

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS
for the **Minority Issues Forum**
of the
INSTITUTE FOR OPERATIONS RESEARCH AND THE MANAGEMENT
SCIENCES

Article 1 - Name

This organization shall be named the **MINORITY ISSUES Forum** of the Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences.

Article 2 - Purposes

The purposes of this Forum shall be:

1. To foster under-represented minority participation in Operations Research and Management Science
2. To develop close ties among those interested in increasing the number of minority participants in Operations Research and Management Science
3. To disseminate information about the issues facing minority researchers and practitioners

Article 3 - Membership

Any member of the Institute may become a Forum Member by paying the Forum dues. Non-members of the Institute may become Forum members by paying the special fee for non-members of the Institute. (See Section VII of the Fora Handbook.) All members of the Forum shall have equal rights and privileges except that only INFORMS members may hold Forum offices (See Article 5).

Article 4 - Officers

1. The officers of the Forum shall be a President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer.
2. The President shall be the chief administrative officer of the Forum and shall be responsible for the development and execution of the Forum's program. He/she shall (a) call and organize meetings of the Forum, (b) appoint ad hoc committees as required, (c) appoint chairs and members of standing committees, (d) manage the affairs of the Forum between meetings, and (e) preside at Forum Board meetings and Forum membership meetings.
3. The Vice President shall be the principal assistant administrative officer of the Forum 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 Forum's program and required budget for the

coming year. He/she shall become the Chair of the Forum for the year after his/her term of office as Vice Chair.

4. The Secretary shall conduct the correspondence of the Forum, keep the minutes and records of the Forum, maintain contact with the Society, receive reports of activities from those Forum Committees that may be established, conduct the annual election of officers and Board members for the Forum, make arrangements for the regular meetings of the Board and the membership meetings of the Forum, make arrangements for the orderly transfer of all the Forum's records to the Secretary succeeding him/her, and perform other duties usual to the office of an organization's Secretary.
5. The Treasurer shall be responsible for the administration and disbursement of the Forum funds as directed by the Forum Board, prepare and distribute reports of the financial condition of the Forum, help prepare the annual budget of the Forum for submission to the Institute, and make arrangements for the orderly transfer of all the Forum's records to the Treasurer succeeding him/her, and perform other duties usual to the office of an organization's Treasurer.

Article 5 - Election and Tenure of Forum Officials

1. The terms of office of each elected official shall be two years. Each officer will be elected at the fall meeting. The elected officer must be elected by a majority of the forum members present.
2. At the penultimate meeting, the officers shall nominate at least one candidate for each of the four positions being filled. Additional nominations may be made by petition signed by at least three members or from the floor of an election meeting.
3. Voting will be done by secret ballot at the last general meeting of the officer's term of office. A majority of the ballots cast by members for each office shall be necessary by election. Ties shall be resolved by means of fair random processes.

Article 6 – Meetings

The Forum will hold at least one meeting per year. The time, place and agenda of each meeting shall be set by the Officers and announced in advance by the Secretary.

Article 7 - Responsibility to the Institute

The Forum shall operate in accordance with the Constitution and Bylaws of the Institute. The INFORMS Board may suspend or revoke the Charter of the Forum for inappropriate operations and/or procedures.

Article 8 – Dues

Dues to defray annual operating expenses may be assessed on all members by a majority vote of those present at a meeting.

Article 9 - Amendments

Amendments to the Bylaws may be made in any meeting following announcement in a previous meeting or by the Secretary. The Secretary, no later than seven days before the next meeting, shall submit in writing the proposed Amendment to all members of the Forum and the vote will occur at the next meeting. The Amendment must be approved by two-thirds of the members present. Following approval by the Forum, the Amendment must be sent to the INFORMS Vice President for Subdivisions who will present the Amendment to the INFORMS Board. The Amendment becomes effective when approved by the INFORMS Board.