



THE WESTERN SOCIETY FOR PEDIATRIC RESEARCH

Christian Con Yost, M.D., Secretary-Treasurer
Department of Pediatrics
(801) 213-3494
(801) 585-7395 (Fax)

E-mail: wspr@hsc.utah.edu

Website: <http://www.aps-spr.org/Regions/WSPR/default.asp>

Federal Tax ID #94-2796477

President:
Roberta Keller, MD

August 10th, 2017

Secretary – Treasurer:
Christian Con Yost, M.D.

RE: Proposed Amendment to the bylaws of the Western Society for Pediatric Research (WSPR) to Expand the Number of WSPR Council Members up to 12

President – Elect:
Erika Fernandez, MD

Past President:
Alberta Kong, MD

Of Counsel:
Marilyn C. Jones, M.D.
William W. Hay, M.D.
Robin Ohls, M.D.

Council Members:
Arlin Blood, Ph.D.
Cara Calkins, M.D.
Henry Lee, M.D.
Cherry Mammen, M.D.
Lance Prince, M.D., Ph.D.
Mary Ramos, M.D.
Joseph Shieh, M.D.
Nicole Tartaglia, M.D.
Craig Wong, M.D., MPH

Rationale

The last amendment to the Bylaws of the WSPR was 2015 (see attachment 1: “WSPR documents 1954, 1957, 1970, 1971, 1971, 1984, 1998, 2005, 2015”), and Article IV specifies that there shall be a total of 13 WSPR officers (President, President-elect, Secretary-Treasurer, Past-president, and 9 Council Members). With growth of the Society and the need to have broad sub-specialty and institutional representation present on Council, an increase in the number of Council Members is needed. This amendment proposes to increase the number of WSPR Council Members from 9 to 12 (see attachment 2: Proposed amendment to WSPR Bylaws; See page 2-3; 15/Jun/2017”). During the 2017 WSPR Business Meeting, active members in attendance voted in favor of increasing the number of Council Members by 2-3. The advantages of increased Council Membership are three fold: 1) broader representation across sub-specialties within pediatric research; 2) increased representation on Council for academic institutions across the West; 3) increased ability of the Council to complete the tasks assigned to it in the bylaws – “to conduct such business as necessary to achieve the stated purpose of the Society” (see Bylaws Article II, Purpose).

Purpose of the proposed amendment

The purpose of this electronic vote is to amend the Bylaws to increase the number of WSPR Council Members from 9 to 12. The focus of the proposed amendment is Article IV of the Bylaws (see page 2-3 of attachment 2). The text below shows the proposed new text (amendment) in **red font color**. The proposed amendment replaces text in the current bylaws which currently specify the number of Council Members as 9.

MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS ARTICLE IV

Proposed Council Member Number Increase Amendment to Article IV:

Officers. There shall be 13-16 officers:

- 1) President
- 2) Vice President (President-elect)
- 3) Secretary-Treasurer
- 4) Past President
- 5) 9-12 Council Members

- A. **Selection.** The Officers of the Society shall be nominated by the committee of 3 (exclusive of the members of the Executive Committee) appointed by the President. If a member of the Executive Committee is unable to complete his/her term, the Committee will nominate an individual to complete the term. Nominations from the entire Society much be requested at the annual meeting.
- B. **Terms.** The term of office of the President and Vice President shall be one year. After serving one year, the President-elect will automatically become President; this means that every President will serve 3 years on the Council. The term of Secretary-Treasurer shall be 4 years. The term of office of the members of the Council shall be 3 years, with up to 4 Council members being elected each year.
- C. **Duties.** The 9-12 Council members and the 4 Officers comprise the Executive Committee. The President is the Chair of the Executive Committee. The function of the Executive Committee shall be to pass on nominations for membership, to determine the conduct of the meetings, and to conduct such other business as necessary to achieve the stated purpose of the Society.

The President and his delegates are to select the program for the plenary sessions and meet with the other Intersociety Presidents to select the program for the subspecialty sessions.

The President will appoint a committee to review the candidates nominated for awards and to select awardees.

Action: Survey Monkey Ballot (secure and anonymous) will be sent to all members. Members are asked to vote to approve (“Yes”) or disapprove (“No”) of the Proposed Council Member Number Increase Amendment to Article IV of the Bylaws.

Sincerely,



Roberta Keller, M.D.
President, Western Society for Pediatric Research