Bylaws of the Analytics Section of the
Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences

Article 1 – Name
This organization shall be named the INFORMS Section on Analytics, hereinafter the Analytics Section of the Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences.

Article 2 - Purposes
The Analytics Section of INFORMS is focused on promoting the use of data-driven analytics and fact-based decision making in practice. The Section recognizes that analytics is seen as both (i) a complete business problem solving and decision making process, and (ii) a broad set of analytical methodologies that enable the creation of business value. To this purpose, the Section promotes the integration of a wide range of analytical techniques and the end-to-end analytics process. It will support activities that illuminate significant innovations and achievements in specific steps and/or in the execution of the process as a whole, where success is defined by the impact on the business.

We recognize that analytics is defined by three categories:

Descriptive analytics
- Prepares and analyzes historical data
- Identifies patterns from samples for reporting of trends

Predictive analytics
- Predicts future probabilities and trends
- Finds relationships in data that may not be readily apparent with descriptive analysis

Prescriptive analytics
- Evaluates and determines new ways to operate
- Targets business objectives
- Balances all constraints

While analytics includes all three categories, the Analytics Section of INFORMS will focus primarily on predictive and prescriptive analytics and will develop an understanding of the analytics process that can be described and communicated in ways that enable organizations to be able to either engage in using analytics more effectively and/or in moving up the analytics maturity path.

Article 3 - Membership
Any member of the Institute may become a Section Member by paying the Section dues. Non-members of the Institute may become Section members by paying the special fee for non-members of the Institute. All members shall have equal rights, duties, and privileges except that Section officers must also be INFORMS members. (See Article 6).

Article 4 – Officers
1. The officers of the Section shall be a President, a Vice President, Secretary and a Treasurer.
2. The President shall be the chief administrative officer of the Section and shall be responsible for the development and execution of the Section's program. He/she shall (a) call and organize meetings of the Section, (b) appoint ad hoc committees as required, (c) appoint chairs and members of standing committees, (d) manage the affairs of the Section between meetings, and (e) preside at Section membership meetings.
3. The Vice President shall be the principal assistant administrative officer of the Section and shall act as President in the absence of the President. He/she shall have such other duties as the President shall assign to him/her and normally will chair a planning committee to develop the Section's program and
required budget for the coming year and conduct the annual election of officers for the Section. He/she shall become the President of the Section for the year after his/her term of office as Vice President.

4. The Secretary shall conduct the correspondence of the Section, keep the minutes and records of the Section, maintain contact with the Institute, receive reports of activities from those Section Committees that may be established, make arrangements for the regular Section Business meetings and be responsible for the administration approval of the disbursement of the Section funds.

5. The Treasurer shall prepare and distribute reports of the financial condition of the Section, help prepare the annual budget of the Section for submission to the Institute, make arrangements for the orderly transfer of all the Section's records to the Treasurer succeeding him/her, and perform other duties usual to the office of an organization's Treasurer.

6. Any Section member accepting nomination for elective office in the Section is understood to have agreed to perform the duties of that office if elected, and in particular to have agreed to attend the annual regular Section meetings during his/her tenure, except as his/her attendance is prevented by unusual circumstances. If a Section elected official must miss a meeting or be temporarily unable to carry out his/her responsibilities, he/she shall advise the President and shall make other arrangements for the discharge of his/her responsibilities. If a Section elected official should fail during his/her tenure to attend regular Section meetings and to carry out the responsibilities of the office, he/she can be removed from office upon the initiative of two-thirds vote of the Section Officers.

Article 5 - Election and Tenure of Section Officials

1. All elected officers shall be elected in accordance with the process operating concurrently with that of the INFORMS election process. By this process the Section shall annually elect a Vice President to serve a term of one year; and other officials as may be required by vacancies that have occurred since the previous election. The Secretary and Treasurer also shall be elected to serve a one-year term.

2. The Vice President shall succeed to the President position at the completion of his/her term.

3. No officer, other than the Secretary or Treasurer, who has served a full term shall be eligible for immediate election to the same office. The Secretary or Treasurer may run unopposed for no more than two consecutive terms.

