## AMERICAN NUCLEAR SOCIETY

## Robotics and Remote Systems Division Bylaws and Rules

APPROVED by RRSD EC on June 11, 2023

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The left column contains the Standard Bylaws. These apply to all Divisions and Technical Groups and can only be amended with approval by the Board of Directors of the Society. The right column contains the Sample Rules. Rules can be customized for each Division or Technical Group to the extent that they do not conflict with the Society Bylaws and Rules and the Standard Division Bylaws (see article B3.2), using the process defined in articles B11 and R11.

## Article B1 - Name

1.1 The official designation shall be the Robotics and Remote Systems Division of the American Nuclear Society, Incorporated, hereinafter referred to as the Division and Society, respectively.

## Article B2 - Objectives

2.1 The objectives of the Division shall be consistent with the objectives of the Society, as set forth in its Certificate of Incorporation and in Article B2 of its Bylaws and Rules, principally, the "advancement of science and engineering relating to the atomic nucleus and of allied sciences and arts".
2.2 The Division shall provide, through a group of members of any grades particularly interested in the Division's area of nuclear science or technology, a means to promote the sciences and arts of that area, within the scope of the Society.
2.3 The Division's area of nuclear science or technology includes:
a. Robotic manipulation for handling of nuclear materials, or operation in radiologically hazardous environments.
b. Ground and airborne mobile robotics for radiological survey, sensing, monitoring, and emergency response.
c. Remote systems, including telemanipulation and telerobotics, for operation, inspection, maintenance, and decommissioning of nuclear facilities.
d. Application of machine learning, computer vision, artificial intelligence, and related technologies to enhance the usability of robotic and remote systems for field operators.
2.4 To further its objectives, the Division shall:
a. hold meetings, or conduct other activities, in accordance with the stated policy of the Society for the presentation and discussion of professional ideas relating to the Division's area of nuclear science or technology; b. disseminate knowledge and information in the Division's area of nuclear science or technology through discussions, public meetings, electronic media, academic presentations

## R1 - Name

1.1 The official name of Robotics and Remote Systems Division of the American Nuclear Society may also be referred to herein as RRSD.

## R2 - Objectives

2.1 The specific Division objective is to promote the development and application of robotic and remote systems for hazardous environments for the purpose of reducing hazardous exposure to individuals, reducing environmental hazards, and reducing the cost of performing work.
2.2 For the more active furtherance of the specific objective the Division shall undertake:
a. The holding of meetings (including Topical Meetings) for the presentation and discussion of professional papers mutually beneficial to the Society and the Division; b. The publication of papers, discussions, communications, and the like;
c. The formation of closer professional and personal relations among the members; d. Cooperation with other scientific and professional groups having similar objectives.
e. The promotion of beneficial and cordial relations with the faculty and students at institutions giving courses in robotics, remote systems, and engineering;
f. To encourage the public understanding of robotics, remote systems, and engineering; g. To engage in such other activities as may be appropriate for the fulfillment of the objectives of the Society; and
h. To stimulate membership growth and participation in the Division and Society.
and other means of information exchange;
c. encourage the formation of closer professional, and, as appropriate, personal relations among the members; d. cooperate with other scientific and professional groups having related objectives.

## Article B3-0bligations to the Society

3.1 The activities of the Division and its members shall be governed by the provisions of these Bylaws which shall be in accord with the provisions of the Certificate of Incorporation and the Bylaws and Rules of the Society. The Division shall be in operated in accordance with the Certificate of Incorporation of the Society and their respective Bylaws, Rules, Procedures, and Policies.
3.2 In the event of a conflict, the Society's Bylaws, Rules, Procedures, and Policies shall take precedence over the Bylaws and Rules of the Division.
3.3 The Division shall not have authority to act for or in the name of the Society. No action, obligation, or expression of the Division shall be considered an action, obligation, or expression of the Society as a whole. For any publication issued by the Division regarding an action, obligation, or expression with respect to the Society, a statement shall be included in it to the effect that the Division assumes sole responsibility for the contents The Division may use its website for this purpose.
3.4 The financial affairs of the Division shall be conducted in such manner that the Division shall be financially independent and shall not rely on support from Society funds above the limit authorized by the Board of Directors for each Division. The Division may meet its financial obligations in accordance with the provisions in Article B5.
3.5 The Division shall not represent any opinion or position in any matter technical or non-technical as being the official position of the Society or any of its subdivisions without prior approval of the Board of Directors.
3.6. The Secretary of the Division shall file with the appropriate Society headquarters (HQ) staff copies of the minutes the Division Executive Committee meetings in accordance with B7.4. The Treasurer of the Division shall file with HQ a copy of the Division Annual Budget in accordance with B7.6.

