

ORGANIZATION CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I: NAME

Section I. The name of this organization shall be the Geotechnical Engineering Student Organization of University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, hereafter abbreviated as GESO-UIUC.

ARTICLE II: OBJECTIVE

- Organizing GESO-UIUC and UIUC Peck lectures.
- Organizing annual engineering open-house displays.
- Organizing outreach programs.
- Interacting with the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Student Chapter of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE-UIUC).
- Collaborating with the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Student Chapter of Earthquake Engineering Research Institute (EERI-UIUC) in order to have interested members involved in subjects related to Geotechnical Earthquake Engineering.
- Contributing in Civil Engineering conferences and conventions.
- Contributing in paper competitions and professional educations related to geotechnical engineering.
- Holding biweekly geotechnical discussion session.
- Inviting geotechnical engineering companies to career expos in order to facilitate the job hunting of geotechnical engineering graduates.
- Arranging field trips to civil engineering construction projects and sites particularly those related to geotechnical engineering.

ARTICLE III: RELATIONSHIPS

Section 1. The Organization shall be under the jurisdiction of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Section 2. The Organization will subscribe to the Constitution, Bylaws, Rules of Policy and Procedure and the Code of Ethics as adopted by the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Office of Registered Organizations.

Section 3. The Geo-Institute Graduate Student Organization at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (GIGSO-UIUC) is one of the chapters of this Organization. All of the Executive Board members of GESO are also the Executive Board members of GIGSO-UIUC.

ARTICLE IV: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Active members of GESO-UIUC shall be students enrolled in the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign who are interested in geotechnical engineering.

Section 2. All members of GESO-UIUC must subscribe to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Organization, and the Rules of Policy and Procedure and the Code of Ethics of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Section 3. The grades of membership in the Organization shall be Member, Chairperson, Officer and Faculty. The qualifications for each grade shall be decided by the Officers.

Section 4. Membership in the organization does not imply automatic admission as a Student Member to the neither the Geo-Institute of the American Society of Civil Engineers nor the Geo-Institute Graduate Student Organization at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. The individual must make separate applications, in accordance with the constitutions of these organizations.

Section 5. A Member shall have the right to serve on committees and participate in the affairs of the Organization and shall have the right to vote and to hold office.

ARTICLE V: FEES AND DUES

Section 1. The schedule of annual dues shall be established and shall be set forth in the Bylaws.

ARTICLE VI: OFFICERS

Section 1. The Officers of GESO-UIUC shall be one President, one Vice Presidents, one Secretary, and one Treasurer.

Section 2. GESO-UIUC Officers shall be in charge of overseeing the affairs of the Organization and its Committees.

Section 3. The Committee Chairpersons of GESO-UIUC shall be one Membership Director, two Social and Outreach Chairpersons, one Professional Education and

Lectures Chairperson, one Corporate Relations and Publicity Chairperson and one Website Chairperson. All Chairpersons are to be in good standing with the Organization.

Section 4. GESO-UIUC Committee Chairpersons shall be in charge of the affairs of their respective Committees.

Section 5. Officers and Chairpersons represent both GESO-UIUC and the University and, as such, are expected to act with the utmost professionalism.

Section 6. The Officers and Chairpersons of GESO-UIUC shall form the Executive Board. The Executive Board shall have the power to make decisions relevant to the operation of GESO-UIUC. For a decision to be binding, three quarters of the votes cast must be affirmative.

Section 7. To vote on an issue pertinent to GESO-UIUC, a quorum of the Executive Board must be present. A quorum shall be defined as a simple majority of Executive Board members. A vote cannot be held if the President is absent.

ARTICLE VII: ELECTIONS

Section 1. The Election Process: All potential officers and chairpersons must submit an application before the given deadline to be considered for a position. Applications shall be written as deemed appropriate by the Executive Board. Nominees will only be accepted if no applications were submitted for a given position. Applicants should include alternative desired positions (if applicable) and must be considered for the next position if not elected for first choice. The members present at the general meeting shall vote on the Officer and Chairperson positions. The winner shall be the nominee/applicant with the majority of the votes.

Section 2. It shall be required that the President applicants were past Executive Board members.

Section 3. The Executive Committee shall have the power to appoint a Chairperson to any Special Committee deemed necessary for advancing the purposes of the Organization. Upon receiving appointment, this Chairperson shall provide the Executive Board with a description of duties for his or her Special Committee. A Special Committee may exist for a period not to exceed one year, during which time its description of duties shall be included in the Constitution and By-Laws. If a Special Committee is to exist for more than one year, it must be added as a Permanent Committee by the vote of the Executive Board.

Section 4. In the event that elections are not held in a timely fashion or no nominee is found for a particular office, current officers shall hold office until their successors are duly elected and qualified.

Section 5. A vacancy occurring in an elected position of the Organization during the term of that position shall be filled for the remainder of the term as follows:

(a) President: By the senior Vice-President.

(b) All other presiding officers and chairpersons: By appointment of the President.

(c) Officers/Chairpersons-Elect: By nomination and election in the same manner as provided in Section 1 of this Article, except that the Executive Board shall set the date for the opening and closing of the balloting for such an election.

Section 6. In the case of disability of any Officer or Chairperson of the Organization, or neglect in the performance of the duties of an office, the Executive Board shall have the power to declare the office vacant.

Section 7. The first general meeting of the fall semester shall hold elections for the president, vice-president, treasurer, secretary. The first general meeting of the spring semester shall hold the elections for the chairpersons.

ARTICLE VIII: MEETINGS

Section 1. The Organization shall hold as many Meetings throughout the semester as is deemed practical by the Executive Board. The Meetings shall be held at such times and places within the university campus as shall be determined by the Executive Board, and designated in a notice to the members as provided for in the Bylaws.

Section 2. Meetings of the Executive Board shall be held at such times and places as may be determined by the Executive Board to be necessary for the discharge of its duties.

ARTICLE IX. AMENDMENTS

Section 1. An Amendment to this constitution may be proposed by any Officer or Chairperson. A vote shall be held at the following Meeting. All of the Members of the Executive Board at that Meeting shall be eligible to cast a vote. For the adoption of any amendment to the constitution, three quarters of the valid ballots cast shall be in the affirmative. A vote cannot be held if the president is absent. An amendment that has been adopted shall become effective with the start of the next academic semester or earlier by the discretion of the Executive Board.