



## Oregon Chapter American College of Surgeons

### MEMO

June 26, 2020

**To:** Members of the Oregon Chapter, American College of Surgeons

**From:** Oregon ACS Council

**RE:** Proposed Bylaws Amendments, Addition of Statement about Diversity

#### Background

The bylaws of the Oregon Chapter ACS have remained the same since the last revision in 2008. As over ten years has passed, the Council has felt revisions are necessary to adjust the bylaws to meet the changing times, as well as the changes in the makeup of the ACS Oregon Chapter membership.

Also, in recent weeks, ACS has made a statement in support of diversity. Their call to action on racism has been posted on the ACS website, here is the link:

<https://www.facs.org/about-ac/s/responses/racism-as-a-public-health-crisis>

This action, taken on by the ACS Board of Regents on June 9, 2020, promoted the ACS Oregon Chapter's council to consider adding a statement to this effect in the chapter's bylaws. In accordance with the bylaws, the members of the Chapter must vote on their acceptance. Members may also comment and the is input will be considered by the Council.

#### Summary of Bylaws Changes:

##### Section 1:

- a. Eliminate wording regarding "automatic membership." This does not apply to the current chapter.
- b. Addition of language supporting diversity in the organization:

*As an organization that strives to inspire quality and create the highest standards and outcomes for the surgical community, the Oregon Chapter ACS, in its commitment to create a more just and inclusive environment for everyone, will adhere to policies on diversity set forth by the American College of Surgeons.*

##### Section 2:

- a. Delegates (councilors) can serve three three-year terms (instead of two three-year terms).
- b. Mandates an in person or remote strategic planning meeting each fall.
- c. Clarifies that the annual meeting and special meetings may happen remotely.
- d. The number of delegates in each region should be flexible. So, based on recent survey of members, the Columbia Gorge and Eastern Oregon areas should be allowed to be combined. Also, Southern Oregon, the Willamette Valley and McKenzie areas will have one or two delegates, not two. These assignments will be at the discretion of the council.

Section 3:

- a. Establishes officer position of Program Chair (this had not been a part of the bylaws).
- b. Allows electronic notification of dues notice and delinquency.
- c. Synchronizes President-Elect term (2 years) with President's term.
- d. Removal of "Secretary Treasurer-Elect" (unnecessary to have two people in this position).
- e. Addition of a council position to chair a diversity committee to advocate for women in surgery, minorities and health care disparities and to prepare a presentation on these topics at its annual meeting.