## R3- Obligations to the Society

3.1 (Reserved)

## Article B4 - Membership

4.1 Members in good standing in the Society shall be eligible to become members of the Division.
4.2 Student members in good standing in the Society shall be eligible for membership in the Division. As such, they are eligible to vote on Division matters and may serve on the Executive Committee and as Officers in the Division except for the positions of Chair and Vice-Chair.
4.3 Society members who desire to become members of the Division shall so indicate on the dues billing form issued annually to all Society members by the Executive Director/CEO, hearafter referred to as the Executive Director. Society members desiring to join at other times may do so by notifying the Executive Director and paying the associated fee, if necessary.
4.4 Society members who desire to terminate their membership in the Division shall so indicate on the annual dues billing form. Society members desiring to resign at other times may do so by notifying the Executive Director. Upon resignation, the member's name shall be dropped from the Division roster and mailing list.
4.5 The names and addresses of all members initially comprising a Technical Group shall be furnished by its Executive Committee to the Executive Director of the Society. Initial Executive Committee membership of new Technical Groups is enumerated in Section B6.2.
4.6 At the discretion of the Executive Committee, the Division may enroll non-Society members as "Division Participants" for a non-renewable period of up to two years. Division Participants shall be "non-Society" members who qualify by submitting an application and paying a fee for an amount and via a path approved by the Executive Committee of any Professional Division voluntarily choosing to enroll them. Division Participants may be entitled: 1) to receive newsletters and notices of activities of the Division and 2) to participate as non-Society members in Division activities excluding voting and holding elective or appointed offices in the Division. Division Participants shall be encouraged to apply for Society membership.

## R4 - Membership

## 4.6 (Reserved)

## Article B5 - Dues, Assessments, and Contributions

5.1 The Division may collect dues from its members as provided in the Division Rules. The dues for membership in a Division shall be shown on the annual statement sent to each member of the Society by the Executive Director.
5.2 The Division may levy special and reasonable assessments to implement the sponsorship of special or topical meetings when authorized by affirmative vote of not fewer that two-thirds (2/3) of the members present at a regular or special meeting called in accordance with these Bylaws.
5.3 The Division may also accept non-compulsory financial contributions, but solicitation and acceptance of such contributions shall be subject to the written approval by the Executive Director.
5.4 The funds derived from these and from any other authorized sources shall be disbursed for the Division by the Executive Director in response to requests from the Treasurer and Chair and in accordance with the annual operating budget and subject to the limitation stipulated in Article B3.4 of these Bylaws.

## R5 - Dues, Assessments, and Contributions

5.1 The annual dues for Division membership shall be determined by and established by the Division Executive Committee.

## Article B6 - Executive Committee

6.1 The Division shall be managed by an Executive Committee. This Committee shall constitute the governing body of the Division and shall have power to act for the Division in all matters, subject to these Bylaws and to the Certificate of Incorporation and the Bylaws and Rules of the Society.
6.2 The Executive Committee of the Division shall consist of not fewer than six (6) members. The members elected at large shall have terms not exceeding four (4) years and the term designated for each shall commence at the close of the Annual meeting of the Society. The terms of the members shall be staggered so as to maintain effective continuity of experience in conducting the affairs of the Division and in performing the duties of the Executive Committee. The Chair of the Division most recently retired shall be an exofficio member with voting privileges. The Chair of the Professional Divisions Committee of the Society shall be an ex-officio member without vote. The Chair of the Division shall be the Chair of the Executive Committee, and other Officers, as defined in Articles B7.2 through B7.6, shall also serve on the Executive Committee. A quorum shall be a majority of the voting members of the Executive Committee.

