CHANGES TO COMPUTER SOCIETY BYLAWS

At the meeting of the Computer Society Governing Board on May 21, 1971, a number of changes to the Society Bylaws were approved. In accordance with Article VIII Section 2 of the Constitution these changes must be published so as to reach the membership of the Society and they must be approved by the IEEE. This article satisfies the former requirement. These changes will accomplish five different objectives which are summarized below.

The first change imposes the requirement that the President and Vice Presidents of the Society be members of the IEEE. This requirement stems formally from the fact that the President is a member of the Technical Activities Board of the IEEE and the Vice Presidents can automatically succeed to that position if they replace the President during his term of office. This change also makes provision that candidates for President and Vice President can be nominated by a third of the Governing Board, as well as by the Nominating Committee and by petition from members of the Society.

The second change defines the mechanism through which the Society nominates individuals for election to the IEEE Board of Directors, to represent the IEEE Division which includes the Computer Society. In effect, the authority for making such nominations will be vested in the Governing Board, but they act on recommendations made by the President, utilizing the Nominating Committee. The Directors, of course, are elected by the entire membership of the IEEE Division.

The third change identifies the Executive Committee as a formal Standing Committee, and defines its membership and responsibilities.

The fourth change defines the role and functions of the Area Committees in a way which makes them parallel to the present Technical Committees. It formalizes the present working arrangement in which the Area Committees report to the Vice President for Chapter Activities and in turn provide support and cooperation among the Computer Society chapters within the geographic area.

The fifth change relates to membership in the Society. It provides for Associate membership, which is parallel to the Associate Member grade in the IEEE. Thus non-professionals in the Computer field who are not IEEE members can become affiliated with the Computer Society. This change also modifies the mechanisms for stimulating membership and for assuring that members are qualified. The present provisional Bylaws enable students who are not IEEE members to be Student Members of the Society. This arrangement is addressed to students in courses other than Electrical Engineering, such as Computer Sciences, who have a strong interest in the computer field. However, the IEEE has not yet approved this provision, nor the provision for Associate Members. Accordingly, no applications by non-IEEE members for Associate or Student grade membership will be processed until this approval has been received.

The changes are listed below in the sequence in which they appear in the Bylaws; they apply to the provisional Bylaws published in the September/October 1970 issue of Computer. The nature of the change is indicated; where only a few words have changed, the new words are italicized.

ARTICLE I

Section 2: Add to the fourth sentence, after "Society members" the words "or by one-third of the Board members."

Change the present last sentence to read: The President and Vice President shall be selected by the Board including the current President and Vice Presidents.

Add additional sentence at the end: The President and Vice Presidents shall be members of the IEEE (Member grade or higher).

Section 3: Add to the second sentence after "nominated each year," the words "to be members of the Board."

Add Section 8: During years when the IEEE Division which comprises the Computer Society is to elect a member to the IEEE Board of Directors, the Nominating Committee shall nominate at least three Society members (who are IEEE members to the President for consideration as nominees. The President will recommend at least three nominees to the Governing Board for their approval; the Board may add to or substitute for the proposed nominees. The approved names will be transmitted to the IEEE as Society nominees.

ARTICLE III

Section 1: Change 3) Membership and Admissions Committee to: Membership and Transfers Committee.

Add 14) Executive Committee

Add 15) Admissions and Advancement Committee

Section 7: Membership and Admissions Committee — substitute the following text for the present section.

Membership and Transfers Committee shall plan and develop methods of extending the membership of the Computer Society and promoting transfers in grade to the end that all members shall occupy the highest grade for which they are qualified.

Section 8: Chapters Committee Substitute the following text for the present paragraph.

1) The Committee, working through the Area Committees, shall promote the organization of Chapters of Society members in such locales as have a sufficient number of Society members. This Committee shall function as a communication link between the Board and the Chapters activity of the Society.

2) The Committee should be responsible for reviewing, evaluating and initiating changes in the policies and manuals governing Area Committees and Chapters.

3) The Committee shall be responsible for recommending formation, reorganization and termination of Area Committees.

4) The Chairman shall evaluate requests forwarded from the IEEE for formation of new Chapters and shall recommend to the President appropriate responses.

Add Section 18: Executive Committee

1) The President shall be chairman of the Executive Committee; other members shall be the Vice Presidents, Junior Past President, the Secretary, the Treasurer, and the chairmen of the Publications Committee and of the Conferences and Meetings Committee.
2) The Executive Committee shall act for the Governing Board on subjects for which it has been authorized by the Board.
3) The Executive Committee shall make recommendations to the Board for matters which require Board approval.
4) Meetings of the Executive Committee shall be open to Board members and others invited by the President.

Add Section 19: Admissions and Advancement Committee — The Admissions and Advancement Committee shall be responsible for advising the Board of Governors as to the admission and transfer of applicants to the professional grade of Member. It shall be concerned with determining whether the applicants meet the requirements of the Constitution and Bylaws, functioning primarily as a jury and acting as a guardian of the membership standards of the Computer Society.

ARTICLE IV

Delete Section 10.

ARTICLE VI

Section 1: Change to read: The grades of membership are:
1. Member
2. Associate
3. Student

Section 2: Substitute the following text for the present paragraph
Rights and Privileges
1) Members shall be entitled to all rights and privileges of the Society.
2) Associates shall be entitled to all rights and privileges of the Society, except that they shall not have the right to vote for or hold constitutional office or vote on constitutional changes.
3) Students rights and privileges shall be defined by the Governing Board, but shall not include the right to vote for or hold elective office, or to vote on constitutional changes.

Section 3: Substitute the following text for the present paragraph
Qualifications
1) The Member grade is a professional grade limited to those who have demonstrated professional competence in the fields of electrical engineering, computer sciences, or the related arts and sciences. These fields shall be construed to encompass all phases of computer engineering, computer programming and of data or information data processing, including its computer related acquisition, transmission, and display. For admission or transfer to the grade of Member, a candidate shall either:

Add ARTICLE VII as follows:

ARTICLE VII

Area Committees
Section 1: The Board shall establish Area Committees whose function shall be to provide assistance and coordination to the chapters in the area covered by the Committee, including the following:
organization of local symposia and workshops;
organization of lecture series;
organization of sessions of large meetings;
foster education in the fields of interests of the Society at universities, colleges and schools.

Section 2: The Committees will not be specialized in their technical interests, but may be active in any technical area within the scope of the Computer Society. However, their activities will be carried out within a given area, in general comprising several states, and will be oriented primarily to the Society members in those areas as participants.

Section 3: In carrying out specific activities concentrated in one technical area, the committees shall work with the Technical Committee which covers that technical area, if one exists.

Section 4: Composition of an Area Committee — Each committee shall include as members the Chairman of Computer Society Chapters within its given area. The Committee Chairman may appoint other members in order to carry out the objectives of the Committee effectively.

Section 5: Area Committees may be created, merged, or dissolved by resolution of the Board. A resolution to form or change a Committee should include the following information:
1) Name of the proposed Committee
2) Area to be covered by the new Committee
3) Changes in areas covered by existing Committees
4) Tentative outline of a program of activities for approximately the first year.

Section 6: The Chairman of each Committee shall be an ex officio member of the Board. The Chairman of a Committee shall appoint its members for terms of one year but may renew such appointments.