

ACAPT BYLAWS AMENDMENTS FAQ

1. *What are the requirements for amending the ACAPT bylaws?*

The ACAPT bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the Representatives present and voting, provided a quorum is present and provided that the member institutions have been given notice thirty days prior to the meeting.

2. *Can the proposed amendments to the ACAPT bylaws be amended during the meeting on May 23?*

Yes, but only if the floor amendment is within something called the scope of notice. Floor amendments must be within the current bylaws and what is proposed in the notice to be changed. For example, the first proposal designates one of the five at-large directorships on the ACAPT board specifically for an academic faculty member involved in clinical education. An amendment to designate a second at-large directorship, or an amendment to change the designation from clinical education to something else, is not in order because it exceeds the scope of notice. Only one designated director was proposed, not two, and it was specifically designated for one type.

3. *Why is scope of notice important?*

Scope of notice is an important protection for all members, ensuring them that major changes in the bylaws will not be made without fair warning.

4. *Some good ideas were presented at the town hall on May 3. Can we amend the proposals to incorporate them?*

Unfortunately, many of the ideas presented would be out of order because they would violate the scope of notice. For example, limiting the number of people serving on the board from a single institution is not currently in the bylaws and not a part of the amendments proposed with thirty days' notice. Another idea was to make the designated director nonvoting. This is also outside the scope, as currently all directors are voting directors. If it is desired to put either of these limitations into the bylaws, it will have to be done at a future meeting with proper notice.

5. *Are there any other important things we should know about the bylaws?*

Another very important concept is that eligibility for a board position (such as the limitation on multiple people from one institution) must be in the bylaws. The nominating committee does not have the authority to decide who is eligible. This is a members' rights issue, not a policy issue.

Last, although the language being proposed has been given conditional approval by APTA, any changes to that language (such as amendments to the proposals before final vote) is subject to final approval by APTA after the meeting.