For a Technical Group, the initial Executive Committee shall be composed of not fewer than six (6) members elected by the petitioners. This committee shall be subject to approval by the Professional Divisions Committee and by the Board of Directors at the time of approval for organization. The initial Executive Committee of the Division shall be the Executive Committee of the predecessor Technical Group.

## R6 - Executive Committee

6.1 The Executive Committee may empower Officers or members of the Executive Committee to act specifically on its behalf in certain matters.
6.2 Composition and Term of Office a. The Executive Committee of the Division shall consist of not more than twenty (20) members including the Officers, the elected at large members, and ex-officio members.
b. Term of Office - The term of office for at large Executive Committee members, who are elected (including those elected as Student Members), shall be three (3) years.
c. Student Officers - Without limiting the actual number of Student Members permitted on the Executive Committee under Article B4.2 of the Bylaws, one position on the Executive Committee shall be specifically designated to be filled by a Student Member. Transition of the incumbent from Student Member to Member status shall not affect the Term of Office, but will prompt the designated position to be filled by a Student Member in the next regular election.

The size of the Executive Committee, their terms in office and the provision for Student Members provided here may not be agreeable to all Divisions and may be modified .However, some Rules governing the size and term of office of the Executive Committee are implicitly required by the terms of the Bylaw B6.2. At this point the Rules for Divisions and those for Technical Groups may diverge, as the Bylaw provisions in B6.2 for the two are somewhat different.

[^0]Committee occurring during their terms shall be filled to complete the vacated term, as specified in the Division Rules, except that a vacancy in the office of Chair shall be filled by the Vice-Chair (the designated Chair-Elect if there is more than one Vice-Chair). The Vice Chair/Chair-Elect shall continue also to perform the duties of Vice-Chair until installed as Chair for the following year.
6.4 The Executive Committee may remove members missing more than two (2) consecutive meetings, unless appropriate reasons are provided for missing such meetings.
6.5 In order to provide for handling the affairs of the Professional Division), the Executive Committee shall prepare and adopt, in connection with these Bylaws, suitable Rules. Professional Division (Technical Group) Rules, and proposed changes to them, must be reviewed for consistency with Society Bylaws and Rules by the Bylaws and Rules Committee of the Society. A copy of such Rules shall then be filed with the Executive Director of the Society. The procedure for amending the Rules shall be specified in the Rules.
6.6 The Executive Committee shall meet at least twice each year, just prior to the Board of Directors meeting at the Annual and Winter Meetings. Other meetings (e.g. at Division-sponsored Topical Meetings) or teleconferences, email communications, and by other appropriate medium of the Executive Committee may be called at any time by the Chair, or at the request of any three or more members of the Committee.
6.3 Filling of vacancies:
a. A vacancy among the Officers or on the Executive Committee may be declared because of death, resignation, or removal in accordance with Article B6.4.
b. Between elections, a vacancy shall be filled through appointment of an individual by the Chair (or presiding officer if the Chair is absent or incapacitated - see article R7) with an affirmative vote by two-thirds (2/3) of the Executive Committee members. c. An individual appointed to fill a vacancy on the Executive Committee shall serve for the remainder of the original term.
d. In the absence of a presiding officer specified in Article R7, any member of the Executive Committee may nominate any member of the Division's Executive Committee to serve as Acting Chair until a new Chair is elected, with approval of the Executive Committee per R6.3(b).
6.4 Removal by Executive Committee: An affirmative vote by two-thirds (2/3) of the Executive Committee members is required to remove, for non-attendance or other good cause, an Officer from office or an elected member from the Executive Committee.

## Article B7-0fficers

7.1 The Officers of the Division shall be a Chair, at least one Vice-Chair, a Secretary, and a Treasurer. The duties of the Secretary and Treasurer may be combined into a single office (i.e., Secretary-Treasurer). The term of each office shall be no more than two (2) years or until their qualified successors are elected or appointed.
7.2 The Chair and Vice-Chair of the Division shall be ex officio members, with voting rights, of the Society's Professional Divisions Committee as specified in Society Rule 7.1.4. However, if both are present for a vote at a meeting of the PDC, only the vote of the Chair shall be tallied.
7.3 The Vice-Chair (or one of them if there is more than one) at the time of election shall be designated Chair-Elect, and at the expiration of that term will automatically succeed to the office of Chair.

