



# **The International Association for Plant UV Research**

## ***Rules***

### **1. Name**

The name is “The International Association for Plant UV Research” (UV4Plants).

### **2. Objectives**

**2.1 The overall aim of the Association is to promote excellence in Plant UV research, scholarship and outreach.**

**2.2 The specific objectives of the Association are:**

- **To advance Plant UV Research by promoting sharing of knowledge and collaboration among researchers, both from academic and non-academic organizations.**
- **To promote and foster a culture of research-excellence and good practice in Plant UV Research through the organisation of innovative events in research, public engagement and education.**
- **To provide channels for members to inform the Plant UV Research community about relevant activities or events of common interest.**
- **To enhance the usefulness of Plant UV Research by facilitating the transfer of knowledge from academia to stakeholders and the general public.**
- **To initiate and foster stakeholder contacts as part of an agenda of product development.**
- **To liaise with scientific funding bodies to inform their research agenda.**
- **To liaise with other learned-scientific bodies for the benefit of the members.**
- **To develop with its members the benefits of membership and the relevance of the Association.**

### **3. Membership**

**3.1 Membership is open to any person or legal entity with an interest in the objectives of the Association. Membership is subject to an annual membership fee. Members may join as individuals or as commercial members, all of which have equal voting rights.**

**3.2 The Treasurer will annually publish the membership fees, including details of reduced membership fees for early stage, retired and unemployed scientists**

**3.3 Resignation of membership will be accepted at any stage, but membership fees will not be refunded.**

**3.4 Members are expected to abide by the laws regulating, research ethics, practice, patents and intellectual property rights. The Managing Committee will reserve the right to suspend or expel members if it is agreed that they have contravened the objectives of the Association and/or brought the Association in disrepute.**

**3.5 Members will be entitled to reduced registration fees at conferences organised by the Association. The exact level of the rebate will be agreed between local organisers and the Managing Committee.**

### **4. Payment of membership fees**

**Fees will be due in advance of the year of membership. Members whose fees are unpaid after the due date (January 1, of each year) will have their membership rights suspended after 3 months, and will be permanently suspended after 12 months.**

### **5. The Managing Committee**

**5.1 Overall responsibility for the day-to-day running of the Association is assigned to a Managing Committee.**

**5.2 An *ad hoc* Managing Committee will run the Association from 1/1/15 until the first General Meeting (GM) which must be held not later than 31/12/16. The *ad hoc* committee is comprised of Dr Marcel Jansen (President), Prof Åke Strid (VicePresident), Mr Gyula Czégény (Secretary), Dr Matt Robson (Treasurer), Dr Pedro Aphalo (Communications Officer) and Dr Susanne Neugart and Dr Laura Llorens Guasch (ordinary members).**

**5.3 Only members of the Association are eligible to be elected to the Managing Committee of the Association.**

**5.4 The Managing Committee shall consist of the following officers: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Communications Officer and two, three, or four ordinary members. When not enough members are available to serve on the Managing Committee, the number of members on the Committee may temporarily be reduced, and/or officers may assume multiple functions. The number of officers and members on the Managing Committee shall not be less than 4.**

**5.5 At least one place on the Managing Committee will be reserved for a member from a non-European country.**

**5.6 At least one ordinary member of the Managing Committee will be an early career researcher.**

**5.7 The responsibilities of the President shall include:**

- **Chairing of meetings of the Committee and General (GM) or Extraordinary General (EGM) meetings of the Association.**
- **Responsibility for the overall running of the Committee.**
- **Delegating any other duties to ordinary members as are seen fit.**

**5.8 The responsibilities of the Vice-President shall include:**

- **The duties of the President in the event of the President being unavailable.**
- **The legal affairs of the Association.**
- **The constitutional affairs of the Committee.**
- **Providing, collecting and counting ballot papers at elections.**

**5.9 The responsibilities of the Secretary shall include:**

- **The preparation of agendas and minutes for meetings of the Committee and the Association.**
- **Maintaining a list of members and their contact details.**
- **The keeping and proper archiving of the Committee's records.**

**5.10 The responsibilities of the Treasurer shall include:**

- **The financial matters of the Association.**

- **All dealings with banks and other financial institutions in conjunction with the Chairperson.**
- **The general correspondence of the Association and matters arising therefrom.**
- **Maintaining and reporting the financial records of the Association.**

**5.11 The responsibilities of the Communications Officer shall include:**

- **Disseminating information concerning the activities of the Association.**
- **Maintaining public relations with other scientific societies, the press, and all other interested parties.**
- **Maintaining the UV4Plants website.**
- **Coordinating any publications by the Association.**

**5.12 The responsibilities of the former (past) president shall include: Advising the current president and vice president on all matters relevant to the association.**

