

NORTH-CENTRAL SECTION BYLAWS

Established by Council on April 30, 1966

ARTICLE I

Name and Organization

1. The name of the section is the North-Central Section, a regional organization within The Geological Society of America, Inc.
2. This section of the Society 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 of the section shall be open to all Members, Fellows, Honorary Fellows, and Affiliates of the Society and their guests for attendance at scientific sessions, presentation of papers, and participation in field conferences.
2. For the purposes of administration, the geographical extent of the section shall include: in the United States, the states of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Ohio, Wisconsin; in Canada, the Province of Manitoba, and the western portion of the Province of Ontario (west 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.
2. Members, Fellows, Honorary Fellows, and Affiliates of the section whose principal interests lie within the geographical limits of another section may become members of the other section, with all the rights and privileges pertaining thereto, on written or electronic request to the Society; in so doing, they relinquish their rights and privileges in the North-Central 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. By following a similar procedure, those who

reside within the geographical limits of another section may transfer or extend their rights and privileges to the North-Central Section.

ARTICLE IV *Officers and Management Board*

1. **Officers.** The officers of the section shall be a chair, a vice-chair, and an executive secretary, all of whom shall be voting members of the section. In addition to regular duties, the secretary shall serve also as accounting officer for the section.
2. **Duties of Officers.** The Chair shall preside at meetings of the section and the management board. They shall be responsible for arrangements at the annual meeting.

The vice-chair shall assume the powers and duties of the chair in the event of the absence or disability of the chair. The vice-chair may also serve as program chair for the annual meeting.

The secretary shall keep records of the proceedings of the section and shall act as secretary of the management board. They shall notify the officers and membership of election results and shall arrange for issuance of notices of all meetings of the section. The secretary shall act as the executive officer for the section, and represent the section to the Society and to the Council.

3. **Terms of Office.** The terms of office shall be: chair, one year; vice-chair one year; secretary, four years. Chair and vice-chair shall not be eligible for re-election to consecutive terms. The secretary may be re-elected for a second term. Terms shall commence after elections held at the Section Annual Meeting, and the terms of service will be from section meeting to section meeting.
4. **Management Board.** The management board shall be composed of the officers of the section, the immediate past chair, the immediate past vice-chair, the past secretary for the first year after their term(s) of office end(s), three voting members of the section elected at large, and a voting student representative. The members-at-large shall be elected to serve overlapping three-year terms; the student representative shall be elected to a two-year term. Members-at-large and the student representative shall not be eligible for re-election to consecutive terms. The Management Board shall conduct the affairs of the section between meetings.
5. **Removal of a Section Officer.** Any officer who fails to perform the duties prescribed in the bylaws, or brings discredit to GSA or the Section in any way, or who does not adhere to the "GSA Constitution and By-Laws" or the GSA "Code of Ethics & Professional Conduct", including Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, 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.

6. **Vacancies.** An unexpired term of any officer shall be filled by appointment by the management board and such appointee shall serve until the next annual business meeting of the Section. An interrupted term of office of a secretary shall be filled by a temporary appointment by the management board.
7. **Officer Resignation.** Any Section officer may resign at any time by giving written or electronic notice of such resignation to the remaining officers.

ARTICLE V *Committees*

1. **Local Committee.** 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. The chair of the section shall be chair of this committee.
2. **Nominating Committee.** At the time of the annual meeting, the management board shall appoint a nominating committee of five voting members, at least one of whom shall be a present or past officer of the section, and one of these five shall be designated as chair.
3. **Ad Hoc Committees.** The chair, with the approval of the management board, may appoint additional committees when the need arises.

ARTICLE VI *Election of Officers and Management Board*

1. Each year, the management board shall appoint the section chair and vice-chair for terms that begin at the close of the next section annual meeting. The Nominating Committee shall present a slate of candidates to fill other open positions.

Upon approval of the board, these nominations shall constitute the regular ticket and shall be submitted to the membership for election by the voting members at the annual business meeting. Election is by simple majority vote. The new officers' terms will begin at the end of the current section meeting. Voting results will be shared with the executive director of the Society for distribution when the results have been finalized.

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 the meetings shall be sent to members of the Society.

2. Annual Business Meeting. The annual business meeting shall be held during the annual meeting of the section.
3. Management Board Meeting. The management board shall meet at the time of the annual meeting, and at such other times as deemed necessary by the chair or by a majority of the board. All members of the management board shall be given adequate advance notice in writing of such meetings.
4. Quorums for Meetings. (a) A quorum for the annual business meeting shall consist of the voting members present and voting. (b) A quorum for the management board meetings shall consist of the chair or vice-chair and at least three other members of the management board.

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, balloting expenses relating to the election of officers, and necessary travel by the secretary at rates consonant with those established for the Council. The management board may approve and incur other expenses within the limits of the finances of the section.
2. In accordance with Article VIII, Section 4, of the Bylaws of the Society, each section may, with the approval of the Council, make its own arrangements for the raising of the necessary funds for the proper conduct of its operations. This may be done by means of the registration fees charged for attendance at meetings of the section. Account of all such funds shall be rendered to the Council at the end of each fiscal year.
3. The fiscal year shall begin July 1 in accordance with the Society.

ARTICLE IX *Annual Report*

1. It shall be the duty of the secretary of the section to submit to the Council of the Society, not later than one month prior to the GSA Annual Meeting of each year, an annual report outlining the accomplishments of the section for the preceding fiscal year and plans for the future.
2. Immediately following each annual meeting of the section, the secretary shall submit to the executive director of the Society an account of the proceedings of the meeting.

ARTICLE X *Conduct of Section*

1. The duly elected officers of the section shall be responsible to the Council of the Society for the conduct of the section.

ARTICLE XI

Rules and Amendments to 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 the 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 the section bylaws. Such changes will be made by the management board and announced to the members at the next annual meeting. After approval of such changes by the management board and approval by a majority vote of voting members present at the annual meeting, such changes in the bylaws will be submitted to the Council of the Society for ratification, and thereby adopted by the section.
 - b. Optional changes in the bylaws of the section may be proposed by the management board or by written or electronic petition to the management board signed by at least twenty-five voting members of the section. After approval by the management board, the proposed changes shall be submitted to the voting members by written or electronic ballot and shall be approved by a simple majority vote. The accepted changes shall then be submitted to the Council of the Society for ratification, and thereby adopted by the section.

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

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Established by Council on April 30, 1966.

Bylaws amended on November 10, 1973, October 18, 1975, May 9, 1979, and November 8, 1989. On May 29, 2001, beginning date of fiscal year was changed to July 1 to align the bylaws with a change in GSA policy. Bylaws amended October 4, 2008 (change member categories to align bylaws with Society; add electronic communication options).

April 30, 2016 added to Article IV, Officers and Management Board, new section 5. Removal of Non Performing officers.

August 30, 2020