## R7 - Officers

7.1 The Officers of the Division shall be a Chair, two Vice-Chairs, a Secretary, and a Treasurer. One of the two Vice-Chair shall be designated Chair-Elect. The Chair and Vice-Chairs shall hold office for two years. The Vice-Chair designated Chair-Elect shall automatically succeed to office of Chair. Secretary and Treasure shall hold office for one year and can be reelected for one additional consecutive term. All positions shall be held until their successors are elected or appointed.
7.2 Duties of the Chair:
a. The Chair shall have supervision over the affairs of the Division, subject to the direction of the Executive Committee, and shall be responsible for coordinating the work of the Division with the activities of the Society.
b. The Chair shall be responsible for calling all meetings of the Executive Committee, shall preside over meetings of the Executive Committee and the Division, and shall have the power to perform other duties specified in these Rules.
c. The Chair or Chair's delegate, shall be responsible for representing the Division at the meetings of the Society Professional Divisions Committee and Society Board of Directors.
7.3 Designated Chair-Elect and Vice-Chair: a. The Vice-Chair shall be the designated Chair-Elect and, at the expiration of that term, will automatically succeed to the office of Chair.
b. The Vice-Chair shall assist the Chair in conducting the duties of the office.
c. The Vice-Chair shall perform the
7.4 The Secretary or Secretary-Treasurer shall record and file with the HQ within thirty (30) days after the meeting date(s) the minutes of the Division Executive Committee meetings. Separate teleconference meetings minutes may be recorded by the Division and need not be filed with HQ if Division actions executed electronically are recorded and appended to the minutes filed for the upcoming meeting.
7.5 For Divisions that do not have a Treasurer, the SecretaryTreasurer shall also serve as a member of the Division's Finance committee (if so created under Article R9) and shall be the responsible custodian of any special funds of the Division. The Secretary-Treasurer shall have the same duties as the Treasurer.
7.6 The Division Treasurer shall send the Division Annual Budget to the Society Treasurer by the date specified by the Society Treasurer.
duties of the Chair if the Chair is unable to serve.

### 7.4 Secretary:

a. The Secretary shall act as custodian of the Division Bylaws and Rules and shall keep records and minutes of Division governance meetings activities.
b. The Secretary shall be responsible for communicating Division activities with the membership via available media.
This responsibility map be delegated to the Chair of the Division's Communication Committee or equivalent.

### 7.5 Treasurer:

a. The Treasurer shall review the financial statements provided by the Society's staff and shall monitor the financial health of the Division.
b. The Treasurer shall assist with the preparation of the Division's budget. c. The Treasurer shall advise the other Officers on issues of expenses and revenue.

## Article B8 - Election and Eligibility

8.1 The members of the Division Executive committee and the Officers (except the Chair) shall be elected as specified in Article B6.2 and B7.1 of these Bylaws, respectively.
8.2 Executive Committee members shall be Fellows, Members, Student Members, Emeritus or Honorary Life Members of the Society.
8.3 The Nominating Committee shall place in the hands of the Secretary or Secretary-Treasurer and Executive Director no later than the completion of the Winter Meeting (or seven [7] months before the Annual Meeting for Divisions that were unable to meet during the Winter Meeting) the names of candidates for the Executive Committee and for the Division Officers. The Executive Director shall prepare and forward to each member of the Division a ballot containing the nominations submitted by the Nominating Committee, and others made by petition of not fewer than ten (10) members of the Division, received in writing either by the Nominating Committee or by the Secretary or Secretary-Treasurer at least twenty-two (22) weeks before the Annual Meeting.
8.4 At least one candidate shall be named by the Nominating Committee for each Executive Committee membership expiring or vacated and for each elective office other than the office of Chair, which will be filled by the Vice-Chair. The ballot shall contain spaces for writing in additional candidates.
8.5 Ballots, in order to be counted, shall be completed as instructed and shall be validated by the Executive Director as having been received from a Division member in good standing. The Division shall be responsive to future electronic voting initiatives introduced by the Society, as appropriate.
8.6 Voting shall be by secret ballot under the general procedure stipulated for voting and for handling the ballots in the Bylaws and Rules of the Society. The Executive Director shall declare elected to each position the candidate receiving the most votes for that position. If a tie occurs in the vote for an Officer, the Division shall resolve
the tie by a vote of the members of the Executive Committee. If a tie occurs in the vote for an at-large Executive Committee member, the Executive Committee may either break the tie by a vote of the simple majority or accept both candidates if this does not violate a limit on the number of members specified in Article R6. The elected candidates shall be installed, and their terms of office shall commence at the close of the Annual Meeting of the Society.
8.7 Members elected at large shall not be eligible for election to more than two consecutive terms on the Executive Committee, or more than two consecutive terms of office as Secretary, Treasurer, or Secretary-Treasurer. After one full term in office, the Chair shall automatically be succeeded by the Vice-Chair. Except as provided in these Bylaws, no member shall hold more than one office simultaneously.
8.8 No member shall be eligible for the office of Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect until having served on the Executive Committee in any capacity for at least one year except during the initial year of the Division or in the event the office of Chair is declared vacant.
8.9 The retiring Chair shall not be eligible for election as Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect for the term immediately succeeding the term as Chair.

