



THE ELECTION OF LIFE AND HONORARY FELLOWS

EXTRACT FROM BYE LAWS

“FELLOWS”

-4.(2) **Life Fellows:** members who are elected by the Trustees on the strength of their outstanding contribution to the profession of optometry or to the College.
-4.(3) **Honorary Fellows:** persons who are not members who are elected by the Trustees on the strength of their outstanding contribution to the profession of optometry or to the College.

THE ELECTION PROCESS

- 1 **THE PROCEDURES** for nominating and electing Life and Honorary Fellows of the College outlined below are designed to ensure that the following requirements are met:
 - (i) Strict confidentiality.
 - (ii) Adequate information about each nominee.
 - (iii) Elections by secret ballot.
 - (iv) Successful election dependent upon a clear majority.
- 2 **THE CRITERIA** for nominations are:
 - (i) Life Fellows must be members of the College in good standing, with a history of College membership.
 - (ii) Honorary Fellows must not be eligible for College membership.
 - (iii) All nominations must demonstrate an outstanding contribution to the profession of optometry or to the College.
 - (iv) If nominees are Council Members or Trustees then they should not normally be considered until they have been out of office for one year. [C110.1/27 Jan 99]. This will also apply to those who are employed by the College.
- 3 **NOMINATIONS** for Life and Honorary Fellowships will be invited from members, members of the Lay Advisory Panel and the Chief Executive. The annual call for nominations will set out the procedure and deadlines. Nominations must contain adequate information to demonstrate how these criteria are met. They will be submitted in strict confidence to the President, in his/her capacity as Chair of the Electoral College, through the Clerk to Council.

- 4 AN ELECTORAL COLLEGE**, consisting of the President (Chair), Vice President, any Past Presidents who are members of Council, and previous Presidents in chronological order up to a maximum of eight people will be responsible for scrutinising nominations for Honorary and Life Fellowships.

The Electoral College will consider nominations against the criteria set out in point 2 (above). The Electoral College may forward a nomination to the Trustees only if it receives unanimous approval, with abstentions not being permitted.

The Electoral College may decide to keep some nominations for consideration at subsequent meetings. No feedback is provided to nominators if a nomination is unsuccessful. However, nominators can be contacted if additional information is required.

5 ELECTIONS

- (i) The nominations allowed to go forward by the Electoral College will normally be considered by the Trustees at their July meeting. The agenda for the meeting will not reveal the identities of the nominees: the names, curriculum vitae and reasons for nomination will be tabled at the meeting and subsequently withdrawn. The Chair must allow ample time for reading and discussion. Voting will be by a secret paper ballot. A nomination will fall if more than one vote is cast against it.
- (ii) No discussion about procedural matters may take place at the Trustee meeting at which nominations are considered. The Trustees may, of course, call for procedural changes to be made, but on another occasion and not in order to affect those nominations already considered.
- (iii) The Chief Executive will write to the successful nominees. Only when replies have been received from all of them will their names be made public. A release to the optical press will give the names, the reasons for the awards and the date, time and place of the Diploma Presentations at which the awards will be made.