**BYLAWS AND SOCIETY REGULATIONS**

**American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science - Mississippi**

July 1, 1986

Amended April 3, 1987

Amended April 20, 1990

Amended February 25, 1997

Amended June 12, 2007

Amended May 29, 2018

**BYLAWS**

**ARTICLE I - Name and Purpose**

1. The name of this corporation is the American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science - Mississippi, hereinafter referred to as the Society or ASCLS-MS.
2. This Society is an affiliate of the American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science, hereinafter referred to as ASCLS.
3. The purposes of this Society are stated in the Articles of Incorporation. The principles and goals of this Society to fulfill these purposes are defined in the Society Regulations.

**ARTICLE II - Code of Ethics**

Being fully cognizant of my responsibilities in the practice of Clinical Laboratory Science, I

affirm my willingness to discharge my duties with accuracy, thoughtfulness, and care.

Realizing that the knowledge obtained concerning patients in the course of my work must be

treated as confidential, I hold inviolate the confidence placed in me by patients and physicians.

Recognizing that my integrity and that of my profession must be pledged to the absolute

reliability of my work, I will conduct myself at all times in a manner appropriate to the dignity of

my profession.

**ARTICLE III – Membership**

1. The membership of this Society shall consist of the following classes: Professional I, Professional II, Collaborative, First Year Professional, Emeritus, and Student.
2. The applicant shall be considered only for membership in the class appropriate to the maximum qualifications he possesses. An exception will be made for a professional member who requests student membership while enrolled full time in a graduate program. Procedures for membership application are defined in the Society Regulations.

 C. The qualifications for membership shall be:

 1. As defined in the ASCLS Bylaws and Guidelines for each class of membership.

**ARTICLE III**

**BYLAWS**

D. 1. Professional I, Professional II, First Year Professional and Emeritus members are

 entitled to vote, hold office, and serve on any board or committee of this Society.

 2. Formerly Professional members enrolled as full time graduate students and holding

 student membership will not forfeit continuity of Professional membership privileges

 upon resuming professional membership.

 3. Collaborative members are entitled to all the rights, benefits, and privileges of this

 Society with the exception of holding an elected position and serving as a voting

 member of the General Assembly.

 4. All other rights, benefits, and privileges of this Society shall be extended to all

 members.

 5. Any member of this Society may serve as consultant or advisor to any committee

 when requested by the chairman.

E. Professional I, Professional II, Collaborative, First Year Professional, Emeritus, and

 Student members of this Society must also belong, in each appropriate classification, to

 ASCLS.

F. A member may be expelled for conduct detrimental to this Society. Procedure shall be

 prescribed in the Society Regulations.

G. Reinstatement of an expelled member shall be according to protocol established in codes

 and policies of ASCLS.

**ARTICLE IV – Dues**

A.Annual dues for membership in this Society shall be based on the class of membership for

 which the applicant is eligible. The amount due for each class shall be defined in the

 Society Regulations.

B. Professional, Collaborative, First Year Professional, Emeritus, and Student members shall

 remit the dues of this Society and of ASCLS to the Executive Office of ASCLS. Procedure

 shall be defined by the Society Regulations.

C. 1. Annual dues are due and payable August 1 of each year.

 2. Membership shall be renewed in the same category provided that the member has not

 in the interim become eligible for a different class of membership.

D. A member who fails to pay annual dues to this Society on August 1 shall be considered

 delinquent.

**ARTICLE V – Meetings**

A. There shall be at least one annual meeting of this Society which shall include the General

 Assembly and a meeting of the Board of Directors, together with meetings of councils,

 committees or other bodies of this Society, as may be necessary or appropriate.

B. The time and place of the annual meeting shall be determined by the Board of Directors.

C. The Board of Directors or the president may authorize interim meetings of the Board of

 Directors, councils, committees or other bodies of this Society, as the best interests or

 conduct of affairs of the society may render necessary or appropriate.

**ARTICLE VI - General Assembly**

A. The General Assembly is the ruling body of this Society, and action taken by the Assembly

 shall be binding. The General Assembly shall establish the Society Regulations. The

 General Assembly, in delegating powers, shall define those areas for which authority is

 granted.

B. Only Professional I, Professional II, First Year Professional, and Emeritus members of this

 Society shall be eligible to serve as voting members in the General Assembly. Each

 member shall have been duly certified by the Credentials Committee before taking his seat.

C. A quorum for all meetings of this Society shall be the number of Professional I,

 Professional II, First Year Professional, and Emeritus members present.

**ARTICLE VII – Officers**

A. The officers of this Society shall be the president, president-elect, past-president,secretary, and treasurer. The duties of the officers shall be defined in the Society Regulations.

