

**Canadian Operational Research Society**  
**Société canadienne de recherche opérationnelle**  
**Special Interest Groups**

**GUIDELINES FOR THE BYLAWS OF CORS SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS (SIGs)**

**Definitions**

In these guidelines, unless the context otherwise requires:

- a) **“CORS”** means the Canadian Operational Research Society / Société canadienne de recherche opérationnelle, hereinafter referred to as the **“Society”**, as defined in the Society Constitution and Bylaws.
- b) **“Council”** means the board of directors of the Society, as defined in the Society’s Constitution and Bylaws.
- c) **“Policy”** means the CORS Policy on Special Interest Groups, as maintained by Council.
- d) **“Special Interest Group”**, or **“SIG”**, refers to such entities of the Society, as defined in the Policy.

**Name**

This organization shall be called the CORS Forestry SIG, hereinafter the **“SIG”**.

**Object**

The object or purpose of the SIG shall be a mechanism to promote the Society, the SIG area and the SIG members, as well as the opportunity for CORS members with common interests to interact and network, as outlined in the Policy.

### **1-SIG Membership**

- a) Any member of the Society may become a SIG Member.
- b) All SIG Members shall have equal rights and privileges within the SIG.
- c) A Member can withdraw from the SIG by providing the SIG President written notice, or by notice served by electronic mail that is sent from the contact e-mail address associated with that member on record with the Society.
- d) A Member that is not in good standing with the Society shall cease to be a Member of the SIG.
- e) A former member has no rights or privileges effective the day following the date of their withdrawal as indicated on their notice as described in part c), or on the date their membership in the Society ceases, as recorded by the Society.

### **2-SIG Officers**

- a) The SIG shall have a President. A SIG may consider appointing additional officers as they see fit.
- b) The President shall be responsible for the affairs of the SIG. The President shall preside at meetings and represent the SIG in external affairs, including, but not limited to, (i) maintaining communication with Council, (ii) organizing a stream of talks, related to the area of the SIG, at each annual conference of the Society, (iii) organizing an annual meeting of the SIG for its Members, which usually should occur at the annual meeting of the Society, and (iv) providing a report on the SIG's activities during the preceding year, preferably through a newsletter submitted to the CORS Bulletin. This report should be provided before the annual meeting of the society. The President is also responsible of (v) managing the annual actions required to hold the David Martell Student Paper Prize in Forestry competition (see Bylaw 8) and (vi) producing, on a regular cycle, a forestry & natural resources-themed special issue of INFOR. The President may perform these duties directly or by a delegate.

### **3-Election and Tenure of the SIG President**

- a) The term of the Founding President of the SIG shall be two years. The term of all subsequent Presidents shall not be more than two years. The start of the term of a President coincides with the timing of the Annual Meeting of the SIG (see Bylaw 5).
- b) A President who has served two full terms is not eligible for immediate election to the same office.
- c) Besides the founding President, all subsequent Presidents of the SIG shall be elected using the following process:
  - i. No later than three months prior to the end of their term, the SIG President shall form an Election Committee, comprised of at least two SIG Members, which shall solicit all SIG Members for nominations for the new President. This solicitation for nominations shall be done via electronic mail. Members shall be given two weeks to nominate individual candidates; no nomination shall be made without such candidates agreeing to be nominated and self-nominations are permitted.

- ii. No later than two months prior to the end of their term, the Election Committee shall distribute ballot forms of the candidates to the membership of the SIG. The current SIG President does not cast a vote. Candidates shall be listed alphabetically, by last name, on the ballot. Ballots shall be electronic (e.g., e-mail or a web-based voting system). Members shall be given three weeks to submit their votes, starting from the time that the ballot was distributed.
- iii. The Election Committee shall tally the votes. The winning candidate shall be the candidate receiving the largest number of votes. In the event of a tie, the outgoing SIG President shall cast the deciding vote.
- iv. The results of the election shall be announced at the Annual Meeting of the SIG (see Bylaw 5).

#### **4-SIG Committees**

- a) The SIG President can establish standing committees and/or subcommittees, and appoint qualified Members as chairs to head these committees. The terms of the chairs and members on any such committees shall be re-evaluated by the new SIG President at the time of their appointment.