## Article B9 - Standing and Special Committees

9.1 A Division may establish Standing and Special Committees as specified in the Rules. The Division Chair appoints each Committee Chair. The Division Chair appoints Committee members upon recommendation from the Committee Chairs.

## R9 - Standing and Special Committees

9.1 Standing and Special Committees: a. As part of the strategic planning process for the Division, the Vice-Chair shall, prior to assuming the office of Chair, submit for approval by the Executive Committee a succession plan, including the appointment or reappointment of Committee members and Committee Chairs, that strives to achieve a balance between continuity of experience and new members.
b. The Division Chair may, at any time, appoint additional members to serve on a Standing or Special Committee for a term of up to four (4) years.
c. With the approval (simple majority) of the Executive Committee, the Division Chair may remove the Committee Chair or any Executive Committee member from any Standing or Special Committee.

### 9.2 Standing Committees:

a. Program Committee - composed of not fewer than five (5) members, including the Chair. The Chair of the Program Committee shall be appointed by the Division Chair for a term of four (4) years. The Program Committee is responsible for organizing technical sessions of interest to Division members at National Meetings and Topical Meetings. The Program Committee Chair shall be responsible for representing the Division at meetings of the Society National Program Committee.
b. Membership Committee - composed of not fewer than four (4) members, including the Chair. The Division Chair is the Chair of the Membership Committee. The Membership Committee is responsible for bringing



## Article B10 - Meetings

10.1 Meetings of the Division shall be held as determined by the Executive Committee, at times and places it shall designate. Division business meeting (in which actions may be taken that affect Division finances) shall be scheduled to coincide with the Annual and Winter Meetings of the Society and shall precede the annual reorganization of the Division Executive Committee. Additional meetings may be called at the discretion of the Chain. The Secretary or Secretary-Treasurer shall provide notice of all intended meetings of the Division to the Executive Director and Division members not less than six (6) weeks before the date of that meeting. These meetings are open to all members in good standing in the Division.
10.2 A quorum for the transaction of business at all Division meetings shall consist of a simple majority of qualified voters.

## R10 - Meetings

10.1 Meetings shall be held during the ANS Annual meeting, the ANS Winter meeting, and during Division topical meetings. Additional meetings shall be held as determined by the Executive Committee at times and places designated.
10.2 The Executive Committee may elect to conduct meetings in person, via teleconferencing or a hybrid of the two.
10.3 A notice of each Division meeting shall be provided to each voting and non-voting Division member by the Secretary or the Secretary's delegate not less than ten (10) days before the meeting date.
10.4 Rules contained in Robert's Rules of Order, current edition, shall be used for interpreting the Bylaws and Rules of the Division.