B. A Professional I, Professional II, and Emeritus member of this Society shall be eligible to

 hold office provided he has been a professional or emeritus member for at least two years

at the time of his election, with one year professional or emeritus membership in ASCLSMS

immediately prior to election.

C. Officers of this Society shall be elected by the General Assembly at the annual meeting of

this Society following procedures defined in the Society Regulations.

D. The term of office for each officer of this Society shall be defined in the Society

Regulations.

E. A vacancy occurring in any office of this Society shall be filled in the manner defined in

the Society Regulations.

**ARTICLE VIII - Board of Directors**

A. The Board of Directors shall represent this Society when the General Assembly is not in

session.

B. The Board of Directors shall consist of the president, president-elect, the secretary, the

treasurer, the immediate past-president of this Society, the president of the Student Forum, First Year Professional and nine additional elected members of this Society.

1. A Professional I, Professional II, or Emeritus member of this Society shall be eligible

for election to the Board of Directors provided he has been a professional or emeritus member for at least two years prior to the time of election, with one year professional or emeritus membership in ASCLS-MS immediately prior to election.

2. The First year professional must have been a student member in good standing prior

to the time of appointment. The first year professional will serve a one year term in

this appointed position.

3. The term of office and duties of the elected directors shall be defined in the Society

Regulations.

4. A vacancy occurring among the elected directors or in the position of immediate

 Pastpresident shall be filled in the manner defined in the Society Regulations.

C. Any Officer or Board Member may be removed from office for conduct detrimental to the

Society and its business. The procedure shall be prescribed in the Society Regulations.

D. The chairman or his alternate and 60% of the voting members of the Board of Directors

shall constitute a quorum. Proxies (or designees) not to exceed four in number, may be

appointed by the President (or his designee) from the Professional I, Professional II, and

Emeritus members in attendance at interim meetings of the Board.

**ARTICLE IX - Official Representation**

A. This Society shall be represented on the appropriate bodies of ASCLS as specified in the

Bylaws and Society Regulations of that society.

B. Representation, method of selection, and financial assistance shall be defined in the

Society Regulations.

**ARTICLE X – Committees**

A. Elected Committees:

 1. The Nominations Committee shall be the only elected committee of this Society.

Qualifications for membership, methods of election, and duties of this committee

shall be defined in the Society Regulations.

B. Appointed Committees:

 1. There shall be the following standing committees: Education, Membership

Development, Professional and Economic Affairs, Leadership, and Government

Liaison. Qualifications for membership, method of appointment, and duties of the

standing committees shall be defined in the Society Regulations.

**ARTICLE X**

**BYLAWS**

2. There shall be the following administrative committees: Annual Meeting, Awards,

Bylaws, Finance, and Assembly Affairs (the Credentials Committee, the Minutes

Committee, and the Elections Committee). Qualifications for membership, methods

of appointment, and duties of the administrative committees shall be defined in the

Society Regulations.

3. Chairmen of appointed committees shall delineate sub-committees or appoint

advisors and consultants to carry out specific activities of appointed committees.

4. Each of the appointed committees shall work with the appropriate agency of ASCLS.

C. Ad Hoc Committees may be appointed on the authority given the president by the General

Assembly or the Board of Directors.

**ARTICLE XI – Publications**

The official publication of this Society shall be state society run electronic media and shall be available to each member of the Society.

**ARTICLE XII – Location**

The official domicile of this corporation shall be in Jackson, Mississippi, as provided in the

Articles of Incorporation.

**ARTICLE XIII - Fiscal Year**

The fiscal year shall be defined in the Society Regulations.

**ARTICLE XIV - Parliamentary Authority**

*Robert’s Rules of Order*, (latest edition) shall govern the business proceedings of this Society

except when otherwise specified in these Bylaws.

**ARTICLE XV – Amendments**

A. Modification of the Society Regulations may be made in accordance with procedures

defined in the Society Regulations.

B. The Bylaws of this Society may be amended as follows:

 A proposed amendment to these Bylaws may be submitted by a group composed of no less

 1. than three Professional members of this Society. No less than four months in advance

 of the next annual meeting, four (4) copies, in context, of each purposed amendment

shall be submitted to the Chairman of the ASCLS-MS Bylaws Committee.

**ARTICLE XV**

**BYLAWS**

 2. The Bylaws Committee of this Society shall submit four (4) copies of proposed

amendments, in context, to the Bylaws Committee of ASCLS at least 60 days before

adoption is desired.

 3. The Bylaws Committee shall submit amendments, in context, to the members of the

Society no less than thirty days prior to the next annual meeting of the Society. At this

meeting the proposed amendments shall be presented to the General Assembly for

consideration.

