

**Constitution of the  
International Christian Statisticians**

**Article I. NAME**

The name of this organization is the International Christian Statisticians (hereafter called the ICS). It is an outreach group of the American Statistical Association.

**Article II. OBJECTIVES**

The ICS is a network of like-minded Christian statisticians and statistical practitioners whose objective is to promote the practice and profession of statistics within the Christian community. With respect to Christian statisticians, we seek to provide support such as mentoring opportunities, meetings on pertinent topics, and service outlets. With respect to the broader Christian community, such as churches and Christian non-profit organizations, we seek to provide statistical support. As Christians, our motivation for the above objectives is not merely our community identification, but it is a deeper sense of purpose that everything we do should be done for the glory of God (see Article IX).

**Article III. MEMBERSHIP**

Participation in ICS activities and meetings is open to anyone, including non-ASA members, regardless of creed. Voting members are participants who vote on business items and elections. Voting members should be willing to affirm the Statement of Faith required of the ICS Leadership Committee members (Article V).

**Article IV. FINANCES**

The ICS will not charge dues. It may maintain a budget to support its activities. All funds provided will be obtained through voluntary gifts by its members.

**Article V. OFFICERS**

The elected officers of the ICS shall be the Chair, the Vice-Chair, the Chair-Elect, and the Secretary. The Chair is the chief officer of the ICS and is the Chair of its Leadership Committee. The Chair shall preside at all meetings of the ICS and the Leadership Committee. The Chair, with the approval of the Leadership Committee, may designate committees or individuals to carry out functions of the ICS. The Chair shall coordinate the work of the officers and committees and shall prepare an annual report, for publication in a news bulletin, on the activities of the ICS.

The Vice Chair shall i) serve as a member of the Leadership Committee, ii) preside over meetings of the ICS and the Leadership Committee in the absence of the Chair, and iii) assist the Chair in the execution of the Chair's duties.

The Past-Chair is the holder of the office of Chair in the most recent previous term and shall serve as a member of the Leadership Committee.

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The Chair-Elect will hold the office of Chair in the next term and shall serve as a member of the Leadership Committee.

The Secretary shall i) serve as a member of the Leadership Committee, ii) take and maintain a record of the minutes of all meetings of the ICS and the Leadership Committee, iii) maintain a list of the membership that includes information on the ICS members' areas of interests and expertise, and iv) maintain an electronic discussion forum for the ICS.

The constitution of the Leadership Committee may involve other members besides the elected officers. Those members may be asked to take on tasks that the officers of the Leadership Committee deem necessary to fulfill its objectives, as outline in Article II.

In addition, the Chair shall appoint a Director of Communications who shall oversee the following two responsibilities: i) creation and distribution of periodic newsletters to ICS members and ii) maintenance of the ICS website. The Director of Communications shall also serve as a member of the Leadership Committee.

Members of the Leadership Committee should meet the lifestyle qualifications of a Biblical deacon (I Tim. 3:8-13) and shall affirm the Apostle's Creed, a traditional English version of which is provided below:

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
    who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.  
    He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;  
    he descended to hell. The third day he rose again from the dead.  
    He ascended to heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.  
    From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,  
    the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,  
    the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

## **Article VI. TERMS OF OFFICE and SUCCESSION**

The Chair shall serve a one-year term. The Vice Chair and Secretary shall serve staggered two-year terms. By June 1 of each year, the Leadership Committee shall nominate at least one voting member of the ICS as successor to the office of Chair-Elect. By June 1 of the year immediately prior to the conclusion of the term of the Vice Chair or Secretary, the Leadership Committee shall nominate at least one voting member as successor to this office. A vote shall be taken by members of the ICS at least one month prior to the following convened meeting (at JSM) to elect the next Chair-Elect, and when required, the Vice Chair or Secretary. The officers shall be elected by a 2/3 majority vote, if only one candidate is running, and by a simple majority, if two or more candidates are running. They shall assume their offices at the conclusion of that JSM. As they take office, they shall formally affirm the statement of faith, and that affirmation shall be recorded by the ICS Secretary.

