



PHILIPPINE SOCIETY FOR MICROBIOLOGY, INC.

SEARCA Residence Hotel Business Center, UP Los Baños, College, Laguna 4031
•Telefax: (049) 536-5794 •E-mail: philsocmicro@yahoo.com •Website: www.psm.org.ph •

May 22, 2025

To: All Members of the Philippine Society for Microbiology, Inc. (PSM)

Subject: Submission of Proposed Amendments to the PSM Constitution and By-Laws for Approval by the General Assembly – July 2025

Dear Valued PSM Members,

Greetings of Peace!

In line with our continuing commitment to strengthen the governance and operational efficiency of our Society, the Executive Board of the Philippine Society for Microbiology, Inc. (PSM) has undertaken a careful review of our Constitution and By-Laws (CBL). We are pleased to inform you that a set of proposed amendments has been drafted and is now being submitted for your consideration and approval during the General Assembly in July 2025, in conjunction with the PSM Annual Convention.

Two major objectives guide these proposed amendments:

1. Alignment to the updated Constitution and By-laws of Philippine Academy of Microbiology (PAM), Inc. and the Microbiology Certification Program (MCP), Inc. – The amendments aim to harmonize the provisions of the PSM Constitution and By-Laws with those of the Philippine Academy of Microbiology (PAM) and the Microbiology Certification Program (MCP). This alignment is essential to ensure consistency across our affiliated bodies, strengthen institutional coherence, and promote unified standards within the microbiology profession.
2. Flexibility in Convention Scheduling—One of the key amendments seeks to revise the current provision that mandates the Annual Convention be held “every third Thursday of July.” The proposed revision allows the Executive Board to schedule the Annual Convention on any date within July, offering much-needed flexibility in planning and accommodating important logistical and organizational considerations.

We highly encourage all members to study these changes in advance of the General Assembly.



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Your voice is vital in shaping the future of our Society. We invite you to participate in the upcoming deliberations and decision-making process actively. Should you have any questions or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact the PSM Secretariat or any member of the Executive Board.

Thank you for your continued support and dedication to advancing microbiology in the Philippines.

Sincerely,

THADDEUS M. CARVAJAL, PhD

Ex-officio, Philippine Society for Microbiology, Inc.



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Proposed Amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Philippine Society for Microbiology, Inc. for Approval by the General Assembly in July 2025

1. Amendments in Articles X, XI, and XIII: Section 3 of the Philippine Society for Microbiology, Inc.

The ex-officio of the Philippine Society for Microbiology, Inc., together with the Chair of the Philippine Academy of Microbiology, Inc., and the Chair of the Microbiology Consortium of the Philippines, Inc., held an online discussion to align the Constitutions and By-Laws (CBL) of PAM and MCP with those of PSM.

The amendments' key highlights include the updated incorporated name and objectives, revised council composition, and clarified guidelines on chair attendance and participation at the monthly PSM Board Meetings.

ARTICLE X – THE PHILIPPINE ACADEMY OF MICROBIOLOGY

Section 1. There should be an academic and accrediting arm of the Society to be called the Philippine Academy of Microbiology, Inc. (PAM)

Section 2. Its objectives as the accrediting arm are to complement/supplement the activities of the PSM as follows:

1. To develop and maintain a high standard of practice in the field of Microbiology in the Philippines.
2. To certify microbiologists according to the defined standards and qualification requirements, which may include written and/or oral examination; and
3. To formulate rules, regulations, and guidelines relative to certification, accreditation, and membership in PAM.

Section 3. Membership in the PAM is open only to life members of the PSM. However, acceptance will depend upon the recommendation of the Accreditation Board.

Section 4. A Council of Regents shall run the PAM. It shall be composed of six members – the Chair, the Vice-Chair, the Secretary, the Treasurer, the PRO, and the Auditor. The regularly elected members of the council shall hold office for a term of three (3) years on a staggered basis so that each year only one new member shall be elected to replace the one with the expired term.



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Section 5. An Accreditation Board shall be elected from among the members of the PAM for purposes of accreditation. Membership in the Board shall be at a minimum of three (3) and a maximum of five (5) as may be deemed necessary. The Board shall evaluate accreditation and membership applicants to the PAM and recommend to the Council of Regents their eligibility for accreditation examination/elevation and acceptance as members.

Members of the Accreditation Board shall be appointed initially by the PAM Chair for 3, 4 and 5 years. Thereafter, each new member shall be elected for a term for three (3) years on a staggered basis so that each year a new member is elected to replace the one with the expired term. The PAM Chair shall appoint from among the members of the Accreditation Board, a Chair and a Secretary who shall each serve for one (1) year.

In the event of a resignation or physical incapacity of any member, a replacement shall be appointed if the vacancy occurs prior to the PAM Annual Meeting.

Section 6. The PAM Chair is required to attend the PSM Executive Board Meetings. Furthermore, the PAM Chair is required to submit every year the following: (a) written and oral reports of its activities and audited financial statements if support is provided during the PSM Annual Convention and Scientific Meeting.

ARTICLE XI – THE MICROBIOLOGY CONSORTIUM OF THE PHILIPPINES

Section 1. There should be a capacity-building arm of the Society to be called the Microbiology Consortium of the Philippines, Inc. (MCP).

Section 2. Its objectives as the capacity building arm are to complement/supplement the activities of the PSM as follows:

1. To harmonize microbiology programs in the Philippines;
2. To recommend measures for the establishment or improvement of microbiology programs;
3. To conduct continuing education activities for capacity building of microbiology educators; and
4. To facilitate the sharing of manpower and other technical resources among member-HEIs.



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- Section 3. Membership to the MCP is open to all HEIs in the country that have an existing Microbiology program/course offering or have the intent to offer and signify their intention by signing at least the Memorandum of Understanding with MCP.
- Section 4. The MCP Council shall be composed of the Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, Auditor, Public Relations Officer, and five Regional Coordinators. The PSM Microbiology Education Representative and Liaison Officer (appointed by the Chair) shall serve as ex-officio members. Each member of the MCP Council shall hold office for a term of three years without prejudice to reelection. Three new members shall be elected each year on a staggered basis so that each year, three members shall replace the ones with the expired term
- Section 5. The MCP Council Chair is required to attend the PSM Executive Board Meetings. Furthermore, the MCP Council Chair is required to submit, annually, the following: (a) written and oral reports of its activities and audited financial statements, if support is provided during the PSM Annual Convention and Scientific Meeting.

ARTICLE XIII – MEETINGS

- Section 3. Monthly/Special Meetings – Monthly meetings of the Board shall be called before the end of each month by the President of the Society. During such meetings, the President shall render his monthly report to the Board regarding the activities of the Society. A representative from the Philippine Academy of Microbiology, Inc. (PAM) and the Microbiology Consortium of the Philippines, Inc. (MCP) will attend the monthly meetings. The PAM and MCP representatives will have a non-voting participation. Special meetings of the members may be called as the need arises, by the Board of Directors, the President, or upon petition of 1/3 of the general membership.



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2. Amendments in Articles XIII: Section 2 of the Philippine Society for Microbiology, Inc.

The Executive Board of the Philippine Society for Microbiology, Inc. proposes to amend the provision stating that the annual convention shall be held "every third Thursday" of July to allow the convention to be scheduled on any date within the month of July. This change provides the Executive Board with greater flexibility to determine the most appropriate and strategic dates for the convention, taking into account logistical, institutional, and external considerations.

ARTICLE XIII – MEETINGS

Section 2. The Annual Convention and Scientific Meeting shall be held in July of each year at a place determined by the Board of Directors.