 4. Adoption of amendments to the Bylaws shall require a two-thirds vote of the

**credentialed** members present at the General Assembly at the time of the vote as

certified by the Credentials Committee.

C. Within thirty days after adoption of an amendment to the Bylaws or the Society

Regulations, the secretary shall send a report of such adoption to the editor-in-chief of the

*state society run electronic media*  for publication.

D. An order to present a complete revision of these Bylaws and Society Regulations to the

General Assembly at the next ensuing annual meeting shall require a two-thirds vote of the

accredited members present at the General Assembly at the time of the vote as certified by

the Credentials committee.

E. The Bylaws Committee of this Society shall have the responsibility and authority to amend

the Bylaws and Society Regulations of this Society without adhering to all the provisions of

Section B of this Article when such changes are necessary to maintain conformity with the

Bylaws and Society Guidelines of the American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science.

Such amendments and modifications must have the approval of the Board of Directors of

this Society and of the Bylaws Committee of ASCLS prior to their enactment.

**ARTICLE XVI – Dissolution**

A. In the event of the dissolution of the American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science -

Mississippi, after the discharge of its debts and the settlement of its affairs, any funds and

properties of this Society remaining thereafter will be held in escrow by an Executor(s),

named by the Board of Directors at the time of dissolution, for the time as required by state

law. If a constituent society of ASCLS is not reorganized in the State of Mississippi by the

end of said period, these funds are to be conveyed in equal portions to departments of

institutions, within the State of Mississippi, granting a degree with a major in Clinical

Laboratory Science/Medical Technology and/or programs which are affiliated with such

institutions.

**SOCIETY REGULATIONS**

**ARTICLE I - Name and Purpose**

A. Name:

 **American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science – Mississippi**

B. Affiliation

 **American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science**

C. Principles and goals of the Society:

 1. The principles of the Society are:

Clinical Laboratory Science is the application of physical, chemical, and biological

principles to the performance of laboratory procedures. Clinical Laboratory Science

encompasses research, development, teaching, supervision, and performance of these

procedures and services. Clinical Laboratory Science is an independent profession

which participates in and contributes to health services. The Society feels a deep

obligation to improve the status of clinical laboratory science as a profession, to serve

as a standard-bearer of increasing educational requirements, to provide the

opportunity for continuing education, and to participate in programs which evaluate

and monitor the technical proficiency of the practitioners of Clinical Laboratory

Science. The Society provides a forum available to all practitioners subscribing to the

Code of Ethics of the ASCLS. The Society concurs with the Code of Ethics of the

American Medical Association.

 2. The goals of the Society are:

To assure patients and their physicians as well as those persons concerned with health

and research the highest quality laboratory service which modern science affords;

To expand and improve its services;

To encourage intelligent and capable individuals to enter the educational path which

leads to service in this profession;

To establish and maintain high standards for the profession and for the services

performed by its practitioners;

To provide a forum for discussion of matters pertaining to the profession of clinical

laboratory science and for action thereon;

To promote programs of continuing education, research, and development;

To represent the profession of clinical laboratory science, to safeguard its standards,

and to protect the professional interests of its members;

To evaluate constantly the role and function of clinical laboratory science;

To interest candidates in choosing clinical laboratory science as a career and to assist

them in their evaluation of the requirements, opportunities, and activities of the

profession of clinical laboratory science;

To encourage devotion to professional service and to our country, respect for our

fellowman, the rule of the majority, the needs of the minority, and the will of God.

**ARTICLE II - Code of Ethics**

As an affiliate of the American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science the society shall adhere

to the following Code of Ethics:

**Preamble**

The Code of Ethics of the American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science (ASCLS) sets forth

the principles and standards by which clinical laboratory professionals practice their profession.

**I. Duty to the Patient**

Clinical laboratory professionals are accountable for the quality and integrity of the laboratory

services they provide. This obligation includes maintaining individual competence in judgement

and performance and striving to safeguard the patient from incompetent or illegal practice by

others.

Clinical laboratory professionals maintain high standards of practice. They exercise sound

judgment in establishing, performing and evaluating laboratory testing.

Clinical laboratory professionals maintain strict confidentiality of patient information and test

results. They safeguard the dignity and privacy of patients and provide accurate information to

other health care professionals about the services they provide.

**II. Duty to Colleagues and the Profession**

Clinical laboratory professionals uphold and maintain the dignity and respect of our profession

and strive to maintain a reputation of honesty, integrity and reliability. They contribute to the

advancement of the profession by improving the body of knowledge, adopting scientific

advances that benefit the patient, maintaining high standards of practice and education, and

seeking fair socioeconomic working conditions for members of the profession.

Clinical laboratory professionals actively strive to establish cooperative and respectful working

relationships with other health care professionals with the primary objective of ensuring a high

standard of care for the patients they serve.

