

IEEE BIOMETRICS COUNCIL CONSTITUTION

Version 2.1 – September 28th, 2008

ARTICLE I – NAME AND PURPOSE

Section 1. The name of the organization constituted herein shall be the IEEE Biometrics Council, hereinafter referred to as BC or "the Council."

Section 2. The Council is established and organized within the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc., hereinafter called IEEE or "the IEEE." The Council will comply with the IEEE purposes, regulations, governance, and activities.

Section 3. The purpose of the Council is to advance and coordinate the work in the field of biometrics technologies and applications which is carried throughout the IEEE and to expand the IEEE's role in this interdisciplinary field. The Council is scientific, technical, literary and educational in character to provide a forum for the discussion and the exchange of information to advance the theory and the practice in this field of interest. The Council will promote technical activities, sponsor technical meetings and sessions, publish periodicals, promote educational activities, develop standards, and engage in any other activity defined within its field of interest.

ARTICLE II – FIELD OF INTEREST

Section 1. The Field of Interest of the Council shall be the theory, design, and application of biometric characterization of human beings, based on physiological and/or behavioral features and traits, in particular for identification, identity verification, authentication, encryption, recognition and medical diagnosis.

ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. The Council shall be composed of IEEE Societies (hereinafter called "Member Societies") which are interested in biometrics technologies and applications and are supporting technical activities in the field. The Member Societies will share the responsibility for all obligations of the Council, including financial, in accordance with this Constitution and the Council's Bylaws.

Section 2. Each new Member Society must be approved by a two-thirds affirmative vote of the voting members of the Council's Administrative Committee, as defined hereinafter, and by the IEEE Technical Activities Board before it may join the Council.

ARTICLE IV – FINANCES

Section 1. The Member Societies have the responsibility for the financial aspects of the Council.

Section 2. The Council may charge fees for attending its meetings, educational activities, and dissemination events, for publishing manuscripts accepted in its journals and conference proceedings, for using its services, and for its cooperation in activities and events. The Council may also raise revenues by other means (such as advertising, exhibitions, shows, publication sales, requests for contributions, donations, etc.).

ARTICLE V – TECHNICAL ACTIVITIES

Section 1. The Council may sponsor and/or organize technical activities (such as research on theoretical and application issues, technical forums, etc.), either alone or in cooperation with other Organizational Units of the IEEE and/or other technical organizations.

Section 2. Technical activities will be directed to foster the advancement of the theory and practice and the interaction among scientists and professionals in the field of interest of the Council.

Section 3. The Council will be responsible, jointly with the possible technically cooperating organizations, for selecting the material for the technical activities. The Council will be responsible, jointly with the possible co-sponsoring organizations, for the financial aspects of the technical activities that are co-sponsored by the Council.

ARTICLE VI – TECHNICAL MEETINGS

Section 1. The Council may sponsor and/or hold technical meetings (such as congresses, conferences, symposia, workshops, lecture series, tutorials, conventions, etc.), either alone or in cooperation with other Organizational Units of the IEEE and/or other technical organizations.

Section 2. Technical meetings will be directed to foster the advancement of the theory and practice in the field of interest of the Council, its awareness, the dissemination of related knowledge, and the interaction among attendees.

Section 3. The Council will be responsible, jointly with the possible technically cooperating organizations, for selecting the material to be presented at the technical meetings. The Council will be responsible, jointly with the possible co-sponsoring organizations, for the financial aspects of the technical meetings that are co-sponsored by the Council. Technical meetings shall be open to all IEEE members on an equal basis.

ARTICLE VII – PUBLICATIONS

Section 1. The Council may produce publications (such as Transactions, Journals, Magazines, or other products) by using any publication media, either alone or in cooperation with other Organizational Units of the IEEE and/or other technical organizations.

Section 2. Publications will be produced to foster the advancement of the theory and practice in the field of interest of the Council, awareness about it, and the dissemination of the related knowledge.

Section 3. The Council will be responsible, jointly with the possible technically cooperating organizations, for selecting the material to be published. The Council will be responsible, jointly with the possible co-sponsoring organizations, for the financial aspects of the publications that are co-sponsored by the Council.

ARTICLE VIII – EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Section 1. The Council may promote and/or hold educational activities (such as tutorials, courses, etc.) by using any dissemination media, either alone or jointly with other Organizational Units of the IEEE and/or other technical organizations.

Section 2. The educational activities will be directed to foster the awareness about the field of interest of the Council, the dissemination of the related knowledge, and the promotion of the professional standing of persons in such a field.

Section 3. The Council will be responsible, jointly with the possible technically cooperating organizations, for selecting the material to be presented in the educational activities. The Council will be responsible, jointly with the possible co-sponsoring organizations, for the financial aspects of the educational activities that are co-sponsored by the Council.

ARTICLE IX – MEMBERS ACTIVITIES

Section 1. The Council may promote and/or organize activities and services for members of the Member Societies other than technical meetings, publications, educational activities, by using any technical media, either alone or jointly with other Organizational Units of the IEEE and/or other technical organizations.