#### **5-Meetings**

- a) The SIG shall meet at least once a year.
- b) Unless exceptional circumstances dictate otherwise, the Annual Meeting of the SIG shall be held at the annual meeting of the Society.

#### **6-Responsibility to the Society**

- a) The SIG shall operate in accordance with the Constitution and Bylaws of the Society.
- b) All Members of the SIG have the duty to uphold the commitment to:
  - i. Strive to keep membership at a minimum of 25 members.
  - ii. Restrict membership to CORS members.
  - iii. Organize a stream of talks at each annual meeting of the Society.
  - iv. Provide a report on the SIG's activities during the previous year, preferable through a newsletter submitted to the CORS Bulletin.

#### **7-Amendments**

- a) Proposed amendments to these bylaws, consistent to those of the Society, may be initiated by a petition to the SIG President signed by at least 20% of the membership or 10 Members of the SIG, whichever is smaller. The President of the SIG shall distribute copies of the proposed change to all members of the SIG by electronic mail or in writing not less than one month before

the annual meeting of the SIG. The proposed change shall be discussed at the annual meeting of the SIG in a forum open to all SIG Members.

- b) Following the discussion of the proposed amendment, a motion for the change shall be voted on by all SIG Members present at the annual meeting. The voting shall take place by secret ballot. Ballots that are not marked to indicate a choice for the motion shall not be counted. The votes will be tallied by two Members of the SIG appointed by its President.
- c) The adoption of the proposed amendment shall require an affirmative vote by at least two-thirds of the votes cast.

#### **8-David Martell Student Paper Prize in Forestry**

- a) This award recognizes outstanding scientific contributions on the theory, methodology and/or practice of OR in forestry by an undergraduate, a graduate student or a postdoctoral.
- b) The award was named in honor of Professor Martell for his outstanding contributions to the development and application of OR in forestry in Canada and beyond as well as for his many contributions to the COR Society.
- c) The competition is for the best student paper submitted, published or accepted for publication in a peer-reviewed journal in the two years before the year of the competition.
- d) At the time the paper was written, applicants should have been an undergraduate, a graduate student or a postdoctoral at a Canadian university or a Canadian studying in a university outside of Canada.
- e) No paper can be submitted more than once.
- f) The Forestry SIG President, in consultation with David Martell, should form a PRELIMINARY jury panel of three FSI members. If needed, the latter will make the final choice (decisional). The composition of the jury should aim for complementary expertise/experience/background among the jury members and one of the jury members should be a junior researcher. It is desirable that jury members are rotated after serving a few years.

Phase 1 of the competition: selection of up to 3 finalists among the applications (note: eligibility of the applications has been validated by the Forestry SIG President).

If a member in the PRELIMINARY jury panel is co-author in one (or more) of the applications, this member should be substituted by a FSI member that has no co-authorship on the applications. The selection of this substitute is discussed among the remaining member(s) of the preliminary jury panel and David Martell. If needed, the latter will make the final choice (decisional). The FSI President should address any conflicts of interest within the jury before distributing submitted papers to jury members.

Phase 2 of the competition: selection of the winner(s) among the finalists by the jury panel in phase 1.

- g) Following the evaluation of the applications, at most three finalists are announced. The finalists must be prepared to present their work in a special session at the annual conference. Recommended guidelines for each finalist presentation are: 15 minutes presentation in front of

the jury and conference attendees, following by a 15 minutes questions period during which the session chair must provide a priority to jury members.

- h) The winner is announced at the banquet of the Society by one of the jury member.
- i) The winner receives a certificate provided free of charge by the Society. No later than 15 business days prior to the annual meeting, the jury member must send to the Society (i.e. President and Secretary Officers) the name of each finalist, paper title and co-authors name.
- j) In exceptional case, the jury may decide to not hold the competition.

#### **9-Termination**

- k) The Society will consider a SIG to be terminated if it fails to meet any of the requirements outlined in the Policy. The CORS president will send a termination letter to the SIG President.
- l) In the event of the dissolution of the SIG, its assets shall become the property of the Society.