**III. Duty to Society**

As practitioners of an autonomous profession, clinical laboratory professionals have the

responsibility to contribute from their sphere of professional competence to the general well

being of the community.

Clinical laboratory professionals comply with relevant laws and regulations pertaining to the

practice of clinical laboratory science and actively seek, within the dictates of their consciences,

to change those which do not meet the high standards of care and practice to which the

profession is committed.

**Pledge to the Profession**

As a clinical laboratory professional, I strive to:

Maintain and promote standards of excellence

in performing and advancing the art and science

of my profession

Preserve the dignity and privacy of others

Uphold and maintain the dignity and respect of

our profession

Seek to establish cooperative and respectful

working relationships with other health

professionals

Contribute to the general well being of the community.

I will actively demonstrate my commitment to these

responsibilities throughout my professional life.

**ARTICLE III – Membership**

A. Classes of Membership

B. Application for membership:

 1. Individuals seeking membership in this Society shall furnish information defining

their qualifications on application forms outlining the prerequisites for all classes. A

graduate program shall be defined as any course of study subsequent to the receipt by

the individual of an initial degree or certificate relevant to this profession, Applications shall be sent directly to the Executive Office of ASCLS.

 2. Equivocal applications shall be referred by the Executive Office to the Membership

Chairman of this Society or to the Membership Development Committee of ASCLS.

If disagreement ensues, the Judicial Committee of ASCLS shall rule on the

application.

C. Qualification for membership:

 1. Shall be as defined in the ASCLS Bylaws and Guidelines for each class of

membership.

**ARTICLE III**

**SOCIETY REGULATIONS**

 2. Honorary member:

Recommendation for honorary membership may be made by any member of the

Board of Directors. The Board shall act upon the recommendation before presenting

it to the membership in annual session for its approval. Election to honorary

membership shall require a majority vote in the General Assembly. Honorary

membership in this section refers only to such membership in this Society.

D. Privileges of membership:

The qualifications for voting, holding office, and serving on any board or committee are defined in the appropriate sections of the Bylaws and Society Regulations.

E. Concurrent membership

F. Expulsion from membership:

Expulsion from membership shall be initiated when three professional members of this

Society shall file with the Board of Directors formal and particular charges against a

particular member of this Society. If such charges apply to a member of the Board of

Directors, said person shall absent himself from such meetings of the Board until he is

called to answer the charges filed. After all investigations have been completed, a full

report of the matter, along with the recommendation of the Board for exoneration or

expulsion shall be filed with the Judicial Committee of ASCLS, and further action shall be

withheld pending its concurrence. Expulsion proceedings shall suspend an officer or

chairman from discharge of his duties, and his function shall be filled in the interim in a

manner consistent with the provisions of the Bylaws and Society Regulations.

**ARTICLE IV – Dues**

A. Annual dues for membership in this Society are based on the following schedule in

 addition to the required ASCLS dues for each classification:

 Professional $10.00 First Year Professional $10.00

 Collaborative $0.00 Emeritus $ 0.00

 Student $5.00 Honorary $ 0.00

B. Remittal of dues:

 1. The total dues listed above shall be remitted to the Executive Office of ASCLS.

 2. The Executive Office shall remit monthly to the Treasurer of this Society the

 appropriate amount.

C. 1. Change of membership class may be made as defined in the ASCLS Guidelines.

A member delinquent for more than 60 days following August 1, shall forfeit all

membership privileges. Upon payment of dues at any time within that period, the

individual’s membership shall be renewed and the membership considered continuous.

**ARTICLE V – Meetings**

A. Annual Meeting

B. Time and Place of annual meeting:

 1. Three months prior to the next annual meeting, invitations to a future annual meeting

shall be submitted to the Board of Directors of this Society for review and study of

facilities and dates. Acceptable choices shall then be submitted to the General

Assembly for its consideration and decision.

 2. The Board of Directors may, in an emergency, authorize a change in the time or place

of the next annual meeting.

C. Other meetings:

 Additional meetings of the General Assembly may be called only by a two-thirds

 affirmative vote of the Board of Directors.

**ARTICLE VI - General Assembly**

A. Powers of the General Assembly

B. Certification:

 1. The chairman of the Credentials Committee and the chairman of the Membership

Committee shall define procedures and transmit instructions necessary to constitute

official lists of members eligible to participate in the General Assembly.

 2. Any member of this Society is eligible to attend the meetings of the General

Assembly. The privilege of the floor shall be granted to a non-voting member by

consent of the Assembly.

 3. The privilege of being seated in the General Assembly and speaking on matters of

concern shall be granted to two representatives of the affiliated student section.

