

CONSTITUTION

Article I. NAME: This organization shall be called the Association for Environmental Studies and Sciences, or AESS.

Article II. OBJECTIVES ("Mission Statement"). The Association for Environmental Studies and Sciences is founded on the recognition that (1) the development of solutions to environmental problems inherently requires the best input from the full range of traditional academic disciplines, along with sustained efforts to improve and intensify the interactions among specialists from different disciplines, (2) the goals of a liberal education include cultivating a sensitive and discerning appreciation for the esthetic, cultural and scientific dimensions of the world we inhabit, and (2) creating a sustainable, just and humane society requires that citizens and policy makers addressing environmental problems be able to draw on the natural sciences, social sciences, humanities and the arts. To foster these broad sensitivities and multi- and interdisciplinary understandings, both within the academic world and among the public, the AESS seeks to promote:

1. Disciplinary, inter-, multi- and trans-disciplinary research and communication on environmental issues, problems, and potential solutions;
2. High quality teaching and education about the natural environment and humans' physical, biological, social, cultural, economic and political relationship to it;
3. The professional development of Association members and of the field of Environmental Studies and Sciences;
4. The dissemination of research to the academic world, policy makers, and the public;
5. The civic engagement and public service of its members and of the Association as a whole.

It pursues these goals through publishing (including the publication of one or more peer-reviewed journals), conferences, scholarly awards, on-line discussions, conversation and cooperation with other professional societies, and public outreach. This Society shall be operated exclusively for educational, professional, scholarly and scientific purposes; no part of the Association's net income or assets during the life of the organization or at dissolution shall inure to the benefit of any member, private individual, or organization which is not tax exempt under the Internal Revenue Code of 1954.

Article III. MEMBERS. Any person who is interested in the objective of the Association may become a member upon application and payment of dues.

Article IV. OFFICERS AND GOVERNANCE: The Association shall have the following officers: A President, a President-Elect who shall serve as Vice-President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer. The Treasurer shall be appointed by the President, subject to ratification by the Council. The term of office for the Treasurer shall be three years and may be extended or renewed subject to ratification by the Council. The Secretary shall be elected by a vote of the Members and shall also have a term of office of three years, unless the Secretary and Treasurer are beginning their terms of office at the same time, in which case one term of office for the Secretary will be changed to two years. All officers and committee members shall be members of the Association for Environmental Studies and Sciences.

Working in conjunction with the President-Elect and Secretary, the President shall be responsible for maintaining and keeping current (1) The Constitution, which shall serve as the guiding document and statement of purpose for the Association; (2) The By-Laws, which shall spell out the ways in which the Association performs its business; and (3) The Association's Policies, as enacted by Council, which shall be compiled and kept organized in terms of substantive and functional categories rather than

chronologically.

Article V. COUNCIL. The Council shall be the governing body of the Association. It shall consist of the officers and four other members elected at large by the Association, at least two of whom shall be students. The at-large members shall serve two-year terms of office, with two new members being elected each year.

Article VI. ELECTIONS. The president-elect, the vice-president, two members of the Council, and two members of the nominations committee shall be elected annually by a majority of the members voting. The secretary shall be elected for a three-year term at an appropriate annual election by a majority of the members voting.

Article VII. ANNUAL MEETING. The Association shall hold at least one Annual Meeting of the Members, at which time an Annual Business Meeting will be held. The time and place of the Annual Meeting shall be determined by Council, with information being widely disseminated to members of the Association and to others having an interest in environmental problems and solutions.

Article VIII. AMENDMENTS. The Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of those present and voting at the annual business meeting of the Association, subject to the following provisions. Written notice of the proposed amendment shall be sent to the treasurer no later than two months before the annual business meeting. The treasurer shall transmit notice of the proposed meeting and of the proposed amendment to the voting members of the Association at least one month before the annual business meeting. Amendments may be proposed by five members of the Association; committees of the Association through submission to the Council; or by the Council. Publication shall take place in the official journal or in another publication of the Association designated by Council, and/or by letter or electronic mail to the last known addresses of Association members. Proposed amendments may be modified at the annual business meeting by a vote of two-thirds of those present and voting.

Article IX. INITIAL OFFICERS AND DATE OF EFFECT.

