

Constitution of the Earth Sciences Graduate Association (ESGA)

Article I - Name

The name of this organization shall be the Earth Sciences Graduate Association (hereafter referred to as *ESGA*).

Article II - Purpose

The purpose of *ESGA* is to provide a conduit between the graduate students and the faculty. To encourage the highest levels of critical thinking and research in earth and environmental sciences, and to offer support and fraternity to its members.

Article III - Membership

Membership is open to graduate students in the Department of Earth & Environmental Science and graduate students from other departments interested in earth and environmental sciences.

Article IV - Officers

Section 1. Number and Method of Election

***ESGA* shall elect from its membership a Faculty Liaison and a committee of four graduate students. The committee shall contain students from all levels, i.e. first, second third, and fourth year, when possible. Election shall be at first *ESGA* meeting of each new academic year. Votes shall be cast by a show of hands and ratification by simple majority.**

Section 2. Duties of Officers.

The Faculty Liaison shall represent student concerns and ideas at faculty meetings. The Faculty Liaison and The Committee shall share the following duties: (i) disseminate information about *ESGA* and its meetings, (ii) oversee expenditure of funds from the *ESGA* treasury, (iii) represent or ensure representation of *ESGA* at GSSA meetings, (iv) be available to members for comments, suggestions, constitution amendments, calls for extraordinary meetings, assistance with speaker requests and any other business, (v) maintain *ESGA* documents and accounts.

Section 3. Terms of Office.

Officers shall serve for one academic year, and may be re-elected.

Section 4. Removal of Officers

Officers may be removed by a two-thirds vote of the membership. An officer must be informed of any such vote pending and reasons for the movement, and shall have the opportunity to address the membership.

Article V - Meetings

Section 1. Regular Meetings.

***ESGA* shall meet at least once a semester. Extraordinary meetings can be called by any Officer, at their own request, or the request of a member.**

Section 2. Quorum.

The quorum at all meetings shall be those *ESGA* members attending.

Article VI - Amendments

Any member may propose an amendment to this constitution at any meeting. After initial discussion, a vote shall be taken as to the need for further debate, after which the amendment is either voted on, or deferred until the next meeting. Ratification requires a two-thirds vote.