Constitution of
The International Rough Set Society

Established on 4 December 2005 and modified on 20 April 2011[1]

1 Official Name and Language

Official name of the Society is "International Rough Set Society". It may be abbreviated IRSS. Official language of IRSS is English.

2 Purpose

IRSS is a non-profit organization (NPO) [1] dedicated to scholarship in rough sets introduced during the early 1980s by Zdzisław Pawlak [2, 3, 4]. Principal purpose of IRSS is to promote the study and exchange of ideas concerned with rough set theory, foundations, methods, as well as their extensions and applications. Principal policy of IRSS is to attain this purpose through publications, workshops, international conferences, research projects, and other such activities consistent with the objectives of the Society. Primary function of IRSS is to act as a federation of its Members to accomplish its goals. It is also the policy of IRSS to insist upon the highest standards of scholarship and service from its Members.

3 Membership

There are 3 types of Membership in IRSS: Regular, Student, and Honorary. Requirements for these 3 types of Membership are given in Sect. 2 of IRSS Bylaws. Membership starts whenever its requirements are satisfied and recorded by IRSS, and continues as long as a person continues to satisfy those requirements.

All Members have the following benefits: (1) receiving IRSS announcements, (2) full access to IRSS Homepage, (3) eligibility to publish in IRSS Electronic Bulletin, and (4) eligibility to receive awards such as *Outstanding Scholarship in Rough Sets* or *Exemplary Service for Rough Set Community*. Regular and Honorary Members are voting Members during IRSS election.

4 Organization

Organization of IRSS consists of the following units:

1. Executive Board (EB),
2. Steering Committee (SC),
3. Advisory Board (AB).

---

[1] The revised version of IRSS Constitution and Bylaws was presented at IRSS meeting held at RSCTC 2010. This version was proposed after taking into account remarks gathered at RSCTC 2010 and RSKT 2010. The electronic vote of this version was completed and reported on the IRSS webpage on 20 April 2011.

4.1 Executive Board

IRSS is governed by Executive Board. Executive Board is constituted by 4 EB Officers:

1. President (appointed),
2. Vice President (elected),
3. Secretary (elected),
4. Editor (appointed).

The methods of appointing President and Editor, as well as electing Vice President and Secretary are explained in Sect. 5. Requirements for being appointed as President and Editor, as well as for being a candidate for Vice President and Secretary are given in Sect. 3 of IRSS Bylaws. The tenure of Executive Board is 2 years. The term of Executive Board is started at RSCTC conference (see Sect. 6.1) and is completed at next RSCTC. Executive Board prepares biannual report on the state of rough sets and IRSS, presented at IRSS meeting held at RSCTC that completes Executive Board's term.

Principal purpose of Executive Board is to govern IRSS in accordance with IRSS Constitution and Bylaws. Executive Board is responsible for (1) direction and activities of IRSS, (2) exchange of ideas concerned with rough set foundations and applications, and (3) representing interests of rough set community. Other specific responsibilities of EB Officers are described in Sect. 3 of IRSS Bylaws.

4.2 Steering Committee

Steering Committee is constituted by:

1. SC Chair (elected),
2. Up to 12 SC Members (appointed).

The method of electing SC Chair and appointing SC Members is explained in Sect. 5. Requirements for being a candidate for SC Chair and being appointed as SC Member are given in Sect. 4 of IRSS Bylaws. The tenure of Steering Committee is 2 years. The term of Steering Committee is started at RSCTC conference (see Sect. 6.1) and is completed at next RSCTC.

Principal purpose of Steering Committee is to discuss and vote proposals concerning changes in IRSS Constitution and Bylaws, proposals concerning RSCTC conferences, and appointments for interim EB Officers (see Sect. 3.6 or IRSS Bylaws). Simple majority [7] of SC Members is required to approve each of such proposals and each of such appointments. Other specific responsibilities of SC Chair and SC Members are given in Sect. 4 of IRSS Bylaws.

4.3 Advisory Board

Advisory Board is constituted by:

1. AB Chair (elected),
2. Up to 24 AB Members (appointed).

The method of electing AB Chair and appointing AB Members is explained in Sect. 5. Requirements for being a candidate for AB Chair and being appointed as AB Member are given in Sect. 5 of IRSS Bylaws. The tenure of Advisory Board is 2 years. The term of Advisory Board is started at RSCTC conference (see Sect. 6.1) and is completed at next RSCTC.

