

Structural Stability Research Council

Bylaws*

MISSION OF THE COUNCIL

The general mission of the Structural Stability Research Council shall be:

1. To maintain a forum where the structural stability aspects of metal and composite metal-and-concrete structures and their components can be presented for evaluation and pertinent structural research problems proposed for investigation.
2. To review the world literature on structural stability of metal and composite metal-and-concrete structures and study the properties of materials available for their construction, and to make the results widely available to the engineering profession.
3. To organize, administer and guide cooperative research projects in the field of structural stability, and to solicit financial support for such projects.
4. To promote publication and dissemination of research information in the field of structural stability.
5. To study the application of the results of research to stability design of metal and composite metal-and-concrete structures and to develop comprehensive and consistent strength and performance criteria and encourage consideration thereof by specification, code and standard-writing bodies.

The mission statement of the Structural Stability Research Council shall be:

The Structural Stability Research Council provides a broad forum for technical discussions and development of model provisions for structural stability problems. The Council serves its membership in structural research and design and the entire construction community by synthesizing and providing a critical review of current knowledge, and developing recommended procedures for the solution of stability problems in practice. This knowledge is disseminated through annual conferences, workshops, and publication of the authoritative "Guide to Stability Design Criteria for Metal Structures" and the Annual Stability Conference proceedings.

*Revised: August 21, 1947; October 1, 1948; November 1, 1949; August 15, 1951; May 20, 1955; October 1, 1960; May 7, 1962; May 21, 1965; May 31, 1968; March 27, 1974; May 7, 1975; November 15, 1976; April 30, 1980; November 15, 1981; October 15, 1985; April 16, 1986; April 27, 1988; April 8, 1992; December, 1993; January, 1995, and September, 1998; January, 2002; April, 2005; January, 2008; August, 2014; December, 2015

COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

The voting membership of the Council shall consist of the designated representatives of firms and organizations that are members of the Euler, Johnston, Shanley, Beedle and Winter donor Societies; Members-at-Large, International Contact Members and Distinguished Members.

Organizations, Companies and Firms concerned with investigation and design of metal and composite structures may be invited by the Council to become members of the Euler, Johnston, Shanley and Beedle donor Societies as appropriate.

Representatives are designated by the members of Euler, Johnston, Shanley and Beedle donor Societies; and continue to serve until replaced. The organizations who are members of these societies may appoint up to two representatives.

Members of the Euler, Johnston, Shanley and Beedle donor Societies shall be canvassed every three years to determine their representatives for the next period.

Individuals who have expressed interest in the work of the Council, and who have done or are doing work germane to its interest, may be appointed Members-at-Large by the Executive Committee. Members-at-Large may choose to become members of the Winter Society or any of the other donor societies upon payment of the appropriate fees. The member-at-large dues count as part payment.

Full-time graduate students, and post-doctoral researchers who have expressed interest in the work of the Council or are doing work germane to its interest, may be appointed Student Members by the Executive Committee.

International Contact Members are appointed by the Executive Committee to maintain contact with organizations in other countries that are active in areas of interest to the Council.

International Contact Members shall be canvassed every three years to determine whether they wish to continue membership.

Members who meet the following criteria may be selected to be Distinguished Members by the Executive Committee:

- a. Candidate has given approximately 25 years of active service to SSRC, or approximately 15 years of active service and is not engaged full-time in regular employment; and
- b. Has made significant contributions to the work of SSRC.

Distinguished Members shall receive a certificate, either presented at the SSRC Annual Meeting, or sent by mail if not at Annual Meeting.

COUNCIL FEES

The minimum annual fees for membership in the Euler, Johnston, Shanley, Beedle and Winter Societies shall be determined by the Executive Committee.

Any organization whose bylaws prohibit payment of such a fee may be exempted therefrom upon request and following approval by the Executive Committee.

The fee for Members-at-Large and Student Members shall be determined by the Executive Committee.

Upon written application, a Member-at-Large who is not engaged full time in regular employment and has been a member for at least 15 years may be continued as a member without payment of the annual fee.

Representatives, International Contact Members and Distinguished Members are exempted from the payment of fees, but are encouraged to contribute on a voluntary basis.

COUNCIL MEETINGS

The Council shall hold at least one regular meeting in each fiscal year, and such additional meetings as are deemed necessary by the Executive Committee. A meeting quorum consists of twenty Council members.

