

Amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Committee on Stochastic Programming

The following amendments are being proposed to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Committee on Stochastic Programming (COSP) adopted on 12 October 2004. These are to be voted on at the COSP Business Meeting at the ISMP in August 2009.

Amendment 1.

Purpose: Formalizing COSP's status as a Technical Section of the Mathematical Programming Society.

Background: According to the current COSP bylaws (Article 3) "COSP exists as a standing committee of the Mathematical Programming Society." However the current Mathematical Programming Society (MPS) bylaws do not define any status called "standing committee." Subgroups within MPS bylaws are Conference Organization Steering Committees, Regional Sections and Technical Sections. The MPS bylaws for technical sections are as follows.

9.2 Technical Sections

Technical sections may be established in any area of mathematical programming, be it theoretical, computational, or applied.

Any group of at least fifteen (15) members of the Society may propose the establishment of a technical section. Membership in technical sections by members of the Society will be voluntary. The Council must approve each technical section.

Each section must have a leader, approved by the Council, and a committee. The leader will be a member of the Society. In other respects, technical sections may organize themselves as they wish. When a technical section is established, the proposers must suggest an initial committee and leader, and a term. It is the duty of the leader to make sure that a new leader is suggested before his term ends, and that the name of the new leader is forwarded to Council for approval.

Technical sections that have not shown signs of activity for one year or more, or have been without a leader for one year or more, may be dissolved by vote of Council. Technical sections can be disassociated from the Society by either a vote of Council or a formal notification by the leader of the technical section to the Chair. Technical sections are financially independent of the Society. The Council may lend or grant funds to technical sections.

After several meetings the COSP Committee has unanimously voted in favor of amending Article 3 of the COSP bylaws to reflect that COSP is a Technical Section of MPS. This is primarily a change in nomenclature of the relation between COSP and

MPS, and has very little effect on COSP's form and function. Article 8 is to be amended to reflect that MPS council needs to be notified of a newly elected COSP Chair.

ARTICLE 3: The sentence "COSP exists as a standing committee of the Mathematical Programming Society." is revised to "COSP exists as a Technical Section of the Mathematical Programming Society (MPS) and will abide by the MPS bylaws for Technical Sections."

Amendment 2.

Purpose: To sponsor a student paper prize

ARTICLE 12: Article 12 is renumbered Article 13.

(New) Article 12: The following new Article 12 is introduced.

ARTICLE 12 – COSP Student Paper Prize

- a) The COSP Student Paper Prize will normally be given every three years in recognition of the most outstanding student-authored paper on Stochastic Programming, as judged by a panel of experts (the COSP Student Paper Prize Committee) appointed by COSP.
- b) The prize will normally be awarded at each triennial ISP meeting starting 2010.
- c) The ICSP committee for the year that the prize is awarded will be responsible for obtaining financial sponsorship for the prize which will consist of a plaque and a small honorarium.
- d) COSP will announce the opening of the competition and a COSP Student Paper Prize Committee at the beginning of the calendar year in which the ICSP conference will be held.
- e) The COSP Student Paper Prize Committee will consist of at least 3 members selected by COSP, and will be responsible for setting deadlines, soliciting entries for the prize, judging of the submitted papers, and communicating the results to COSP at least two months prior to the ICSP where the prize is being awarded.
- f) Each entry must satisfy the following eligibility criteria:
 - i. The paper must present original research results;
 - ii. the entrant must have been a student within the previous 3 years of the year of the prize;
 - iii. the research must have been conducted while the entrant was a student;
 - iv. the paper must have been published in (or submitted to) an English language journal;
 - v. the paper must be written by the entrant with only minor outside assistance. One or more advisors may appear as co-authors of a paper, but the student must be the 'first author';
 - vi. the entrant can be a (co-)author in at most one paper submitted to the competition;

- vii.** the paper must not have won a previous COSP Student Paper Award;
- g)** Entrants must submit to the COSP Student Paper Prize Committee Chair before the deadline the following:
 - i.** An electronic copy (a Postscript or Pdf file) of the paper
 - ii.** The publication information for the work. If paper is still under review, state the name of the journal and point in the review process)
 - iii.** An email address and phone number where the entrant can be contacted in the event they are selected as a finalist
 - iv.** A letter signed by both faculty advisor and the entrant attesting that the eligibility conditions are met.
- h)** Judgment criteria: The winning paper will be judged on the following criteria:
 - i.** Magnitude of the contribution to the advancement of the field of stochastic programming
 - ii.** Originality of ideas and methods
 - iii.** Clarity and excellence of exposition
- i)** The COSP Student Paper Prize Committee may decide not to award the prize to any of the entrants of the competition.