DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS, THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA
MANUAL OF OPERATIONS AND PROCEDURES

In what follows in this Manual of Operations and Procedures the term Bylaws is used instead of Manual of Operations and Procedures. The use of the term Bylaws does not imply any more or less autonomy or independence of the Department of Mathematics than other departments in the University.

ARTICLE I. Membership and Voting Eligibility

A. A faculty member of the Department of Mathematics shall be a person with a tenured, tenure-track, visiting, adjunct, clinical or lecturer appointment in the Department of Mathematics. An emeritus faculty member of the Department of Mathematics shall be any person who has retired from being a faculty member of the Department of Mathematics and has been given emeritus status by the University of Iowa.

B. A voting faculty member of the Department of Mathematics shall be any tenured or tenure-track faculty member of the Department of Mathematics who has a positive salary appointment in the Department of Mathematics or is currently on paid or unpaid leave from such an appointment in the Department of Mathematics. Eligible voters who are unable to be present at a departmental meeting when the vote is taken on an agenda item may leave a written absentee vote with the chair of the meeting before the vote is taken.

C. A voting member may begin voting on the date that the official appointment begins.

ARTICLE II. Officers

A. The officers of the Department of Mathematics shall be the Chair of the Department, along with any other officers such as Associate Chairs appointed by the Chair.

B. The officers shall perform the duties prescribed by these Bylaws and by the parliamentary authority adopted by the Department.

C. The Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences recommends to the Provost a person to be appointed as the Chair of the Department of Mathematics.

D. The duties of the Chair shall be as follows:

1.
The Chair shall have primary administrative responsibilities for recommending faculty appointments; promotions and salary raises; implementing the department’s curriculum; monitoring the work of its undergraduate and graduate students; evaluating its faculty; procuring and regulating equipment; and managing its budget and office staff. The Chair shall also be responsible for scheduling and conducting departmental meetings. In carrying out these responsibilities, the Chair shall consult with appropriate faculty.

The Chair shall be the representative of the Department of Mathematics to the administration of the college and university. The Chair shall have the task of explaining departmental needs to the collegiate and university administration and communicating collegiate and university policies to the students and faculty in the Department.

The Chair will recommend to the Dean a voting faculty member of the Department of Mathematics (ordinarily one of the Associate Chairs) to whom administrative responsibility will be delegated in the Chair’s absence.

ARTICLE III. Meetings of the Department

A. Meetings of the Department shall be called by the Chair of the Department as needed to conduct departmental business. At least one meeting will be called each semester.

B. A meeting shall be called by the Chair of the Department in a timely manner upon receipt of a petition requesting a meeting, which bears the signatures of at least five voting members of the Department of Mathematics. If a specific issue is involved, no action will be taken on that issue before the departmental meeting scheduled to discuss it.

C. Written notice of meetings shall be placed in the mailboxes of all regular members of the Department of Mathematics at least five (5) days before the meeting. The written notice shall specify the agenda for the meeting.

D. The Chair of the Department or the person designated by the Chair shall be the chair of a departmental meeting.

E. The duties of the chair of a departmental meeting include the following:

   i) Opening the meeting at the required time and calling the meeting to order
   ii) Announcing business in the appropriate order
   iii) Stating and putting to a vote any proper motions that are made
   iv) Announcing the results of the votes
   v) Enforcing the rules of order on all occasions
   vi) Deciding all questions of order according to the parliamentary authority
   vii) Adjourning the meeting after a motion to adjourn passes.
F. A quorum during any semester shall be 40% of the number of voting members of the Department of Mathematics not on leave for that semester. To pass a motion made at a departmental faculty business meeting and not controlled by other portions of these Bylaws shall require a minimum of 30% of the voting faculty members of the Department of Mathematics not on leave for that semester.

G. A Departmental Meeting Secretary shall be elected at the first departmental meeting of each academic year and shall serve for one year. This person shall record and prepare minutes for each departmental meeting. These minutes shall include precise wordings of motions voted on, the outcomes of the votes, and the main points of discussion. The Departmental Meeting Secretary shall arrange for the minutes to be distributed to the faculty. A file shall be kept in the Departmental Office for official documents such as Bylaws, rules of order, and other similar documents. A file shall also be kept in the Departmental Office for minutes of Departmental Meetings. The Departmental Meeting Secretary shall give a copy of the approved minutes for each Departmental Meeting to the secretary of the Department of Mathematics to be kept in the file of minutes of Departmental Meetings.

H. The Chair of the Department may appoint a person to give advice on parliamentary procedure.

I. The usual order of business shall include the review and approval of minutes of previous meetings.

J. A secret ballot shall be used to vote on a motion made at a meeting with a quorum present if a motion to have a secret ballot receives affirmative votes by at least five of the eligible voters present. A motion not to have a secret ballot shall be out of order. If a motion to have a secret ballot passes, this does not rule out a subsequent motion to have a mail ballot.

K. A mail ballot shall be used to vote on a motion made at a meeting with a quorum present if, prior to the voting on the original motion, a motion to have a mail ballot receives affirmative votes by at least one-third of the eligible voters present. A motion not to have a mail ballot shall be out of order.