COUNCIL DUTIES

1. To establish policies and rules, and approve changes in the Bylaws.
2. To elect the Chair and Vice Chair, and members of the Executive Committee.
3. To encourage interest in and support of the work of the Council, and to assist in publicizing its activities and findings.

COUNCIL OFFICERS AND STAFF

The officers of the Council shall be the Chair and the Vice Chair, along with the Director and/or the Treasurer if these appointments have been made.

The Chair shall exercise general supervision over the technical and business affairs of the Council, subject to the direction of the Council, and shall perform all duties incidental to his/her office. He/she shall be Chair of the Executive Committee, and shall preside at meetings of the Executive Committee and of the Council. He/she shall be ex officio a member of all Council committees and task groups.

In the absence of the Chair, his/her duties shall be performed by the Vice Chair.

The terms of office of the Chair and Vice Chair shall be three years and shall begin immediately following the Annual Business Meeting of the year of election. They shall be eligible for immediate re-election for one term of one year. In the event of an unanticipated vacancy in the office of Chair or Vice Chair, a successor shall be appointed by the Executive Committee to serve for the remainder of the term.

A Director may be appointed by the Executive Committee to serve as chief administrative officer of the Council. The Director shall be ex officio a member of the Council, the Executive Committee, and all Council committees and task groups. Associate officers may be appointed by the Executive Committee as necessary. The Director may engage appropriate staff members and shall supervise their work. The salaries of such associate officers and staff members shall be determined by the Executive Committee.

Working under the general direction of the Chair and the Executive Committee, the Director shall conduct the regular business of the Council. He/she shall administer the financial affairs of the Council in accordance with the approved budget and good business practices, and shall prepare and execute all contracts authorized by the Executive Committee. The Director shall exert every effort to secure economy in the business administration of the Council.

A Treasurer may be appointed by the Executive Committee to assist in the management of the financial affairs of the Council and prepare the annual budget for the Executive Committee. The Treasurer shall be ex officio a member of the Council and the Executive Committee.

The Director and Treasurer shall be appointed for terms of up to three years, and their terms shall begin at the times designated by the Executive Committee. They shall be eligible for immediate reappointment.

The Executive Committee, in recognition of meritorious service to the Council, may appoint a past Director Emeritus. The Director Emeritus may provide advice and counsel to the Director and the Executive Committee, and shall be ex officio a member of the Council, the Executive Committee, and all Council committees and task groups.

In lieu of a Director, the Executive Committee may appoint an Administrative Liaison who may engage a Manager.

The Manager shall be supervised by the Executive Committee. The Manager shall be the recording secretary for the Executive Committee.

COUNCIL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee shall consist of the Chair of the Council, the Vice Chair, the Director, the Treasurer, the most recent Past Chair, and nine additional members elected by the Council from its membership. For the nine elected members the terms of office shall be three years, with three members elected each year. Members whose terms are expiring are eligible for nomination. Members shall take office immediately upon their election.

Members who miss three consecutive Executive Committee meetings during their three-year term without substantive reasons approved by the Chair for the absences shall be replaced. Any member who misses more than three meetings without substantive reasons during their three-year term shall not be nominated for reappointment. An

unanticipated vacancy shall be filled by appointment of the Chair from the membership of the Council, and the appointee shall serve for the remainder of the term.

The Executive Committee shall determine and implement policies and programs to support and advance the general purposes of the Council, and shall exercise general direction and supervision over the technical and business affairs of the Council. The specific duties and responsibilities of the Executive Committee shall include the following:

- a. Review and approve proposed research projects and contracts.
- b. Coordinate and give general supervision to research projects and contracts.
- c. Appoint a Committee on "Guide to Stability Design Criteria for Metal Structures", a Committee on Technical Session Program, a Committee on Bylaws, a Committee on Stability Education, a Committee on Awards, and such other committees as may be deemed necessary from time to time.
- d. Set up task groups and appoint chairs thereof; approve Task Group scope statements; approve Task Group nominees and appoint them to membership.
- e. Appoint Task Reporters and International Contact Members.
- f. Review, approve and disseminate reports and manuscripts.
- g. Sponsor and implement the preparation of successive editions of the "Guide" and appoint the editor thereof.
- h. Respond appropriately to inquiries relating to stability design criteria. Such inquiries may be referred to the appropriate Task Groups for evaluation and response.
- i. Exercise general supervision over preparation of the program for the Council's Annual Stability Conference.
- j. Direct the financial and business management of the Council and prepare the annual budget.
- k. Direct the work of the Administrator to accomplish the various duties and responsibilities listed.
- l. Appoint Members-at-Large and Student Members.
- m. Select Distinguished Members.
- n. Direct the selections for awards.