Current officers may be nominated for and elected to a successive term, but only one such term. However, current officers may be nominated for and elected to other Leadership Committee positions immediately following the completion of their current term(s) in office.

## **PENDING APPROVAL BY ASA BOARD**

The table below describes the officer service and succession plan. It depicts the five numbered officers of the current year with their Office name (rows) and the years of service (columns). For example, Officer #1 starts as the Chair-Elect in the Current Year and ends the 2nd Year After as Past-Chair. Officer #3 started as Chair-Elect Two Years Prior and ends the Current Year as Past-Chair.

### **ICS Officer Service Plan**

<b>Officer</b>	<b>2nd Year Prior</b>	<b>1st Year Prior</b>	<b>CURRENT YEAR</b>	<b>1st Year After</b>	<b>2nd Year After</b>
<b>Chair-Elect</b>	<i>Officer-3</i>	<i>Officer-2</i>	<i>Officer-1</i>		
<b>Chair</b>		<i>Officer-3</i>	<i>Officer-2</i>	<i>Officer-1</i>	
<b>Past-Chair</b>			<i>Officer-3</i>	<i>Officer-2</i>	<i>Officer-1</i>
<b>Vice-Chair</b>		<i>Officer-4</i>	<i>Officer-4</i>		
<b>Secretary</b>			<i>Officer-5</i>	<i>Officer-5</i>	

## **Article VII. MEETINGS**

There shall be at least two annual meetings of ICS. The first meeting is for ICS members and shall be held at JSM. Historically, the member's meeting has been a group discussion of a topic relating statistics and the Christian faith. The responsibility for organizing the member's meeting resides with the Chair, but may be delegated if he/she chooses. The second meeting is a board meeting organized by the Chair. If a quorum of the officers will not be present at JSM, the board meeting may be conducted by phone or other remote means outside of JSM. Board meeting business items that require a vote must pass with a 2/3 majority. For votes that involve competing items, a simple majority vote is required.

## **Article VIII. AMENDMENTS**

Amendments to this Constitution may be proposed by the officers or by a petition signed by at least ten voting members of the ICS. An amendment originating by petition shall be referred to any officer of the ICS, who shall consult with the petitioners about final wording of the proposed amendment and then announce it to the membership of the ICS. All proposed amendments must be unanimously approved by the Leadership Committee before submittal to the members of the ICS for vote through electronic means or at the next annual business meeting. Approval of the amendment requires a 2/3 majority of those who vote. Amendments that are approved shall take effect immediately. A copy of the amendment shall be filed with the Executive Director of ASA.

## **Article IX. Purpose**

As Christians, we share the purpose that everything we do, sacred and secular, should be done for the glory of God (I Cor. 10:31; Col. 3:17, 23). It is this bond that unites us and provides motivation beyond what we would have outside of Christ. As an expression of this we relate the

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following aspects, which were part of the original purpose statement of ICS's antecedent, the Christian Statisticians' Informal Discussion Group formed in 1979, and expanded by the founding ICS leadership team:

- Be fruitful witnesses of the truth of the Gospel of Jesus Christ among our community of fellow statisticians and other co-workers; to articulate the relevance of the Christian faith and worldview within this community (Acts 1:8; I Pet.3:15; Col. 4:6; Phil. 1:7, 16)
- Provide a community of Christ followers in which our members genuinely love and encourage one another in personal holiness, as well as our corporate Christian commitments and duties (Eph. 2:19-22; Heb. 10:24-25)
- Pursue the unity of the body of Christ, whose members reflect a God-ordained diversity of backgrounds, roles, functions, talents, and gifts (Gal. 3:28; Ps. 133:1; John 17:21-23; I Cor. 12: 12-31; Eph. 4:3)
- Seek opportunities to assist the local and global church of Jesus Christ to fulfill its mission through acts of service related to the skills, gifts, and capabilities of its members (I Pet. 4:10-11; Rom. 12:6-8)
- Serve and honor one another in practical ways (Ecc. 4:9-10, Rom. 12:10; Gal. 5:13)
- Encourage members to explore the integration of their statistical work and practice into their Christian faith, and vice versa (Rom. 12:2; Phil. 2:12-13; I Cor. 10:31; Col. 3:17)