

**THE ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION AND  
THE CONSTITUTION OF  
THE MU SIGMA RHO SOCIETY, INCORPORATED**

*The text below includes constitutional changes approved in 1993, 1995, 2004, 2006, 2011, 2015, and 2023.*

**We, the undersigned, acting as incorporators of a corporation under the Iowa Non-Profit Corporation Act, 1965, 1961 G.A. Chapter 388, Section 1, adopt the following Articles of Incorporation for said corporation.**

**ARTICLE I  
Name**

The name of the corporation is the Mu Sigma Rho Society, which was founded at Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa. Each chapter is designated by its university name or its affiliated American Statistical Association chapter.

**ARTICLE II  
Purpose**

This corporation is not organized for pecuniary profit, nor shall it have any power to issue certificates of stock or declare dividends, and no part of its net earnings shall inure to the benefit of any member, director, or individual.

Mu Sigma Rho is a non-secret organization whose purpose is the promotion and encouragement of scholarly activity in statistics and the recognition of worthwhile achievement among the staff and students in eligible academic and nonacademic institutions. It aims to do this by:

- 1 electing members according to their academic achievement, especially in the field of statistics;
- 2 engaging in activities designed to promote the statistical and general scholarly development of its members;
- 3 encouraging participation in the various professional statistical societies and associations.

**ARTICLE III  
Organization of the Association**

*Section 1. Chapters. General Statement.* Mu Sigma Rho is a statistical society consisting of

chapters at various approved institutions of learning, and affiliate chapters at approved non-academic institutions. Each such chapter derives its existence either directly from the Act of Incorporation of the Society, as in the case of the parent chapter, or else from a charter granted in accordance with the Constitution of the Society by virtue of the powers conveyed in the said Act of Incorporation.

## *Section 2. Qualifications for Chapters*

*Section 2.1 Qualifications for a Chapter.* A chapter of Mu Sigma Rho may be chartered only in an academic institution whose standards are excellent in all departments and particularly so in statistics. In order to qualify for a chapter, the petitioning institution must have high standards as indicated by the quality of its faculty, academic standards and equipment, and must be capable of maintaining the standards of the Society and spreading its scholarly spirit and ideals. Several institutions in the same geographic area may jointly apply as a petitioning institution. Specifically:

2.11 The petition must be initiated by a statistics club or similar organization that has been an active scholarly body at the academic institution for at least one year.

2.12 The average total number of upper-class students (juniors, seniors, and graduates) majoring in statistics at the institution shall be at least five.

2.13 If an undergraduate curriculum in statistics exists at the petitioning institution, then this curriculum in statistics shall require at least 14 semester hours (or 21 quarter hours) for a major.

2.14 The section or department of statistics at the petitioning institution shall have on its staff at least one person with a Ph.D. in statistics or a related field.

2.15 The petition shall have the endorsement of the chair of the section or department of statistics in the petitioning institution.

2.16 At least five persons at the institution shall be eligible for membership and shall become charter members.

*Section 2.2 Qualifications for an Affiliate Chapter.* Affiliate chapters exist as a vehicle to enable isolated qualified students to be inducted into Mu Sigma Rho. Any Chapter of the American Statistical Association is automatically granted Mu Sigma Rho Affiliate Chapter status and need not petition for this. Besides these, any group of statisticians at a non-academic institution or comprising a chapter or section of a statistical society may apply for an affiliate chapter of Mu Sigma Rho, provided that the following requirements are fulfilled:

2.21 The petitioning organization shall have at least one person holding a Ph.D. degree in statistics or a related field on its staff.

2.22 The petition shall have the endorsement of an executive officer of the institution, if any.

2.23 At least five persons of the organization shall be eligible for membership and shall become charter affiliate members.

*Section 2.3 Qualifications for Chapters of Other Statistical Honoraries.* Chapters in other statistical honoraries in existence at the time of this charter may have the above qualifications, or

any portion of them, waived by the Council if such action is sustained by the chapters through the election of the new chapter. Explanation of which sections of the above qualifications are waived, along with a majority and minority report from Council on this action, shall accompany the petition to the chapters.

*Section 3. Election of New Chapters.* The candidate organization shall petition the Society through the Secretary-Treasurer, submitting the names of its proposed charter members together with a statement of information as to its qualifications to be a chapter. This petition shall be submitted to the Council, which shall consider whether the institution fulfills the requirements set forth in Section 2 of this article. If a majority of the Council decides in favor of the institution, the petition shall then, upon payment of the petition filing fee, be submitted to the chapters together with majority and minority reports from the Council.