C. Quorum

**ARTICLE VII – Officers**

A. Duties of the Officers:

 1. The president shall be the chief executive of this Society. He, or his designee, shall

preside at all meetings of the Board of Directors and the General Assembly. He shall

be an ex officio member of all committees except the elected committees. He shall

appoint all appointed committees and, with the approval of the Board of Directors,

such ad hoc committees as are needed. He shall serve on the President’s Council and

the Regional Council of ASCLS.

 2. The president-elect shall, during his term of office, familiarize himself with the duties

of the office of president. In the event of a vacancy in the office of president, the

president-elect shall become president. He shall serve on the President’s Council and

the Regional Council of ASCLS.

**ARTICLE VII**

**SOCIETY REGULATIONS**

 3. The secretary shall act as secretary at all meetings of the Board of Directors and the

General Assembly. He shall keep in permanent form a record of all minutes taken at

all meetings at which he serves. He shall conduct such correspondence as shall be

authorized by the Board of Directors and the General Assembly or as requested by

the president.

a. Within thirty days after the close of the meetings of the Board of Directors and

the General Assembly, he shall send a copy of the minutes to each member of the

Board of Directors.

b. Assisted by the Minutes Committee, the secretary shall prepare an abstract of

the minutes to be published and distributed to the membership.

 4. The treasurer shall assure the receipt and expenditure of funds in accordance with

directives established by the Board of Directors. He shall be under such bond as

established by the Board of Directors. He shall serve as an ex officio member of the

Finance Committee during his term of office.

a. He shall submit to the General Assembly a statement of all receipts and

expenditures for the current year.

b. Within thirty days of the expiration of each fiscal year, he shall meet with the

Finance Committee for the purpose of auditing the books for that year.

c. At the end of this term of office, there shall be a terminal audit before the

incoming treasurer assumes the responsibility of the office.

d. An outside audit may be ordered by a majority vote of the Board of Directors at

the request of any member of the Finance Committee.

B. Eligibility for office:

Professional or emeritus membership may be based on membership in this Society or in

any of its allied constituent societies.

C. Elections:

1. An official list of candidates and their qualification shall be sent to each member of

this Society at least thirty days prior to the General Assembly.

2. Nominations may be made from the floor. The written permission and qualifications

of all persons nominated from the floor shall be presented to the General Assembly at

the time such nominations are made.

3. The election of officers and delegates to the annual convention of ASCLS shall be

conducted by the Elections Committee.

4. Election shall be by ballot and a majority of the votes cast shall elect.

5. In the event that there is only one candidate for a position, election may be by voice.

6. If no candidate for office receives a majority of votes on the first ballot, the candidate

with the lowest number of votes shall be eliminated and balloting shall continue until

a candidate receives a majority of the votes cast.

7. In the event of a tie, the election shall be determined by lot.

**ARTICLE VII**

**SOCIETY REGULATIONS**

D. Term of office:

1. The term of office for the president of this Society shall be two years.

2. The president-elect shall be elected for a term of one year. Except in the event of a

vacancy in the office of president, he shall serve for one year and shall automatically

succeed to the office of president.

3. The secretary and the treasurer each shall be elected for a term of three years. They

shall not serve in these offices for more than two consecutive full terms or until a

successor has been elected and installed in office.

4. The term of office of any officer elected at an annual meeting shall begin on July 1

following his election.

E. Filling of vacancies:

 1. A vacancy in the office of president shall be filled by the president-elect for the

remainder of the unexpired term. The office of president-elect shall remain vacant

until the next annual meeting when the General Assembly shall elect a president-elect

for a term of one year.

2. A vacancy in the office of the president-elect, except when he has succeeded to the

 office of president to fill a vacancy, shall remain vacant until the next annual meeting

 at which time the General Assembly shall elect both a president and the presidentelect.

3. In the event of the simultaneous removal during the terms of office of both the

president and the president-elect, the immediate past-president shall become the

president of this Society for the remainder of the unexpired term of the president. The

office of president-elect shall remain vacant until the next annual meeting when the

General Assembly shall elect both a president and a president-elect.

4. A vacancy in the office either of secretary or treasurer shall be filled by the Board of

Directors who shall elect the replacement by majority vote to serve until the next

annual meeting. In the selection of a member to fill a vacancy, the Board shall first

consider the candidates for that office in the preceding election. At the next annual

meeting, the General Assembly shall fill the unexpired term of the office by election.

**ARTICLE VIII - Board of Directors**

A. The yearly business of this Society is the responsibility of the Board of Directors. The

primary function of the Board lies in the handling of emergency business which cannot be

deferred until the next meeting of the General Assembly, the preparations of an agenda for

the General Assembly and liaison with the various committees to ensure smooth

functioning throughout the year.

