

CONSTITUTION OF

International Consortium on Hallucinations Research (ICHR)

1. VISION

The International Consortium on Hallucinations Research (ICHR) is a scientific consortium dedicated to voices, visions, other hallucinations and related experiences. The ICHR takes a 'transdiagnostic' approach to acknowledge the multiple causes, conditions and disorders which can produce hallucinations and other similar sensations.

2. STEERING COMMITTEE - CONSTRUCTION

The members of the steering committee will be a Chair, a Secretary, six members and a representative of the Early Career Hallucinations Research group (ECHR); these nine, plus the Past Chair, shall be members of the steering committee which shall have general charge of the affairs of the ICHR.

The Chair will serve in the role for 4 years, and at the end of this period will organise an election, upon which another member of the steering committee can put themselves up for nomination. The nomination material should include a pitch (maximum 2 pages) as to why that individual would like to be voted in the Chair and lead the ICHR forward. The pitch should not make reference to any other persons on the steering committee.

The Chair upon election will invite another member of the steering committee to serve as Secretary and assist with the running of the ICHR. At the end of the Chair's term, the Secretary will also step down from this position.

Both the Chair and Secretary will remain on the steering committee at the end of their term.

If any member of the steering committee wishes to step down from the ICHR steering committee, they should email the steering committee of their decision. This will leave a vacancy on the steering committee. The Chair will then ask steering committee members to propose nominees.

The criteria used to select steering committee members are (in no particular order): Degree to which the person is actively doing hallucinations research; Gender diversity; Discipline diversity; Geographical diversity; Lived experience diversity; Ethnic/cultural diversity; Degree to which the person has given an active contribution to the ICHR. If a steering committee member wishes to propose a nominee, they send a text (maximum 1 page) to the Chair and the Secretary arguing why this person should be a member of the steering committee (this must be based on the above-mentioned criteria but can also include other elements if necessary). The Chair will then send these texts to steering committee members and the voting procedure will commence.

Voting will be organised via email to ensure that the new steering committee member can attend the next meeting. Each steering committee member ranks each of the nominees. These rankings will then be averaged thus resulting in the final ranking list. The nominee who has the best average ranking will subsequently be contacted by the Chair. If this nominee does not accept, the Chair will contact the next nominee on the list.

3. STEERING COMMITTEE - MEETINGS

The ICHR steering committee will meet twice per calendar year: one during the ICHR conference (biennial or satellite), the other (digital meeting) approx. 6 months before/after this. If no face-to-face meeting is organised, then this becomes a digital meeting.

Extraordinary meetings (most likely digital) will be arranged as needed. These will be called by the Chair or any of the steering committee can approach the Chair to call a meeting.

Steering committee members should attend all steering committee meetings. If they are unable to attend the meeting, they should nominate an alternate who is not an existing steering committee member. They should email the chair with the alternate as soon as possible.

4. STEERING COMMITTEE – DUTIES

The Chair - To have general administrative charge of the affairs of ICHR. To preside over all meetings of the steering committee.

The Secretary - To keep minutes of all meetings. To attend to correspondence and notices of the ICHR.

Members (including the ECHR representative) - To have general charge of the affairs of the ICHR, determining all policies and procedures not otherwise specified in the Constitution. To serve on at least one subcommittee (see below).

Chair and Secretary are not obligated to serve on a subcommittee but can participate if they want.

5. STEERING COMMITTEE – SUBCOMMITTEES

To assist in the running of the ICHR, subcommittees will be formed. A member of the steering committee will serve as the Subcommittee group chair to ensure continuity of position and reporting to the steering committee.

The following subcommittees are currently active:

- Communication
- Finance
- Working Group

6. AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION

An amendment to or annulment of the whole or any part of this Constitution may be formally proposed either by the steering committee, or by any member of the ICHR.

7. MEMBERSHIP CRITERIA

To become a member of the ICHR, simply send an email to hallucinationconsortium@gmail.com stating that you wish to become a member and agree to be on the mailing list.