

## **Translation of the constitution of the Michael Faraday Institution e.V**

1. The name of the association is the "Michael Faraday Institution e.V." The seat of the association is Munich.

2. The aims of the association are the promotion of the science and technology of electrical and electronic engineering, and of the applications thereof, within Germany.

These aims shall be pursued by the exchange of information and ideas and in particular by means of:

- seminars,
- scientific and technical discussions,
- visits to installations of technical importance,
- exhibitions on technically interesting themes.

All such activities are open to the public.

3. The association pursues exclusively and directly beneficial purposes in accordance with the "Steuerbegünstigte Zwecke der Abgabenordnung". It does not pursue its own interests ("ist selbstlos tätig") and does not primarily engage in commercial activities.

The funds of the association may be used only for the purposes in accordance with the aims defined above. Members shall not receive any financial benefit ("Zuwendungen") from the funds of the association.

No person may be favoured by payments that are foreign to the purposes of the association, or by unduly high reimbursement.

### **4. Membership**

Ordinary membership is open to all individuals who are at least 18 years old and are prepared to support the aims of the association.

Professional membership is open to any member of an engineering association, for example the "Verein Deutscher Elektrotechniker" (VDE) or the Institution of Electrical Engineers (IEE), or similar body.

Sponsoring membership is open to all persons, associations and other legal bodies which wish to encourage the aims of the association in a material or financial manner.

Application for membership shall be made in written form. Membership shall become effective when confirmed by the committee.

All members have the right to attend all functions of the association.

Members have the duty to support the aims of the association to the best of their endeavours, to support the committee and to pay the appropriate yearly subscription.

Membership ends by:

- a) the death of the member;
- b) written notice of resignation;
- c) non-payment of the subscription appointed, despite two written reminders, or
- d) withdrawal of membership by the committee.

Withdrawal of membership may be made if the member is judged to have acted in a manner contrary to the interests of the association. In such a case, a member shall be given opportunity to give reasons why membership should not be withdrawn. If, after hearing the reasons, agreement between the committee and the member is not reached, the member may request a decision from the next general meeting. Until that time the member's rights will be suspended.

The subscription to be paid in each of the membership categories shall be decided at the general meeting.

Members who leave the association will not receive reimbursement of part of the subscription, nor will they have financial rights or obligations after leaving.

## 5. Organisation

The organs of the association are:

- a) the committee (Vorstand);
- b) the advisory board (Beirat) and
- c) the general meeting.

### 5.1 Committee

The committee consists of:

- the chairman,
- the vice-chairman,
- the secretary and
- the treasurer.

The association shall be legally represented by two of the committee acting together, normally the chairman and one other. During the process of obtaining official registration of the association these members are authorised to make any necessary modifications to this constitution.

The committee carries out the day-to-day business of the association, and supervises its financial affairs. The chairman calls committee meetings as required to carry out the decisions of the association and to achieve the aims of the association.

The committee is empowered to set up working groups to assist the committee for particular tasks.

The committee members shall be elected by the general meeting and shall hold office for two years.

### 5.2 Advisory board

The advisory board (Beirat) shall support the committee with appropriate advice, for example for the programme of activities. It consists of at least 4, but not more than 8 members.

The advisory board members shall be elected by the general meeting and shall hold office for two years.

Decisions of fundamental importance require the agreement of the advisory board. The advisory board shall prepare, together with the committee, all proposals which are to be decided at the general meeting.

### 5.3 General meeting

The ordinary general meeting shall take place once a year at a time to be decided by the committee.

An extraordinary general meeting may be called at any time by the committee. It must do so if at least 10% of the membership require this. The request for the meeting shall give the reasons for and the objectives of the meeting in writing.

Written notice of an ordinary or an extraordinary general meeting shall be sent out to all members at least 3 weeks in advance, giving the time, place and agenda of the meeting.

The agenda of an ordinary general meeting shall include at least:

1. the report of the chairman (for the previous year);
2. the report of the treasurer (for the previous year);
3. the election of the committee and
4. any other business.

### 6. Change of constitution

Except for those modifications of the constitution which may be required in connection with the official registration of the association (see paragraph 5.1), changes to the constitution can be decided only by a general meeting. The text of the changes is to be included with the notice of the meeting. Changes need the approval of a majority of 3/4 of those present at the meeting.

## 7. Minutes

All decisions of the committee and of the general meeting shall be recorded and signed by the chairman and by the secretary of the meeting at which the decisions were made.

## 8. Dissolution

The association may be dissolved only by a decision of a general meeting, for which a 3/4 majority is necessary.

In the event of the dissolution of the association its residual funds shall be transferred to the city of Munich to be used for charitable purposes only.