1. The chairman of the Board may designate time and place of Board meetings as

needed. Board meetings shall be held at least four times annually, with the

Leadership Conference being designated as one of these meetings. There shall be a minimum of fourteen days notice in regard to such meetings except in emergency situations.

**ARTICLE VIII**

**SOCIETY REGULATIONS**

 2. A member of the Board may be appointed by the president to serve as liaison member

to one or more appointed committees as appropriate or necessary for consultation and communication.

 3. The chairman of any committee may be invited to attend any meeting of the Board

and may, with the permission of the Board, be allowed the privilege of speaking and

making recommendations to the Board, but they will not have the power to vote in

decisions made by the Board.

B. The president of this Society shall serve as chairman of the Board and the secretary shall

serve as secretary of the Board. In the absence of the president, the president-elect shall

assume the chairmanship.

1. Professional or emeritus membership may be based on membership in this Society or

in any of its allied constituent societies.

2. The term of office of a member elected to the Board at an annual meeting shall begin

on the succeeding July 1. The term of office shall be three years. An elected member

of the Board shall serve no more than six years or two consecutive full terms as

elected member. The responsibilities of the elected director include close liaison with

the committees under his jurisdiction, the members of this Society and the Board of

Directors of this Society.

3. a. In the event of a vacancy among the elected members to the Board, the

president of this Society shall appoint a successor to serve until the next annual

meeting, giving priority consideration to candidates for that office in the

preceding election. At the next annual meeting, the unexpired term shall be

filled by election by the General Assembly.

b. In the event of a vacancy in the position of immediate past-president on the

Board of Directors, the president shall appoint the past president who served

immediately prior to the current year to fill the unexpired term.

C. Disciplinary Procedures:

 1. Removal from elected office shall be initiated when three (3) professional members

of this Society shall file with the Board of Directors formal and particular charges

against a particular Officer or Board member. The Chairman of the Board upon

receipt of the charges shall notify the member in question of the particulars within

seven (7) days. Disciplinary proceedings shall suspend an officer or chairman from

discharge of his duties, and his function shall be filled in the interim in a manner

determined by the Board of Directors. No more than one (1) Officer/Board Member

shall be suspended under these regulations at any one time. If charges are brought

against more than one elected member, the first member charged must be acted upon

before proceedings can begin on the next.

**ARTICLE VIII**

**SOCIETY REGULATIONS**

2. The Chairman of the Board shall immediately appoint an Ad Hoc committee of three (3)

 members, which must be approved by the Board of Directors, to investigate the

charges filed. This committee will be charged to investigate all charges within thirty

(30) days of the complaint being filed. The committee will report to the Board of

Directors their findings along with their recommendation for exoneration or removal

from office.

3. The member in question will have the right to respond to the charges within twenty

(20) days of notification.

4. Upon receiving the committee’s report and the member’s response, the Board of

Directors must make a decision for removal or exoneration within fifteen (15) days.

The decision to remove requires a 3/4 majority of the Board of Directors. If the

Board votes for removal from office, said member has the right of appeal to the

General Assembly.

5. After the decision of the Board of Directors, the member’s continuance or vacancy in

office shall be in a manner consistent with the Bylaws and Society Regulations of this

Society.

D. Quorum

**ARTICLE IX - Official Representation**

A. 1. This Society shall be included in Region III of the Regional Council of ASCLS.

 a. The president and president-elect shall serve on the Regional Council and, as ex

 officio members, all such persons resident in the state who serve ASCLS in an

 elected or appointed capacity.

 2. At the first House of Delegates meeting of ASCLS the president and president-elect

 who held such office on January 1 of the current year shall serve as representatives of

 this Society.

 3. At the Annual Assembly of the Presidents’ Council the president and president-elect

who held such office before July 1 of the current year and the president -elect who

took office on July 1 shall serve as representatives of this Society.

 4. At the Annual Session of the House of Delegates, this Society shall be represented by

the president and president-elect, by the number of delegates allowable on the basis

of one per fifty members and by one student delegate.

 5. Election of delegates and alternates shall be by ballot at the General Assembly of this

Society. Student delegates may be nominated by the Student Forum, by affiliated

student branch societies, by program directors of Programs of Clinical Laboratory

Science OR by a professional member.

**ARTICLE IX**

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 6. In the event of a vacancy having occurred in the office of president or president-elect,

his constitutionally defined successor (or alternate) shall serve as the official

representative. Additional delegates may be appointed when necessary by the

president (or his alternate).

 7. The Finance Committee shall include within the annual budget of this Society

appropriate funds to assist in the expense of official representation.

