

GGSA Constitution

ARTICLE I: Name of the Organization

Section 1: The name of this organization will be known as the Geology Graduate Student Association (hereinafter referred to as the “GGSA”).

ARTICLE II: Mission and Purpose

Section 1: The purpose of the GGSA shall be to foster a welcoming environment for all graduate students, instigate intelligent discussion on geologic and related earth and planetary sciences, and to promote enthusiasm for the outdoors and the environment.

Section 2: The GGSA shall abide by all SUNY and University at Buffalo policies and procedures.

ARTICLE III: Qualifications of Membership

Section 1: Membership in the GGSA shall be open to any full or part time graduate student enrolled at the University at Buffalo whose interest lies in the realm of geology and related sciences.

Section 2: Active membership shall be determined by continued enrollment in the University at Buffalo.

Section 3: Membership in the GGSA shall be open to all students without regard to race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, marital status, sexual orientation, age, disability, veteran status, or any other classification protected by law, so that all members at all times are treated with dignity and respect.

ARTICLE IV: Officers

Section 1: The officers shall consist of a President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary. All officers must be qualified to be members of the GGSA.

Section 2: The President shall be the chief executive of the GGSA, maintain operating procedures, serve as liaison for the club with the University at Buffalo administration, call and preside over meetings, take care that this constitution and the policies and procedures at the University at Buffalo are faithfully executed.

Section 3: The Vice President shall assist the President with all administrative duties and assume those duties in the President’s absence.

Section 4: The Treasurer shall receive and distribute the GGSA funds upon the authorization of the President, in accordance with the SUNY Mandatory Student Activity

Fee and financial rules and regulations of the University at Buffalo, prepare the annual budget, sign requisitions for the club and organization funds.

Section 5: The Secretary shall keep accurate and detailed records of all meetings and affairs, responsible for all correspondence with the GGSA members, coordinate preparation and distribution of handouts, flyers, and publications.

Section 6: The elected officers will form the Executive Committee.

Section 7: All elected officers must be in good academic standing at the University at Buffalo (GPA \geq 3.0).

Section 8: Any officer may be removed from office for failure to perform his/her duties. This can include failure to carry out the responsibilities of that office, or for any action that violates the mission of the GGSA.

Section 9: Senator, Senator Alternates, Webmaster, Grievance Pool Rep., BAPG Rep., Geohazards Rep., and Faculty Rep. Positions also exist for the GGSA. These positions should be filled as soon as possible each academic year, or each semester as needed.

ARTICLE V: Elections

Section 1: The President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary shall be elected by the members of the GGSA to serve a one-year term. Annual elections shall be held within the first two weeks of the Fall semester. The President may be elected in the previous Spring semester to ease the transition in the Fall. The officers shall be elected by means of simple majority, via a show of hands. The term of office for all officers shall begin from the Fall election meeting and end on the date of the next election meeting.

Section 2: Nominations of candidates for office positions and representative positions (Grievance Pool Rep., BAPG Rep., Geohazards Rep., and Faculty Rep., etc.) shall be via self-nomination. Nominees for officer and representative positions must be GGSA members.

Section 3: Vacancies occurring in any elected offices shall be filled via special elections with members given a week notice.

ARTICLE VI: Meeting

Section 1: Regular meeting shall be held bi-weekly. Meetings will be called by the President.

Section 2: Quorum shall consist of fifty one percent of club membership. Quorum is needed for official votes to take place.

ARTICLE VII: Amendments

Section 1: Amendments to this constitution shall be adopted by two-thirds vote of members present at the meeting at which the amendment is read.

Section 2: Sub-committees will meet on an “as-needed” basis to accomplish separate club-related tasks and goals. The Sub-committees are: Activities, Winter Party, Swag, Outreach, and Tutorials. All excursions/activities [separate from the winter party] will be planned and organized by the Activities Committee; the Winter Party will be planned and organized by the Winter Party Committee; any tutorials or workshops will be planned and organized by the Tutorials Committee; all outreach events will be planned and organized by the Outreach Committee; and all swag campaigns will be designed and organized by the Swag Committee. Committee Chairs and/or Co-Chairs will be determined by the end of September each academic year. Any GGSA member can join any/all sub-committees.

Date of Constitution Creation: 8/27/2015

Latest Revision Date: 9/05/2017