

Committee Restructure FAQ

PIDS is in the process of restructuring our Society's committees and committee structure to improve focus as well as efficiency for members and staff. PIDS is at an all-time high in membership and – as the pandemic has shown us – we are an indispensable specialty that will continue to grow our influence. To ensure the Society is able to fulfill increased demands, we need redesigned committees that are centered on our principal missions, that are nimble, efficient and effective.

This is a process. One that will evolve and grow as the restructure takes effect. We're sure you have lots of questions on how the new committees and structure will work. Please find below responses to what we believe may be the most frequently asked questions.

Q: How many committees will exist under the new framework?

A: We will trim the number of committees from 30 to a dozen. Those 12 committees may have subcommittees, task forces and interest groups that are necessary to achieve the respective committee's overarching goals.

Q: What will the makeup of a particular committee be?

A: Each committee will consist of 1 Chair, 1 Vice Chair, 1 Board Liaison (who will report committee progress and needs to the greater board), 1 IDA&E Liaison (who will ensure the Society's IDA&E intentions are ingrained in all we do), 7-11 At-Large Members (who have attendance requirements and will vote and lead on actions taken), and an indeterminate number of Contributors (who have an interest in an area or practice but do not have further requirements).

Q: Does this affect the 'everyone who wants to serve can' principle?

A: No. If you wish to be involved in a committee/subcommittee/task force/interest group, we will get you a spot. Everyone's voice will be valued, heard and considered. The At-Large (Voting) Member designation is to help a committee establish a meeting schedule that can meet a quorum and move quickly when there is a need to act to advance the committee or Society's goals.

Q: How does one become an At-Large Member?

A: PIDS members with requisite expertise in a subject area may be considered for appointment as At-Large Members. The remaining slots will be chosen from the committee application process. All At-Large Members must be able to commit to attending at least 60% of scheduled committee meetings.

Q: Why be a Contributor?

A: Perhaps you wish to be part of a committee, but work (or life) demands prohibit the requisite time commitment. Or it could be similar to a class audit, and you use the opportunity to gain information and experience in another area beyond your own expertise. Or you may have another reason to participate. Regardless, your involvement as a Contributor will boost the committee's work. This could also be a way to get experience on a committee while building to future leadership positions.

Q: How often will my committee meet?

A: Committee meeting frequency will be determined by the Chair. Meetings must be scheduled, however, to occur at least once per quarter. A threshold of 60% of meetings attended will be required to remain a Vice Chair or At-Large Member.

Q: What happens if I am unable to attend the requisite number of committee meetings?

A: If you are a Vice Chair or At-Large Member, your position will be re-evaluated. This may result in moving to a Contributor position on the committee. Such a move would not preclude you from becoming a Vice Chair or At-Large Member in the future.

Q: Can I serve on multiple committees simultaneously?

A: Multiple committee service is not prohibited. Committee chairs will confer with PIDS Board to select Vice Chairs and At-Large Members, specifically, and it will be in that deliberation whether an individual may be able to handle all duties for those positions on more than one committee. The Contributor position would have more flexibility in multiple committee participation.

Q: How will committee restructure affect service terms?

A: Terms for Chair and Vice Chair will remain at 2 years. If you are asked to be in one of those positions when the new committee structure takes effect, you may restart the 2-year clock or remain on the prior schedule and rotate off when your original term ends. All other committee members will be asked to re-apply and begin a new term. Terms for At-Large Members will be 2 years (can be renewed for one additional term) and Contributors will be 1 year (can be renewed for an unlimited number of times at this time).

If there are any questions regarding the changes at this time, please reach out to staff at pids@idsociety.org and we will be happy to assist.