**ARTICLE X - Committees**

A. Elected Committees:

 1. Nominations Committee:

 a. The Nominations Committee shall consist of four professional or emeritus

members of this Society. When feasible, each committee member shall

represent a different geographic area of this state. No elected representative of

this Society shall be a member of the Nominations Committee.

 b. Members of the Nominations Committee shall be elected at the annual meeting

of this Society by the General Assembly.

1) Two members shall be elected annually from those areas where the post

falls vacant as a result of expiration of term. Candidates for election to this

committee shall be selected in the following manner:

a) Nominations may be made to the Nominations committee by

individual members of the society.

b) Candidates will be presented by the Nominations committee of the

Society.

2) The candidate receiving the greatest number of votes cast in a particular

slate shall be elected as the Nominations Committee member. A tie shall

be resolved by lot.

c. The term of service of a member of the committee shall be two years; a member

may serve for two consecutive full terms. The chairman shall succeed to the

chair from the position of vice-chairman. Within two weeks after the succession

of a chairman, the committee shall elect a vice-chairman from the members who

are beginning their two-year terms.

d. When a vacancy occurs on the committee, the president of this Society, with the

approval of the Board of Directors, shall appoint a qualified person to serve

until the next annual meeting when an individual shall be elected to serve the

unexpired term. The president shall give first consideration to the candidates on

the most recent slate from that area.

e. Duties of the committee shall include:

1) Provision for publication to the membership of this Society no less than

six months in advance of the next annual meeting a list of all elected

person whose terms expire on July 1 subsequent to that meeting;

**ARTICLE X**

**SOCIETY REGULATIONS**

2) Initiation of direct contact with qualified persons to be nominees, in the

 event of an insufficient number of nominations to complete the slate;

3) Verification that nominees possess those qualifications prescribed by the

Bylaws or Society Regulations for a specific elected position and that such

nominees agree to candidacy;

4) Distribution of the slate, together with the qualifications of such

nominees, no less than 30 days before the date of the next annual meeting;

5) Verification of the qualifications of nominees from the floor during the

General Assembly. Presentation of these qualifications is the

responsibility of the nominator, not the committee.

B. Appointed Committees:

1. Standing Committees:

Each committee shall consist of three professional, first year professional or

emeritus members appointed by the president, one member annually, each

member to serve a three-year term, the chairman being appointed by the

President.

a. Areas of activity of the Education Committee include scholarship and loan

programs, seminar and continuing education planning, publication of available

audio-visual and other teaching aids, and any other activities which serve to

enhance educational advancement.

b. Areas of activity of the Government Liaison Committee include the

dissemination of information about state and local legislation, federal

legislation, civil service and armed forces.

c. Areas of activity of the Membership Development Committee include

recruitment of new members, retention of present members, and reactivation of

lapsed members.

d. Areas of activity of the Professional and Economic Affairs committee include

public image, membership services, communications media, student

recruitment, professional reactivation, personnel development, and employment security.

2. Administrative Committees:

a. With the exception of the Assembly Affairs Committee, each committee shall

consist of three professional, first year professional or emeritus members

appointed by the president, one member annually, each member to serve a threeyear term, the chairman being appointed by the president.

1) The Awards Committee shall be responsible for developing a

comprehensive Awards program within this Society and for encouraging

the participation of members in such programs and in the presentation of

papers at meetings or in the state society run electronic media. Reports.

2) The Bylaws Committee shall function to examine and consider proposed

changes in the constitutional codes of this Society. When proposals of

**ARTICLE X**

**SOCIETY REGULATIONS**

similar or related intent or content have been submitted, this committee

may consolidate or restructure the proposals into an appropriate form,

preserving the intent of the proposals as submitted. This committee shall

be responsible for incorporating into the Bylaws and Society Regulations

of this Society such changes as are necessary to maintain them in

conformity with the Bylaws and Society Guidelines of the American

Society for Clinical Laboratory Science as provided in Article XVI,

Section E of these Bylaws. This committee shall perform such additional

duties as are defined or are implied in these Bylaws and Society

Regulations.

3) The Annual Meeting Committee shall be responsible for planning and

staging the annual meeting of this Society. It shall work closely with the

other Committees of this Society, particularly with Education, Finance and

Assembly Affairs.

4) The Finance Committee shall prepare the annual budget for this Society. It

shall, by a majority vote, approve budget changes or financial support of

special projects. It shall perform its duties in close liaison with the

Treasurer and the Board of Directors of this Society. It shall be

responsible for auditing the accounts of this Society within 30 days of the

expiration of each fiscal year.

b. The chairman of the Assembly Affairs Committee shall be the President of this

Society. He shall appoint annually the members necessary to complete the

assignment of each Subcommittee.

