

July 31, 2016

Dear Voting Members of the Michigan Society of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgeons,

After convening several times to discuss the bylaws and how they should be changed to fit the Society's present day opinions and policies, the bylaws committee * made the following recommendations:

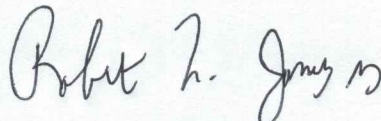
1. Dues would be full for only active members. They would be nonexistent for senior, retired, and associate members who are students or residents. They would be 50% for all other kinds of associates.
2. Four categories of members: Active, Senior, Retired and Associate
3. The bylaws committee shall consist of the President, President elect, one board member, one non board member, and the Executive director. It shall meet once a year to discuss any possible changes which are necessary.
4. The term MORG shall be changed to the term POCMA (for obvious reasons).
5. The nomination committee shall be responsible for developing the slate and encourage nominations from all well in advance to the annual meetings.
6. Electronic messaging shall be encouraged for information transmission, voting, and correspondence
7. An attempt to list the purposes and goals of both the Collaborative and the Society at large and how they work seamlessly with each other should be made.

Consequently, the changes reflect the above recommendations. In addition, two sections (Articles IV and VI) were merged into a single Article (IV). They had covered both the Officers and Board of Directors and seemed redundant and duplicative. Finally, we listed more fully the duties and responsibilities of the executive director.

Articles VII and VIII will need to be reviewed by an attorney to make sure the regulatory and compliance issues which existed in 2011 when the previous draft was created still apply.

I hope this meets your scrutiny and expectations. Your feedback would be appreciated and a vote on the bylaws will be held at this summer's annual business meeting held August 14.

With warm regards,



Robert N Jones, MD

* Alonso Collar, Rob Jones, Eric Hanson, Shelly Lall, and Cindy Wikstrom.