From time to time the Executive Committee may invite consultants particularly interested in specific projects to serve in an advisory capacity with respect thereto.

Meetings of the Executive Committee shall be held in the spring and in the fall. Additional meetings may be held at the call of the Chair, or at the written request of three members of the Executive Committee or twenty members of the Council. An Executive Committee quorum shall consist of seven members.

The minutes of the Executive Committee shall be transmitted promptly to all task group chairs and furnished on request to any member of the Council. If no objection is made by any member within a reasonable period after the minutes have been issued, it shall be considered that the Council has no objection to the recorded actions of the Executive Committee. However, if objection to any Executive Committee action is entered by three or more Council members, then the action in question shall be submitted to the Council for vote, either at a special meeting called for that purpose or by letter or E-mail ballot.

The Chair may convene a Chair's Meeting from time to time for the purpose of expediting Council business and preparing recommendations for the Executive Committee. Such meetings will normally be attended by the Chair, the Vice-Chair, the Director and/or the Administrative Liaison along with such others as the Chair may invite.

ELECTIONS

The Executive Committee shall appoint a Nominating Committee consisting of three members of the Council who are not members of the Executive Committee. The term of office shall be three years, with one member appointed each year at the fall meeting of the Executive Committee and the senior member serving as chair. A member whose term is expiring shall be ineligible for reappointment for a period of five years.

The Nominating Committee shall prepare a slate of candidates for Chair and Vice Chair of the Council and for the Executive Committee to fill the anticipated vacancies, and shall transmit this slate to the Chair of the Council by no later than two months before the spring meeting.

The election of the Chair and Vice Chair of the Council and of members of the Executive Committee shall be by letter or E-mail ballot. The results of the balloting shall be reported at the regular Annual Business Meeting of the Council. To be elected Chair or Vice Chair, a candidate must receive a majority of the votes cast. In the event no candidate for Chair or Vice Chair receives such a majority, a run-off election between the two candidates receiving the largest numbers of votes shall be conducted.

AWARDS

1. LYNN S. BEEDLE AWARD

The award has been established in honor of Lynn S. Beedle, an international authority on stability and the development of code criteria for steel and composite structures. He has been a leader and outstanding contributor to the work of the Structural Stability Research Council for a period of more than 50 years, establishing the Council as the pre-eminent organization worldwide in the area of structural stability. Through Lynn Beedle's dedicated work and leadership in the national and international arenas, the structural engineering profession has seen advanced concepts developed into practical engineering tools. He has striven consistently and successfully to advance collaboration between researchers, engineers and code writers worldwide.

Criteria for the Award:

- a. Longtime member of the SSRC
- b. A worldwide leading stability researcher or designer of structures with significant stability issues
- c. A leader in fostering cooperation between professionals worldwide
- d. Significant contributions to national and international design code development

The award will be presented at the SSRC Annual Stability Conference.

It consists of a framed certificate, signed by the SSRC Chair and Vice Chair.

The Awardee is invited to make the keynote presentation at the Annual Stability Conference.

2. SARADA M. AND RAJU A. VINNAKOTA AWARD

The Vinnakota Award is given to celebrate the most promising students performing research in structural stability. This award was established in 1997 by Professor Ramulu S. Vinnakota, long-time member of SSRC, in honor of his parents, Sarada M. and Raju A. Vinnakota, who believed in the importance of education and research. The award is given for the best student-authored paper presented at the Annual Stability Conference.

Criteria for the Award

- a. The paper shall be based on the research of a graduate student
- b. The student must be the primary author of the paper
- c. The student must be the presenter at the Annual Stability Conference

The award consists of a certificate and a cash honorarium presented to the student, and a certificate presented to the Professor who is his/her Advisor.

The student authors of the second and third best papers may receive honorable mentions.

3. MCGUIRE AWARD FOR JUNIOR RESEARCHERS - MAJR Medal

The McGuire Award for Junior Researchers (MAJR) Medal has been established in honor of the late Professor William "Bill" McGuire, a long-term member of SSRC, who emphasized that state-of-the-art research is instrumental in improving the quality of stability design. A faculty member at Cornell University for over fifty years, he was the author of the well-known textbooks *Steel Structures* and *Matrix Structural Analysis*. Bill was a member of the American Institute of Steel Construction Committee on Specifications, and among the honors he received were the AISC T.R. Higgins Lectureship Award, the ASCE Shortridge Hardesty Award, and the SSRC Lynn S. Beedle Award. In recognition of his many research and educational contributions to the structural engineering profession, Bill was elected to the US National Academy of Engineering.

