

**CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES RECENTLY APPROVED  
BY  
JOHN F. DOUGLASS**

At the Society's Business Meetings on **October 29, 2016, and September 23, 2017**, several proposals were discussed, modified as needed, and then unanimously approved by **members in attendance**. The procedure used in introducing these changes (Proposals 2016.1a through 2017.5, below) is prescribed in the following passage in the Constitution of September 15, 2012: "ARTICLE 11, AMENDMENTS. 1. This constitution may be amended by motion made, seconded, and passed by a majority vote of the members present at the annual meeting and concurred in by a 3/4 affirmative vote of the Board."

The adopted changes are detailed below. They are intended to improve certain procedures, and to define others. The new passages are **recommended for assimilation into the next draft of the SLS Constitution**.

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**PROPOSAL 2016.1a** [approved October 29, 2016]

RE: SLS Constitution, **ARTICLE 5: OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**1) Present wording, ARTICLE 5.1:**

"The officers shall be: A Chairman, an Editor, a Website Coordinator, two Members-at-Large, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and a Membership Coordinator.

These officers as a group shall constitute the Board of Directors."

**2) Proposed wording, ARTICLE 5.1:**

"Five elected and four appointed officers as a group shall constitute the Board of Directors.

The elected officers shall be: a Chairman, a Secretary, and three Members-at-Large.

Appointed officers shall be: an Editor, a Treasurer, a Membership Coordinator, and a Website Manager.

Each appointed officer shall be approved by a simple majority vote of the Board, with term limits to be determined by the Board.

When vacancies occur in these offices, appointments shall be made by the current Chairman with the approval of a simple majority vote of the Board."

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**PROPOSAL 2016.1b** [approved October 29, 2016]

RE: SLS Constitution, **ARTICLE 5: OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**1) Present wording, ARTICLE 5.2, sentence 1:**

"The Chairman shall annually appoint a nominating committee of three members of the Society."

**2) Proposed wording, ARTICLE 5.2, sentence 1:**

"The Chairman shall biennially appoint a nominating committee of three members of the Society."

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**PROPOSALS 2017.1 through 2017.4**

RE: SLS Constitution, **ARTICLE 5: OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Present** wording, **ARTICLE 5.3, sentence 2**: "Duties of the officers shall be those normally pertaining to the respective offices."

**PROPOSAL 2017.1** [approved September 23, 2017]: **Proposed** wording, **ARTICLE 5.3(a)**:  
"The duties of the **Chairman** shall include:

- (a) presiding at Board of Directors meetings and at the annual Business Meeting;
- (b) soliciting agenda items and circulating an agenda to Board members prior to the annual Business Meeting;
- (c) appointing special committees as needed, and specifying dates for reporting of their recommendations;
- (d) biennially appointing a Nominating Committee to fill anticipated vacancies on the Board;
- (e) biennially appointing an Abbot Award Nominating Committee;
- (f) annually appointing a Field Coordinator;
- (g) establishing, with the Membership Coordinator, a date for issuance of the biennial Membership List;
- (h) providing a biennial report to members about Society developments."

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**PROPOSAL 2017.2** [approved September 23, 2017, to replace Proposal 2016.2 of October 29, 2016]:  
**Proposed** wording, **ARTICLE 5.3(b)**:

"The duties of the **Membership Coordinator** shall include:

- (a) overseeing the Society's efforts to increase and maintain its membership;
- (b) updating and publishing of a biennial Membership List, specified in Article 8.1, to include addresses, telephone numbers, e-mail addresses, and the interests of members;
- (c) providing copies of a corrected Membership List to the Society's Treasurer and Editor annually, and updating these officers as changes occur."

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**PROPOSAL 2017.3** [approved September 23, 2017]: **Proposed** wording, **ARTICLE 5.3(c)**:  
"The **Field Coordinator** shall:

- (a) be appointed annually by the Chairman, to serve for one calendar year;
- (b) arrange for the planning and execution of at least one annual field trip, including choosing of an appropriate locale, hosting or arranging for local hosting of the trip, procurement of necessary collecting permits, and publicizing of the trip."

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**PROPOSAL 2017.4** [approved September 23, 2017]: **Proposed** wording, **ARTICLE 5.3(d)**:  
"The duties of a **Member-at-Large** shall include:

- (a) participating in discussions of agenda items with other Board members;
  - (b) serving on committees as requested by the Chairman;
  - (c) assisting other Board members with organizational details."
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**PROPOSAL 2017.5** [as modified and approved September 23, 2017, to take effect the same day]

RE: SLS Constitution, **ARTICLE 7: AWARDS**

John Abbot Award

**1) Present wording, ARTICLE 7.1:** "The John Abbot Award may not be given more often than once a year.

The Board will submit a ballot containing names of three eligible recipients to the members with the announcement of the annual meeting.

The candidate receiving the largest number of votes by return of this ballot to the Secretary will be the recipient.

The award recognizes exceptional contribution to the purpose of the society through publication and otherwise.

A person does not need to be a member of the Society to be eligible.

The nominees not receiving the award in any year will remain on the ballot the year following with at least one additional name being added annually by the Board.

In the case of a tie, the candidate who has been in contention the longest will be selected."

**2) Proposed wording, ARTICLE 7.1:**

sentence 1: "The Abbot Award is intended to recognize an individual or group which exemplifies the highest standards in lepidopterology, in academic work and/or service to the Society and advancement of its goals.

sentence 2: The Award is conferred at irregular intervals, but typically no more than one time per year.

sentence 3: Preference shall be given to candidates whose involvement in lepidopterology has emphasized the U.S. Southeast.

sentence 4: Nominations shall be invited year-round from the Society's membership.

sentence 5: For consideration in any particular year, names must be submitted no fewer than 90 days before the next-subsequent Annual Meeting of the Society.

sentence 6: A person need not be a member of the Society to be eligible for the Award.

sentence 7: Nominees shall be vetted by the Board of Directors and by a Nominating Committee, and one candidate shall be selected as the winner.

sentence 8: The winner's name shall be announced at the Annual Meeting and in the newsletter of the Society."

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**PROPOSAL 2017.6** [approved unanimously by the Board of Directors, October 6, 2017]

RE: SLS Constitution, **ARTICLE 11: AMENDMENTS**

**Proposed wording, new ARTICLE 11.2:** "In order to mitigate specific disruptions which may arise in the life of the Society, the Board shall have the authority to establish, by simple majority vote, measures intended to protect the Society's members and to ensure its continuity of governance, specifically by:

(a) replacing officers who may be unable or unwilling to serve, and establishing terms of office for their replacements;

(b) enacting policies intended to protect individual members or groups from harassment (verbal, textual, electronic, other)."

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Royal Walnut Moth (*Citheronia regalis*), gouache on wood, by Yvonne C. Byers.

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Sunset in Caprock Canyons State Park (nr. Quitaque, Texas)(August 30, 2017)