

AISHE

All Ireland Society for Higher Education

Amended Constitution 2014

Amended Constitution adopted at the Annual General Meeting on 15th January 2014.
Original Constitution adopted at a Meeting in UCC on 14 March 2000.

Clause 1: Name

The name of the Society shall be the All Ireland Society for Higher Education, hereinafter referred to as AISHE.

Clause 2: Goal and Aims

The *goal* of AISHE is to be a society which brings together and supports those people who are concerned to advance higher education in the island of Ireland.

The *aims* of AISHE are:

- i to advance higher education
- ii to facilitate the development of all aspects of teaching and learning in higher education
- iii to provide a forum for discussion of issues relevant to and supportive of teaching and learning in higher education
- iv to contribute to the professional development of members
- v to encourage and disseminate research on all aspects of teaching and learning in higher education
- vi to encourage co-operation between AISHE and other societies with complementary interests

Clause 3: Membership

- a) Membership is open to those persons interested in the advancement of higher education in the island of Ireland and who pay the prescribed membership fee.

Clause 4: Executive Committee

- a) AISHE shall be governed by an Executive Committee subject to resolutions of General Meetings of AISHE. The powers of the Executive Committee shall include: the drafting of by-laws subject to amendment or ratification at a General Meeting; the convening of conferences; and the issuing of publications relating to the goal and aims of the society
- b) Members of the Executive Committee shall be the Officers who shall be the President, the Vice-President, the Secretary and the Treasurer, and six Ordinary Members

- c) The Executive Committee may co-opt up to four further members
- d) The Executive Committee shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting
- e) The terms of office of all members of the Executive Committee shall be two years or until such time after that period an Annual General Meeting may be convened. The term of office of the first Executive Committee shall be one year or until such time after that period an Annual General Meeting may be convened.
- f) The first Executive Committee shall be elected at the Meeting held at University College Cork on 14 March, 2000
- g) Failure to fill any position on the Executive Committee shall not invalidate the decisions of the Executive Committee
- h) No member of AISHE shall be eligible to stand for election as an Officer to the Executive Committee for more than two consecutive periods of office
- i) The Office of Treasurer may be exempted from this provision by a decision of an Annual General Meeting for a maximum of two more terms (eight years)
- j) If the Editor of AISHE-J is not elected at the AGM onto the Executive Committee the Editor may be co-opted by a majority of the elected members
- k) If any member of the Executive Committee fails to attend three consecutive meetings they will be deemed to have retired for the Executive Committee and may be replaced on an interim basis pending election at the next AGM
- l) At least one member of the executive Committee must retire biannually in order to facilitate succession planning

Clause 5: General Meetings

- a) AISHE shall hold Annual General Meetings at intervals of not less than nine months and not greater than fifteen months
- b) Special General Meetings may be called by the Executive Committee and must be called within two months on receipt of a petition of 5% of all members of AISHE
- c) 5% or 20 members, which ever is the lower, of the membership of AISHE shall constitute a quorum at General Meetings
- d) Notice of General Meetings shall be sent to members not less than four weeks before any General Meeting
- e) The powers of a General Meeting shall be:
 - i. approve and amend the Constitution
 - ii. make and amend by-laws
 - iii. elect the Executive Committee
 - iv. elect other committees as required
 - v. approve the annual budget
 - vi. elect a certified accountant for AISHE who shall be a qualified accountant
 - vii. direct and review the general affairs of AISHE and actions taken by the Executive Committee

- f) Adoption of resolutions shall be by simple majority of members voting at the meeting with the sole exception that members may lodge postal votes on proposals to amend the Constitution

Clause 6: Finances

- a) Annual membership fees shall be set at the Annual General Meeting. The Meeting at University College Cork on 7 February, 2000 shall set the initial membership fees
- b) The Executive Committee shall be responsible for the preparation of financial statements which shall be certified and presented to members at the Annual General Meeting
- c) The Treasurer shall be responsible for the receipt of all payments and shall be responsible for the keeping of accounts. Cheques and other instruments authorising payment from AISHE accounts shall be signed by at least two signatories who shall be members of the Executive Committee
- d) All revenue received by AISHE shall be used entirely for the work of AISHE
- e) No part of the income of AISHE shall be paid to any member of AISHE except for the purpose of reimbursement of expenses necessarily incurred in carrying out AISHE business
- f) Neither AISHE nor the Executive Committee shall be responsible for the financial commitments of any member without prior approval of the Executive Committee

Clause 7: Amendments to the Constitution

- a) Amendments to the Constitution may be initiated by a resolution of the Executive Committee or by a proposal signed by ten members of AISHE which must be submitted to a General Meeting in its original form
- b) Amendments to the Constitution shall normally be considered at an Annual General Meeting although in special circumstances a Special General Meeting may be called for the purpose
- c) Notice of proposed amendments to the Constitution shall be sent to members at least three months before the ballot. Postal votes received after the date of the General Meeting called to consider the amendments shall not be valid

Clause 8: Dissolution of AISHE

Proposals for the dissolution of AISHE shall follow the procedures for constitutional amendments except that a simple majority of all members voting in person or by way of postal vote or email shall be required for such dissolution. In the event of dissolution, all assets (after satisfying all debts and liabilities) and all records shall be disposed of in accordance with a resolution passed by members present at the General Meeting at which AISHE is dissolved.