L. For mail balloting, a paper ballot and an envelope shall be distributed into the mailboxes of all eligible voters. Mail ballots are to be returned in a sealed and signed envelope within the specified time period to the mathematics supervisory secretary. Email ballots shall be distributed by email to all eligible voters not in residence. Email ballots with a verifiable electronic return path, which are sent to the mathematics supervisory secretary, are acceptable if received within the same specified time period. Voting results of a mail ballot together with a list of those who voted by a paper ballot, and a list of those who voted by an email ballot, shall be provided to all eligible voters.
M. If a departmental meeting does not have a quorum, the wording of a proposal on an issue appearing explicitly on that meeting’s agenda shall be determined by a majority vote of the voting members present and the proposal shall be submitted by the Chair of the Department to a vote of the Department by mail ballot.

ARTICLE IV. Committees

A. There shall be the following standing committees: Hiring Committee, Executive Committee, Undergraduate Committee, Graduate Committee, and Teaching Evaluation Committee. There shall also be a Colloquium Chair.

B. The composition and duties of each committee shall be as follows:

1). Hiring Committee. The Hiring Committee shall consist of six members serving staggered two-year terms and the Chair of the Department, who shall chair the committee. The Hiring Committee shall make decisions on recommendations to the College administration on all visiting positions. For each tenure-track or tenured search, the Chair shall form a search committee consisting of the Chair and four other voting faculty, at least two of whom are members of the Hiring Committee. Each committee is subject to the approval of the Hiring Committee. Each search committees shall make recommendations to the voting faculty about the search. The voting faculty shall then decide on recommendations to the College administration for the position.

2). Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall consist of four members, each serving a three-year term, along with the Chair of the Department who shall chair the committee. This committee shall determine the teaching assignments of the faculty within collegiate and departmental guidelines.

3). Undergraduate Committee. The Undergraduate Committee shall consist of five members, each serving a three-year term. If the Chair of the Department has appointed a person as the Associate Chair for Undergraduate Studies, then this person shall be an additional member and the chair of this committee. Otherwise, the committee shall elect a chair. This committee shall oversee the undergraduate curriculum, and recommend changes to the Department. The Undergraduate Committee shall make recommendations to the Department for textbooks for lower division undergraduate courses. Textbook selection for all lower division undergraduate courses shall be made by a vote of the faculty, usually on the recommendation of the Undergraduate Committee.

4). Graduate Committee. The Graduate Committee shall consist of five members, each serving a three-year term. If the Chair of the Department has appointed a person as the Associate Chair for Graduate Studies, then this person shall be an additional member and the chair of this committee. Otherwise, the committee shall elect a chair. This committee oversees the graduate program and recommends changes to the Department.
5. Teaching Evaluation Committee. The Teaching Evaluation Committee shall consist of four members serving staggered two-year terms. The committee shall elect a chair. The Teaching Evaluation Committee shall evaluate the teaching activities and effectiveness of persons being considered for promotion or tenure.

6. Colloquium Chair. The Colloquium Chair shall serve a one year term. The Colloquium Chair shall work with the faculty to arrange the colloquium program of the Department of Mathematics and shall make decisions regarding the colloquium budget.

C. Election of standing committees and Colloquium Chair

1) Only voting members of the Department of Mathematics shall be eligible to serve on standing committees or as Colloquium Chair. Vacancies shall be filled by an election, which is usually held at the first departmental meeting of the academic year. When necessary, additional elections shall be held to fill vacancies of unexpired terms. Nominations for each committee shall be solicited at this meeting. If a member cannot be present during nominations, written nominations and willingness to serve on specific committees may be left with the chair of the meeting before the close of nominations. Elections shall be held by secret ballot at this meeting unless a motion to have a mail ballot is passed at this meeting.

2) In electing the Colloquium Chair and members of all standing committees, each eligible voter may vote for one person for each vacancy to be filled. When the vacancies to be filled have different terms, the candidates with the largest numbers of votes shall fill the vacancies with the longest terms.

D. The term of office for any member of a standing committee begins at the moment the member is elected to that committee and ends when either the successor is elected or the member submits a written resignation to the Chair of the Department of Mathematics.

E. Special committees may be appointed by the Chair of the Department to consider departmental business not covered by one of the standing committees.

ARTICLE V. Parliamentary Authority

Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised, 1990 Edition shall govern this organization in all parliamentary situations that are not explicitly provided for in these bylaws and its amendments.

ARTICLE VI. Authority of these Bylaws

The Department of Mathematics shall follow these Bylaws and operating rules of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the University of Iowa as they apply to departmental business. These Bylaws of the Department of Mathematics supplement those Manuals of Operations and Procedures and operating rules. Once adopted, these
Bylaws becomes effective immediately and replace any previous "Bylaws" used by the Department of Mathematics. All members of the standing committees who were elected before these bylaws are adopted shall serve out their terms in office.

ARTICLE VII. Amendments to Bylaws

A. The Department of Mathematics shall consider amendments to the Bylaws proposed in a petition, signed by at least five voting members of the Department of Mathematics and submitted to the Chair of the Department. The proposed amendment shall state the precise Article, Section and Sentences to be amended. The proposed amendments shall specify the words to be added, deleted or replaced. Moreover, the proposal shall give a complete statement of the wording of the section in the amended form.

B. A notice of the proposed amendments shall be distributed in written form by the Chair of the Department. The proposed amendments shall appear as an agenda item on the written notice of the next departmental meeting.

C. Adoption of an amendment to these Bylaws can be achieved either at a departmental meeting, as in Article VII.B, or by means of a mail ballot. In either event, to pass a motion to amend shall require a majority vote of the entire voting faculty of the Department including those on leave or not in residence. The Department acknowledges that amendments to these Bylaws are subject to the approval of the Dean, so that they are consistent with the Manuals of Operations and Procedures of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and The University of Iowa.