Wisconsin Medical Society Constitution

Article I. Name
The name and title of this organization shall be the Wisconsin Medical Society, Inc. (“Society”).

Article II. Purpose
The purpose of the Wisconsin Medical Society shall be to represent and unify the physicians of the state of Wisconsin in order to advance the science and art of medicine, improve the health of the people of Wisconsin, and secure the enactment and enforcement of appropriate public policy.

Article III. Membership
The Society shall be composed of physicians, medical students and other individuals, as defined in the Bylaws.

Article IV. Structure and Governance
A. House of Delegates. The House of Delegates (“House”) shall be the policy-making body of the Wisconsin Medical Society. The House shall consist of elected Delegates, a Speaker, a Vice-Speaker and others as provided in the Bylaws.

B. Board of Directors. The Board of Directors (“Board”) shall have the full authority and power of the House of Delegates between meetings of the House. The Board shall consist of Directors and Officers, as provided in the Bylaws. The Executive Vice President shall be an ex officio member of the Board, but without the right to vote.

C. County Medical Societies. Members of the Society shall be organized into county medical societies (“county societies”). The county societies shall be chartered by the Board and organized into districts (“Districts”).

D. Sections. The House shall establish specialty and other special sections, as provided in the Bylaws.

Article V. Officers
Officers of this Society shall be a President, a President-Elect, an Immediate Past President, an Executive Vice President/Chief Executive Officer, a Treasurer, a Speaker and a Vice-Speaker. No person shall hold more than one of the following positions concurrently: President, President-Elect, Executive Vice President, Treasurer, Speaker, Vice Speaker, or Director, except that the Treasurer is a Director.

Article VI. Meetings
Section 1. The Society shall hold an Annual Meeting, at which time the House of Delegates shall meet to conduct its business. The Annual Meeting may also include scientific sessions as determined by the Board.

Section 2. The House of Delegates shall fix the time and place for each Annual Meeting. If the House fails to set the time and place of the Annual Meeting, the Board of Directors shall do so.

Section 3. Special meetings of the House of Delegates shall be called by the speaker on written request of at least twenty (20) Delegates representing at least three (3) of the Society’s Districts, or upon written request of a majority of the Board.

Article VII. Finances
Funds may be raised by annual dues or by assessment on the members, or in any other manner approved by the House of Delegates. Dues, if any, shall be applied equitably to all members in each class.

Article VIII. Constitutional Amendments
The House of Delegates may amend any article of this Constitution by a two-thirds vote of the members of the House present at any annual meeting, provided that such amendment was introduced as a constitutional amendment in open session at the previous annual meeting and that it has either been officially published by the Society or sent to each member at least two months before the meeting at which final action is to be taken.

Article IX. Referendum
The House of Delegates may, by a two-thirds vote of those registered at that session, submit any question to the membership of the Society for its vote, except amendments to the Constitution. The House shall determine prior to submission whether a referendum shall be advisory or binding, and so advise the membership at the time of submission. A majority vote of all members of the Society who are eligible to vote shall determine the question on a binding referendum.

Article X. Seal
The Society shall have a common seal. The power to change or renew the seal shall rest with the House of Delegates.

As adopted by the House of Delegates, April 2011.