6.0 Councils

6.0.1 Responsibilities.

6.0.1.1 Information and Recommendations. All Councils have a continuing duty to provide information and to submit recommendations to the House of Delegates, through the Board of Trustees, on matters relating to the areas of responsibility assigned to them under the provisions of these Bylaws.

6.0.1.1.1 Method of Reporting. Councils, except the Council on Ethical and Judicial Affairs and the Council on Legislation, shall submit their reports to the House of Delegates through the Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees may make such non-binding recommendations regarding the reports to the Councils as it deems appropriate, prior to transmitting the reports to the House of Delegates without delay or modification by the Board. The Board may also submit written recommendations regarding the reports to the House of Delegates.

6.0.1.1.2 Method of Referral. Referrals from the House of Delegates to a Council shall be made through the Board of Trustees. The Board may, in addition, refer the matter to such other councils as it deems appropriate.

6.0.1.2 Strategic Planning. All Councils have a responsibility to participate in the strategic planning process with the Board of Trustees, other Councils, and other organizational units as may be appropriate.

6.0.1.3 Communications and Working Relationships. All Councils have a responsibility to communicate and develop working relationships with the Board of Trustees, other Councils, the Sections, organizations represented within the House of Delegates and other organizational units as may be appropriate.

6.0.2 Rules and Regulations. Each Council shall select a Chair and Vice Chair or Chair-Elect and may adopt such rules and regulations as it deems necessary and appropriate for the conduct of its affairs, subject to approval by the Board of Trustees.

6.2 Council on Medical Education.

6.2.1 Functions.
6.2.1.1 To study and evaluate all aspects of medical education continuum, including the development of programs approved by the House of Delegates, to ensure an adequate continuing supply of well-qualified physicians to meet the needs of the public;

6.2.1.2 To review and recommend policies for medical and allied health education, whereby the AMA may provide the highest education service to both the public and the profession;

6.2.1.3 To consider and recommend means by which the AMA may, on behalf of the public and the medical profession at-large, continue to provide information, leadership and direction to the existing inter-organizational bodies dealing with medical and allied health education; and

6.2.1.4 To consider and recommend the means and methods whereby physicians may be assisted in maintaining their professional competence and the development of means and criteria for recognition of such achievement.

6.2.2 - Membership.

6.2.2.1 Twelve active members of the AMA, one of whom shall be a resident/fellow physician, and one of whom shall be a medical student.


6.8.1 Nomination and Election. Members of these Councils, except the medical student member, shall be elected by the House of Delegates. Nominations shall be made by the Board of Trustees and may also be made from the floor by a member of the House of Delegates.

6.8.1.1 Separate Election. The resident/fellow physician member of these Councils shall be elected separately. A majority of the legal votes cast shall be necessary to elect. In case a nominee fails to receive a majority of the legal votes cast, the nominees on subsequent ballots shall be determined by retaining the 2 nominees who received the greater number of votes on the preceding ballot and eliminating the nominee(s) who received the fewest votes on the preceding ballot, except where there is a tie. This procedure shall be continued until one of the nominees receives a majority of the legal votes cast.

6.8.1.2 Other Council Members. With reference to each such Council, all nominees for election shall be listed alphabetically on a single ballot. Each elector shall have as many votes as there are members to be elected, and each vote must be cast for a different nominee. No ballot shall be counted if it contains fewer votes or more votes than the number of members to be elected, or if the ballot contains more than one vote for any nominee. A nominee shall be elected if he or she has received a vote on a majority of the legal ballots cast and is one of the nominees receiving the largest number of votes within the number of members to be elected.
6.8.1.3 **Run-Off Ballot.** A run-off election shall be held to fill any vacancy that cannot be filled because of a tie vote.

6.8.1.4 **Subsequent Ballots.** If all vacancies are not filled on the first ballot and 3 or more members of the Council are still to be elected, the number of nominees on subsequent ballots shall be reduced to no more than twice the number of remaining vacancies less one. The nominees on subsequent ballots shall be determined by retaining those who received the greater number of votes on the preceding ballot and eliminating the nominee(s) who received the fewest number of votes on the preceding ballot, except where there is a tie. When 2 or fewer members of the Council are still to be elected, the number of nominees on subsequent ballots shall be no more than twice the number of remaining vacancies, with the nominees determined as indicated in the preceding sentence. In any subsequent ballot the electors shall cast as many votes as there are members of the Council yet to be elected, and must cast each vote for a different nominee. This procedure shall be repeated until all vacancies have been filled.

6.8.1.5 **Council Members to be Elected to Fill Vacancies after a Prior Ballot.** The nomination and election of members of the Council to fill a vacancy that did not exist at the time of the prior ballot shall be held after election of other members of the Council, and shall follow the same procedure. Individuals elected to such vacancy shall be elected to a complete 4-year term. Unsuccessful candidates in the election for members of the Council shall automatically be nominated for subsequent elections to fill any such vacancy until all members of the Council have been elected. In addition, nominations from the floor shall be accepted.

6.8.2 **Medical Student Member.** Medical student members of these Councils shall be appointed by the Governing Council of the Medical Student Section with the concurrence of the Board of Trustees.

6.9 **Term and Tenure - Council on Constitution and Bylaws, Council on Medical Education, Council on Medical Service, and Council on Science and Public Health.**

6.9.1 **Term.**

6.9.1.1 **Members other than the Resident/Fellow Physician Member and Medical Student Member.** Members of these Councils other than the resident/fellow physician and medical student member shall be elected for terms of 4 years.

6.9.1.2 **Resident/Fellow Physician Member.** The resident/fellow physician member of these Councils shall be elected for a term of 3 years. If the resident/fellow physician member ceases to be a resident/fellow physician at any time prior to the expiration of the term for which elected, the service of such resident/fellow physician member on the Council shall thereupon terminate, and the position shall be declared vacant.

6.9.1.3 **Medical Student Member.** The medical student member of these Councils shall be appointed for a term of one year. If the medical student member ceases to be enrolled in an educational program at any time prior to the expiration of the term for which elected, the service
of such medical student member on the Council shall thereupon terminate, and the position shall be declared vacant.

6.9.2 Tenure. Members of these Councils may serve no more than 8 years. The limitation on tenure shall take priority over a term length for which the member was elected.

6.9.3 Vacancies.

6.9.3.1 Members other than the Resident/Fellow Physician and Medical Student Member. Any vacancy among the members of these Councils other than the resident/fellow physician and medical student member shall be filled at the next Annual Meeting of the House of Delegates. The successor shall be elected by the House of Delegates for a 4-year term.

6.9.3.2 Resident/Fellow Physician Member. If the resident/fellow physician member of these Councils ceases to complete the term for which elected, the remainder of the term shall be deemed to have expired. The successor shall be elected by the House of Delegates for a 3-year term.

6.10 Commencement of Term. Members of Councils who are elected by the House of Delegates shall assume office at the close of the meeting at which they are elected.

6.11 Term of Resident/Fellow Physician or Medical Student Member. A resident/fellow physician or medical student member of a Council who completes residency or fellowship or who graduates from an educational program within 90 days prior to an Annual Meeting shall be permitted to serve on the Council until the completion of the Annual Meeting. Service on a Council as a resident/fellow physician and/or medical student member shall not be counted in determining maximum Council tenure.