Section 1. Effective Date. The initial Constitution and By-Laws shall take effect, and the Association for Environmental Studies and Sciences shall come into being, at such time as it receives a favorable vote by the majority of persons attending the second Summit on Environmental Studies, at Syracuse, New York, on June 9, 2007, who have paid their initial dues or have agreed to pay their initial dues at the time of the vote ("Founding Members"). For historical purposes, the Association may be deemed to have begun at the first Summit on Environmental Studies, held at the University of California, Santa Barbara, Feb. 23, 2006.

Section 2. Special Provisions for Initial Organization. The initial or provisional officers and committee members shall be selected through procedures that may be agreed upon by a majority of Founding Members present and voting in Syracuse on June 9, 2007. The initial or provisional officers and committee members need not match those specified herein, and they may serve for terms of office that may be longer or shorter than those specified in the Constitution, as determined by a majority of Founding Members present and voting. Any such deviations from the provisions of the AESS Constitution and By-Laws, however, will be understood to be temporary or interim adaptations to the exigencies of establishing a new organization, and any longer-term arrangements that differ from those specified herein will need to be adopted and implemented through formally adopted and democratically valid procedures.

BY-LAWS

Article I. CLASSES OF MEMBERSHIP AND DUES.

Section 1. Selection of membership class. Members may select a membership class for which they qualify. This selection is subject to review by the membership committee. All members are entitled and encouraged to participate in the activities of the Society including the annual meeting.

Section 2. Membership classes.

A. Active and Life. Active and Life members have the right to vote and to hold office and to receive publications of the Society.

B. Emeritus. An active member who has reached the age of sixty-five may become an Emeritus Member. Emeritus Members have the right to vote, to hold office and to receive publications of the Society.

C. Student. Undergraduate or graduate students who are enrolled and/or in residence at an educational institution may select this class of membership. Student members have the right to receive publications of the Society and vote in all Society business matters.

D. Review and change. Classes of membership shall be reviewed periodically by the Council. Proposed changes shall be presented to the membership and acted upon by a majority of the members present and voting at the annual business meeting.

Section 3. Publications. All Members are entitled to one subscription to the official journal of the Society and to such other publications of the Society as may be determined by Council.

Section 4. Dues.

A. Initial dues. For the first year of the Association's existence, dues shall be at the level of \$50/year for Active Members, \$40/year for Emeritus Members, \$35 for Student Members, or a one-time payment of \$750 for Life Members.

B. Discounts. Annual membership dues shall be reduced by \$10 for all persons who are students or faculty at institutions affiliated with the Council of Environmental Deans and Directors, or by \$5 for members in good standing of one or more of the following associations having comparable and/or complementary goals: The American Association for the Advancement of Science, the American Society for Environmental History, the Association for the Study of Literature and the Environment, the Association of Environmental Engineers and Science Professors, the Association of University Leaders for a Sustainable Future, the Ecological Society of America, the Environmental Studies Association of Canada, the European Society for Environmental History, the Higher Education Associations Sustainability Consortium, the Interdisciplinary Environmental Association, the International Association for Environmental Philosophy, the International Association for Society and Natural Resources, the International Society For Environmental Economics, the International Society for Environmental Ethics, the International Society for Industrial Ecology, the National Association of Environmental Professionals, the National Environmental Health Association, the Northeast Environmental Studies Group, the North American Association for Environmental Education, the Society of Environmental Journalists, and/or the Society for Human Ecology.

C. Reciprocity. Officers of the Association, and/or representatives appointed by the President, shall contact officers of other associations for which discounts are being offered, asking them to make their members aware of the availability of discounts and encouraging those associations to offer comparable discounts to Members of the Association for Environmental Studies and Sciences.

D. Review and change. Dues levels and the list of associations qualifying for reduced membership fees shall be reviewed annually by the Council. Proposed changes shall be brought before the membership and acted upon by the membership at the annual business meeting.

Article II. STANDING COMMITTEES

Section 1. Standing committees. There shall be five standing committees of the Society — the Awards, Nominations, Professional Development, Program, and Publications Committees.

Section 2. Guidelines for selection of committee members. Major guidelines to be used in selecting members of committees shall be (1) representativeness, (2) widespread involvement of a diverse range of members and (3) continuity in program and function.

