

## ARTICLE VII

### PERMANENT STANDING COMMITTEES

- 7.1 Enumeration of Committees.** The Corporation shall have Permanent Standing Committees on Ethics, Finance, Histocompatibility, Kidney Transplantation, Liver and Intestinal Organ Transplantation, Living Donor, Membership and Professional Standards, Minority Affairs, Operations and Safety, Organ Procurement Organization, Pancreas Transplantation, Patient Affairs, Pediatric Transplantation, Policy Oversight, Thoracic Organ Transplantation, Transplant Administrators, and Transplant Coordinators. These Committees shall provide initial review and analysis of proposed policies and initiatives based upon their unique perspectives and expertise and after collection and consideration of such information as they deem appropriate, prior to presentation to the Board of Directors. Their role in developing policies and standards is further defined in Appendix C of these Bylaws; other initiatives include matters within their respective charges relevant to the field of organ procurement and transplantation. The Committees are advisory to the Board of Directors, which is responsible for final decisions of UNOS. Committees also may be advisory to one another in cases in which Committee perspective/expertise overlap. In such cases, Committees shall be encouraged to assess proposals jointly before presentation to the Board of Directors, presenting either common recommendations or reasons for continued disagreement.

**7.1.1 Policy Oversight Committee.** The Corporation shall have as a Permanent Standing Committee a Policy Oversight Committee (POC) comprised of the incoming chairs of the organ-specific committees and constituency committees (e.g. Minority Affairs, Pediatrics, and Patient Affairs); 2 public policy/public health representatives (with strong analytic backgrounds) and representatives from the public including transplant recipients, transplant candidates and donor families; 2 representatives of the SRTR chosen by the SRTR; 2 representatives of the analytic community chosen by the SRTR; the Project Officers of the OPTN and SRTR contracts; one other Federal Representative to be designated by the OPTN Project Officer (all Federal representatives and SRTR contractor staff are ex-officio, non-voting), and other individuals for the purpose of advising the OPTN Board of Directors about how effectively policies, particularly allocation policies, comport with HHS Organ Transplantation Program performance goals and the expectations outlined in the OPTN Policy Development Checklist. The checklist is intended to assure that policy goals are objective and measurable; that they further the mission, strategic plan, and long term goals of the OPTN and HHS Organ Transplantation performance goals; and are scientifically based. The POC also will be responsible to review and comment on research projects being conducted and published by the OPTN and the SRTR. The POC also will work in collaboration with the SRTR Technical Advisory Committee (STAC), which shall replace the current Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC), to identify and develop SRTR research priorities. This committee shall be advisory to the Board of Directors and the composition not subject to the regional representation formula used for other committees. Board members shall not serve on this committee concurrently. The POC shall be responsible for providing written recommendations concerning policies to the Board of Directors and to the Project Officer at least twice annually.

- 7.2 Composition & Term.** The members of a Permanent Standing Committee shall be nominated by the Directors and appointed by the President, for terms of two years, except for the Patient Affairs, Ethics and Transplant Administrators Committees, whose members will serve for terms of three years and the Policy Oversight Committee whose composition is described in Section 7.1.1. Committee terms shall begin immediately following the conclusion of the last regular meeting of the Board of Directors prior to July 1 of each calendar year. The President may appoint up to one-half of the members of a Permanent Standing Committee to a one-year term in order to achieve a staggered rotation. Committee members may be appointed to full successive terms, including, for example, to allow members to continue work with which they have been involved in some unique manner without interruption. Committee members generally are appointed only to one Committee at a time but may be appointed to multiple Committees to improve communication between Committees by providing cross-representation or as otherwise determined appropriate for administration of UNOS by the President.

*Regional Representation.* Each geographic region (as defined in Article IX of these Bylaws) shall be represented on each Standing Committee except for the Policy Oversight Committee. Nominations for regional representatives shall be presented by the Regional Councillors to the President. Tissue typing laboratories in each region will elect a representative to serve on the Histocompatibility Committee, and

histocompatibility laboratories will also elect the vice chair to serve on the Histocompatibility Committee. The Regional Councillor/Director will be notified of the selection and the Regional Councillor/Director will make the nomination to the President.

*Transplant Professional and Patient, Donor, Family Member Representation.* Standing Committees except for the Policy Oversight Committee shall include representation by OPOs, Transplant Hospitals, and transplant coordinators, and each Standing Committee shall include at least one transplant candidate, transplant recipient, organ donor, or family member. Nominations for these positions shall be solicited throughout the year from Regional Councillors, the Principal Officers, members of the Board of Directors (including, without limitation, members who are transplant patients, transplant candidates, organ donors, and family members), other Committee members, government representatives, and the general community. Selection of possible candidates from the list of nominations shall be discussed with the President and, if deemed appropriate, the Chair of the applicable Standing Committee, and final nominations presented to the President.

Standing Committees except for the Policy Oversight Committee shall, to the extent practicable, include minority and gender representation reflecting the diversity of the population of transplant candidates, transplant recipients, organ donors, and family members served by UNOS.

- 7.3 Committee Chairs.** The President, with approval of the Board of Directors, shall appoint for two year terms the Chair of each Permanent Standing Committee, except for the Chair of the Patient Affairs and Ethics Committees who will serve for three year terms, and the Policy Oversight Committee whose composition is described in Section 7.1.1; however, the terms of approximately one-half of the Chairs of Permanent Standing Committees shall expire each year and the President may appoint one or more Committee Chairs for a one-year term in order to achieve a staggered rotation. The Treasurer of the Corporation shall be the Chair of the Finance Committee and the Vice-President (President-Elect) shall be Chair of the Membership and Professional Standards Committee. Committee Chairs may be appointed to successive terms. Each Committee Chair shall keep the Executive Director informed of the activities of their respective Committee and shall report to the Board of Directors at such times as the Board may require.
- 7.4 Meetings.** Permanent Standing Committees shall meet at such times and on such schedules as determined by the Board of Directors. Portions of meetings of the Permanent Standing Committees convened to address activities of UNOS shall be open to the members with the exception of discussions involving confidential matters, which shall be reserved for closed sessions as appropriate and consistent with applicable laws and regulations. Such confidential matters include UNOS member admission, credentialing, monitoring, or disciplinary matters and matters involving individuals' privacy where disclosure would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.
- 7.5 Conflicts of Interest.** It is the policy of the Corporation to avoid conflicts of interest and the appearance of conflicts of interest. The Permanent Standing Committees shall deal with potential conflicts of interest in the manner set forth in Article 2.9 of these Bylaws.