Criteria for the Award:

- a. Member of the SSRC who is active in stability research
- b. Holder of a PhD degree (or equivalent) in a stability related topic obtained within the past ten years
- c. Has presented at least one paper at an SSRC Annual Stability Conference after obtaining their PhD
- d. Has not previously received the MAJR Medal

The award will be presented at an SSRC Annual Stability Conference, and the awardee will be expected to present an invited paper/lecture on his/her recent research activity at that conference. The award consists of an engraved medal with the SSRC logo and designation as the MAJR Medal.

STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Standing committees shall be a Committee on the "Guide", a Committee on Annual Stability Conference Program, a Committee on Bylaws, a Committee on Stability Education, and a Committee on Awards. Special committees may be established by the Executive Committee, as needed.

The Committee on the "Guide" shall direct the preparation and publication of successive editions of the "Guide".

The Committee on Annual Stability Conference Program shall receive and review recommendations by task group chairs and task reporters for Annual Technical Session papers and presentations, and determine the content of, and guidelines for, the Annual Stability Conference program.

The Committee on Bylaws shall receive, initiate and coordinate suggestions for changes in the Bylaws, and prepare drafts of changes for consideration by the Executive Committee and Council membership.

The Committee on Stability Education shall receive and review recommendations for seminars and courses on structural stability. The committee will recommend suitable programs with speakers/coordinators to the Executive Committee for approval.

The Committee on Awards, which is formed by its Chair (who is appointed by the Executive Committee) and includes the SSRC Chair and Vice-Chair, shall confirm the eligibility of award nominees and recommend to the Executive Committee the winners of the various awards established by the Structural Stability Research Council.

Chairs and members of standing and special committees shall be appointed by and responsible to the Executive Committee, shall serve for three years, and shall be eligible for immediate reappointment.

TASK GROUPS

The Executive Committee may establish Task Groups, each for the study of a specific subject. The membership of each Task Group shall be only as large as needed for the work at hand. Task Group members need not be members of the Council.

The Executive Committee will appoint, amongst its members, a Task Group Contact Member, who will be directly responsible for the Task Group activities and interaction with the Task Group chairs.

Task Group chairs shall be appointed by and responsible to the Executive Committee, shall serve for three years, and shall be eligible for immediate reappointment.

Prior to the Annual Meeting each Task Group chair for the ensuing year shall review the Task Group membership with the objective of providing the most effective organization, and submit membership recommendations to the Executive Committee for approval.

The duties of a Task Group with respect to its designated area of responsibility shall include the following:

- a Prepare state-of-the-art reports summarizing existing knowledge, procedures and practices.
- b Prepare material for the "Guide", as requested by the "Guide" Committee or the "Guide" Editor.

Task Groups shall be responsible to the Executive Committee for organizing and carrying out their projects, which shall be approved by the Executive Committee. Each project handled by a Task Group shall be of definitive objective and scope.

Each Task Group shall meet at least once in each fiscal year to review and discuss ongoing work and needs in its area, and to review progress and plan activities for the ensuing year.

The chair of each Task Group shall submit an annual written report to the Executive Committee, and report at such other times as requested or as necessary.

TASK REPORTERS

The Executive Committee may appoint Task Reporters who are proficient in subjects of interest to the Council.

Task Reporters shall be responsible to the Executive Committee, shall serve for three years, and shall be eligible for immediate reappointment.

The duties of a task reporter shall include the following:

- a. Review developments and matters of interest to the Council in the designated area of responsibility.
- b. Submit an annual written report to the Executive Committee, and report at such other times as requested or as necessary.
- c. Present oral reports at the Annual Stability Conference, and at other Council functions as appropriate.
- d. Advise Council task groups and committees with respect to the designated area of responsibility.

CONTRACTS AND AGREEMENTS

The Executive Committee may, within its budget, enter into contracts and agreements to implement the work of the Council. Contracts for research projects shall preferably be for a fiscal-year period. At the end of such a period the contract may be renewed for the next fiscal year, or for a shorter period as appropriate.

Employment agreements with the Director and other salaried Council officers and staff may be for extended periods not exceeding their terms of appointment.

FISCAL YEAR

The fiscal year shall begin on January 1.

REVISION OF BYLAWS

These Bylaws may be revised by a majority vote of the membership of the Council, conducted by letter or E-mail ballot.