

The Constitution of the Society for Earth and Environmental Sciences

As of October 2008

Preamble

To contribute to the greater good of the Earth and Environmental Sciences and the University of New Orleans, we, the student members of the Society for Earth and Environmental Sciences establish this constitution to create an effective student organization:

- To provide a framework of knowledge and networking for those students interested in Earth and Environmental Sciences,
- To improve the general academic welfare of the University of New Orleans students,
- To improve the Earth and Environmental Sciences and University of New Orleans through various volunteer activities,
- To foster awareness at the University of New Orleans of Earth and Environmental Science studies.

Article I: Organization

- Section 1: The name of this organization shall be the Society for Earth and Environmental Sciences, here in after SEES.
- Section 2: SEES shall consist of regularly enrolled students, as defined by this University, who have a general interest in the Earth and Environmental Sciences.
- Section 3: The structure of SEES shall consist of two branches: members and officers.
- Section 4: Members of SEES consist of regularly enrolled students, as defined by this University, who have a general interest in the Earth and Environmental Sciences.
- Section 5: Officers of SEES are: the President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary.

Article II: Members

- Section 1: All Legislative powers granted in SEES shall be vested in the members.
- Section 2: Members shall consist of regularly enrolled students, as defined by this University, who have a general interest in the Earth and Environmental Sciences.
- Section 3: No elections are held in order to become a member of SEES.

- Section 4: Each member may cast only one vote in SEES meetings.
- Section 5: A member shall automatically forfeit membership in SEES if the member ceases to be enrolled in the University.
- Section 6: Powers and Duties
1. Members are encouraged to take part in volunteer activities sponsored by SEES.
 2. Members are required to take part in the Mineral Auction and other fundraisers.
- Section 7: Active Membership
1. In order to be considered an active member, a member must meet the following standards:
 - a. Active participation in the Mineral Auction.
 - b. Attend more than 75% of the meetings unless extenuating circumstances prevent the member from attending.
 - c. After the first year of active membership, the member shall pay membership dues of \$10, due at the second meeting of the Fall Semester.
 2. Benefits of Active Membership
 - a. Eligibility for any scholarship offered by SEES.
 - b. Ability to participate in any SEES sponsored field trip.

Article III: Officers

- Section 1: The executive power shall be vested in the President of SEES; the President shall be assisted in the execution of his powers and duties by the Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary.
- Section 2: Qualifications of executive officers are as follows:
1. Officers must have junior, senior, or graduate student standing as defined by the University.
 2. Officers must be full-time status and maintain a 3.0 Earth and Environmental Science grade point average.
 3. The President must have been an officer for a full term prior to running for office.
 4. In the event of a situation where no returning officer has served for one term, a student of proper seniority may be appointed by the faculty advisor.
- Section 3: Powers and duties of the President
1. The President shall have the power to call meetings of the entire membership.
 2. The President shall have the power to delegate authority to other members.

3. The President shall preside over all meetings of the membership.
4. The president has the responsibility to execute all powers and duties found in the SEES constitution and by-laws.
5. It is the President's responsibility to orchestrate the Mineral Auction.
6. The President shall attend the monthly meetings of the Student Government of the University and submit the monthly financial statement to SEES.
7. The President shall only vote in the event of a tie, when casting the deciding vote.

Section 4: Powers and Duties of Vice President

1. The Vice President shall have the power to execute the powers and duties of the President in his absence.
2. In the absence of the President, the Vice President shall have the power to cast the deciding vote in the event of a tie.
3. The Vice President shall perform duties as the President shall assign him.

Section 5: Powers and Duties of the Treasurer

1. The Treasurer shall be responsible to SEES for any information related to any funds generated or appropriated for SEES use.
2. The Treasurer shall be responsible to the membership for continued review of expenditures of any funds generated or appropriated for SEES use.
3. The Treasurer shall keep and make available a permanent financial record for all transactions entered into, by and on behalf of SEES.
4. The Treasurer shall approve of all expenditures of group funds.
5. The Treasurer shall review the financial condition of SEES and submit a monthly financial statement to the members.
6. The Treasurer shall have the right to vote unless acting as President.
7. The Treasurer shall preside over meetings of the membership in the absence of the President and the Vice President.

Section 6: Powers and Duties of the Secretary

1. The Secretary shall have the duty to keep and make available a permanent record of the SEES Constitution, by-laws, member list, financials, and any other legislation.
2. The Secretary shall verify the filing of resignation by any SEES member.
3. The Secretary shall keep accurate minutes for all meetings.
4. The Secretary shall be responsible for filing all organization correspondence.
5. The Secretary shall have the right to vote unless acting as the President.
6. The Secretary shall preside over a meeting in the absence of the President, Vice President, and Treasurer.

Section 7: Vacancy and Order of Succession

1. The term of office of any officer shall be terminated upon the occurrence of any condition as stated in Article III, Section 8, Paragraph 4.

- a. In the event of a Presidential vacancy, the order of succession shall be as follows: the Vice President, the Treasurer, and the Secretary.
- b. If none of the succeeding officers are available to assume the office of President, a special election shall be called at the next regular meeting to fill an unexpired term.
- c. In the event of a vacancy of the Vice President, the Treasurer shall fill the unexpired term.
- d. In the event of a vacancy of the Treasurer, the Secretary shall fill the unexpired term.
- e. In the event of a vacancy of the Secretary, the replacement shall be elected by the membership of SEES in the next regular meeting.
- f. If the order of succession cannot be followed for any reason, the office shall be voted upon by the membership of SEES.

Section 8: Terms of Office

1. All members shall assume their duties upon being duly elected by SEES members.
2. Officers are elected at the end of the Spring semester and assume office upon the closure of the election meeting.
3. The term of office is one year.
4. The term of office for any officer shall be terminated upon the occurrence of any of the following conditions:
 - a. Expiration of their term of office;
 - b. Resignation properly filed with Secretary;
 - c. Failure to meet guidelines set forth by SEES law;
 - d. Failure to meet qualifications set forth by SEES law;
 - e. Removal of officer by impeachment procedures (Article 3, Section 10, Paragraph 2).

Section 9: No student shall hold more than one officer position concurrently.

Section 10: Removal of Executive Officers

1. Any officer may be impeached for nonfeasance, misfeasance, and malfeasance.
2. The procedure for impeachment of an officer is as follows:
 - a. The filing of impeachment charges by membership majority;
 - b. A trial shall be held at the next meeting by the President, unless it is a Presidential impeachment, in which case the trial shall be held by the Vice President.
 - c. An affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the membership shall remove an officer from office.

Article V: Method of Amendment

Section 1: All Amendments of this Constitution must be proposed by one of the following methods:

1. By a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the membership; or
2. By a petition presented in writing to the President of SEES carrying the signatures of 10% of the membership.

Section 2: Proposed Amendments shall be adopted when a simple majority of those members of the SEES voting approve the proposed Amendments.

Section 3: The SEES Constitution shall not be amended, except during a regular semester, as defined by the University of New Orleans' Registrar's Office.

Article VI: Ratification and Implementation

Section 1: This Constitution shall take effect **March 22, 2006** upon being approved by a simple majority of members voting.

Section 2: All officers elected before March 22, 2006 will complete their term under the previous Constitution.