

SSI Statutes

Article I: Name

The association shall be called the Scandinavian Society for Immunology (SSI).

Article II: Aims and Function

1. The objective of the Society shall be to advance knowledge of immunology within the Nordic countries. For this purpose the Society shall encourage the organization of scientific meetings, symposia or courses, and promote any activity deemed helpful to forward these objectives.
2. The Society shall promote contacts and communication between persons, institutes and societies interested in immunology.
3. The Society shall represent Nordic immunologists in the International Union of Immunological Societies (IUIS) and the European Federation of Immunological Societies (EFIS).

Article III: Membership

1. Membership can be gained by election of societies interested in the aims of the Society and acting within any of the countries Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden.
2. Application of a national society shall be signed by the President of that society. Such an application shall be accompanied by 1) a document proving that the members of the society have decided in accordance with its constitution upon their collective association to the Scandinavian Society for Immunology, and 2) a Directory of members. Applicants shall address the General Secretary of the SSI.
3. Membership of a society shall be approved by the General Assembly. The annual fee for members adjoined collectively through a national society shall be delivered by the Treasurer of that society. Membership is validated by payment of the annual fee.
4. The General Assembly may invite Honorary Members from any country, and they will be exempt of the annual fee. In addition to be a scientist of high repute, Honorary Members should also have made significant impact on immunology in one or more Nordic countries, for instance by training students or by productive collaboration with Nordic individuals or research groups. When a person has been elected, the General Secretary shall inform him/her of the election and send the honorary member a diploma.
5. Cancellation of membership shall be made in response to a written application of resignation, or upon dissolution of an affiliated society.
6. Disapproval of membership shall be decided upon by the General Assembly when a) a member or an affiliated society have not paid the annual fee for a period of two consecutive years; b) the aims and function of an affiliated society are no longer in correspondence with the aims and interests of the Scandinavian Society for Immunology.

Article IV: Business

1. The business year shall be the calendar year. The annual fee, upon recommendation of the Council, shall be determined by a majority vote of the annual General Assembly.
2. The office of the President shall be the official centre of the Society.

Article V: The Council

1. The executive body of the Society shall be its Council.
2. The Council shall consist of ten ordinary members, two from each country, (see article III). Among its members, the Council nominates a President, a General Secretary, an Educational Secretary and a Treasurer. In addition, the Meeting Secretary (see article VI) of the forthcoming Annual Scientific Meeting shall be an ex officio member of the Council. The National Societies are invited to participate with two national council members in the SSI Council meetings as ex officio members.

3. Candidates for the Council shall be nominated by the affiliated National Societies and elected by the General Assembly, usually for a period of three years. Council members are eligible for re-election for another period usually of three years.
4. The work of the Council shall be conducted by the President. The President shall be assisted by the General Secretary, who shall be responsible for the routine business of the Council and keep its records. The General Secretary shall make minutes of the meetings of the Council and of the General Assembly. The Treasurer shall maintain proper records including a directory of members and accounts and arrange for such reports on the financial status of the Society as may be requested by the Council and by the General Assembly. The Educational Secretary is responsible for forming and chairing an Educational Committee. The Meeting Secretary shall be responsible for the organization of the next Annual Scientific Meeting.
5. A meeting of the Council shall be held whenever suggested by the President, or upon request of three of its members. The decision of the Council shall be made by majority vote. A quorum of the Council shall be five. In case of equal division of the votes, the President shall cast the decisive vote. The Council may transact and vote by mail when the President finds this necessary.
6. The Council shall conduct the activities of the Society according to article II and decide upon any steps necessary to promote the aims given therein. An Educational Committee shall be appointed, which shall promote education and training in immunology in the Scandinavian countries. Furthermore, the Council may nominate persons or committees to assist with the organization of scientific meetings, symposia and courses. The Council elects representatives to International Union of Immunological Societies (IUIS) and European Federation of Immunological Societies (EFIS).

Article VI: General Assembly

1. The functions of the Society shall be decided by the General Assembly of members, which shall meet once a year in connection with the Annual Scientific Meeting. Additional General Assembly Meetings may be arranged whenever the Council finds this to be necessary, or upon written request signed by at least 1/10 of the members of the Society. The Council shall prepare such a meeting according to what has been stated for the annual meetings. The announcement of an additional General Assembly shall be distributed to the members together with a statement of its purpose at least one month in advance.
2. The Council shall prepare the agenda for the annual Assembly. The annual General Assembly Meeting shall:
 - a) examine the activities of the Council based on the annual report of the Council;
 - b) examine the financial situation of the Society and approve of the financial report prepared by the Council together with the report from the Auditor;
 - c) decide upon the forthcoming fees and the budget, recommended by the Council;
 - d) elect members to the Council according to articles II and V;
 - e) elect the President, Secretary General, Treasurer and Educational Secretary from members of the Council according to article V, paragraph 2;
 - f) decide upon the disapproval of membership according to article III;
 - g) elect Honorary Members of the Society in accordance with article III;
 - h) decide upon the time and place of the Annual Scientific Meeting to take place following the forthcoming, and in connection herewith elect a Meeting Secretary from that country;
 - i) elect an Auditor and Deputy Auditor who shall examine the accounts of the Society.
3. The General Assembly is conducted by the President or another council member in his absence. The meeting shall follow the agenda prepared by the Council. Other subjects may be added to the agenda upon request from any members, if so decided by a majority vote of the members present. All decisions shall be made by voting, where each member present has one vote. A simple majority vote is required for all decisions with the exception of decisions concerning Articles IX and X. Minutes of the meeting shall be made available to all members within two months.

Article VII: Annual Scientific Meeting

The Annual Scientific Meeting shall have a budget financially independent of the Society. A budget shall be prepared by the Meeting Secretary and shall be approved by the Council six months' time prior to the meeting. If the financial balance shows a deficit, the Council may propose to the General Assembly that part of Society funds are used to cover the debts, in part or in full, in accordance to article II. If the financial balance show a surplus, 50% of it shall be added to Society funds and 50% may be used as recommended by the Meeting Secretary to promote immunology at the site or in the country where the Annual Scientific Meeting took place.

Article VIII: Scandinavian Journal of Immunology

1. Scandinavian Journal of Immunology is the official journal of the Society. In addition to scientific papers the journal shall inform members of the Society about society activities and other matters in accordance with article II.
2. The relationship between the journal and the Society is regulated by a separate agreement.

Article IX: Changes of Statutes

For changes of or additions to the Statutes, a 2/3 majority vote is required at a duly called General Assembly Meeting. The proposed changes or additions shall be distributed to the members at least one month prior to the General Assembly.

Article X: Dissolution of the Society

For the dissolution of the Society, a 2/3 majority vote is required at a duly called General Assembly Meeting. The proposed dissolution should be distributed to the members at least one month prior to the General Assembly. Any surplus funds or property shall be applied to some scientific purpose as decided by the Assembly.