

AGM 2026 (New) Policy for the identification and appointment of Class Chairs

THE MEMBERS PRESENT AT THE AGM ARE INVITED TO adopt the policy document for immediate application.

Background

The current policy that describes the process for the identification and appointment of Class chairs is at annex A below.

At their meeting in Munich on 26 March, 2026 and as a part of the ongoing review of the governance of the AE, the Board agreed to revise the existing procedures to increase the engagement of Section committees in the process. The new draft procedure is set out below. The Board discussed the proposals at their meeting in Cambridge on 6th July this year. They would now ask the membership present in Budapest to approve the policy.

Annex A (current policy) PROPOSED CHANGES ARE INDICATED IN RED

(Original) policy for the election of Class Chairs (was adopted at the Board meeting of 22 October 2019

Background

[This policy was discussed in Draft at the November 2018 Board following a proposal tabled by Professor Larsen]. **The final draft was adopted in October 2019**

Policy for the appointment of Class Chairs

1. A class chair is an appointment for a single term of **5** ~~3~~ years, ~~renewable once~~.
2. Class chairs are co-opted members of the board of Trustees for the duration of their term.
3. Six months before the end of a Class Chair's mandate, **the section committees of the Class are invited by the Board to propose suitable candidates for Class chair**. The ~~sitting~~ Class chair **and the Section committee chairs** shall act as a search group to identify suitable candidates for the position of Class chair.
4. **The Class chairs shall submit a shortlist of not more than three suitable candidates to the board of trustees**. ~~If more than one candidate is identified, a ranking is made. The section chairs may consult their committees in search of candidates. The incumbent President should also be consulted informally to ensure any candidates' suitability to serve on the Board of Trustees. A list of three nominations should be prepared for the Board.~~
5. **The Board of trustees shall decide on the appointment of a Class chair from the shortlist.**
6. A new class chair should not come from the same section as the outgoing Class chair.

7. A class chair cannot simultaneously be the chair of a Section, or play any role in a Section committee.
8. If for any reason a serving Class chair has to step down, or resigns during their mandate, the deputy chair shall assume the chairmanship until the end of the normal term of the resigning/retiring Chair.
9. Under the circumstances described in point 7 8, the normal search procedure (point 3) will operate to find a new Chair.
10. Within six months of appointment, an incoming Class chair shall propose to the Board the appointment of a deputy chair, who should come from a different Section.
11. A retiring Class chair may, if approved, become a member of a Section committee under the policy for Section Committees.

[Note from the ExecSec: Class chairs do not automatically carry the title of Vice President (ex officio). The designation of a Class Chair as a 'Vice president', can only be done under the Regulations, Section 7 (2) and is an ex officio title granted by the incumbent President. The regulations state:

(Section 7 (2)); "A President may, after consultation with the Council and with the approval of the Board, co-opt member(s) to the Board, and/or designate the same, or serving Trustee(s) as 'Vice President(s) ex officio', to assist in the discharge of their Presidency, providing that the number of Trustees does not exceed the number as set out in the Articles of Association. The designation of Vice President ex officio, shall automatically cease with the ending of the term of the appointing President and shall be non-renewable. Excepting, that the term of any extant co-option or election/appointment as a Trustee shall continue to the end of the normal term of co-option as otherwise determined"

NOTE in drafting: An amendment to this regulation will be proposed to the AGM in 2021, so as to allow Class chairs appointed as Vice Presidents, to carry their title to the end of their Class Chair mandates, even in the event of a change of President.]