The chapters shall be allowed a period of one month in which to report their vote to the Secretary-Treasurer. If, during that time, a majority of the responding chapters have voted in the affirmative, the petition shall be granted; otherwise the petition shall be rejected, and another petition shall not be considered from the same institution for a period of three years.

*Section 4. Procedure of Installation.* When an organization has been elected to chapter membership, in accordance with Section 3 of this article, and when the charter fee and the initiation fees of charter members have been received by the Secretary-Treasurer, the organization shall then become a chapter of Mu Sigma Rho.

*Section 5. Forfeiture of Charter.* If any chapter shall be deemed by the Council to have ceased functioning according to the provisions of this Constitution, that chapter maybe required by unanimous action of the Council to return its charter and cease to use the name of the society, except that any such chapter may appeal the action of the Council to the chapters and in this case the action of the Council shall be of no effect unless the Council shall be sustained in its action by the same vote as in admitting new chapters.

*Section 6. Original Directors.* The names and positions of the original Directors who were all at Iowa State University were Donald K. Hotchkiss, President; Wayne Fuller, Vice President; Herbert T. David, Secretary-Treasurer; Theodore A. Bancroft, Director at Large; David V. Huntsberger, Director at Large; and Oscar Kempthorne, Director at Large.

*Section 7. Incorporators.* The names of the incorporators who all lived in County of Story, Iowa, were Theodore A. Bancroft, David V. Huntsberger, and Oscar Kempthorne.

*Section 8. Registration Office.* The address of the initial Registration Office is the Department of Statistics, Snedecor Hall, Iowa State University, Ames, County of Story, Iowa 50011, and the name of the initial registered agent at such address is Dr. Theodore A. Bancroft. Succeeding registered agents shall be appointed by the President as required and their names and addresses communicated to the proper authorities of the State of Iowa.

*Section 9. Headquarters.* The headquarters of the association shall be located at the office of the Secretary-Treasurer.

## **ARTICLE IV**

### **Members**

*Section 1. Minimum Qualifications for Membership.* Minimum qualifications for membership from any country shall be proposed by the Council. Such a proposal shall then go before the chapters, which shall have three months in which to consider it. In order that the proposal be adopted, it shall be necessary and sufficient that at least three-fourths of the active chapters shall vote, and that, of those voting, at least two-thirds shall vote in the affirmative. Minimum qualifications in any country shall be valid for all students enrolled in schools in that country.

Minimum qualifications for membership by country are:

*Section 1.1. United States of America.*

*Section 1.11. Undergraduate Students.* Undergraduate students shall:

*1.111* have completed at least 2 years of college course work;

*1.112* have completed 8 semester hours (12 quarter hours) of statistics courses, of which at least 5 semester hours (7 quarter hours) shall be upper-level statistics course work;

*1.113* have a 3.40 grade point average (on a 4.0 scale) in all undergraduate-level statistics courses; and

*1.114* have a 3.20 grade point average (on a 4.0 scale) in all undergraduate courses.

*Section 1.12 Graduate Students.* Graduate students shall:

*1.121* have completed 12 semester hours (18 quarter hours) of graduate-level courses in statistics;

*1.122* have at least a 3.50 grade point average (on a 4.0 scale) in all graduate-level statistics courses; and

*1.123* be a graduate student in good standing.

*Section 1.13 Non-students.* Non-students shall:

*1.131* have completed a bachelor's degree including at least two years of college statistics and have done the work with distinction.

*1.132* be engaged in work of a statistical nature.

*Section 2. Other Members.* Membership may be extended as an honor to other persons whose contribution to the art and science of statistics is deemed worthy of recognition. Such members shall not exceed one-third of the total chapter membership.

*Section 3. Procedure in Admission.* Those eligible persons to whom a charter for a chapter has been granted, and whose names appear on the charter for the chapter, shall become members when they have paid the initiation fee. Those eligible persons who are duly elected by a chapter or affiliate chapter shall become members when they have paid the initiation fee, signed the official chapter roll, and satisfied any other requirements for initiation decided on by the chapter

or affiliate chapter; provided that no person shall be elected by a chapter or affiliate chapter until the scholarship committee of the chapter or affiliate chapter has investigated their qualifications and made a report of the same; provided further that no person shall become a member until their name has been registered with the Secretary-Treasurer of the Society. Existing chapters may identify eligible persons at neighboring institutions and elect them to membership with the consent of the neighboring institution(s).

