

Rationale and Outcomes of Proposed Changes to the AATCC Constitution

Proposed amendments to the Constitution are color-coded for clarity. The following rationale is provided by the C6 Membership Committee.

Member Categories

Text highlighted in yellow relates to combining “Senior” and “Associate” member categories under the new designation “Individual.”

Rationale for this recommendation:

- Younger members have expressed confusion over the category titles, assuming Senior membership is reserved for those of a certain age.
- Requiring five years of industry experience to be a Senior (voting) member of the association and/or committees limits involvement of enthusiastic and knowledgeable newcomers.
- Manually verifying qualifications and ensuring all members are properly categorized is time consuming. Staff time and programming costs can be better spent on other projects.
- The proposed is already partially in practice. The Associate category is not publicized, and applications no longer require detailed work history to confirm eligibility for Senior status. This was initiated when it became possible for members to join online via the AATCC website.

Possible outcomes of the proposed change:

- Less prestige for attaining Senior membership.
- Larger voting population for AATCC and committees.
- Larger pool of candidates for officer positions previously requiring Senior membership status.
- Less confusion from members over the phrase “senior member” and less confusion about the difference between these membership categories.
- Less inequity in membership, since the fees for Senior and Associate members were the same, yet the benefits were fewer for Associates; as a consequence, more incentive for younger members to join AATCC.

Board Composition

Text highlighted in green relates to elimination of Regional and Interest Group At-Large positions on the AATCC Board of Directors:

- Eliminate Regional Board and Interest Group (IG) At Large Board of Directors (BOD) positions
- Replacement of Regional representation with section and student chapter leadership for local representation on the Membership Committee.

- Addition of the Chair of C6 Membership Committee as a voting member of the Board of Directors, and that this Chair represents the Local Sections and Student Chapters. Section Chairs, as well as Student Chapter Presidents, would be required to have a representative report—or a report submitted in writing—to the C6 Membership Committee twice a year, during the administrative committee meetings. The Chair of C6 would then report to the BOD and let the Board know of any issues concerning Local Sections or Student Chapters.

Rationale for this recommendation:

- Current Regional system does not represent members adequately on the BOD. Many members do not have a Regional Representative.
- Since ALL members may choose a Voting Interest Group (IG), this would give representation to ALL members.
- There is no defined role for IG At Large officers other than as a member of the BOD.
- The elimination of Regional Representatives and IG At Large members would streamline the membership of the Board of Directors and allow for faster decision-making.
- Local, geographic representation to the BOD can maintained via the Local Section activity and reports to the Membership Committee. In addition, student chapter leaders can now be involved in the Membership Committee so that they have a voice in Association activities.

Possible outcomes of the proposed change:

- Member confusion about Board representation.
- With the elimination of Regions from AATCC governance, the major representation for members with the BOD would be through the IG Chairs. Not all members have chosen a Voting IG and must be urged to do so.
- Another member of the IG would need to step up if the IG Chair is unable to attend the BOD meeting or otherwise participate in the BOD.
- If Local Sections and Student Chapters do not comply with requirements for participation on C6 Membership Committee, there could be less geographic representation of the membership on the Board of Directors.

Procedure

Text in blue indicates procedural or editorial changes, primarily related to online balloting.

Rationale for this recommendation:

- The current version of the Constitution is not up to date with regards to online balloting and other Association administrative procedures.

Possible outcomes of the proposed change:

- If these changes are NOT approved, the Constitution will not reflect the current status and practices of the Association.