

## **NORTHEASTERN SECTION BYLAWS**

Established by Council on April 3, 1965

### **ARTICLE I**

#### ***Name and Organization***

1. The name of the section is the Northeastern Section of The Geological Society of America, Inc.
2. This section of The Geological Society of America, Inc., is organized in accordance with Article VIII of the Bylaws of that Society and is governed by the provisions of that article.

### **ARTICLE II**

#### ***Geographical Limits***

1. For purposes of scientific fellowship and discussion, the limits of the section shall correspond with the limits of the general Society. Meetings shall be open to all Members, Fellows, Honorary Fellows, and Affiliates of the Society and their guests for attendance and participation, the presentation of papers, and conduct of field conferences.
2. For the purposes of administration, the geographical extent of the section shall include: in the United States, the District of Columbia and the states of Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Vermont; and in Canada, the provinces of New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, Quebec, and Ontario east of the 89th meridian.

### **ARTICLE III**

#### ***Membership***

1. Members, Fellows, Honorary Fellows, and Affiliates of the Geological Society of America residing within the geographical limits of the section shall normally be members of the section.

Members, Fellows, Honorary Fellows, and Affiliates of the Society who reside outside the geographical limits of the section may become members of the section, with all rights and privileges pertaining thereto, upon written or electronic notification of intent to the Society; those who reside within the geographical limits of the Northeastern Section but wish to be voting members of another section may likewise do so and will thereby relinquish their rights and privileges as members in the Northeastern Section, except that

by paying additional dues as determined by the Geological Society of America, any member can belong to any additional number of sections, with all rights and privileges pertaining thereto.

**ARTICLE IV**  
***Officers and Management Board***

1. Officers. The officers of the section shall be a chair, a vice-chair, and a secretary. The secretary shall also act as accounting officer of the section.
2. Management Board. The management board shall be composed of the officers of the section, the retiring officers, and two section members elected at large. The officers and members-at-large of the management board shall assume office beginning one week after the first day of the annual meeting, and the retiring officers shall continue as members of the management board until one week after the first day of the following year's annual meeting.
3. Terms of Office. The chair and vice-chair shall each be elected for a one-year term. The secretary shall be elected for a four-year term. An unexpired term of the secretary shall be filled by appointment by the chair and the vice-chair. An interrupted term of office for the secretary shall be filled by a pro tempore appointment by the chair and the vice-chair.

The two members of the management board elected at large shall serve overlapping two-year terms.

4. Removal of Section Officer. Any Section officer who fails to perform the duties prescribed in the bylaws, or who brings discredit to GSA or the Section in any way, or does not adhere to the "GSA Constitution and By-laws" or the GSA "Code of Conduct", may be removed from office by a unanimous vote of the other officers of the management board. Any management board officer may make a motion for removal of another officer. The Section officer who is subject of a motion for removal must be provided an opportunity to present an argument against removal prior to any vote on the motion.
5. Vacancies. Any vacancy occurring during the term of any elected Section officer shall be filled by appointment of the management board and such appointee shall serve until the next annual business meeting of the Section.
6. Officer Resignation. Any Section officer may resign at any time by giving written notice of such resignation to the Section Chair and Section Secretary.

## **ARTICLE V**

### ***Committees***

1. Local Committee. The chair of the local committee shall be appointed by the section chair, with the advice of the management board, at least twelve months before the annual meeting at that location. The chair of the local committee and the section chair shall jointly appoint the other members of the local committee, which shall include the section secretary.
2. Nominating Committee. At the time of the annual meeting, the management board shall appoint a nominating committee of three voting members, one of whom shall be designated as chair.
3. Ad hoc and permanent committees. The chair, with the approval of the management board, may appoint ad hoc or permanent committees or representatives to GSA committees when needed.

## **ARTICLE VI**

### ***Election of Officers and Management Board***

1. The nominating committee shall recommend one or more candidates for each office and place on the management board, obtain their acceptance for such a nomination, and shall furnish the secretary with a list of nominees, with letters of acceptance, within sixty days after the annual meeting. The secretary shall arrange for ballots to be made available to the voting membership. Such ballots shall have space for write-in nominees.

The ballots shall be counted by an appropriate GSA representative. The secretary shall advise the candidates and the executive director of the results. A simple majority of those voting shall be decisive.

## **ARTICLE VII**

### ***Meetings***

1. Annual Meeting. The place and time of the annual meeting, and such special meetings as desired, shall be determined by the management board of the section and shall be reported to the executive director of the Society. Announcements and programs of these meetings shall be sent to the members of the section.
2. Management Board. The management board shall meet at the time of the annual meeting, and at such other times as deemed necessary by the chair or a majority of the board. All members of the board shall be given adequate advance notice of such meetings.

## **ARTICLE VIII**

### ***Finances***

1. The expenses of the section, so far as they shall be paid from the general funds of the Society, shall be limited to the ordinary economical expenses of the section meetings and balloting expenses relating to the election of officers. In accordance with Article VIII, Section 4, of the Bylaws of the Society, funds for the support of the section shall normally be derived from registration fees collected for meetings. The registration fee shall be set by the local committee, including the section secretary.
2. Section Expenses.
  - a. Expenses of the section shall include necessary travel by the chair and secretary and may include necessary travel for representatives to GSA committees at rates consonant with those established for the Council.
  - b. Expenses of the section shall include funding the Kenneth N. Weaver Student Travel Award Program, and may include funding other programs deemed worthy by the management board.
3. The fiscal year shall begin July 1.

## **ARTICLE IX**

### ***Annual Report***

1. The duly elected officers of the section shall be responsible to the Council of the Society for the conduct of the section. The secretary shall submit to the Council of the Society an annual report from the section. This report shall include the activities and accomplishments for the previous year and future plans.
2. After each annual meeting of the section, the secretary shall prepare a report of the proceedings of the meeting, which, upon concurrence by the chair, shall be submitted to the executive director of the Society.

## **ARTICLE X**

### ***Rules and Amendment of the Bylaws***

1. Rules. Rules supplementing the bylaws may be adopted, amended, or rescinded by a majority vote of the management board of the section.
2. Amendment of Bylaws. Two kinds of amendments of bylaws of the section may occur:
  - a. Mandatory amendment of bylaws reflects changes in the Constitution or Bylaws of the Society and must be incorporated into section bylaws. Such changes will be made by the management board at one of its regular meetings and announced to the

membership at the next regular business meeting, when modifications of wording may be proposed from the floor. The final wording, upon approval by the management board, will be submitted to the Council of the Society for ratification and thereby adoption by the section.

- b. Optional changes in the bylaws of the section may be proposed by the management board or by a written petition to the management board signed by at least twenty-five members eligible to vote in the section. After approval by the management board, the proposed changes shall be submitted to the voting membership by ballot and shall be accepted by a simple majority vote. The accepted changes shall be submitted to the Council of the Society for ratification, and thereby adoption by the section.

All section bylaws must be consistent with the Certificate of Incorporation and the Constitution and Bylaws of the Society.

3. The Robert's Rules of Order (Revised) shall normally govern the proceedings of the section.

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Ratified by Council in 1973, 1986, and 2004.

Bylaws amended March 24, 2002 (management board approval to align fiscal year with new GSA fiscal year); May 15, 2005 (Council ratification of changes approved by membership vote); October 4, 2008 (bring member categories into conformance with Society; update language). May 6, 2016 Bylaws Amended to incorporate Items 4, 5, 6 to Article IV-Officers and Management Board (removal of officer).