1) The Credentials Committee shall be responsible for methods and

procedures to tally voting members present at the General Assembly. It

shall perform such additional functions and duties as are defined and

implied in these Bylaws and Society Regulations.

2) The Elections Committee shall conduct all elections at the General

Assembly following instructions prepared by the President in accordance

with the parliamentary authority of the Society.

3) The Minutes Committee shall verify the minutes of the General Assembly.

An abstract of these minutes shall be published and distributed to

members not more than ninety days following the annual meeting.

3. Sub-Committees:

a. The chairman of an appointed committee, with the concurrence of his

committee members and the knowledge and approval of the president of this

society, may appoint chairmen of Sub-committees.

**ARTICLE X**

**SOCIETY REGULATIONS**

C. Ad Hoc Committees:

1. Qualifications for membership and method of appointment of an ad hoc committee

shall be those which are listed in the Society Regulations for the regular appointed

committees.

**ARTICLE XI – Publications**

**ARTICLE XII – Location**

**ARTICLE XIII - Fiscal Year**

The fiscal year shall be from July 1 to June 30 inclusive.

**ARTICLE XIV - Parliamentary Authority**

**ARTICLE XV – Amendments**

A. Modifications in the Society Regulations shall be made in the following manner:

1. A proposed modification in the Society regulations may be submitted by a group of

three or more professional members of this Society. The modification shall be

submitted in writing to the Board of Directors of this Society.

2. A proposed modification which has been approved by the Board of Directors after

consultation with the ASCLS-MS and ASCLS Bylaws Committees and which has

been submitted in writing to the members of the Society no less than thirty days prior

to the opening of an annual meeting may be adopted by a majority vote of the

accredited members present at the General Assembly at the time of the vote as

certified by the Credentials Committee.

3. A proposed modification which has been submitted to the Board of Directors no less

than fourteen days prior to the opening an annual meeting and has been approved by

the Board after consultation with the ASCLS-MS Bylaws Committee shall require for

adoption a two-thirds vote of the accredited members present at the General

Assembly at the time of the vote certified by the Credentials Committee.

B. Amendments to Bylaws:

Four copies, in context, of each proposed amendment shall be submitted in writing to the

chairman of the ASCLS-MS Bylaws Committee,

**ARTICLE XVI - Dissolution**

A. The Executor(s) shall be a financial advisor whose authority is limited by the

recommendations of the Board of Advisors

B. The Board of Advisors shall consist of one representative from each of the programs or

institutions under consideration for distribution and three (3) persons who, within the past

ARTICLE XVI

SOCIETY REGULATIONS

three years immediately prior to dissolution of the society, served on the Board of Directors of ASCLS-MS, to be appointed by the Executor(s). This Board would be responsible for

making recommendations to the Executor(s) as to the eligibility of institutions or programs

for the distribution of funds.

**ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION**

**THE CHARTER OF INCORPORATION OF**

**American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science – Mississippi**

1. The corporate title of said company is American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science

- Mississippi.

2. The name of the incorporators are:

J. C. Register, Jackson, Mississippi

Helen I. Hall, Jackson, Mississippi

Cleo N. Craft, Vicksburg, Mississippi

3. The domicile is at Jackson, Mississippi.

4. Amount of capital stock and particulars as to class thereof: None.

This corporation shall not be required to make publication of its charter, shall issue no

shares of stock, shall divide no dividends or profits among its members, shall make

expulsion the only remedy for non-payment of dues, shall vest in each member the right

to one vote in the election of all officers, shall make the loss of membership, by death or

otherwise, the termination of all interest of such member in the corporate assets, and

there shall be no individual liabilities against the members for corporate debts, but the

entire corporate property shall be liable for claims of creditors.

5. Number of shares for each class and par value thereof: None.

6. The period of existence (not to exceed fifty years) is Fifty Years.

7. The purpose for which it is created:

(1) To encourage and promote the professional advancement of medical technology.

(2) To create better understanding and cooperation between the medical technologists

 and physicians and all others who are employed in the interest of individual or

 public health.

(3) To establish a closer unity among the medical technologists of the State of

Mississippi, for individual, educational, and professional benefits.

**ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION**

(4) To encourage scientific research with open discussion of techniques -

experimental, new and accepted.

(5) To promote the improvement of the physical, mental and moral condition of

mankind.

(6) To buy, own, sell, rent, lease, mortgage and otherwise own and dispose of real

and personal property necessary and proper for the operation of the corporation.

The rights and powers that may be exercised by this corporation, in addition to the

foregoing, are those conferred by Chapter 4, Title 21, Code of Mississippi of 1942, and amendments thereto.

8. Number of Shares of each class to be subscribed and paid for before the corporation may

begin business: None.

Date of Incorporation:November 17, 1947