## Article B11 - Amendments

11.1 Amendments to these Bylaws may be proposed by the Chair of any Division, the Professional Divisions Committee, the Society Bylaws and Rules Committee, or the Society Board of Directors. Amendments must be of a nature that they can be applied equitably to all Divisions, in keeping with the intent of the Standard Bylaws. Upon approval of a simple majority of the Society's Executive Committee, the proposed amendment shall be forwarded to each Division for comment. Comments should be filed with the Professional Divisions Committee Chair no later than fortyfive (45) days prior to the next ANS national meeting. Further detailed procedures for approval of amendments to the Standard Bylaws are in the ANS Rule R18.9.1.
11.2 The Executive Director/CEO shall notify all Divisions of approved amendments to the Standard Bylaws. Each Division shall be responsible for reviewing approved amendments to determine if corresponding changes to the Division's Rules are required.

## R11 - Amendments

11.1 Comments filed by the Division on proposed Standard Bylaw amendments, which were forwarded to the Division, in accordance with B11.1, shall have received an affirmative vote by a simple majority of the Division Executive Committee.
11.2 Approved Amendments to the Standard Bylaws
a. When notified of an approved amendment to the Standard Bylaws, the Chair shall appoint a, or direct the Division Bylaws and Rules committee to prepare (if necessary) reconciling changes in the Division Rules for review and approval by the Executive Committee.
b. Division members shall be notified of the amended Bylaws by appropriate means, such as posting the amended Bylaws on the Division webpage or including a notice in the Division newsletter.
11.3 Amendments to Division Rules:
a. Amendments to Division Rules may be proposed by any member of the Division Executive Committee during a Committee meeting and approved by a simple majority of the members present.
b. Amendments adopted by the Executive Committee shall be provided to the Society Bylaws and Rules Committee for review and endorsement.
c. The approved Rule amendment shall become effective upon being filed with the HQ.
d. The Division membership shall be notified of the approved amendments per Article 7.4(b).

|  | A requirement for a provision in the <br> Rules providing for Rule amendments is <br> specified in B6.5. |
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## Article B12 - Rules of Conduct

12.1 In all procedural matters not covered by the Bylaws and Rules of the Division, Robert's Rules of Order, latest edition, shall be used as the authority for parliamentary procedures.

## R12 - Rules of Conduct

### 12.1 Electronic Voting.

The Executive Committee, and other Division committees may conduct Division business using normal voting procedures at scheduled meetings or they may use electronic exchanges and voting. In order to properly transact committee business electronically, the following steps shall be followed.
a. The Chair of the Division determines if an issue is to be considered and voted upon electronically.
b. Documents or issues up for a vote will be made available to the Division members for review and comment.
c. Deadlines for comment and voting periods will be provided by the Chair. Votes can be submitted during the comment period and must be received prior to the voting deadline. All members are required to reply for all other members to review both comments and votes.
d. Once the voting deadline has passed, the Chair will review the votes and inform Division members of the outcome of the vote. To be valid, all votes registered electronically shall have a quorum of Division members registering a vote. To pass, the vote must have a majority of the quorum of those registered.
e. Between ANS national meetings, issues that have successfully passed through the electronic comment and voting process will be considered approved and activity may commence in accordance with the approved item.
f. Each electronic vote will be recorded in the minutes of the next meeting of the Division for historical record.

## Article B13 - Dissolution and Merger

### 13.1 Dissolution

a. Any Division may be dissolved at the discretion of the Board of Directors of the Society, after proper consultation with the Executive Committee of the Division and the Professional Divisions Committee.
b. The Executive Committee of a Division considering dissolution shall prepare a petition that clearly states the reasons the Division cannot fulfill its obligation and mission. The Division shall submit it to the Division membership for a vote. If a supermajority (67\%) of the voting members approves dissolution, the Division Secretary shall submit the petition to the Professional Divisions Committee
c. The PDC shall recommend to the Board a course of action with respect to dissolution, membership, assets, Topical Meetings, and publications.
d. Assets of dissolved Division shall become the property of the American Nuclear Society.

### 13.2 Merger

a. Any Division that merges with another Division may do so at the discretion of the Board of Directors after receiving a request from the Professional Divisions Committee and the involved Divisions.
b. Assets of merged Divisions will be combined under the newly established Division

## R13 - Dissolution

13.1 (Reserved)


[^0]:    6.3 Any vacancy among the Officers or on the Executive