Section 3. Committee Leadership. The Chairs of the Awards, Professional Development, Program, and Publications Committees shall be appointed by the President-Elect, and shall serve in that capacity for a one-year period that corresponds to the President-Elect's term of office as President. During the year before they take office as Chairs, the Committee Chairs-Elect shall serve as voting members of the Committees they are being appointed to Chair. The Chair of the Nominations Committee shall be elected by the membership in the Society's annual elections.

Section 4. Standing Committee responsibilities and composition. Except as otherwise specified herein, each Standing Committee shall consist of seven members—one Student Member of the Association who shall serve for a two-year term, plus six Professional or Emeritus Members of the Association, each of whom shall serve for a three-year term, with two new members being appointed each year by the President-Elect, and with the President-Elect designating one of the seven committee members to serve as Chair-Elect for one year, taking over as committee Chair the following year, corresponding to the term when the President-Elect shall become Association President. The responsibilities and composition of the Association's Standing Committees shall be as follows:

A. Awards Committee. The Awards Committee shall organize and implement the Association's efforts to recognize and honor those persons whose diverse efforts have enhanced the field of Environmental Studies and Sciences and/or contributed to the improvement of the Earth's environment.

B. Nominations Committee. The Nominations Committee shall recruit and nominate candidates for the elective offices of the Association. There shall be six members of this committee, four of whom shall be elected by the Association members for one-year terms, and one of whom shall be appointed by each year's President for a two-year term, serving as the Committee's Chair-Elect during the first year and serving as Chair during the second year. The Committee's Chair shall vote only in the case of tie votes among other committee members.

C. Professional Development Committee. The Professional Development Committee shall be responsible for investigating and recommending to Council the options that appear to have the greatest potential for improving the quality and the institutional status of work on Environmental Studies and Sciences. These options may include but need not be limited to criteria and

standards for accreditation of college/university programs in Environmental Studies/ Environmental Sciences (potentially including differing criteria for different categories of programs) and recommended criteria and standards for reviews of tenure and promotion cases.

D. Program Committee. The Program Committee shall oversee the development of the program for the annual meeting. The President, President-Elect, and the Program Chair for the following year shall serve in an ex-officio capacity. At the discretion of the Program Chair, this Committee may be expanded beyond seven members in any given year, on an *ad hoc* basis.

E. Publications Committee. The Publications Committee shall supervise the publication of the official journal and any other publications of the Association. This Committee shall be responsible for recruiting Editors for these publications, and for recommending to the Council a preferred candidate for the Editorship of each publication.

Section 5. Standing and *Ad Hoc* Committees of Council. The Council may establish additional Standing and/or *ad hoc* Committees as it deems necessary. The establishment of additional Standing Committees shall be carried out by amending these By-Laws. The establishment of *ad hoc* committees may be carried out by an ordinary majority vote by Council and/or by the decision of the President.

Section 6. Reports. All committees shall submit written reports at least one month in advance of Council meetings. Reports may be submitted electronically

Article III. OFFICIAL JOURNAL.

Section 1. Management. The journal, [NAME GOES HERE], shall be the official publication of the Association, and its management shall be vested in the publications committee. The setting of journal subscription rates and of other charges shall be included in the overall budgeting process under the direction of the Council.

Section 2. Income and expenses. The Association shall receive all income from subscriptions, advertisements, sale of back issues, and other income from the Journal. In turn, the cost of publishing [NAME GOES HERE], shall be borne by the Association.

Article IV. ELECTIONS.

Section 1. Nominating and Voting. The Nominations Committee shall nominate two candidates each for President-Elect and Nomination Chair, and every third year, for Secretary (the last-named to serve a three-year term). In addition, the committee will nominate four candidates each year — two students and two non-students — for the two Council-at-large positions, as well as eight candidates for the four elected Nomination Committee positions, at least two of whom shall be student candidates for the minimum of one seat on the Nominations Committee that shall be reserved for students. All nominations will be sent to the Treasurer at least five months before the annual business meeting. Not later than four months before the annual meeting, the Treasurer shall send to each voting member a ballot bearing the names of the nominees for each position. Electronic mail, sent to the last known e-mail address of each member, shall serve as an acceptable technique for distributing and returning ballots. Ballots returned not less than three months before the annual meeting shall be counted.

