose of IASCYS is to provide a forum for persons professionally excelling in Systems and Cybernetics Research, Education and Practice (in brief S&C) on a distinguished level. Criteria for appointment of IASCYS academicians are attached to these Statutes as a separate (but not independent) document.

2.3 More specifically, IASCYS has the purpose to:

- Honor the most distinguished S&C professionals as IASCYS academicians.
- Promote Ludwig von Bertalanffy's and Norbert Wiener's concept that systems thinking is a world-view with a holistic approach to wholeness of outcomes, and a methodology supportive of this world-view. IASCYS tries to build a bridge to holism/wholeness beyond and against the current over-specialization, while cybernetics applies this approach to control entities and processes of any type with a requisitely holistic action.
- Provide an open, international and multi-cultural forum for the advancement of knowledge about S&C and its application;

- Provide a network for presentations and evaluations of S&C results;
- Provide publication outlets for high quality results of S&C;
- Disseminate information and provide benchmarks for the assessment of S&C;
- Support young researchers in the field of S&C and promote international networks for post-graduate education on S&C;
- Foster a broad variety of methodological approaches and research issues in S&C, and encourage cross-fertilization between approaches and research traditions;
- Develop an agenda of innovative research topics and promote the establishment of collaborative research networks in S&C and by application of S&C;
- And similar purposes if so decided by IASCYS bodies.

2.4. In order to realize its objectives, IASCYS shall be entitled to collect funds, receive donations and be sponsored, organize workshops and congresses in co-operation with IFSR member associations **or any other systemics and/or cybernetics associations or federations of associations** -like the WOSC or the UES-UES for example-, have a website, publish a newsletter and all others documents concerning its purpose. The IASCYS website is managed by the Secretary General or a deputy of him. IASCYS will take all initiatives permitting and inviting IASCYS academicians and other persons and legal entities to contribute to the realization of its purposes.

Article 3 – Membership in IASCYS

3.1. IASCYS academicians are appointed by IASCYS EC after agreement of IASCYS EC among the most outstanding personalities in Systems & Cybernetics Sciences (S&C) world-wide on the basis of criteria mentioned in 2.2., and in procedure included in the attached document about criteria. Suggestions for appointment as IASCYS academicians come from IFSR, WOSC, UES-EUS member associations or the Academy. Criteria are decided by the IASCYS EC and submitted to GA for final decision.

3.2. Every IASCYS academician in good standing in terms of membership fees (article 5) is allowed to participate at the IASCYS GA voting, to receive all IASCYS reports and communications since their issue, and to participate at all activities of IASCYS.

3.3. Membership as IASCYS academician can be terminated:

- Through the decision of the IASCYS academician himself or herself (three months after withdrawal has been signaled to the IASCYS EC in writing);
- Automatically, if the membership fee (article 5) remains unpaid, after the reminder, for a year from the beginning of the year to which the reminder refers;
- The IASCYS EC can decide to exclude or suspend an IASCYS academician for serious breach. Prior to all decisions of suspension or exclusion the IASCYS academician must be given the opportunity to present his/her arguments. The IASCYS academician excluded by the IASCYS EC can lodge an appeal with the IFSR, WOSC or UES-EUS EC.
- Decision and appeal shall be judged by ad-hoc arbitrage nominated by IFSR EC as a neutral body.

3.4. Former IASCYS academicians who are no longer part of the IASCYS have no rights on IASCYS funds.

Article 4 – IASCYS General Assembly

4.1. IASCYS GA consists of all present IASCYS academicians. It shall be convened by its EC every four years. Special meetings of the IASCYS academicians may be called by the EC when deemed necessary due to the perceived needs of the IASCYS. In both cases, adequate agenda with the notice of at least 30 days shall be given by the EC. If urgency a e-mail voting procedure may be used. At the request of at least 20 percent of the members' special meetings can also be called by EC.

4.2. The IASCYS GA holds all powers allowing the realization of the IASCYS objectives. Especially the following are its concern:

- Approval of the accounts;**
- Election and the removal of the chosen members of the Executive Committee;**
- Modification of the statutes,**
- Dissolution of the IASCYS.

4.3. The quorum of presence at the ordinary and extraordinary IASCYS GA shall be composed of the majority of present IASCYS academicians at those assemblies.

4.4. The IASCYS General Assembly only validly confers if 10% of its members are present. If this quorum is not reached, the next IASCYS General Assembly will rule on the relevant issues no matter how many members are present and can confer one hour later. In the latter case, a voting about conclusions by electronic letters must take place in one week. This is a duty of the Secretary General of IASCYS.

4.5 Each IASCYS academician is entitled to one vote. Except special majority required in the present statutes, decisions are taken by simple majority of the present votes.

4.6 Every IASCYS academician present at the IASCYS GA is entitled to vote on all the issues proposed to the IASCYS GA either by its EC or by IASCYS academicians.

4.7 The IASCYS GA decisions are written in a register held at the IASCYS seat by the IASCYS Secretary General, who shall make it available to IFSR, UES-EUS, WOSC and their members associations, at IASCYS partners and IASCYS Academicians.

4.8 The IASCYS GA convenes every four years, normally during a conference, sponsored by a systems or cybernetic member association.