**5.13 The Managing Committee is comprised of members from three or more different nations.**

**5.14 It is anticipated that the Managing Committee is in regular contact using electronic means where possible.**

**5.15 Committee meetings shall be convened by the Secretary.**

**5.16 Decisions of the Managing Committee are based on majority votes of those present. The quorum for Managing Committee meetings is 4. The President has the casting vote in case of deadlock.**

**5.17 Ordinary members elected to the Managing Committee may remain on the Committee for no longer than two consecutive terms of 2 years' each, but this restriction does not apply to officers. All members shall be re-eligible for election after the elapse of one term.**

**5.18 In the case of a Managing Committee Officer departing, the Committee shall appoint one of its ordinary members until an election can be held.**

**5.19 Managing Committee Officers remain in position until a new Managing Committee has been agreed by the General Meeting (see 7.11).**

## **6. Financial affairs of the Association**

**6.1 The Association's financial affairs are managed by the Treasurer, in conjunction with the Managing Committee.**

**6.2 Under normal circumstances, the Association will not request credit or overdrawing facilities. Any such request cannot be made without agreement of the President, Vice-president, Secretary and Treasurer.**

**6.3 The Association aims to attract corporate sponsors, to help finance its activities.**

**6.4 An annual financial report, detailing income and expenditure, shall be made available for inspection by members.**

**6.5 All Managing Committee members work on a voluntary basis without payment. However, expenses arising from Association business may on occasion be reimbursed if the majority of Committee Members agrees.**

## **7. General meetings**

**7.1 The Association will hold a General Meeting (GM) every other year. This will be linked to a scientific meeting that is open to all interested parties. The GM itself is open to Association members only.**

**7.2 The quorum of the GM of the Association is 10. Inquorate meetings may transfer agreed proposals to electronic vote of the members. Any proposal accepted by electronic voting is deemed to be approved by the aforementioned GM.**

**7.3 Extraordinary General Meetings (EGM) can be convened by the Secretary on request of the Managing Committee, or the written request of at least one quarter of the members of the Association.**

**7.4 The agenda at the GM or EGM shall be as follows:**

- **Minutes of the previous meeting.**
- **Matters arising from the minutes.**
- **Reports by the Officers.**
- **Matters arising from these reports.**
- **Motions by members**
- **Elections to Managing Committee**
- **Any other business.**

- 7.5 Any member of the association holds one vote.**
- 7.6 Alterations to the rules can be proposed by any member at the GM.**
- 7.7 Alterations to the rules will either require a 75:25 majority vote, or alternatively a simple majority at two consecutive general meetings spaced at least 11 months in time. All other motions require a simple majority.**
- 7.8 Amendments to the Rules may only be made at a GM of the Association and not at a Managing Committee meeting.**
- 7.9 Notice of a motion to amend the rules must be communicated in writing to the Secretary at least twenty-one days prior to the GM or EGM at which it is to be proposed. Amendments may only be proposed by members. Details of any proposed amendments shall be circulated to the members by the Secretary at least ten days prior to the meeting.**
- 7.10 A motion to impeach an Officer or Member of the Committee shall require a 75:25 majority of those members of the Association present at the GM.**
- 7.11 At the GM the President, the Vice-President, the Secretary, the Treasurer, the Communications Officer, and the ordinary members of the Committee, shall be elected in that order for the following two years. The candidate receiving most votes in a single choice ballot is deemed to be elected. In case of a tie, the chair of the meeting may cast the deciding vote.**
- 7.12 Nominations for the positions of any of the Officers or ordinary Committee members may be submitted in writing to the Secretary twenty-one days in advance of the GM at which the election is to be held. Proposed names shall be circulated to the members by the Secretary at least fourteen days prior to the meeting.**
- 7.13 If only one nomination is received for an office then a yes/no vote shall take place to ensure that (s)he is acceptable to the ordinary membership. If this position is not filled, a new election shall take place immediately.**
- 7.14 If no nominations for a position on the Committee are received then the sitting Committee member may remain as set out in Article 5.11 above.**
- 7.15 The new Committee will take office within seven days of election.**

**7.16 The Chairperson shall keep order at GM or EGM and the Chair's decisions on matters of order shall be final. The Vice-Chairperson will act in this capacity should the Chairperson be unavailable.**

**7.17 The Secretary will generate a written report of the meeting, including decisions taken, and this will be made available to all members.**

## **8. Dissolution of the Association**

**8.1 The Association's status vis-à-vis its objectives will be reviewed annually by the Managing Committee, this may include an exploration of a strategic alliance with another scientific body.**

**8.2 Proposals to dissolve the Association will require a 75:25 majority at a GM or EGM.**