

## **By-Laws of the Australia and New Zealand (ANZ) Chapter of the Association for Contextual Behavioral Science**

### ***Article I – Name***

The name of this organization shall be Australia and New Zealand Chapter of the Association for Contextual Behavioral Science.

### ***Article II – Purpose***

The purpose of the organization shall be to foster the development of functional contextual cognitive and behavioral science and practice within Australia and New Zealand, so as to alleviate human suffering and advance human well being

Specifically, the organization shall:

- a) Serve as a scientific and professional reference group for those in ANZ who identify themselves as scientists, students, or practitioners in disciplines which embrace the principles and practices of contextual behavioral science, or for the interested public.
- b) Promote research and scholarship in ANZ focused on the development of a coherent and progressive science of human action that is more adequate to the challenges of the human condition that will.
- c) Identify and promote the development of useful basic principles, workable applied theories linked to these principles, effective applied technologies based on these theories, and successful means of training and disseminating these developments, guided by the best available scientific evidence; of effective prevention and intervention strategies.
- d) Promote the development of a view of science that values a dynamic, ongoing interaction between its basic and applied elements, and between practical application and empirical knowledge;
- e) Promote the development in ANZ of a community of scholars, researchers, educators, and practitioners who will work in a collegial, open, self-critical, non-discriminatory, and mutually supportive way that is effective in producing valued outcomes and in exploring the additional implications of this work, and that emphasizes open and low cost methods of connecting with this work so as to keep the focus on benefit to others;
- f) Advise political, legislative, and policy-making bodies with respect to matters pertaining to contextual behavioral science in ANZ .
- g) Organize and sponsor forums, conferences, newsletters, journals, websites, list serves and other such activities for the accomplishment of the purposes of the organization

### ***Article III - Membership***

*a) Categories of Membership*

Members of the Association shall be persons who are interested in the advancement of functional contextual science and practice.

The types of membership shall be professional, student, and affiliate.

Professional members and Fellows shall be entitled to the rights and privileges of the Association without restriction. The minimum standard for election to professional membership shall be completion of a terminal degree relevant to the purposes of the Association. Student members shall be currently enrolled at the undergraduate or graduate level in an area of relevance to the purposes of the Association. Affiliate members are any member of the public with interests in the purpose of the Association.

Standards for Fellow Status in the Association shall be set by the Board of Directors.

All members of the ANZ Association for Contextual Behavioral Science must be members in good standing of the Association for Contextual Behavioral Science

Membership dues are set by the Board of Directors of the Association and paid to the Association annually.

Members shall be regarded without discrimination on the basis of race, national or ethnic origin, religion, gender, sexual orientation, age, political affiliation, or mental or physical disability.

*b) Good Standing*

To remain a member in good standing, an individual must be no more than 9 months in arrears with respect to any dues and assessments, both of the ANZ Chapter of the ACBS, and of ACBS itself.

*c) Voting*

Each Professional member shall be entitled to one vote on all matters brought before the Association. There shall be no proxy voting. The voting status of other members as it applies to particular issues may be decided by the Board of Directors.

**Article IV – Officers, Duties, and Terms of Office**

The officers of the Association shall consist of a President, President-Elect (or vice president), Past-President, Secretary-Treasurer, a student representative, four Members-at-Large of the Board of Directors. Each shall perform the usual duties of the respective office and specific duties provided elsewhere in these Bylaws or as assigned by the Board of Directors. Elections for officers shall be held in the middle

of the year, dependent on which terms are expiring. The President, President-Elect, Past-President, and student representative shall each serve a two-year term and may not hold any other elected office within the Association. The Members-at-Large shall be elected every three years. In each three-year cycle one of the Members-at-Large shall have a strong background and interest in basic science relevant to the purposes of the Association. The Secretary-Treasurer shall serve a four year term.

Candidates for offices shall be Members of the Association. Officers shall be elected by email ballot to Members.

The Past-President shall fulfill the duties of the President in case of the President's absence, incapacity, or resignation. In the event of the President's resignation, or lengthy absence or incapacity, the Board of Directors may, by a two-thirds vote, provide for an election of a new President before the normal voting cycle. In such a case, the Past-President shall serve as President until the new President takes office.

The appointment of an Executive Officer to manage the daily activities of ANZ ACBS. The Executive Officer will not be able to vote in the elections.

The Executive Officer and Web Convenor shall receive a payment for services conducted throughout the year given the ongoing nature of maintaining the website and managing finances. The payment rate shall be 27.50 per hour and this will be paid fortnightly. The Executive Officer shall keep a record of duties conducted.

#### **Article V – Committees**

The President, Vice president, Past-President, Secretary-Treasurer and Members-at-Large shall constitute the voting members of the Board of Directors.

The Committees of the Association shall consist of such standing Committees as may be provided by these Bylaws and such special Committees as may be established by the Board of Directors.

The Board of Directors shall have general supervision of the affairs of the Association, performing the duties and abiding by the limitations specified in these Bylaws. Actions of the Board of Directors affecting Association policy are subject to approval by a majority vote of the Members voting at the annual meeting, or by a special email ballot as decided upon by the Board of Directors. A request for an email ballot of the membership of the Association may be initiated either by the Board of Directors or by five percent (5%) of the Members, at which point, an email ballot shall be circulated to the membership. Results of an email ballot of the membership constitute the final authority of the Association.

The Membership Committee shall be selected by the Board of Directors with a chair appointed by the President and approved by the Board of Directors. It shall be the

responsibility of this Committee to secure and review evidence concerning the membership qualifications of all candidates for membership or changes of membership status and to select Fellow of the Association.

The Election Committee shall be selected by the Board of Directors, with a chair appointed by the President and approved by the Board of Directors. The Election Committee shall secure nominations by email ballot from the Members and shall ascertain whether the nominees are qualified and willing to serve if elected. The Election Committee shall be responsible for making a preferential count of the election ballots and reporting the results to the Board of Directors.

#### **Article VI – Activities**

The association may hold periodic meetings for the transaction of business and presentations regarding developments in contextual behavioral science, application, and the advancement of human welfare.

The Association may engage in activities designed to accomplish its purposes, including

- establishing or acquire newsletters, journals, and other publications
- establishing and maintaining websites, list serves, and other media
- specifying or promoting education and training criteria promoting public education

The Board of Directors may provide for the formation and dissolution of student affiliate groups, special interest groups, and other units within the Association.

#### **Article VII - Rules of Procedure**

The rules contained in the edition of *Robert's Rules of Order* (Newly Revised) shall govern the Association in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws and any special rules of order the Association may adopt.

#### **Article VIII – Amendments**

These Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of Members who reply to an email ballot sent to the total membership. Bylaws amendments may be initiated by the Board of Directors or by petition of five percent (5%) of the total membership.

Within five years after the adoption of these Bylaws, the Board of Directors shall appoint a special committee to review these initial Bylaws and to recommend changes in them.

#### **Article IX – Dissolution**

In the event of the dissolution or termination of the Association, all of the assets and title to and possession of the property of the Association shall pass to one or more non-profit scientific and professional organization.

## **Article X – ACT / RFT Conferences**

All organizers and presenters will work on a purely voluntary unpaid basis (except for invited keynote speakers).

Professional event managers will not be used

If a professional PA or secretary is used on a part-time basis to help with administrative duties etc., that person will be paid their standard hourly rate for the hours they do.

All profits from the conference will be put into a central fund for establishing ACBS and running future ACT conferences (e.g., making the conferences bigger and better in each passing year – paying for better venues, top class overseas speakers, financially assisting students to attend, etc.)