

Dear Council Members,

This is a very important and special Council Circular. It deals with two of the Society's new awards:

- Rob Kempton Award for Outstanding Contribution to the Development of Biometry in the Developing World
- Award for Outstanding Contribution to the Development of the IBS.

In accordance with our five week deadline, the ballot is due back on 30 June. A few weeks later, these awards will be presented at the IBC2006 in Montréal, Québec, Canada.

Our bylaws mandate using the Preferential Method of Voting for elections. Therefore, we will apply this method of voting to the selection of the award recipient for the Outstanding Contribution to the Development of the IBS.

Preferential Method of Voting: Voting is straightforward. Council members indicate their favored candidate by writing "1" beside that candidate's name on the ballot paper, and "2" beside their second choice candidate and "3" beside their third choice candidate.

Vote Tally: The candidate with the fewest first place votes is eliminated, and the corresponding votes transferred to the remaining candidates according to the next preference for each voter. This process is repeated until one candidate has an overall majority, or until all preferences have been counted. A lower-placed candidate who picks up lots of preference votes can still overtake higher-placed candidates and ultimately win the election. The voting system is designed to make sure that whoever wins will have the support of the majority of the electorate. The use of preference votes to express a second choice means that a second round of voting is not required, and this results in significant cost savings, as well as benefits in administrative, logistics, and security terms.

Please find a link to the Council Circular 2006/02 below. Please read the Council Circular very carefully. If you have any questions at all concerning the issues, please feel free to contact Acting General Secretary Ashwini Mathur at < Ashwini.K.Mathur@gsk.com . >

The deadline for response is 30 June 2006. As in the past, Council members should send their completed ballots to the independent tallying company Canto, Rausch, Deck & Co. at <drausch@cpa-crd.com>.

Acting General Secretary Ashwini Mathur also is preparing another Council Circular that you will receive within the week. Currently, this Circular deals with committee appointments.

One very important item you should begin to think about and discuss within your Regions and National Groups is the IBS election for the vice president and treasurer positions. Resulting from Council Circular 2006-01, the IBS General Officer Nominating Committee (GONC) will be constituted. Very soon, they will request nominations for these officer positions from Council, Regional Presidents, and National Group Secretaries. Please be on the lookout for this very important communication, as well.

As you know the Society conducts its business through voting on the initiatives as put forth in the Council Circulars. The ballots are received by an independent third party to ensure confidentiality of the voting process. Only Council members have the privilege to vote, and thus, will receive the ballot in an immediate subsequent email. To help keep Regional and National Group Officers informed, the Council Circular also is sent to the Regional and National Group Officers.

Thank you for your participation.

Sincerely,

Claire Shanley, Executive Director

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Begin Travel Plans Now: XXIIIrd IBC2006 – 16-21 July, 2006 in Montréal, Québec, Canada

Please visit www.tibs.org