



International Dielectric Society

Scope and Governance. September 2018

<http://the-dielectric-society.org>

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INTRODUCTION

The dielectric properties of materials have come to play a fundamental role in the description of physical phenomena in many branches of modern science, technology, and engineering. Over the last several decades, the dynamic range covered by dielectric spectroscopy has been expanded by a variety of experimental techniques, so that various relaxation and resonance processes of dipolar, ionic, and many other materials can be measured over an extremely wide range of characteristic times or frequencies, covering 1 year to the THz regime.

As a result, these techniques now occupy a special place among numerous modern methods used in physical and chemical analyses of materials. Since dielectric spectroscopy measures the amplitude and time evolution of material polarization, this technique provides access to properties such as permittivity and conductivity and can reveal intermolecular interactions and their role in molecular and ionic cooperative processes. Therefore, dielectric spectroscopy provides a link between the microscopic structure and motion of the individual constituents of a complex material and its bulk properties. The recent developments of time-domain and nonlinear dielectric spectroscopy have significantly broadened the role of this technique as an effective tool for structural and dynamical investigation in solids and liquids on different spatial scales.

GOALS OF THE INTERNATIONAL DIELECTRIC SOCIETY

The International Dielectric Society (IDS) aims to serve the community of researchers interested in the promotion, development, and application of broadband dielectric spectroscopy and related techniques.

Goals:

- To provide a forum for the exchange of ideas, knowledge, data, and techniques in the research area of dielectric and conductive materials, dielectric spectroscopy, and their applications.
- To stimulate and support experimental and theoretical research in the field of dielectrics.
- To promote the use and the recognition of dielectric research and its application beyond the dielectrics community.

These goals are to be achieved via the following activities:

- **Conferences:**
Organizing periodical international conferences and workshops that will be focused on: dielectric properties of various materials, the versatility of dielectric instrumentation, and the development of novel dielectric techniques and applications.
- **Research:**
Encouraging research from fundamental aspects to applications in the field of dielectrics, and supporting the crossing of boundaries between theory and experiment.
- **Education:**
Educational programs for young scientists and support for careers in the field of dielectrics and for improving scientific awareness and scientific literacy in general. Dissemination of the progress and applications of dielectrics research. Maintaining a website with links related to data and publications from different scientific sources.
- **Funding:**
To provide travel grants and financial support for young scientist and researchers from developing countries for participation in the IDS meetings.
- **Outreach:**
To act as an effective link between academia and industry. To encourage research and scholarly activities that are beneficial to society and global sustainability.

IDS WEBSITE

Information regarding the activities of the International Dielectric Society is provided via its website: <http://the-dielectric-society.org>. Main features of the website are the announcements of upcoming meetings, contact and deadline information, an overview of previous meetings, a collection of slideshows of tutorial talks as downloadable PDF's.

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

President

The President is responsible for the IDS operating to achieve its goals. The board votes one of its members into the position of President every 4 years. The elected President remains member of the board for the 4 year term of that service.

Secretary

The Secretary assists the president in her/his work. The board votes one of its members into the position of Secretary every 4 years. The elected Secretary remains member of the board for the 4 year term of that service.

Treasurer

The Treasurer takes care of the financial affairs of the IDS, maintaining a bank account, and reporting to the Secretary and President. The Treasurer shall be a member of the board and is voted into that position by the board every 4 years for a 4 year term of that service.

Board Members

The governing board shall consist of 15 regular members. In special cases, the board may include additional honorary members with no term limit, proposed and elected by the board. The society membership elects board members for a 6 year term, such that the number of 15 regular board members is maintained.

Conference Chairperson

A conference chairperson is appointed by the board to chair the next conference at the board meeting of the present conference. If not already the case, a designated conference chairperson becomes an additional board member. A conference chairperson will serve, at a minimum, for one conference term beyond the conference that she/he chairs, even if this extends her/his tenure as a board member.

A conference term is defined from the end of one IDS conference meeting to the end of the next IDS conference meeting. There is one official board meeting at each conference, organized by the conference chairperson and attended by all board members present at the conference.

Society Members

Any attendee of an IDS conference may become a member of the society by payment of the membership dues for a two year period. Membership ends after two years unless renewed by paying membership dues for the next term. A Conference Chairperson may elect to provide society membership on the basis of registration fee payment.

Voting processes:

The board members conduct a secret vote during the official board meeting to replace the president, secretary, or treasurer in case their terms expire. Extending terms of either position for another 2 or 4 years is permitted.

Every 2 year term, 5 regular board members will have their terms ending. Resulting vacancies shall be filled by votes from the IDS society members. The Secretary shall ask all society members by email to suggest 5 names for filling the upcoming vacancies by return email by a given due date.

Board members whose terms are not about to expire and who are thus ineligible for being voted into the board will be identified to the voters. Exiting board members can be re-appointed into the boards. The names with highest suggestion frequencies will be asked to join the board, and if that is declined, the next name down the list will be chosen. In case of a tie, a second email poll will be conducted. The voting process is to be conducted such that the results are finalized prior to the upcoming board meeting.

DEBYE PRIZE

The 'Peter Debye Prize for Young Investigators for Excellence in Dielectric Research' is established to encourage and support young scientists to continue research in the field of Dielectric Spectroscopy and its applications. The award is financed by IDS funds and/or other available sources. If the resources are considered insufficient, the prize will not be awarded for the period of time in question.

Award: The award is a certificate of achievement accompanied by a prize of 1000 Euro. The prize is given only for scientific work which is published or in press (as proven by a letter of acceptance).

Eligibility: To be eligible for this prize, the nominee should be under the age of 36 years at the time of the award presentation and be committed to attend the conference at which the prize is awarded (in coordination with the board, exceptions from these eligibility rules may be allowed).

Nomination: Candidates can be nominated by any IDS member or be self-nominated. The nomination letter, the candidate's Curriculum Vitae with date of birth and publication list, and one copy of each of the papers under consideration for the Debye Prize should be sent by email to the Award Committee chairperson. In the case of publications under joint authorship, the candidate should include a brief statement of the candidate's contribution to each of those publications. See the conference or IDS websites for contact information and deadlines. The nomination documents should be submitted in electronic format as PDF(s). The deadline shall be approximately 3 month before the conference at which the prize is awarded.

Award Committee: The Award Committee consists of 3 committee members: a chairperson and two members. The Award Committee chairperson shall be a Board Member and is appointed by the President, the two Award Committee members shall be Society Members and are appointed by the Award Committee chairperson. The Award Committee chairperson is responsible for notifying the IDS board of the winner of the prize in advance of notifying the successful candidate. Members of the Award Committee must be free of any direct relationship (personal, member of the same research team, etc.) to any of the nominees. The President of the IDS has the duty to make sure that this rule is strictly fulfilled, if necessary by re-appointing the award committee.

Evaluation: The Award Committee is responsible for the process for evaluation of the nominated scientific work and to verify the eligibility of the candidates. As part of the evaluation process, the Award Committee is encouraged to involve scientists from outside the society in judging the quality of the nominated research. The final decision will be made by the Award Committee.

Award announcement: The Award Committee is responsible for formulating a presentation statement about the scientific work and the scientist chosen as the winner of the Debye Prize. The Debye Prize is awarded to the prize-winner at the occasion of the conference of the IDS.

CHANGES OF GOVERNANCE DOCUMENT

Changes to this document require a motion from two board members to be considered. Validation of changes requires a 2/3 majority vote by the board (by email or in the meeting).