4.9 Between two sessions of the IASCYS General Assembly (GA) the work of IASCYS is supervised by the IASCYS Executive committee (EC).

4.10 If a partnership (e.g. for arranging a conference) exists between the IASCYS EC and the EC of any systems and cybernetics organization, each President (or his/her representative) of each partner organisation is associated to the IASCYS EC deliberations.

Article 5 – IASCYS Management

5.1. IASCYS is managed by an EC of 5 elected Academicians. The EC is elected by the IASCYS GA. Once IASCYS grows enough to introduce classes, deans of classes are members of the EC ex officio, but not before there are one hundred IASCYS academicians.

5.2. The President of the IASCYS EC shall be the chief spokesman for IASCYS. She/he shall preside over all IASCYS GA and EC Meetings. She/he shall be responsible for the monitoring of members' needs and coordination of the efforts of IASCYS academicians and officers. She/he is representing the Academy if invited to sessions of IFSR, UES-EUS, WOSC or other organizations EC, if topics concerning IASCYS are on its agenda. She/he can be represented by a deputy member of the EC.

5.3. Up to 3 Vice Presidents can be elected by the IASCYS GA to assist the President in the coordination of the IASCYS activities in specific areas agreed upon by the IASCYS EC. Honorary Personalities of the IASCYS (like for example Honorary President of the IASCYS) are true full members of the EC, on the proposal of the EC.

Other Honorary Personalities (HP) may be asked to be true full members of the EC to help with a specific project, and for the duration of that project, on the proposal of the EC, and with the agreement of the General Assembly.

5.4. The IASCYS Secretary General is elected by the IASCYS GA upon the suggestion of the President. She/he keeps the records and accounts of the IASCYS and is responsible for the IASCYS day-to-day operations.

5.5. All IFSR, WOSC, UES-EUS member associations are encouraged to nominate or elect an officer in charge of the association's co-operation with IASCYS.

5.7. The IASCYS Secretary General shall in three months before the regular session of the GA invite members to make nominations for posts falling vacant on the IASCYS EC. Nominations for the posts of President shall include a short policy statement by the nominee, to be sent out together with the ballot. If more than one nomination for a post is submitted, an electronic ballot will be held prior to the session. In the event of two or more candidates in the electronic ballot for any post tying for first place, the successful candidate will be chosen from the list of these tied candidates by a secret ballot that will be held at the IASCYS GA. Each IASCYS academician present at the GA is entitled to vote on all issues presented to the IASCYS Assembly either by the IASCYS EC or by the board of member associations or federations of associations or by IASCYS academicians.

5.8. Except in the case of proxies, all IASCYS actions shall be signed by the President and another member of the IASCYS Executive Committee, who do not have to justify the powers endowed towards third parties.

5.9. The IASCYS EC represented by its President or another member assigned follows up legal action as plaintiff as well as in the role of defendant.

5.10. The IASCYS EC is responsible to the IASCYS GA for the day-to-day affairs of IASCYS including those to be handled through the Secretary General. It shall keep the IASCYS academicians and member associations informed on all main matters by mail or with a newsletter.

5.11. IASCYS EC and IFSR, UES-EUS or WOSC Executive Committees or Directorates may regularly exchange their plans and results of activities.

Article 6 – Finance

6.1. IASCYS academicians may pay an annual membership fee, which is set and reviewed by the IASCYS GA.

6.2. IASCYS academicians whose dues are unpaid in the current year shall be dropped from the membership roll. Members who have retired from their jobs pay no fee.

6.3. The IASCYS Secretary General manages finances. Annual accounts shall be submitted to the IASCYS academicians by the IASCYS EC during the IASCYS GA.

6.4. Everybody is entitled to donate or endow to IASCYS and may demand no favors against their donations or endowments.

Article 7 – Amendments of the Statutes

7.1. Amendments to these statutes are to be proposed by the IASCYS EC or partner association EC or Directorate, and shall be operative, once approved by the majority of the IASCYS academicians in vote during an IASCYS GA **or at any time by e-voting**. Amendments can also be proposed at the request of at least 20% of the IASCYS academicians. ***A General Assembly e-mail voting will take effect only if a non-response after the deadline is counted not as a pro-vote. As for making decisions it can be done by email, but the decision is valuable only when the majority of possible votes is reached by actual votes. Because then it does not matter if someone forgot to vote, was not reached by the mail, or would refrain from voting.***

7.2 The IASCYS EC must submit a proposal for modification as it was formulated, to the IASCYS academicians at least three months before the date of the IASCYS GA convention to rule on this modification.

7.3 The proposal or any modification thereof can only be adopted, if attaining two thirds of the votes of the IASCYS academicians present or represented.

Article 8 – Dissolution of IASCYS

8.1 The IASCYS GA can decide to dissolve IASCYS in accordance with the rules laid down for the modifications of the statutes. If dissolution is agreed, the IASCYS GA appoints an official liquidator, determines his or her powers and indicates the destination of possible profits from liquidation, implying that the beneficiary-(ies) should pursue objectives similar to those of IASCYS. If the GA is not able to convene, the IASCYS EC can take this decision. The first beneficiary is IFSR or another **systemics & cybernetics organization**.

8.2 All that is not foreseen in the present statutes shall be governed by the law valid for IASCYS rule of procedure.