Section 2. The activities and services referred above will be directed to promote the professional standing of members of the Member Societies and the networking among them and with persons involved in the field of interest of the Council.

Section 3. The Council will be responsible, jointly with the possible technically cooperating organizations, for selecting the material to be presented in these activities and services. The Council will be responsible, jointly with the possible co-sponsoring organizations, for the financial aspects of the activities and services that are co-sponsored by the Council.

ARTICLE X – STANDARDS

Section 1. The Council may promote standards, either alone or jointly with other Organizational Units of the IEEE and/or other technical organizations.

Section 2. The standardization activities will be promoted to foster the advancement of the practice in the field of interest of the Council.

ARTICLE XI – GOVERNANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Section 1. The Administrative Committee (hereinafter called also AdCom) is established to govern and administer the Council. The AdCom defines the strategies and policies to manage the Council and realize the societal purpose, monitors the Council’s activities, and evaluates the outcomes.

Section 2. The Executive Committee (hereinafter called also ExCom) is established to implement the AdCom strategies, policies, and decisions, and to coordinate the Council operations. The ExCom is concerned with the global view of the day-to-day affairs of the Council.

Section 3. The AdCom is composed of:

- a. the Officers of the Council, as defined hereinafter,
- b. the AdCom Members-at-Large, as defined hereinafter.

Section 4. The Officers of the Council are:

- a. the President,
- b. the Past President,
- c. the President-Elect,
- d. the Vice President for Conferences,
- e. the Vice President for Education,
- f. the Vice President for Finances,
- g. the Vice President for Publications,
- h. the Vice President for Technical Activities.

Section 5. The AdCom Members-at-Large are the representatives of the Member Societies. Each Member Society shall appoint two AdCom Members-at-Large: one as its Primary Representative, the other as its Alternate Representative.

Section 6. The ExCom is composed of the Officers of the Council.

Section 7. The President is the presiding Officer of the Council, chairs the AdCom and the ExCom, and represents the Council. The President is an ex-officio voting member of all Committees, except the following committees defined in the Council’s Bylaws: Awards Committee, Fellows Committee, and Nominations Committee. The President cannot be nominated member of the Awards Committee, Fellows Committee, and Nominations Committee.

Section 8. The Vice Presidents, the Past President, and the President-Elect assist the President in his/her duties as defined in the Council’s Bylaws.

Section 9. The AdCom shall meet at least once per year. A majority of the voting members of the AdCom shall constitute a quorum.

Section 10. All AdCom Members-at-Large who are Primary Representatives and all Officers have voting privileges in the AdCom, except the presiding AdCom member. The AdCom member chairing the AdCom has voting privileges if the vote is by secret ballot or if his/her vote can change the outcome of the vote. In the absence of the Primary Representative of a Member Society, the Alternate Representative of that Society will have the voting privileges.

Section 11. All ExCom members have voting privileges in the ExCom meetings, except the one chairing the meeting. The ExCom member chairing the ExCom meeting has voting privileges if the vote is by secret ballot or if his/her vote can change the outcome of the vote.

Section 12. The AdCom may establish Standing Committees to assist itself in specific areas of the Council's activities.

ARTICLE XII – VACANCIES

Section 1. The existence of a vacancy among the members of the AdCom will be determined by the AdCom in accordance with the Council's Bylaws.

Section 2. Vacancies shall be filled by ADCOM in accordance with the Council's Bylaws.

ARTICLE XIII – NOMINATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

Section 1. The Nominations Committee is responsible of managing the nomination process for the Officers positions as specified in the Council's Bylaws.

ARTICLE XIV – AMENDMENTS

Section 1. Amendments to this Constitution may be initiated by the Constitution and Bylaws Committee defined in the Council's Bylaws, by the AdCom, or by petition submitted by at least two percent of the total number of voting members of the Member Societies as listed in the official membership records at the end of the previous year. The President shall distribute any proposed amendment to the members of the AdCom, at least thirty days prior to the AdCom meeting in which the amendment will be considered. Any proposed amendment needs to be approved by at least two-thirds of the AdCom members. After AdCom approval, the proposed amendment shall be submitted by the President to the Chairperson of the IEEE Technical Activities Board for approval.

Section 2. Amendments to the Constitution shall become effective immediately after all necessary approvals and notifications, unless a later date has been specified at the time the vote is taken. If the amendment changes the membership of the AdCom, the current AdCom members shall continue to serve until their individual term expires.

Section 3. Amendments to the Council's Bylaws may be initiated by the Constitution and Bylaws Committee, by the ExCom, by the AdCom, or by petition submitted by at least two

percent of the total number of voting members of the Member Societies as listed in the official membership records at the end of the previous year.

The Council President shall distribute any proposed amendment to the members of the AdCom, at least thirty days prior to the AdCom meeting in which the amendment will be considered.

Any proposed amendment needs to be approved by at least two-thirds of the AdCom members who are present at the meeting.

Section 4. Amendments to the Council's Bylaws shall become effective thirty days after all necessary approvals and notifications, unless a later date has been specified at the time the vote is taken.