AMERICAN SOCIETY OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERS

BY-LAWS

of the

TECHNOLOGY AND SOCIETY DIVISION

(Founded 1972)

1. NAME:

1.1 The Division shall be known as the TECHNOLOGY AND SOCIETY DIVISION of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers.

2. OBJECTIVES:

2.1 To constitute a Professional Division of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, in accordance with the Society's Constitution, By-Laws and Rules with the objective to encourage engineers to be more truly professional, acknowledging their personal responsibility to society and devoted to making technology a true servant of humanity.

2.2 To increase the awareness of practicing engineers, engineering educators and engineering students toward their responsibility to society and to foster activities which will support them in their strivings to relate their work to the interests of society.

2.3 To make the ASME a more truly professional society, acknowledging the engineer's responsibility to the public and devoted to making technology a true servant of humanity.

2.4 To study the ethical questions involved in engineering and work towards inclusion in the ethical code the concept and the indirect effects of his or her work; to find means to solve possible conflicts between such responsibility and responsibility to an employer.

2.5 To work towards inclusion of the concerns represented by this Division in the formulation of the official ASME position, if any, on public issues; to study legal and legislative aspects of the interface technology/society...
and recommend appropriate action to the proper agencies within ASME.

2.6 To foster communication among engineers, other professions, and the public concerning social and ethical problems that arise from technological action.

2.7 To promote development of technological assessment, giving particular attention to the growing interdependence of technological systems, the environment, and the social order and to provide the public as well as government at all levels with technical advice.

2.8 To promote cooperation between engineers in the United States and those in other countries, with different degrees of technological development, in the field of interaction of technology and society, particularly working towards avoiding social mistakes in the use of technology.

3. ACTIVITIES:

3.1 The Division, when desirable, will organize and/or sponsor and conduct one or more sessions at national meetings of the Society.

3.2 The Division may, when desirable, organize a Division conference.

3.3 The Division may participate in joint sessions with other Divisions or Committees at meetings of the Society when such joint sessions are mutually desired by the participating Divisions or Committees.

3.4 The Division may participate in joint sessions or conferences with other organizations when such is of benefit to the Division, the Society or the profession.

3.5 Standing and special committees shall be maintained for the collection and review of new information and for the preparation of reports, digests and other publications.

3.6 The Division may submit papers, reports and data of permanent value or exceptional quality and interest for publication by the Society or through other suitable channels.
4. ORGANIZATION:

4.1 The Division shall be organized under the Constitution, By-Laws and Rules of the Society, and, in case of conflict between Division and Society By-Laws and Rules, those of the Society shall govern.

4.2 The organization of the Executive Committee of the Division shall be as follows:

4.2.1 The duties and responsibilities of Officers and Committee Chairpersons are as specified in the Professional Division Manual MS-11.

4.2.2 The Executive Committee shall consist of five members, including the offices of Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, and Member-at-Large, and immediate past Chairperson.

4.2.3 The offices of Secretary and Treasurer may be combined, in which case there shall be two Members-at-Large.

4.2.4 Members of the Executive Committee shall serve as follows:

A newly elected or appointed member of the Executive Committee shall serve as a Member-at-Large during said member's first year of membership on the Executive Committee. For the second year, said member shall serve as Treasurer; for the third year as Secretary; for the fourth year as Vice-Chairperson; and for the fifth year as Chairperson. The new terms of office shall start at the close of the Summer Annual Meeting.

4.2.5 Officers of the Executive Committee may be re-elected or re-appointed to serve for an additional year in the same capacity. In such case, the progression of offices described in section 4.2.4 shall be as closely adhered to as possible.
4.2.6 All Executive Committee members shall have one vote.

4.2.7 The Executive Committee shall meet at least twice a year, and one of those meetings may be scheduled during the Winter Annual Meeting of the Society.

4.2.8 Additional meetings of the Executive Committee may be called by the Chairperson at such places and times as he or she may deem advisable and shall be called if requested by at least two members of the Executive Committee.

4.2.9 A minimum of 60% of the membership of the Executive Committee constitute a quorum, and all actions of this committee shall be determined by a simple majority of those voting. When a vote is held, an abstention is counted as a "no" vote for purposes of determining a majority.

4.2.10 In case of resignation or incapacity, vacancies shall be filled by appointment of the Executive Committee. Members appointed to the Executive Committee pursuant to this section shall serve until the expiration of the term of the member he or she has replaced.

4.2.11 The Executive Committee shall annually appoint a Nominating Committee consisting of three members of the Division, none of whom shall be a member of the Executive Committee. The Nominating Committee shall present a ballot to the Executive Committee of the Division.

4.2.12 Members of the Executive Committee may be re-elected at the termination of their initial term of office or at any time thereafter.

4.3 The organization of the General Committee of the Division shall be as follows:

4.3.1 The General Committee shall consist of all members
of the Executive Committee; the Chairpersons of all committees; the representative of the Division on Policy Board General Engineering; the representative of the Division on Policy Board Public and Professional Affairs; and up to five Members-at-Large to be appointed by the Executive Committee.

4.3.2 Officers of the Executive Committee shall act as officers of the General Committee.

4.3.3 The General Committee shall meet in conjunction with the Executive Committee at the call of the Chairperson.

4.3.4 The General Committee shall discuss all matters coming before it and the Executive Committee. It will vote on all matters coming before it and the Executive Committee, except on those which the Executive Committee shall reserve for its own vote.

4.3.5 The General Committee will receive reports from the program committees.

4.3.6 Sections 4.2.6 and 4.2.9 of these By-Laws shall be applicable to the proceedings of the General Committee, with the understanding that the words "General Committee" shall replace the words "Executive Committee" in those sections.

4.4 For each field of activity there will be a program committee.

4.4.1 The chairperson of each committee shall be appointed by the Chairperson of the Executive Committee.

4.4.2 The chairperson of each committee will select members with the approval of the Executive Committee.

4.4.3 The chairperson of each committee shall conduct the affairs of that committee in a democratic fashion and pursuant to the spirit of these by-laws.
5. **EXPENDITURES:**

5.1 Expenditures for the operation of the Division, chargeable to the Society, must be authorized by the Secretary of the Society before incurred; and must be provided for in the annual budget approved by Council.

5.2 The disbursement of any funds under the control of the Division, normally from the Custodian Fund maintained for the Division by the Treasurer of the Society, shall be at the direction of the Executive Committee. All disbursement vouchers shall be approved jointly by the Chairperson and Secretary of the Division and signed by the Secretary of the Division.

5.3 All requests for reimbursement from Society funds must be submitted through the Secretary of the Division and be accompanied by suitable bills or receipts.

5.4 Funds which may accrue to the Division through conferences and the like shall be forwarded to the Treasurer of the Society for deposit in the Division Custodian Fund.

6. **AMENDMENTS:**

6.1 These By-Laws may be amended by a majority vote of the entire General Committee at a regular meeting which was preceded by notice of a proposed amendment. Amendments are subject to approval of the Policy Board, General Engineering Department.

Approved - February 23, 1978 by the Policy Board, General Engineering Department