4. The President shall appoint a Nominating Committee at least six months before the Business meeting of the Section, usually held in conjunction with the INFORMS Annual Meeting. The Nominating Committee, composed of the chair and two past chairs, shall prepare a slate consisting of one or more nominees for each office to be filled. At least five months before the Business meeting of the Section, the Nominating Committee will submit its nominations to the Vice President who will report these nominations to the Section membership at that time by one or more of the following: a) electronic mail or list serve, b) electronic or hardcopy newsletter, c) Website posting, or d) other written form. Additional nominations for any office may be made by a petition signed by at least six Section members. Such petitions must reach the Vice President at least one month prior to the Business meeting of the Section.

5. Nominees for the positions of elected officers must be Section members and INFORMS members. At least two months before the Business meeting of the Section, the Vice President shall forward official ballots to the Section membership. Ballots shall be issued by one of the following media: a) letter mail ballot; b) electronic mail ballot; c) web-based ballot d) a combination of letter mail and electronic mail or web-based ballot. Nominees for office shall be listed alphabetically on the ballot (and so noted) with no indication as to those nominated by the Nominating Committee and those nominated by petition. Ballots must be returned to the Vice President or someone designated by the Vice President at least one month prior to the Business meeting of the Section.

6. The Vice President of the Section shall appoint tellers to receive ballots and to tally them as of a preannounced time at least two weeks before the INFORMS meeting. Tellers may not be Section officers or candidates for office. The winning candidate for each position shall be the candidate receiving the largest number of votes. Ties shall be resolved by mean of fair random processes.
Winning candidates should attend the Business meeting as observers and shall assume their office following this meeting.

Article 6 - Section Committees
The Section President shall establish committees as required and shall appoint qualified chairs to head these committees. In all cases the terms of the chairs and the committee memberships shall cease upon completion of the term of the President who appointed them.

Article 7 - Responsibility to the Institute
1. The Section shall operate in accordance with the Constitution and Bylaws of the Institute. Each year, after the INFORMS meeting, a Section annual activity report will be submitted to the Institute setting forth the significant accomplishments and activities of the Section during the previous year and outlining a rationale for the budget projections for the following year. Additional reports shall be submitted to the Institute upon request by the Institute.
2. In the event of dissolution of the Section, its assets shall become the property of the Institute.

Article 8 - Amendments
1. Proposed amendments to these bylaws may be initiated either by action by a petition to the President signed by 5% of the membership or 15 members of the Section, whichever is smaller. The Secretary shall distribute copies of the proposed change to all members of the Section by electronic mail or written form not less than three weeks before the annual membership meeting. An open discussion of the proposed amendment to the bylaws shall be carried out at the following membership meeting of the Section.
2. Not more than two months after the discussion of the proposed amendment the Secretary shall distribute to all members copies of the proposed amendment along with ballot forms by electronic mail, web-based, or written form. No ballot shall be counted unless marked by a Section member to indicate his/her choice, returned to the official tellers bearing the voter's name, and received by the tellers no later than a date to be specified upon the ballot form – a date not earlier than six weeks from the date of distributing the ballot forms to the Section membership.
3. The adoption of the proposed amendment shall require an affirmative vote by at least two thirds of the members voting, as tallied by tellers appointed by the President. The tellers shall report the tally to the President within one week of the date specified for receipt of the ballots. The result of the balloting shall be announced to the membership by the Secretary.
4. If approved by the Section membership, the proposed amendment to the Bylaws shall become effective upon approval by the Institute.

Article 9 - Meetings
1. The annual membership meeting of the Section shall be held when practical at the time and place of the annual meeting of the Institute with the schedule and site to be arranged by the Secretary of the Section. The place and time of this meeting shall be announced at the INFORMS meeting, or earlier if possible. The quorum for action at the membership meeting shall be 5% of the membership or 15 members of the Section, whichever is smaller.
2. Business meetings of the Section may be held whenever a quorum can be assembled. One Business meeting a year, normally at the annual meeting of the Institute shall be considered a minimum requirement.
3. The Section officers shall meet on call of the President.

Article 10: Rules of Order
Robert's Rules of Order shall, govern all Section membership meetings except in those cases where they are inconsistent with this Constitution.