*Section 4. Honorary Character.* Membership in the Society shall be honorary; it shall be conferred as a reward for scholarly achievement in statistics. All members of Society shall consider themselves pledged to use their influence to see that the standards of the Society are maintained, and in voting on new members to give an impartial judgment based on merit, in order that membership in the Society may be an honor which is all the more highly prized because it is justly bestowed.

## **ARTICLE V**

### **National Organization**

*Section 1. Ultimate Authority.* The ultimate authority on affairs of the Society at large shall rest with the chapters, each chapter having one vote; but the chapters may delegate to the national officers, committees, and conventions of the Society authority to deal with questions not specifically relegated to the chapters by this Constitution. Unless otherwise provided for by this Constitution, the following procedure shall be followed in submitting questions to the chapters: Questions to be so submitted may originate either in the Council or in a national convention, which shall submit the question to the Society in the form of a recommendation; or the question may be proposed by any chapter of the Society, in which case it shall be referred to the Council, which shall submit it to the chapters with their recommendation. The recommendation of the Council or of a national convention shall be deemed approved unless a majority of the chapters vote against it and inform the Secretary-Treasurer of their disapproval within two months of the date of submission.

*Section 2. Officers.* The national officers of the Society shall be President, Vice President, Secretary-Treasurer, Web Administrator, and three Directors-at-Large. These seven persons, along with the most recent past President, shall constitute the Council of Directors of the Society, and shall serve without compensation.

*Section 3. Election of Officers.* The national officers shall be elected by the chapters to serve for a term of three years beginning July 1 every third year. They shall, however, hold office until their successors are elected and qualified. Nominations shall be made by a nominating committee appointed by the President. This committee shall nominate at least three candidates for the office of President, at least one for the office of Secretary-Treasurer, at least one for the office of Web Administrator, and at least five for the three offices of Directors-at-Large. Additional nominations may be made by the Council, a national convention or by any chapter of the Society prior to the month in which the ballots are mailed to the chapters. The names of all nominees, together with available biographical information, shall be submitted on a ballot to the chapters by

the Secretary-Treasurer before the January 31 preceding the beginning of a new term. Ballot shall indicate two choices for President, one choice for Secretary-Treasurer, one choice for Web Administrator, and three choices for Directors-at-Large. Decisions shall be based on a plurality of chapter votes cast for each office, the Vice President being the candidate for President who receives the second largest plurality. In the case of a tie for an office, the outgoing Council shall choose from among such candidates.

Vacancies in the Council shall be filled for the balance of the term by a majority vote of the remaining Council upon nomination of the President.

#### *Section 4. Duties of National Officers.*

*4.1 President.* The President shall be the chief executive officer of the Society and shall perform the duties usually performed by the President of an organization. The President shall nominate persons to fill vacancies for the balance of the term for the vote of the Council.

*4.2 Vice President.* The Vice President shall perform the duties of the President in case of the incapacity of the latter.

*4.3 Secretary-Treasurer.* The Secretary-Treasurer shall discharge the duties ordinarily pertaining to the offices of secretary and treasurer. The Secretary-Treasurer shall be the legal Clerk and Treasurer of the Corporation. The Secretary-Treasurer shall keep an accurate record of all proceedings of the Council, and all decisions made by national conventions, or by vote of the chapters; and shall have charge of the records and official correspondence of the Society. The Secretary-Treasurer shall also have charge of all moneys or other valuable property belonging to the national organization, and shall keep an accurate account of all financial transactions, said account to be audited as provided by the Council. The Secretary-Treasurer shall keep an official record of names of all members.

*4.4 Web Administrator.* The Web Administrator shall keep the organization's website current. The Web Administrator shall ensure that current information regarding joining Mu Sigma Rho, establishing a chapter of Mu Sigma Rho, the national officers, chapters and their representatives, the national Constitution and Bylaws, and awards is available.

*Section 5. Council.* The eight national officers constituting the Council of the Society shall be the legal Board of Directors of the Society. They shall exercise the functions usually pertaining to an executive committee and shall have power to decide all questions concerning the Society as a whole which are not otherwise provided for by this Constitution or by vote of the chapters. In particular, they shall have charge of the expenditure of funds belonging to the general organization and shall vote on applications for membership as provided in Article III, Section 3. They may also originate legislation to be submitted to the chapters for final decisions, as provided in Section 1.

