



ULTRASOUND SOCIETY OF THE PHILIPPINES

July 14, 2023

Dear USP Fellows:

Heeding the encouragement of our members in the Business Meeting of the Ultrasound Society of the Philippines last October 22, 2022 for the Board of Trustees to get a clearer mandate in the referendum and proposed amendments to the Articles of Incorporation and the By-Laws of our society, we would like to present anew the issues for voting, and reminding us of the importance of these matters:

First, we present to you the inclusion, in the Articles of Incorporation, of the phrase “a subspecialty organization under the umbrella of the Philippine College of Radiology”, to align with the PCR By-laws (2022) under its section 11.2.2.1.2

Second, we present to you a change in the office address of our society mentioned in our Articles of Incorporation. For some time now, we have moved from the old office located in the Municipality of San Juan, Metro Manila, to the present one located in Units 807-809 Future Point Plaza 1, 112 Panay Ave. Brgy. South Triangle Quezon City, Metro Manila, Philippines. This change must be reflected in the said document for us to have our papers in compliance with the requirement of the Security and Exchange Commission,

Third, we propose the inclusion of the Committee on Ethics and the Accreditation Committee in the By-Laws in Article VI which talks about the Standing Committees.

Section 5. Committee on Ethics.

Shall be composed of three (3) members from among the past presidents of the USP to be appointed by the USP Board of Trustees, and who shall elect from among themselves a chairman.

Shall accept, investigate, and make appropriate recommendations to the Board of Trustees on complaints filed against any member involved

in incidents in violation of the USP Bylaws, Approved Guidelines for the Practice of Ultrasound, Guidelines for Professional Fees of Sonologists and USP Code of Ethics.

Subspecialty Society of the Philippine College of Radiology





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Shall accept, investigate, and make appropriate recommendations on impeachment complaints filed against any elected member of the Board of Trustees.

Shall summon for an appearance before the Committee the members with reported infractions for assessment of the complaint.

Section 6. Accreditation Committee

Shall be composed of 5 members of which the chairman is a member of the USP Board of Trustees, a representative from the USP Fellowship Training Council, and other Fellows of the USP who have been members for at least 5 years to be appointed by the Board of Trustees.

Shall coordinate and frame guidelines with the Ultrasound Fellowship Training Council establishing minimum requirements for Accreditation of USP Fellowship Training Programs for approval of the USP Board of Trustees.

Shall represent the USP in the Accreditation Committee of the PCR and the Residency Training Council of the PCR.

Shall evaluate training programs for accreditation and issue certificates thereof upon the approval of the Board of Trustees

Shall inspect, evaluate and accredit training centers and shall coordinate with the Ultrasound Fellowship Training Council in monitoring compliance on the same.

Shall recommend to the Board of Trustees the suspension or revocation of the accreditation of Training Programs or Training Centers.

Fourth, in so far as accreditation of training institutions of the Ultrasound Society of the Philippines is concerned, we present to you a statement for inclusion in the By-Laws of our society, under the Accreditation Committee:

In the issue of allowing non-USP Fellows to perform and sign-out ultrasound procedures in USP-accredited training hospitals for Ultrasound Fellowship.





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Choose only one option.

- a. ONLY USP Fellows should be allowed to perform and sign out ultrasound examinations in the Radiology Department of USP-accredited training hospitals.
- b. An ultrasound procedure may be performed by a non-USP (but PCR fellow) together with a USP fellow who shall co-sign the report and share the responsibility in the Radiology Department of USP-accredited training hospitals.
- c. Abstain

How will voting take place?

Google Forms will be the platform for this referendum. A link to the Google form will be provided to all eligible voters thru their registered email. Those who do not have registered emails with the USP or may not be conversant with the use of Google forms are encouraged to ask the help of a relative, friend, staff member or colleague for assistance way ahead of the period for the referendum. They may also contact the USP Secretariat for help.

When will voting take place?

The Google Form will accept responses only from October 14 to October 20, 2023 at 12:00 noon. There will be no extension of this period.

Who can vote?

All members of the Ultrasound Society of the Philippines who are in good-standing will be eligible to vote. Aware that many take advantage of the Joint Annual Convention to pay their dues and to make sure all who would like to vote will be eligible, we have opted for the use of Google Forms to facilitate an orderly and timely process so the results of the referendum can be made available during the Business Meeting which will be just a few hours after the close of the Google Form.





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How will the results be evaluated?

We shall abide by what is stated in Article X Section 1. Paragraph 2 of the USP By-laws, "a majority of the Board of Trustees and at least a majority of the members of the USP may amend or repeal the by-laws or adopt new by-laws."

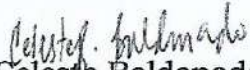
For the purposes of the meeting, its Article 1, Section 5 states that "a quorum for any meeting of the members shall consist of majority of the members and a majority of such quorum may decide on any matter at the meeting, except those matters where the USP code requires the affirmative vote of a greater proportion". Section 7 Paragraph 2 states that "a member who participates through remote communication or in absentia shall be deemed present for the purposes of quorum".

For the purposes of establishing a quorum, we shall understand that the Annual Meeting of the Ultrasound Society of the Philippines will commence with the start of the Joint Annual Convention (JAC) of the Ultrasound Society of the Philippines and the CT-MRI Society of the Philippines. Anyone who has registered in the JAC will be counted as having attended the meeting of our Society.

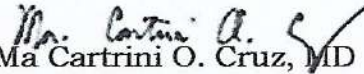
For any comments / clarifications regarding the conduct of this referendum, you may contact us thru our email: usp.org2014@yahoo.com.ph

We hope and pray that all of us will participate actively in the conduct of this referendum so that we can further the purposes for which our society was formed with a clear mandate from the general membership, especially in what affects the training of our future colleagues in the USP.

Sincerely yours,


Celeste Baldonado, MD
Chairman
Committee on Constitution and By-Laws

Noted by:


Ma Cartrini O. Cruz, MD
President
Ultrasound Society of the Philippines