

By-Laws of the Malaysia Chapter Association for Contextual Behavioral Science

Article I – Name

The name of this organization shall be **The Malaysia Chapter of the Association for Contextual Behavioral Science**.

Article II – Purpose

The purpose of the organization shall be to foster the development of functional contextual cognitive and behavioral science and practice within Malaysia so as to alleviate human suffering and advance human wellbeing.

Specifically, the organization shall:

- a) Serve as a scientific and professional reference group for those in Malaysia who identify themselves as scientists, students, or practitioners in disciplines which embrace the principles and practices of contextual behavioral science, or for the interested public.
- b) Promote research and scholarship in Malaysia that focused on the development of a coherent and progressive science of human action that is more adequate to the challenges of the human condition.
- c) Identify and promote the development of useful basic principles, workable applied theories linked to these principles, effective applied technologies based on these theories, and successful means of training and disseminating these developments, guided by the best available scientific evidence of effective prevention and intervention strategies.
- d) Promote the development of a view of science that values a dynamic, ongoing interaction between its basic and applied elements, and between practical application and empirical knowledge;
- e) Promote the development in Malaysia of a community of scholars, researchers, educators, and practitioners who will work in a collegial, open, self-critical, non-discriminatory, and mutually supportive way that is effective in producing valued outcomes and in exploring the additional implications of this work, and that emphasizes open and low cost methods of connecting with this work so as to keep the focus on benefit to others;
- f) Advise political, legislative, and policy-making bodies with respect to matters pertaining to contextual behavioral science in Malaysia.
- g) Organize and sponsor forums, conferences, newsletters, journals, websites, list serves and other such activities for the accomplishment of the purposes of the organization.

Article III - Membership

a) Categories of Membership

Members of the Organization shall be persons who are interested in the advancement of functional contextual science and practice. Members must either be currently practicing/residing in Malaysia or are citizens of Malaysia.

The types of membership shall be professional, student, and affiliate.

Professional members and Fellows shall be entitled to the rights and privileges of the Association without restriction. The minimum standard for election to professional membership shall be completion of a terminal degree relevant to the purposes of the Association. Student members shall be currently enrolled at the undergraduate or graduate level in an area of relevance to the purposes of the Association. Affiliate members are any member of the public with interests in the purpose of the Association.

Standards for Fellow Status in the Association shall be set by the Board of Directors.

All members of the Malaysia Chapter of the Association for Contextual Behavioral Science must be members in good standing of the Association for Contextual Behavioral Science (ACBS).

Membership dues are set by the Board of Directors of the Association and paid to the Association annually. In order to establish a seeding fund, a membership due of RM100.00 (One hundred Ringgit Malaysia) for professional and affiliate membership and RM25.00 (Twenty-five Ringgit Malaysia) for student membership shall be applicable prior to the first election. This due must be paid to be eligible to vote in the first election.

Members shall be regarded without discrimination on the basis of race, national or ethnic origin, religion, gender, sexual orientation, age, political affiliation, or mental or physical disability.

b) Good Standing

To remain a member in good standing, an individual must be no more than 9 months in arrears with respect to any dues and assessments, both of the Malaysia Chapter of the ACBS, and of ACBS itself.

c) Voting

Each Professional, Affiliate, and Student member shall be entitled to one vote on all matters brought before the Association. There shall be no proxy voting. The voting status of other members as it applies to particular issues may be decided by the Board of Directors.

Article IV – Officers, Duties, and Terms of Office

The officers of the Association shall consist of a Past-president, President, President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, a student representative, and 3 Members-at-Large of the Board of Directors. Each shall perform the usual duties of the respective office and specific duties provided elsewhere in these Bylaws or as assigned by the Board of Directors. Elections for officers shall be held every two years. The Past-president post shall be held by the previous President. The Board of Directors shall each serve a two-year term and may not hold any other elected office within the Association. In order to create a stagger and ensure that most of the Board terms do not expire in the same year, two of the Members-at-Large, in the first election only, will be elected for a four-year term.

Candidates for offices shall be Members of the Association. Officers shall be elected by email ballot to Members.

The President-Elect shall fulfill the duties of the President in case of the President's absence, incapacity, or resignation. In the event of the President's resignation, or lengthy absence or incapacity, the Board of Directors may, by a two-thirds vote, assign the President-Elect to replace the President and call for an election of a new President-Elect before the normal voting cycle. The other positions shall remain the same.

In the event that the Secretary, Treasurer, or Student Representative's resignation, or lengthy absence, or incapacity, the remaining Board of Directors may, by a two-thirds vote, assign an existing Members-at-Large to replace the said position.

Article V – Committees

The Past-president, President, President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, Student Representative and Members-at-Large shall constitute the voting members of the Board of Directors.

The Committees of the Association shall consist of such standing Committees as may be provided by these Bylaws and such special Committees as may be established by the

Board of Directors.

The Board of Directors shall have general supervision of the affairs of the Association, performing the duties and abiding by the limitations specified in these Bylaws. Actions of the Board of Directors affecting Association policy are subject to approval by a majority vote of the Members voting at the annual meeting, or by a special email ballot as decided upon by the Board of Directors. A request for an email ballot of the membership of the Association may be initiated either by the Board of Directors or by five percent (5%) of the Members, at which point, an email ballot shall be circulated to the membership. Results of an email ballot of the membership constitute the final authority of the Association.

The Membership Committee shall be selected by the Board of Directors with a chair appointed by the President and approved by the Board of Directors. It shall be the responsibility of this Committee to secure and review evidence concerning the membership qualifications of all candidates for membership or changes of membership status and to select Fellow of the Association.

The Election Committee shall be selected by the Board of Directors, with a chair appointed by the President and approved by the Board of Directors. The Election Committee shall secure nominations by email ballot from the Members and shall ascertain whether the nominees are qualified and willing to serve if elected. The Election Committee shall be responsible for making a preferential count of the election ballots and reporting the results to the Board of Directors.

Article VI – Activities

The association may hold periodic meetings for the transaction of business and presentations regarding developments in contextual behavioral science, application, and the advancement of human welfare.

The Association may engage in activities designed to accomplish its purposes, including

- establishing or acquire newsletters, journals, and other publications
- establishing and maintaining websites, list serves, and other media
- specifying or promoting education and training activities
- promoting public education
- if available, establishing and maintaining funding for research activities within Malaysia

The Board of Directors may provide for the formation and dissolution of student affiliate groups, special interest groups, and other units within the Association.

Article VII - Rules of Procedure

The rules contained in the edition of *Robert's Rules of Order* (Newly Revised) shall govern the Association in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws and any special rules of order the Association may adopt.

Article VIII – Amendments

These Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of Members who reply to an email ballot sent to the total membership. Bylaws amendments may be initiated by the Board of Directors or by petition of five percent (5%) of the total membership.

Within five years after the adoption of these Bylaws, the Board of Directors shall appoint a special committee to review these initial Bylaws and to recommend changes in them.

Article IX – Dissolution

In the event of the dissolution or termination of the Association, all of the assets and title to and possession of the property of the Association shall pass to one or more non-profit scientific and professional organization.