

Officers

There shall be eight elected officers of SCAS (herein referred to as “The Executive”): President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, At Large Member (X 2), Student Representative and Early Career Professional Representative. All officers shall be elected for a period of one or two years as outlined below. There will also be a number of ex-officio members invited to serve on the executive in an ex-officio, advisory and liaison capacity. Note: Given that early on we need to establish SCAS activities, the first suite of officers will be appointed with terms of varying duration to ensure overlap as elected members join the Executive in year 2.

The nomination and election procedures will adhere to a suite of guiding principles intended to ensure that we consider and celebrate diversity of all forms. SCAS represents diverse disciplinary domains (e.g., limnology, fisheries, oceanography), realms (freshwater, marine, estuarine), affiliations (e.g., academia, industry, government, non governmental), and roles (e.g., from knowledge holder to knowledge generator to knowledge user). SCAS members live and work from coast to coast to coast. SCAS deliberations and communications strive to reflect the equal status of Canada’s two official languages. In addition, SCAS recognizes the important knowledge, cultural practices, teachings and wisdom of Indigenous community members. SCAS embraces JEDI principles and strives to ensure that our leadership team is inclusive and provides opportunities from all designated groups to participate in a safe and welcoming environment. Executive members would normally serve for a single term in a given position, but if re-elected could serve for a second consecutive term in that position or assume a different position. After a second term on the Executive (no matter the position), an individual would be required to take at least a 2 year forced pause with the Executive to ensure opportunity for a diversity of voices to participate in SCAS leadership.

Duties of Officers

President: The President shall be the chief executive officer of SCAS and shall be responsible for implementing the strategic plans and policies of SCAS. The President shall have general supervision of the affairs of SCAS. The President chairs all SCAS official meetings, acts as senior official representative of SCAS at relevant functions, and represents SCAS nationally and internationally. The president serves for a 1 year period.

Vice-President: Responsible for oversight and coordination of the annual SCAS conference which involves engagement with the local arrangements chair(s) and the program chair(s). Responsible for all matters relating to the election of the Secretary and Treasurer positions. Represents SCAS nationally and internationally on behalf of the President at their request. The vice president serves for a 1 year period before transitioning to the president.

Treasurer: Receives and administers membership fees and other income from fundraising and meetings. Works with the executive to develop an annual budget. Maintains financial records and communicates with an auditor as necessary. Reports on status of membership and finances at annual business meetings or as requested by the executive. The treasurer serves for 2 years.

Secretary: Receives and distributes materials relating to membership and meetings between

membership and other executives. Records and distributes minutes of annual business meetings and regular meetings of the Executive. Responsible for all matters relating to the election of President and Vice-President, ECR member, Student member and the two members at large. This requires the creation of a nominating committee. Coordinates any balloting required for changes to By-laws. Ensures that constitutional matters related to the By-laws are adhered to as necessary. Serves as the custodian of all books, papers, records, documents and other instruments belonging to SCAS. The secretary serves for 2 years.

Members at Large (X 2): Represents the diverse interests of the SCAS membership. Supports the President and Vice-President with duties as assigned. Serve for 2 years.

Student Representative: Represents the interests of SCAS students. Serves as the formal liaison with and as co-Chair of the Student/ECR Committee of SCAS. Supports the President and Vice-President with duties as assigned. The student representative serves for 1 year.

ECR Representative: The ECR representative should normally be within 5 years of completing their terminal degree. Represents the interests of SCAS early career researchers who are not enrolled as students but are continuing their training (e.g., as post docs) or new to the work world. Serves as the formal liaison with and as co-Chair of the Student/ECR Committee of SCAS. Supports the President and Vice-President with duties as assigned. The ECR representative serves for 1 year.

Ex-Officio Participants: The Chairs of the Awards and Recognitions, JEDII, Communications, Fundraising, Student/ECR Committee, and Conference Local Arrangements Committee are invited to serve as ex-officio (non-voting) members of the Executive. Their role is advisory and as a liaison between the Executive and the various SCAS standing committees and ad hoc committees. The Past President also serves in an ex-officio role to ensure continuity.

Procedures

The incumbent Vice-President of SCAS shall be appointed to the position of President. If this position cannot proceed, the President will be elected by the Board. Voting for the President shall be by secret ballot of board members conducted via electronic means.

Nominees for the position of Vice-President, Treasurer, two at-large members, student representative and ECR representative shall be solicited from the full membership by the Secretary in coordination with the Nominating Committee. Voting for those positions shall be by secret ballot of all members conducted via electronic means. All nominees and office holders must be members in good standing of SCAS.