*Section 6. Annual Meetings.* The Council of Mu Sigma Rho will meet at least once a year, usually at the Annual Meeting(s) held by the American Statistical Association to conduct the business of the Society. This meeting will be open to all Mu Sigma Rho members. Legislation

may be proposed at the meeting to be submitted to the chapters for final vote, in which case the procedure shall be that specified in Section 1. The annual meeting time will be announced prior to the meeting.

*Section 7. Fees and Assessments.* All fees and assessments not otherwise provided for in this Constitution, or Bylaws, shall be determined by a vote of the chapters as provided in Section 1. When such legislation is approved, it shall stand until superseded by offsetting legislation.

*Section 8. Certificates of Membership.* Certificates of Membership shall be issued by the Secretary-Treasurer on certification from the chapter officers.

*Section 9. Reports.* The officers shall render a report to the Society at least once a year. This shall inform the Society of the activities of the officers, condition of the treasury, present and future policy, etc. The form of this report shall be left to the discretion of the Council.

## **ARTICLE VI**

### **Chapter Organization**

*Section 1. Constitution.* Each chapter may make a constitution and bylaws for itself as it deems suitable provided they are not in conflict with any of the provisions of the Constitution or national Bylaws.

*Section 2. Officers.* Officers of the chapter shall be a President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer, and a Faculty Advisor. Two or more of these offices may be combined or the chapter Bylaws may provide for additional officers who, with those listed above, shall constitute the Executive Committee.

*Section 3. Duties of the Officers.* The duties of these officers shall be the usual ones pertaining to the various offices with specific duties as follows:

*3.1 Secretary.* The Secretary shall keep account of all meetings and transactions of the chapter and, before the close of the academic year, may send to the national Secretary-Treasurer and President an annual report of the chapter activities including programs of meetings, results of elections, etc.

*3.2 Treasurer.* The Treasurer shall collect all dues, fees, and taxes levied by the national Society and forward same to the national Secretary-Treasurer or shall make the same payments out of the chapter treasury, as the chapter may decide.

*3.3. Faculty Advisor.* The Faculty Advisor shall have the rank of Instructor or higher at the institution where the chapter is located. The Faculty Advisor shall receive communications from the national officers of the actions of the local chapter. The Faculty Advisor shall see that the list of the chapter's new members is sent to the Secretary-Treasurer each year. Any member or officer of the Society may communicate with the national officers about any matter. The Faculty Advisor is responsible for confirming the qualifications of nominees.

## **ARTICLE VII**

### **Amendments**

Amendments to this Constitution may be proposed by any chapter, the Council, or a national Convention. The adoption of an amendment to the Constitution shall require the approval of more than one-half of the active chapters who reply within two months.

The adoption of an amendment to the Bylaws shall require the approval of more than one-half of the active chapters who reply within two months. An “active” chapter is defined as having made nominations within the past three years.

## **ARTICLE VIII**

### **Period of Duration**

The Mu Sigma Rho Society shall remain in existence in perpetuity unless terminated by a three-fourths vote of all chapters, including affiliate chapters.

## **ARTICLE IX**

### **Distribution of Assets Upon Dissolution**

In no event shall any of the assets or property of this corporation, or the proceeds of said assets or property, in the event of dissolution thereof, go or be distributed to members, it being the intent that in the event of the dissolution of this corporation, or upon its ceasing to carry out the objects and purposes herein set forth, the property and assets then owned by the corporation shall be sequentially devoted exclusively to (1) paying debts and (2) charitable, literary, and educational purposes chosen at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

The Incorporators of Mu Sigma Rho were Theodore A. Bancroft, David V. Huntsberger, and Oscar Kempthorne, all of Ames, Iowa.



# **The Bylaws of MU SIGMA RHO Society**

**July 1, 1969**

## **BYLAW I Fees**

Section 1 The petition-filing and charter application fee will be ten dollars.

Section 2 The local chapter will be charged five dollars for each new member initiated.

## **BYLAW II Local Chapters**

Section 1 Each chapter shall have at least one meeting per year.

## **BYLAW III Insignia**

Section 1 The official emblems will be the Crest (Figure 1) and the Key (Figure 2).

*Figure 1* The Crest (Coat of Arms) for Mu Sigma Rho, the National Statistics Honorary Society.



*Figure 2* The official Key for Mu Sigma Rho, the National Statistics Honorary Society.



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