Section 2. Election Committee and Vote Counting. In advance of the time when nominations are distributed, the Treasurer shall appoint an Election Committee. The Election Committee shall have responsibility for assuring that ballots are counted accurately. The results shall become official upon being certified by the Treasurer, who shall report to the Nominations Committee the names of the persons who have received largest number of votes for each position. The Chair of the Nominations

Committee shall be responsible for notifying all candidates of the results of the election and sharing the names of the winners with the broader membership of the Association

Section 2. Tie votes. In the event of a tie vote between candidates for any offices, the Elections Committee shall immediately notify the President and the Secretary of the Association and shall prepare a special ballot containing the names of the candidates involved. These ballots shall be distributed at the annual business meeting of the Association; the candidate receiving a majority of the votes cast by members present and voting at the annual business meeting shall be elected to office. Notice of this special election and a copy of the special ballot shall be posted at the registration desk for the annual meeting of the Association. If the above procedure should result in another tie vote, the members of the Council shall vote to break the tie. New officers and Council members shall assume office immediately following each annual business meeting.

Article V. DUTIES OF THE TREASURER.

The Treasurer shall be the chief financial and fiscal officer of the Association. The Treasurer shall submit financial reports to the Council. These reports shall be distributed to the membership. The Treasurer shall receive all incomes of the Association with the exception of those specifically excluded by the Council. Based on policies and oversight provided by Council, the Treasurer shall assure that funds from Life Memberships and any endowments are placed in environmentally and socially responsible investments, with 6% of the principal from those investments at the start of each fiscal year being transferred into that year's operating budget for the Association. The Treasurer shall be bonded, shall invest all funds in secure accounts and shall see that an audit of financial records is made annually.

Article VI. DISPUTES.

The Council shall interpret the Constitution and Bylaws and rule on any disputes.

Article VII. VACANCIES.

Vacancies in appointed positions in standing committees shall be filled by appointment by the President with the approval of the Council. The Council is empowered to fill any vacancy that may occur among the officers and elected committee members.

Article VIII. MEETINGS.

Section 1. Locations and Facilities. The Association shall make every reasonable effort to hold its meeting in facilities that are fully accessible to members, without regard to race, religion, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, and disability. To the greatest extent practicable in the face of other relevant criteria, venues and sponsoring organizations making serious commitments to environmental sustainability shall be favored over those not doing so, and the locations for annual meetings shall be moved from place to place, to respond to needs of members living in different regions.

Section 2. Frequency. One meeting each year shall be designated in advance by Council as the official annual meeting (or "Summit") of the Association, with the annual business meeting being scheduled as part of that annual meeting. The Council shall also have the discretion to designate additional meetings as "Regional Meetings" of the Association, intended to serve the needs of members who live in particular regions.

Section 3. Selection Process. Far enough in advance to permit rational planning, the Treasurer of the

Association shall solicit and then compile proposals for future Annual Meetings. The Treasurer and other Association officers shall compare the advantages and disadvantages of the potential meeting sites for a given year and shall submit recommendations to Council. Final selection of the dates and place for said future year's annual meeting shall be made by Council. Once the Council has made the decision, the Treasurer shall be authorized to sign such contracts and make such other financial arrangements that may be necessary for orderly planning of the meeting. For regional meetings, Council may follow other procedures but shall at all times seek to make arrangements that best serve the needs of interested members in affected regions.

Article IX. COUNCIL MEETINGS.

The Association for Environmental Studies and Sciences Council may meet and conduct Association Business by teleconference or in person, at times and places it deems suitable and convenient for its purposes, except that all members shall be notified by the President or his/her designee about the time and place of all such meetings at least two weeks in advance. Council decisions may be made at any officially convened Council meeting.

Article X. AMENDMENTS.

Proposed amendments to these Bylaws must be circulated to the Association's Officers and Council members in writing, at least two weeks in advance of a regularly scheduled meeting of the Council. The amendments shall take effect immediately if a quorum of the Council is present or participating by teleconference, and if the amendments are supported by two-thirds of the Council members who are present or participating by teleconference and voting.