Principal purpose of Advisory Board is to advise Executive Board on proposals concerning changes in IRSS Constitution and Bylaws, and to advise President on nominations for Honorary Members, as well as on appointing interim SC and AB Chairs (see Sect. 4.4 of IRSS Bylaws). Other responsibilities of AB Chair and AB Members are given in Sect. 5 of IRSS Bylaws.

5 Elections and Appointments

Vice President initiates election with a call for nominations for candidates for new Vice President, Secretary, SC Chair and AB Chair. Any Regular or Honorary Member can nominate a candidate for any electable office. Simple majority [7] of Regular and Honorary Members is required to accept each of candidates. Detailed election process is described in Sect. 6 of IRSS Bylaws. Election should be finalized and results should be announced before the start of forthcoming RSCTC conference (see Sect. 6.1).

The methods of appointing President, Editor, SC Members and AB Members are as follows: (1) former Vice President is automatically appointed as President at IRSS meeting held at RSCTC, (2) Editor is automatically appointed as a result of approval of application for next RSCTC, (3) SC Members are appointed by SC Chair, and (4) AB Members are appointed by AB Chair.

6 Sponsored Events

IRSS sponsorship of a conference, workshop, or symposium includes (1) announcements and descriptions, as well as call-for-papers published at IRSS Homepage and in IRSS Electronic Bulletin and (2) distribution of call-for-papers at events attended by EB Officers, SC Members, and AB Members.

All proposals for IRSS sponsored conferences, workshops, and symposia are submitted to Vice President. Approval by Executive Board is required before a proposed IRSS sponsored event can be accepted (see Sect. 6.1 for additional regulations concerning RSCTC applications). Detailed description of an application for an IRSS sponsored event is given in Sect. 7.1 of IRSS Bylaws.

IRSS meeting should be scheduled in each sponsored event's programme (see Sect. 7.2 of IRSS Bylaws for details). After the event is held, its organizers send the final report to Secretary (see Sect. 7.3 of IRSS Bylaws for details).

6.1 RSCTC Conferences

RSCTC abbreviates "International Conference on Rough Sets and Current Trends in Computing". It is the series of IRSS sponsored events organized every second year since 1998.

Proposals for RSCTC should follow general guidelines for sponsored events. However, their additional approval by Steering Committee is required. RSCTC proposal should also include recommendation for Editor. A letter stating that recommended person agrees to be appointed as Editor should be attached to proposal. Acceptance of RSCTC proposal implies appointment of recommended person as Editor.

7 Bylaws

In order to carry out obligations as set forth in this Constitution and to conduct the business of IRSS, Executive Board shall adopt Bylaws (i.e., laws or rules governing the internal affairs of an organization (see, e.g., [5, 6])). Executive Board shall have authority to interpret IRSS Bylaws. Rules for amending IRSS Bylaws are given in Sect. 9.

8 Governance

All matters of conflict and controversy that are not resolvable by IRSS Constitution will be settled according to the laws of the country of registration for IRSS.

9 Amendments

Amendments to IRSS Constitution and Bylaws can be proposed by Executive Board, Steering Committee, Advisory Board, or at least 25% of Regular and Honorary Members.

All proposed amendments to IRSS Constitution and Bylaws must first be accepted by Executive Board. An approval by simple majority [7] of Steering Committee is required prior to acceptance by Executive Board. Amendments accepted by Executive Board are included in the ballot for next IRSS election. Final passage of a proposed amendment of IRSS Constitution or Bylaws requires approval by simple majority of Regular and Honorary Members.

References

[1] http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Non-profit_organization

[2] Pawlak, Z.: Classification of Objects by Means of Attributes. Institute for Computer Science, Polish Academy of Sciences Report 429, March 1981.

[3] Pawlak, Z.: Rough Sets. Institute for Computer Science, Polish Academy of Sciences Report 431, March 1981.

[4] Pawlak, Z.: Rough sets, *International J. Comp. Inform. Science*, 11, 1982, 341–356.

[5] The American Heritage ® Dictionary of the English Language, Copyright © 2004, 2001 by Houghton Mifflin.

[6] Wordnet 1.7.1, Copyright © 2001 by Princeton University.

[7] http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Simple_majority